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Santa Monica Daily Press

THURSDAY
11.29.18

Volume 18 Issue 14

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Large restaurant chains banned from the Promenade

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Santa Monica City Council voted Tuesday night to prohibit fast-casual restaurants and cafe chains with more than 100 locations nationwide from opening on the Promenade.

The emergency zoning ordinance, which will not impact existing restaurants, is meant to help transform the Promenade into a community gathering place as the growth of online retailers drives down foot traffic. The City hopes that filling Third Street's

increasing number of vacant storefronts with restaurants more distinctive than Yogurtland or Chipotle will attract visitors.

"People come to the Promenade because it has a level of authenticity other shopping districts don't have, and having some independent

businesses really adds to that authenticity," said Mayor Pro Tempore Glean Davis.

Misti Kerns, president of Santa Monica Travel & Tourism, said consumer focus groups the organization has conducted in the past few months indicate that

tourists are looking for unique dining options, although such restaurants can be hard to sustain in Santa Monica.

"Local businesses frame the fabric of this community and ... we

SEE **CHAINS** PAGE 6

Protesters gather at City Hall to 'Stop the Appeal'






Angel Carreras

PROTEST: A group of residents gathered at City Hall Tuesday to oppose a potential appeal in the recent voting rights lawsuit.

ANGEL CARRERAS
Daily Press Staff Writer

A crowd of more than 70 protesters gathered around City Hall Tuesday night and soon filled Council chambers to let officials know protesters want to "Stop the Appeal."

Protesters were upset with the City's decision to appeal a recent ruling in a California Voting Rights case that would move future elections to a district-based system. Judge Yvette Palazuelos issued a tentative ruling in the Plaintiff's favor and

will issue a final judgment sometime after a hearing on Dec. 7. Attorneys for the City have said they plan to appeal.

Plaintiffs Maria Loya and the Pico Neighborhood Association sued the City of Santa Monica in 2016, alleging it's at-large voting system dilutes Latino/a voting power by denying them proper representation, a violation of the California Voting Rights Act.

Loya, who was joined by her husband Oscar de la Torre, said Tuesday night that she was upset that the City would appeal the decision in an attempt to preserve an

at-large election system Loya said prevented people of color from being elected. She added she thinks the City is wasting \$10 million battling the lawsuit.

"What could the city have done with that? They're telling us they don't have money to keep our parks safe, no money to help residents, but they sure have money to protect their own interests and to protect their staff and cronies," Loya said. "We're here tonight to send a message that we don't

SEE **PROTEST** PAGE 7

Holiday season hits Santa Monica

ANGEL CARRERAS
Daily Press Staff Writer

Santa Monica's holiday season kicks off in earnest this week with tree lightings, holiday music, photo ops with the Jolly One and more festivities.

Downtown Santa Monica and Main Street will have their own respective holiday events this Friday and Saturday with both sections of town offering their own spin on winter cheer.

DTSM will offer craft stations for the kids, Christmas carols sung by Lincoln Middle School, music from SMCs Emeritus band, photo ops with Saint Nick and a festive tree lighting, fake snow included, to put residents in the holiday spirit.

While a flashy affair, event organizers say the events will still evoke the Santa Monica small-town feel.

"Our event isn't meant to compete with other big holiday events like what The Grove does," Kathleen Rawson, CEO of Downtown Santa Monica said. "This is definitely a community event, meant for the people who work and live in Santa Monica."

In conjunction with the tree lighting event, DTSM has weeks of winter programming dubbed

SEE **SEASON** PAGE 7



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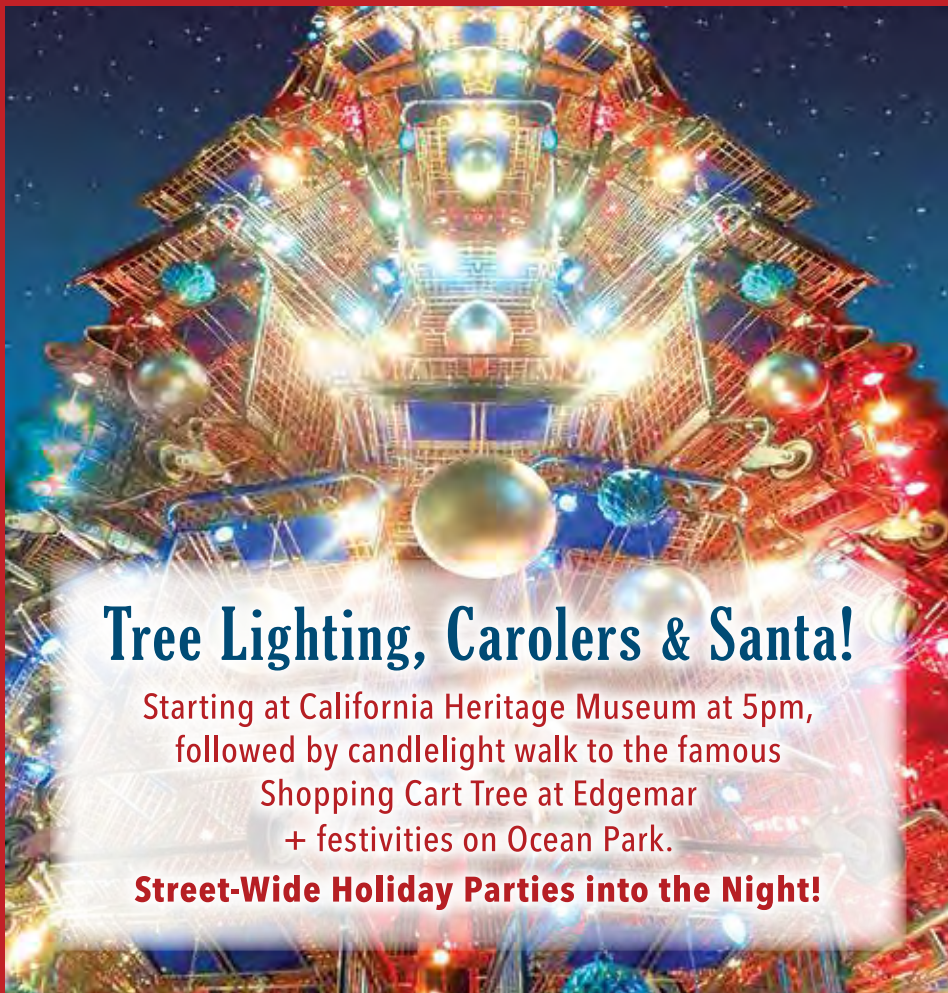
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Main Street Holiday Event

Saturday, December 1, 5-8pm



Tree Lighting, Carolers & Santa!

Starting at California Heritage Museum at 5pm,
followed by candlelight walk to the famous
Shopping Cart Tree at Edgemar
+ festivities on Ocean Park.

Street-Wide Holiday Parties into the Night!



mainstreetsm.com



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Calendar

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2018

Santa Monica Daily Press

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, Nov. 29

L.E.A.R.N.: Learn, Excel, Achieve and Read Now

Kids can get one-on-one access to volunteers available to help students with homework assignments and reading comprehension. Bilingual volunteers available. Pico Branch Library: 3:30 - 6 p.m.

Classic Film and Discussion: North Dallas Forty (1979)

Film scholar Vivian Rosenberg screens and discusses this classic film starring Nick Nolte and Mac Davis as professional football players. (Film runtime: 119 min.) Montana Avenue Branch Library 2 - 5 p.m.

Digital Fundraising Webinar

Desc: Join us for a live webinar on digital fundraising with Michael Stein, Senior Director of Partnerships at EveryAction, presented by The Foundation Center. Main Library 9:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Boy Scout Christmas Tree Lot

Santa Monica Boy Scouts Troop 2 annual Christmas Tree Lot. Run by Scouts under the supervision of adult volunteers. 100% of proceeds support Troop 2. 2923 Wilshire Blvd (Wilshire and Stanford) November 29 - December 21 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 30

Gallery OPEN

Gallery hours 9am - 4pm
Annenberg Community Beach House 9 am-4pm.

Yoga 9-10am

All levels. Drop in for \$15/class or sign up for series.
Annenberg Community Beach House 9 am-4pm.

Open Worksession with Echo Park Film Center

Session Dates: Fridays & Saturdays, 11/30, 12/1, 12/7, 12/8, 12/14, 12/15, 12/21 and 12/22.

In honor of the 120th anniversary of the Santa Monica Camera Obscura, Echo Park Film Center's nineteen-member cooperative is creating a film that celebrates the beloved optical device. Titled 'I'll Be Your Mirror,' it's a poetic documentary that utilizes analog film tools and animation techniques along with archival imagery and first-person accounts. Drop by during EPFC's work sessions to see how the project is progressing and help out with filming, animation, voice overs, soundtracks and more. No experience necessary - free cinematic fun for everyone! Cost: Free! Palisades Park 10 am-1pm.

Guest House OPEN 11am-2pm

Free tours begin at 11am, 12pm and 1pm. No reservations needed
Annenberg Community Beach House
Marion Davies Guest House 11 am-2pm.

Craft Supply Swap @ Your Library

Do you have leftover yarn, extra buttons, or scraps of ribbon you haven't used in months? Join us to share your crafting supplies or find new crafting treasures. Pico Branch Library 2:30 pm 4:30 pm.

Saturday, Dec. 1

A Holiday Tea

The owner of Hill Country Tea teaches how to make great tea, and the healthy effects of drinking tea. Enjoy tea samples. Montana Avenue Branch Library 11 am - 12 pm

Ocean Park Book Group

A Monthly Meeting of the Ocean Park Book Group. Meets the 1st Saturday of the Month. Open to All. Ocean Park Branch Library 11 am - 12:30 pm

CoderDojo Workshop

Practice computer science and coding skills with volunteer mentors from the LA CoderDojo. Use laptops provided by the library or bring your own. Ages 11-17 Registration starts Nov 10. Main Library 3 pm - 5 pm

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES
2 Southern California rail transit projects receive US funds

The U.S. Department of Transportation has announced approximately \$180 million in funding for two Southern California rail transit projects.

The department's Federal Transit Administration said Wednesday that an extension of Los Angeles' Purple Line subway will receive \$100 million and the San Diego Mid-Coast Light Rail project will receive about \$80 million in fiscal year 2018 funds.

The Purple Line project is a 2.6-mile heavy rail extension from Century City to Westwood and a Veterans Affairs hospital that includes two stations and 16 vehicles. The total project cost is \$3.7 billion with \$1.3 billion in funding requested through the FTA's Capital Investments Grants Program.

The San Diego project is a 10.9-mile light rail extension from downtown San Diego to the University City area.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO
Google CEO to make long-awaited congressional appearance

Google CEO Sundar Pichai will testify next week at a congressional hearing on the company's business practices, just three months after aides put up an empty chair to symbolize his refusal to appear.

Pichai's scheduled Dec. 5 appearance before the House Judiciary Committee comes after he traveled to Washington in late September to meet privately with lawmakers peeved by his refusal to appear. After that private meeting, Pichai promised to come back to testify.

Among other things, lawmakers are expected to grill him on whether Google rigs its influential search engine to stifle conservative voices. President Donald Trump asserts that Google's search engine favors media coverage that he believes distributes "fake news."

Google didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

HONOLULU
Consumers sue potato chip maker over use of 'Hawaiian' brand

A class-action lawsuit has been filed against the maker of potato chips sold under the brand name Hawaiian, claiming the chips made in Washington state are misleading customers.

Michael Maeda of Honolulu and Iliana Sanchez of Los Angeles filed the suit last month, alleging Pinnacle Foods Inc. is using false and deceptive advertising and fraudulent and unfair business practices, the Honolulu Star-Advertiser reported Tuesday.

They claim they and consumers like them would not have purchased the chips, or would have paid significantly less, if they knew the snacks were made outside of Hawaii and without ingredients from the state.

Tim's Cascade Snacks, a subsidiary of Pinnacle Specialty Foods, sells Hawaiian Kettle Style Potato Chips in several flavors. It also sells onion rings under the Hawaiian moniker. The chips and rings are made in a factory in Algona, Washington, according to the suit.

The chips' packaging does not say the snacks are made in Hawaii. But the lawsuit claims Maeda and Sanchez thought they were purchasing authentic potato chips from Hawaii because of that same packaging.

The packaging features images of hula dancers wearing grass skirts and lei or others in traditional Hawaiian dress in front of iconic Hawaii landscapes.

An attorney for Pinnacle Foods, which is headquartered in New Jersey, declined to comment on the lawsuit.

The suit was originally filed in state court, but the company moved the case to federal court last week.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Virginia Avenue Park
Celebrating 7 Years Of Resilience

On December 2, the Committee for Racial Justice will celebrate over 7 years of concerted activity on behalf of racial justice, which began in response to a racial incident at Santa Monica High School. The celebration, which will include music and spoken word, will be held in Virginia Avenue Park, Thelma Terry Building, 2200 Virginia Avenue Park Santa Monica, CA 90404, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Potluck dinner will start at 6 pm.

This event commemorates the resilience that brought us through attacks from white supremacists who sought to shut down our monthly workshops and stifle our anti-racist movement. And it recognizes the persistence and resolve that have led us through over seven years of monthly community workshops for education, inspiration, training, and advocacy.

We will hear words of encouragement and inspiration from Pastor Stephen "Cue" Jn-Marie to strengthen our determination to keep rising. Cue is the pastor of "The Row La—" the Church without walls in downtown Los Angeles's Skid Row community. Pastor Cue is also a faith rooted organizer with Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE) and co-lead organizer of the Black - Jewish Justice Alliance. (BJJA). He also leads the "We Will Live Coalition—A Black n Brown Clergy and Community Coalition." Cue's work includes helping to address unjust public policies in the Los Angeles area. For the past eleven years Cue has advocated for the rights of homeless people, immigrants, Muslims, and other groups in need of progressive support. Cue is a strong advocate for police accountability and for the dismantling of mass incarceration.

Music will be led by members of Urban Voices, a choir in skid row; Louise Dobbs, minister of music at Church in Ocean Park; and Dr. Kim Harris, visiting professor at LMU.

The Committee for Racial Justice's Celebration of Resilience is sponsored by the Committee for Racial Justice.

Co-sponsored by Church in Ocean Park, Virginia Ave Park, and the African American Parent, Student, Staff Support Group.

Potluck supper at 6 p.m. and program starts at 6:30 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park, Thelma Terry Bldg. 2200 Virginia Ave. Child care provided. For more information, call Joanne at (310) 422-5431.

SUBMITTED BY JOANNE BERLIN

Plan seeks to designate Route 66 as National Historic Trail

RUSSELL CONTRERAS
Associated Press

A new proposal moving through Congress seeks to designate Route 66, the highway that connected Chicago to Los Angeles and was once an economic driver for small towns across a post-World War II United States, as a National Historic Trail.

U.S. Sens. Tom Udall and Jim Inhofe announced this week the introduction of a bipartisan bill that would amend the National Trails System Act and include Route 66 in an effort to help revitalize cities and small towns that sit along the historic corridor.

The plan comes as cities and towns where the once busy Route 66 passed through have been working developing revitalization projects to rehabilitate aging buildings and landmarks to attract tourists.

Udall, a New Mexico Democrat, said in a statement that Route 66 symbolizes freedom that allowed motorists to visit mom-and-pop diners, small businesses, and scenic byways through eight states.

"Just as importantly, this bill would safeguard Route 66 as (a) cultural landmark, preserving its significance as the 'Main Street of America' for future generations of adventurers, migrants, hitchhikers, and tourists venturing westward," Udall said.

Inhofe, an Oklahoma Republican, said it was important for Congress to try to preserve the historic road with such a deep history.

"Museums from Clinton to Elk City to Chandler highlight the impact of this road

as a representation of American pioneer values," Inhofe said.

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a similar bill in June.

Under the proposal, the National Park Service would administer Route 66 as a National Historic Trail and would help spur critical preservation efforts along the highway. The agency would award federal funds for preservation, development, and promotion.

According to the National Park Service, there are currently 19 designated National Historic Trails, including the Trail of Tears, the Lewis and Clark trail, and the Selma to Montgomery March in Alabama.

Route 66, also called the "Mother Road," was born in 1926 after the Bureau of Public Roads launched the nation's first federal highway system, bringing together existing local and state roads from Chicago through St. Louis to Los Angeles. Small towns opened shops, motels and gas stations to pump revenue into local economies just as the nation's car culture took off.

Its importance even sparked a "Route 66" song performed by Nat King Cole, and later by the 1980s English electronic band Depeche Mode.

Route 66, one of the first roads in the U.S. highway system, spanned more than 2,400 miles (3,862 kilometers). It ran through eight states, connecting tourists with friendly diners in small towns.

The route changed a number of times and eventually became less of a destination thanks to new interstate highways.

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... Betty, Santa Monica client

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Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Get It While You Can

PARAMOUNT RANCH

As I pointed out in this column the week before last, an unexpected consequence of the recent horrible fires north of here was the loss of the location of the Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest at Paramount Ranch, which burned and was severely damaged. It was the ideal home for 24 years of the revered folk festival that encourages players of all skill levels, even kids and raw beginners, to take the stage, but they draw top talent too. A treasure of our local music scene, 58 years but, still counting?

As reported last week in the Daily Press, the Santa Monica Mountains Fund and the National Park Service are together launching "The Paramount Project," a campaign to rebuild Paramount Ranch's Western Town, purchased by the National Park Service in 1980 and on the National Register of Historic Places, and recently destroyed by the Woolsey Fire. Members of the entertainment industry who would like to be involved in the project have already reached out, and the appeal is to members of the public as well.

Paramount Pictures purchased 2700 acres in 1927 for use as a "movie ranch," and they constructed a general store, sheriff's jail, saloon, drugstore and other settings, which made it a perfect location for the folk festival one weekend a year, and there was plenty of parking. Still being used for film and TV, it provided Main Street for HBO's hit series "Westworld."

Festival organizers I spoke with last weekend indicated some skepticism that the Western Town restoration will be completed in time, but have pledged that the show will go on as scheduled next May — somewhere. Ideas are welcomed, they might need an edge to make it happen.

Be prepared — December gets to be pretty slim pickins' for live music, with sometimes a handful of spectacular events, and then of course there's New Year's Eve that could be the best show of the year but you will pay dearly for it.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! - SARAH SILVERMAN & Friends (who is funnier than Sarah while also breaking your heart and making you squirm and re-think your life and wonder about her sanity?), 8:30 p.m., Largo at the Coronet, \$30.

LA OPERA: HANSEL & GRETEL (Engelbert Humperdinck ain't no Puccini, Verdi or Strauss but H&G is considered his greatest work and Strauss dug him so much he conducted the premier, a smashing success, and he also ain't the schmaltzy crooner who stole his name in the '60s, but don't get too distracted from Hump's superb Wagnerian-style score by the 12-foot magical forest creatures, floating fairies, fantastical sets and special effects of this production, all the singers are superb and it's also got laughs, I was completely entertained), next Thurs, 7:30 p.m., Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, downtown LA, \$16-\$294.

RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! - ELVIS COSTELLO (Elvis Costello!), Thurs, 7 p.m., the Wiltern, Mid-Wilshire, \$125-\$240 (too much! but it's your money and he is a most interesting artist with a new album, so...).

SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK (an all-woman African-American a cappella ensemble formed in DC 45 years ago, I saw them when they were pretty new and they knocked me out, now 26 albums and 20 different singers later, touring with their sign language interpreter since 1981 and two original members, it's a pretty safe bet they can still knock you out), Fri 8 p.m., Royce Hall, UCLA, \$29-\$69.

PERRY FARRELL'S KIND OF HEAVEN ORCHESTRA (this could easily be an event to remember with Jane's Addiction, Porno for Pyros and Lollapalooza Festival founder and all-around interesting guy Ferrell playing only here and in San Fran debuting his new band and songs from the new album set for 2019, his first solo release in 18 years, previewing an installation in Vegas of some kind of "entertainment hub," and he promises they'll also be joined by "several Los Angeles music icons" for this show, so, maybe it's worth the \$69 gamble), Fri 9 p.m., the Teragram Ballroom, downtown LA, \$69.

SANTA MONICA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA - 74th Season Winter Holiday Concert (I missed their season opener in Oct. but several people told me Kazakhstani violinist Roman Kim was astoundingly good, but star soloist or no our SM Symphony, older than me, has gifted us with full seasons of outstanding programs played professionally by mostly professional volunteers continually since the end of WWII, in acoustically wonderful Barnum Hall, and for free, this night music director Guido Lamell presents sax master Harvey Pittel and conducts the heck out of some Nutcracker excerpts and music from movies, Strauss' "Sunrise" Fanfare from Also Sprach Zarathustra from 2001: A Space Odyssey, Wagner's "Ride of the Valkyries" from Apocalypse Now, Williams "Escapades" from Catch Me If You Can — I'll see you there), Sun 7 p.m., Barnum Hall, Santa Monica High School, free.

BAND NAMES OF THE WEEK: Herbert-Fifi-Radioactive Chicken Heads-Haunted Garage (at Cafe NELA Sat, a "Benefit for Dukey Flyswatter"), Betty Blowtorch, Birds of Chicago, Toy District, Telekinetic Yeti, Yialmelic Frequencies, Hand Habits, Destructo, Zongo Zongo Sound System, Goon, The Entire Universe, Jean Caffeine, Soaked in Dissolution, Wet & Reckless, Deaf Dance, Just Head, Hepa-Titus, Venom Millennium.

A LYRIC SO GOOD I WISH I HAD THOUGHT OF IT:

"I'd rather be dead than wet my bed
Oh, I'd rather be gone, than carry on
I'd rather go away, than feel this way
Oh, I'd rather be there, where you haven't got a care

And you're better off dead, though it doesn't seem fair

Oh, I'd rather be dead — I'd rather be dead

I'd rather keep my health, and dress myself

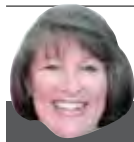
But you're better off dead than sitting on a shelf

I'll tie my tie 'till the day I die

But if I have to be fed then I'd rather be dead

SEE MUSIC PAGE 5





Play Time

By Cynthia Citron

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Moving Forward, No Matter What

"Cost of Living" is not a dreary treatise on economics. It's a story about survival in the face of physical and emotional pain: aloneness, neediness, distrustfulness, catastrophic disabilities, and chronic indignation. And it is, quite simply, one of the best plays I've ever seen.

Playwright Martyna Majok's remarkable play, which won a Pulitzer Prize in 2018, is not as grim as you might expect, however, given the circumstances that the protagonists find themselves in. They are four very human characters, responding with anger or laughter as the situation warrants.

First up is Eddie (Felix Solis), seated alone at a bar in Brooklyn, who provides an arresting monologue about his recently-deceased wife and his love for her — despite her anger at having to live in a wheelchair after having survived an automobile accident that left her paralyzed and with two stumps where her legs had been. Eddie, a long-distance trucker, used to text her every night when he was on the road and he continues to do so even after she dies.

Eddie covers his grief and loneliness with flailing arms and dancing feet, having previously provided humor and warmth, tenderness, and limitless patience to his understandably bad-tempered wife. She (Xochitl Romero), on the other hand, oscillated between laughter and resentment, but succumbed to his purposeful gentleness in a brilliant scene in which she lies quietly in a bathtub full of water while he bathes her.

The other couple in this extraordinary tale is John (Tobias Forrest), a wealthy grad student, a paraplegic with cerebral palsy and non-functioning hands and arms, who, like Eddie's wife, spends his days in a wheelchair, and Ani (Katy Sullivan) a bright young woman who applies for a job as his caretaker.

Initially contemptuous of her when he learns that she has had a series of low-level jobs (her latest as a bar hostess), he perks up when she tells him she has a degree, albeit from what he considers an inferior college. But since nobody else has come forward to apply for the job, he reluctantly hires her.

Over time, as they share their life stories,

they grow closer and even intimate as she shaves him and showers him, washing his entire body and his hair in a working shower onstage. And in a new growth of confidence he responds to her ministrations by coming to treat her with respect and even loses some of his more frantic facial tics.

The play is divided into time segments, with the first scene the prologue in December with Eddie in the bar and the next six in the past veering from John's apartment in Princeton, New Jersey to Ani's in Jersey City. Scenes seven and eight return to the present, one week before Christmas, and finally the epilogue at Eddie's apartment in Bayonne, New Jersey, later that same night in December.

The play, with all its funny, intelligent, and engrossing talk would seem to indicate where it will all end up. But it doesn't. It leads its players, and its audience, into a provocative contemplation of human need, and how one might construct a life in spite of being alone, incapacitated, and unfulfilled. And this incredibly gifted ensemble, under the powerful direction of John Vreeke, will leave you hopeful and exhilarated, and maybe just a bit more attuned to the people in your life.

As playwright Majok put it in an interview for Stage Buddy, "I think sometimes in trying to protect ourselves — from being hurt, from being taken advantage of, or from acknowledging the consequences of some of our own choices — that we can move away from people when perhaps we should be moving toward."

"Cost of Living" can be seen Fridays, Saturdays, and Mondays at 8 p.m., with matinees Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m. through December 16 at The Fountain Theatre, 5060 Fountain Ave., (Fountain at Normandie) in Los Angeles. For tickets, call (323) 663-1525 or online at www.FountainTheatre.com.

Cynthia Citron has worked as a journalist, public relations director, documentary screenwriter and theater reviewer. She may be reached at ccitron66@gmail.com.

MUSIC

FROM PAGE 4

I'd rather be dead — I'd rather be dead
I'd rather be dead than wet than wet my bed"

— Harry Nilsson, 1971

Harry, dear tragic so-talented Harry Nilsson of the thrilling vocal range and stylization, master of melody and of canny, wacky lyrics, sagacious with words but not with his life, wasn't yet 30 when he wrote these lines so insightful about an end of life seemingly decades removed. He never got there. Too many years of extreme drug and alcohol abuse probably led to his massive heart attack at 51, and the one that killed him, in his Agoura Hills home, 11 months later at 52.

I was younger by six years when I first

heard them, and was taken aback. First of all, rock stars did NOT write or even think about such things. Nobody does till they're past 60 or 70 at least, right? But especially back then there was not the awareness of Alzheimer's and dementia that there now is. What was so unexpected and eccentric then has become the nightly news now. Nilsson saw it from the perspective of those many years his senior who were facing it and living it and saw that many of them, given the chance, might... choose not to. Today we might call it an 8-word advance directive: I'd rather be dead than wet my bed.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 2,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 32 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealrmusic@gmail.com

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1708133

Local

6

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2018

Santa Monica Daily Press

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CHAINS

FROM PAGE 1

look forward to continuing to work together with partners and the City of Santa Monica to explore areas of support to nurture and assist our local businesses," Kerns said. "Conducting business in our city can be difficult for small restaurants, as can be seen by the number of closings around our city."

The ordinance originally proposed an upper limit of 150 locations, but Davis and Councilmember Sue Himmelrich and amended the limit to 100 because they believe it would have prevented desirable restaurant chains from coming to the Promenade.

The ordinance will only apply to chains considered limited-service and take-out restaurants, a classification that also includes cafes, ice cream parlors and delicatessens. It will not apply to full-service restaurants with more than 100 locations, such as BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse. Out of the 28 eateries on the Promenade, only nine are full-service restaurants.

In addition, some Promenade properties, such as Chipotle's building, are grandfathered

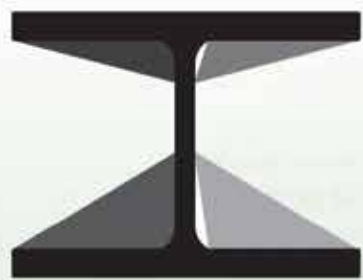
in as fast-food restaurants, said Jing Yeo, City Planning Division Manager. While this doesn't mean new tenants in those spaces would have to be fast-food restaurants, large chains looking to open on the Promenade could seek out those spaces.

Kathleen Rawson, the CEO of Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. (DTSM), has said she thinks businesses like The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf or Pinkberry, which are classified as incidental food, should be exempted from the ordinance.

Scott Schonfeld, who owns The Gallery Food Hall on the Promenade, said at the Council meeting he believes the ordinance is a step in the right direction to address the decline in foot traffic and high business turnover on Third Street. But he also asked the Council to consider lifting the moratorium on converting restaurant spaces on the Promenade to retail spaces.

"There's almost too much supply (of fast-casual restaurants)," Schonfeld said. "It's hard for new operators to open and succeed with the amount of burger and salad places we have."

madeleine@smdp.com



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**TENANT
PROTECTION**

SEASON

FROM PAGE 1

WinterLit, which includes a film series, a menorah lighting, ice skating and breakfast with Santa.

For a full listing of DTSM programming dates and times, visit downtownsm.com

The Official City of Santa Monica Tree Lighting with an appearance by Santa Claus occurs Friday, Nov. 30 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. at the 1200 Block of the Third Street Promenade.

Main Street will hold their holiday party Saturday, December 1. Their festivities begin with the annual tradition of Main Street's tree lighting followed by Santa-led walk to the Shopping Cart tree at Edgemar, which, you guessed it, is a Christmas Tree composed solely of shopping carts.

Carolers, music, and Main Street

businesses will all partake in the event.

The Main Street Holiday Party begins December 1 at 5 p.m. and ends at 9 p.m. The event begins at the Heritage Lawn.

For more information, visit <https://www.santamonica.com/event/main-street-holiday-party/>

This year, Montana's popular Holiday Walk will take place on Dec. 8 from 4 - 8 p.m. The day features live music, food, drinks and great deals on Montana Avenue between 6th & 17th Street. Visit <http://montanaave.com/events> for more information.

The Pico holiday celebration will also be Dec. 8. Merchants and residents are invited to a mixer at the Elks Lodge, 1040 Pico Blvd. from 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. The free event includes live music, giveaways, food and a cash bar.

angel@smdp.com

PROTEST

FROM PAGE 1

want an appeal."

De la Torre said he was there to support his wife and help residents challenge a government he feels is out of touch.

"When we see tourists get more attention than residents, something is wrong. When we see developers and hotels get more preference than renters, something is wrong," he said. "When the City dumps a freeway and City dump in our neighborhood, something is wrong."

De la Torre added he believes electing City Councilmembers by district will give residents more of a voice.

"We'll have a government that will represent us at the neighborhood level. Someone accessible, someone you can run into at the grocery store and talk to," he said. "We have a system now where we have a council member who lives in Pico and knows he doesn't need the neighborhood for votes. That's not right."

De la Torre said he thinks City Hall could be decentralized with neighborhood offices that could provide residents with services.

"We envision council members with staff so any issues you have get support and attention at a neighborhood level," he said.

Loya and De la Torre then led the crowd into a City Hall meeting. Protesters overwhelmed the room, filling up seats and lining walls while a fire marshal cleared people from walkways and doorways.

Residents queued up to voice their displeasure with the appeal during the public speaking portion of the meeting.

Mayor Ted Winterer eventually read a prepared statement defending the City's position, saying a district-based system would balkanize the community. This immediately drew jeers from the audience, who walked outside after the Mayor's statements.

De la Torre said he disagreed with Winterer, and believes district-based elections will build unity in the city's communities.

"That's sad to hear from the Mayor," he told the crowd. "[District-based elections] will give voice to the voiceless. We'll have people from different parts of the city and they'll get together and talk about issues."

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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 64.3°

THURSDAY - FAIR - SURF: 2-3 ft waist to stomach high
New SW/SSW swell continues to slowly fill in. Minor NW swell.

FRIDAY - FAIR - SURF: 2-3 ft waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
Modest SW/SSW swell continues. Small WNW swell.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 365 Calls For Service On Nov. 27.
HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

Battery 1300 block 17th 12:19 a.m.
Public intoxication 7th/Wilshire 12:48 a.m.
Disturbance of the peace 1400 block Ocean 01:11 a.m.
Disturbance of the peace 1200 block Ocean 04:49 a.m.
Fight Centinela/Expo Line 05:18 a.m.
Auto burglary 2200 block Pier 05:23 a.m.
Disturbance of the peace 3100 block Wilshire 06:19 a.m.
Disturbance of the peace 17th/Wilshire 07:26 a.m.
Battery 1300 block 3rd Prom 07:58 a.m.
Vandalism 1900 block 20th 08:01 a.m.
Person down 3300 block 17th 08:53 a.m.
Bike theft 1000 block The Beach 08:57 a.m.
Critical missing person 300 block Olympic 09:09 a.m.
Traffic collision w/injuries 2nd/Montana 09:45 a.m.
Animal related incident 16th/Colorado 09:59 a.m.
Grand theft auto 100 block Palisades 10:02 a.m.
Animal related incident 1400 block Ocean 10:28 a.m.
Animal related incident 300 block 25th 11:24 a.m.
Disturbance of the peace 2100 block Santa Monica 11:36 a.m.
Grand theft auto 900 block Santa Monica 11:37 a.m.
Disturbance of the peace 1600 block Cloverfield 11:42 a.m.
Fight 1600 block Cloverfield 11:43 a.m.
Disturbance of the peace 1500 block 4th 11:50 a.m. Burglary 1200 block 14th 12:04 p.m.

Public intoxication 2500 block 7th 1:10 p.m.
Burglary 800 block 20th 1:34 p.m.
Grand theft 100 block Santa Monica 2:02 p.m.
Fight 600 block Wilshire 2:19 p.m.
Child abuse 600 block Pico 2:23 p.m.
Auto burglary 3000 block Urban 2:58 p.m.
Grand theft 1400 block 3rd Prom 3:00 p.m.
Animal related incident 1700 block 17th 3:02 p.m.
Elder abuse 1000 block 2nd 3:10 p.m.
Rape 20th/Pico 3:10 p.m.
Elder abuse 2600 block 4th 3:10 p.m.
Burglary 1300 block 6th 3:20 p.m.
Family disturbance 800 block Palisades Park 3:40 p.m.
Found senile person 2200 block Montana 3:46 p.m.
Sexual assault 1300 block Franklin 3:58 p.m.
Traffic collision w/injuries 1100 block Pacific Coast Hwy 4:17 p.m.
Animal related incident 500 block 15th 4:27 p.m.
Missing person 300 block Olympic 4:53 p.m.
Grand theft 100 block Santa Monica 5:38 p.m.
Critical missing person 300 block Santa Monica Pier 5:52 p.m.
Fight Ocean/Colorado 5:57 p.m.
Illegal weapon Euclid/Broadway 6:02 p.m.
Family disturbance 2000 block Delaware 6:27 p.m.
Family disturbance 2200 block 29th 7:55 p.m.
Grand theft auto 1300 block 2nd 8:27 p.m.
Person down 1900 block 4th 9:10 p.m.
Auto burglary Main/Ashland 9:25 p.m.
Battery 2400 block Virginia 9:40 p.m.
Rape 600 block Santa Monica 9:50 p.m.
Public intoxication Ocean/Colorado 9:54 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 26 Calls For Service On Nov. 27.
HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

Emergency Medical Service 2600 block 3rd 03:20 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2900 block 4th 03:24 a.m.
EMS 1900 block Wilshire 04:34 a.m.
EMS 2100 block Ocean 08:21 a.m.
EMS 1100 block Arizona 10:08 a.m.
EMS 900 block 2nd 11:34 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1700 block Ocean Front Walk 1:53 p.m.
EMS 1800 block Lincoln 2:35 p.m.
Traffic collision w/injury Ocean/Montana 3:00 p.m.
EMS 2700 block Neilson 3:37 p.m.
EMS 600 block Santa Monica 4:20 p.m.
EMS 2700 block Neilson 4:31 p.m.
EMS 1200 block 11th 5:48 p.m.

EMS 1400 block 14th 7:25 p.m.
EMS 800 block Woodacres 7:28 p.m.
EMS 400 block Expo Line 7:41 p.m.
Carbon monoxide alarm 900 block 20th 7:45 p.m.
Automatic alarm 2500 block Broadway 7:57 p.m.
EMS 2400 block Michigan 8:33 p.m.
EMS 500 block Broadway 8:50 p.m.
EMS 1900 block 4th 9:10 p.m.
EMS 1900 block Lincoln 9:23 p.m.
EMS 4th/Colorado 9:45 p.m.
Electrical fire-no fire visible 500 block Wilshire 10:00 p.m.
EMS 1100 block 20th 10:36 p.m.
EMS 2000 block Arizona 11:14 p.m.

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BID #4371 FURNISH AND DELIVER 2-YARD, 3-YARD, AND 4-YARD PLASTIC REFUSE, RECYCLING AND ORGANICS CONTAINERS

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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: [Planet Bids](http://PlanetBids.com) or <http://venders.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm>. There is no charge for bid package and specifications.

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DAILY LOTTERY



Draw Date: 11/24
11 33 51 56 58
Power#: 18
Jackpot: 171M



Draw Date: 11/27
12 24 37 42 57
Mega#: 18
Jackpot: 190M



Draw Date: 11/24
7 15 16 22 44
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 26M



Draw Date: 11/27
5 13 28 31 37



Draw Date: 11/28
MIDDAY: 9 5 5
Draw Date: 11/27
EVENING: 1 8 4



Draw Date: 11/27
1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 07 Eureka
3rd: 03 Hot Shot
RACE TIME: 1:49.89

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WORD UP!

atelier
1. a workshop or studio, especially of an artist, artisan, or designer.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LALEE

Counts
■ 1 in 4: Ratio of college students who say they've been diagnosed with or treated for a mental health condition within the past year
■ 3 in 4: Ratio who say they've experienced at least one stressful life event in the past year

Medical History
■ This week in 1939, a rabbit conceived by artificial impregnation was the first such animal in the U.S. to be displayed. Gregory Pincus, an American biologist, had removed an egg from the ovary of a female rabbit and fertilized it with a salt solution. The egg was then transferred to the uterus of a second rabbit, which functioned as an "incubator." Pincus, of Clark University, conducted his experiments at Harvard University.

MYSTERY PHOTO

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SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

DETAILED DUOS by Pam A. Klawitter
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Where props are displayed

5 Sound in a stable

10 Spring time

13 Fun-run pace

14 Debussy's sea piece

15 Confront

16 Sort of solo

17 Preposterous

18 Former spouses

19 Paragon of virtue

22 Borden's cow

23 Kept on course

27 Actress Woodard

31 Unseen attraction

32 "Thursday Night" game grp.

35 USDA diagram

38 Eventful periods

40 Flap in one's yap

41 Refrain snippet

42 Olympian ambition

45 FDR's domain circa 1931

46 One making introductions

47 Redmayne who was Hawking

49 Throws in the microwave

52 Happen next

56 Place of ultimate happiness

60 Be in sync

63 Low-tech hair dryer

64 Cruise stop

65 Love in Barcelona

66 Disney mermaid

67 Ankle neighbor

DOWN

1 Where props are displayed

2 Harry Potter series owl

3 Labors long

4 Ballparks

5 Narrow cut

6 Family nickname

7 Arabian Sea sultanate

8 Tears apart

9 Pay for everyone

10 Hit the limit, with "out"

11 Old pro

12 "By all means"

15 The ___ City (what Washington called Washington)

20 Portraitist's subject, at times

21 Bring up

24 Caesar subject

25 Post of etiquette

26 Tots' pops

28 Polo team complement

29 Wander around

30 Draw out

32 With less experience

33 Wharton title character

34 Timber tree

36 Trudge along

37 Lawn location

39 Surprising success

43 Highly prized

44 Subsided, with "down"

48 Get to volunteer

50 Final tally

51 Camper's confection

53 Obama daughter

54 Darkened

55 Idyllic locales

57 Victor's cry

58 Stuff that's sown

59 90-degree shapes

60 Binge

61 "If you ask me," in texts

62 Web-crawling software

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	
13					14						15			
16					17						18			
19				20						21				
22								23			24	25	26	
			27		28	29	30			31				
32	33	34		35				36	37					
38			39		40						41			
42				43						44		45		
46							47				48			
49					50	51				52		53	54	55
			56				57	58	59					
60	61	62			63						64			
65					66						67			
68					69						70			

CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2018 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 11/29/18

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 29)

Many parts of your life have been defined by your pioneering spirit, but this year will be counted among your most exploratory. The best adventures will be accessible within a few hours of travel time. Also notable: You'll be given an important key, there's a chance to repair some history, and a new financial stream will open. Cancer and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 1, 4, 40, 7 and 18.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

It can take courage to live even the most ordinary daily existence. But it shouldn't be that way all of the time. There's so much good that will happen naturally today. It's safe to go forward with defenses low, mind calm.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

Not all discomfort is good, but since discomfort is also the price of admission to a worthwhile and interesting life, it can't be all bad. Today, everything in the "worthwhile and interesting" category will be outside the comfort zone.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

When you taste happiness it makes you want more and more happiness, but happiness doesn't work that way. Strange things happen when happiness compounds on itself. Savor sweet moments sans greed. Greed is ruinous.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

There's a gentle rage simmering in you today. This has to do with setting something right, not only for you, but for the others and for everyone after. Until there is justice for all, there is justice for none.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

It can take a very long time to form the foundation, products and momentum necessary to become an "overnight" success. Keep building, little by little, day by day, every single day – no skipping.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Tell people about your interests and hobbies because letting people know what you're all about is a form of self-love. It allows for the world to mold to you a bit instead of you always having to mold to the world.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

You're culling from all these different inspirations and resources and nothing is really fitting together to point you in a particular direction. That's OK. This won't be a linear path. Zig now, zag later.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

Attraction can happen naturally, or can be created through careful calculations and applied formulas intended to create specific results. Just know which kind of attraction you're dealing with.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You're thinking of going to the next level with an endeavor. Would you still do it if no one else in the world knew about your expertise? That's how you know it's worth your time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

You don't have to apologize for taking care of someone you love, especially if that person is you. Anyone who stands in the way of your self-care is being unloving. Don't be guilted into neglecting what matters to you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Feeling special isn't about owning the best things, getting the attention of a lot of people or having the love of one person. It's about believing in your own specialness.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

Should you display your solidarity or your independent thought? Yes to both. Timing is the thing. Pay attention to sense when to meld with the group and when to enhance it through your uniqueness.

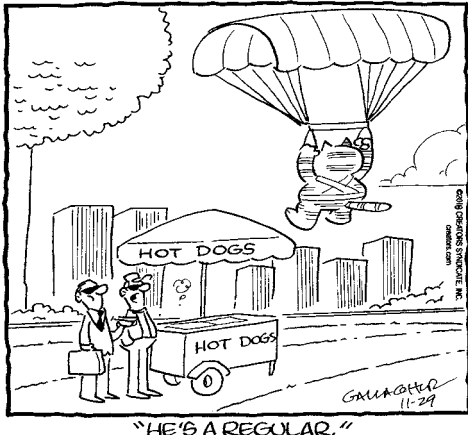
Uranus and Venus Prepare for a Face-Off

The same idea can have a very different life depending on the mind in which it chooses to roost. One might tuck the idea in the back of a drawer while another props the idea on a shelf or uses it to decorate a parade float. With Venus and Uranus lining up for a game of cosmic tug o' war, what you do with an idea is more important than the idea itself.

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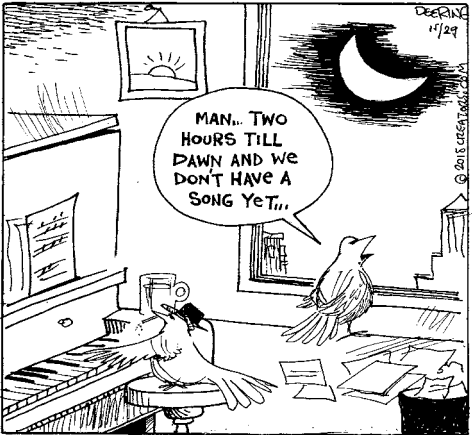
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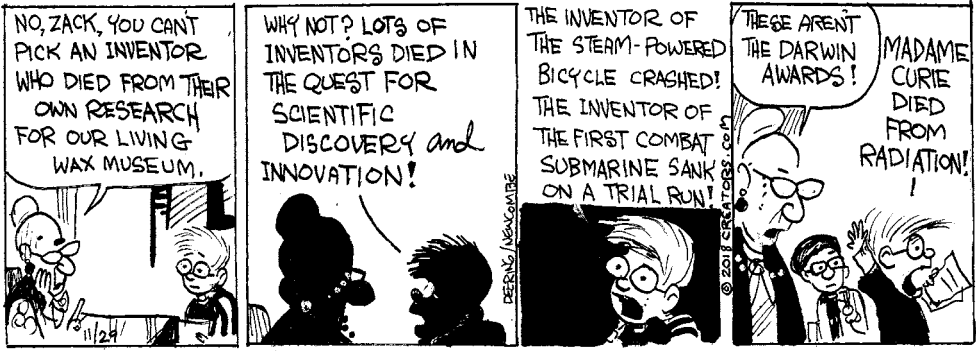


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LA joins other big cities in legalizing street vending

JOHN ROGERS

Associated Press

It was his 63rd birthday but instead of staying home to celebrate Wednesday, Andres Garcia got in his truck and drove 25 miles to Los Angeles City Hall to see the little sidewalk vending business he's run for 15 years finally become legal.

There, in the ornate City Council Chambers, he and more than 200 other sidewalk vendors — “micro-entrepreneurs” as Councilman Curren Price Jr. calls them — rose up to cheer, embrace one another and shout in Spanish, “we won, we won,” as the council voted 13-0 to legalize street vending in the nation's second-largest city.

“For us, it's very important,” Garcia said of the LA street vendors whose numbers have been estimated as high as 50,000. “If someone complains, the police, they could come in and take everything from us. Make us throw all our stuff away and we lose all our money for that day.”

In recent years, police have often looked the other way, he said, but he has been hassled more than once in the past when

somebody complained that he stakes out space to sell chips, candy, drinks and other items in a park near a dam built in 1940 to prevent flooding in the San Fernando Valley.

Passage of the ordinance takes away that risk but marks just the beginning of a new day for street vendors. The city must still implement a system for issuing permits to vendors and to figure out how much to charge for them.

“We need to make sure that these permits don't cost so much that they're burdensome for the vendors,” Councilman Bob Blumenfeld said.

At the same time, he and other officials added, the price must cover the cost of issuing and enforcing the permits.

Price says it will likely be a year before those details are hammered out and voted on. Leaders of the Los Angeles Street Vendor Campaign and other advocacy groups plan to take part in the discussion.

Los Angeles will join New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Philadelphia and other metropolises in regulating street vendors who sell everything from toys to tacos, T-shirts to cellphones and just about

anything else you can think of.

“No longer can we say that of the 10 major cities, Los Angeles is last. That was embarrassing,” Blumenfeld said.

How to handle street vending in LA has been debated for a decade, and Price noted Wednesday it took five years to shepherd his ordinance to a vote. It might have taken longer if the state Legislature hadn't passed its own street vendor law earlier this year that would have superseded anything Los Angeles did if the city didn't have its own regulations on the books by Jan. 1.

For now, the new city law will require vendors to stay at least three feet from one another, keep their areas clean, and not block sidewalks or inhibit people from entering brick-and-mortar businesses. Selling illegal stuff such as pirated CDs or DVDs remains illegal. If food is sold, the vendor must have the required license from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

Lourdes Madrigal and other vendors say they already do those things.

Six days a week, she rises before dawn to fill her pushcart with her freshly made tamales, tortas, burritos, oatmeal and other

breakfast staples served with salsa and champurrado.

She's on the street by 4 a.m., in time to catch the big breakfast eaters — construction workers headed into downtown Los Angeles from the East Side neighborhood of Boyle Heights.

“People can feel more comfortable just doing their job now and not being in fear of having their stuff just thrown away,” she said.

The mother of a 2-year-old daughter she cradled during the hearing got into the business five years ago, when she says she was alone and broke. Things have gotten better since then. The work is hard, but the money isn't bad.

“It pays the rent,” she says with a smile.

After the council vote, she and more than 200 others, many wearing T-shirts proclaiming, “Legalize Street Vending,” streamed out of City Hall for a celebration on the south lawn. Food vendors were waiting for them.

“Who wants a churro,” Price shouted triumphantly as other offerings — shaved ice, tropical drinks, chili dogs — went on sale nearby.

Pelosi nominated to reclaim speakership, still faces test

LISA MASCARO

AP Congressional Correspondent

Nancy Pelosi was nominated by fellow Democrats to be House speaker on Wednesday, but she still faces a showdown vote when the full House convenes in January.

Pelosi entered the closed-door caucus election in an unusual position — running unopposed for the nomination despite the clamor by some Democrats for new leadership. The lopsided 203-32 tally showed both the weakness of her opposition but also the challenges ahead.

The California Democrat has been deftly picking off opponents — including nine who announced their support as voting was underway — a trend she'll need to accelerate to reach the 218-vote threshold for election when Democrats take control of the chamber in the new year.

“Are there dissenters? Yes,” the California Democrat told reporters as the ballots were being counted. “But I expect to have a powerful vote going forward.”

Pelosi was nominated by Rep. Joe Kennedy of Massachusetts, with no fewer than eight colleagues seconding the choice, including Rep. John Lewis of Georgia, the civil rights leader, and three newly elected lawmakers.

As House Democrats met in private in the Capitol, they faced a simple “yes” or “no” choice.

A sign of the party's mood emerged early as the House Democrats elected Rep. Hakeem Jeffries of New York as caucus chairman, elevating the charismatic 48-year-old from the Congressional Black Caucus as a new generation of leaders pushes to the forefront.

His slim victory in that race, 123-113, over veteran Rep. Barbara Lee of California, another influential member of the Black Caucus, offered a window into the shifting landscape. Flanked by top progressive leaders, Lee made her pitch during the closed session, drawing on the record number of women, including minority women, who ran for office and are entering the new Congress.

The majority, though, went to Jeffries who used his speech to remind Democrats of their core accomplishments — from passage

of the Civil Rights Act to the Affordable Care Act — before pivoting to his vision for the future.

“I'm focused on standing up for everyone — white, black, Latino, Asian, Native American — every single American deserves us, here in the United States Congress to work, Democrats and Republicans, on their behalf to make their life better,” he said afterward.

Democrats voted to return their entire top leadership team, including Rep. Steny Hoyer of Maryland in the No. 2 spot as majority leader and Rep. Jim Clyburn of South Carolina in the No. 3 spot as whip. They were running unopposed.

“The caucus is coming together,” Clyburn said.

In a letter to colleagues ahead of voting, Pelosi gave a nod to those clamoring for change.

“We all agree that history is in a hurry, and we need to accelerate the pace of change in Congress,” she wrote, noting the “historic” class of new first-term lawmakers, the largest since Watergate, who led Democrats to the majority in the midterm election.

Pelosi's opponents had pledged to usher in a new era for Democrats. But one by one, the powerful California congresswoman picked off the would-be challengers and smoothed skeptics.

Ahead of voting Wednesday, a deal was reached with the Problem Solvers Caucus, a bipartisan group whose nine Democratic members were withholding their support as they pushed for rules changes to allow a more open legislative process.

But another group against her, led by Rep. Seth Moulton of Massachusetts, Rep. Tim Ryan of Ohio and Rep. Kathleen Rice of New York, left the leader's office empty-handed. They asked Pelosi to publicly release her plans to transition out of leadership before the end of the next term in 2020. She declined, they said.

For now, there was no one willing, or able, to mount a serious campaign against her bid to reclaim the speaker's job.

Pelosi still lacks the votes she'll need in January, when the new Congress convenes, to ascend to the post. She'll need 218 votes in January, 1d step up to the job.

MATTHEW DALY

Associated Press

With a partial government shutdown possible on Dec. 7, President Donald Trump has met with Republican leaders to hash out a spending plan that includes money for Trump's proposed border wall with Mexico.

Trump is seeking \$5 billion for the wall, which he made a centerpiece of his 2016 campaign and said Mexico would pay for, and he is stepping up pressure on Congress to provide it. Trump said he would “totally be willing” to shut down the government if he doesn't receive the wall money he wants.

House Republicans approved \$5 billion for Trump's wall in a key committee, but a bipartisan bill in the Senate allocates just \$1.6 billion for the border.

House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., called Tuesday's White House meeting “very productive” and said Trump “is very solid with where he wants to go and what he needs to have a secure border.”

House Majority Whip Steve Scalise, R-La., took a hard line on the negotiations, saying Democrats will soon face a crucial question: “Are they going to shut down the government because they don't want to keep America safe?”

Trump said he is considering a backup plan if Congress rejects his demand for the \$5 billion, possibly including the continued use of troops and razor wire to prevent migrants from entering the country. He told The Washington Post that if he doesn't get the money, there are other ways he could get it done.

But he has expressed impatience. “I am firm,” he said in an interview published Wednesday in Politico.

“I don't do anything ... just for political gain,” Trump said. “But I will tell you, politically speaking, that issue is a total winner. People look at the border, they look at the rush to the police, they look at the rock throwers and really hurting three people, three very brave border patrol folks — I think that it's a tremendous issue, but much more importantly, is really needed. So, we have to have border security.”

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said the Trump administration

As shutdown looms, Trump and GOP leaders discuss border wall

hasn't even spent the \$1.6 billion Congress approved in the current budget for the wall.

With Republicans in control of the presidency, the House and the Senate, “a shutdown is on their back,” Schumer said Tuesday. “Stick to the \$1.6 billion.”

Democrats and GOP leaders struck a deal earlier this year to fund nearly three-fourths of the government into next year. Left undone, however, is funding for the Department of Homeland Security, which oversees the border, and a few other agencies. They're now running on stopgap funds set to expire Dec. 7.

Complicating border negotiations, Democrats also want to protect special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian election interference and any possible coordination with Trump associates.

“I didn't know Robert Mueller needed protection,” McCarthy told reporters, adding that there's “nothing out there” for Mueller or Democrats to fear from Trump or his administration. “But I do know the southern end of our country needs protection.”

McCarthy, whose party lost more than three dozen House seats in the midterm elections earlier this month, urged Democrats to work with Republicans on the wall and other legislation, including a long-stalled farm bill, a new tax cut package and criminal justice reform.

“The election is over. Let's put people before politics,” McCarthy said. “We've got a problem before us. Let's solve that problem.”

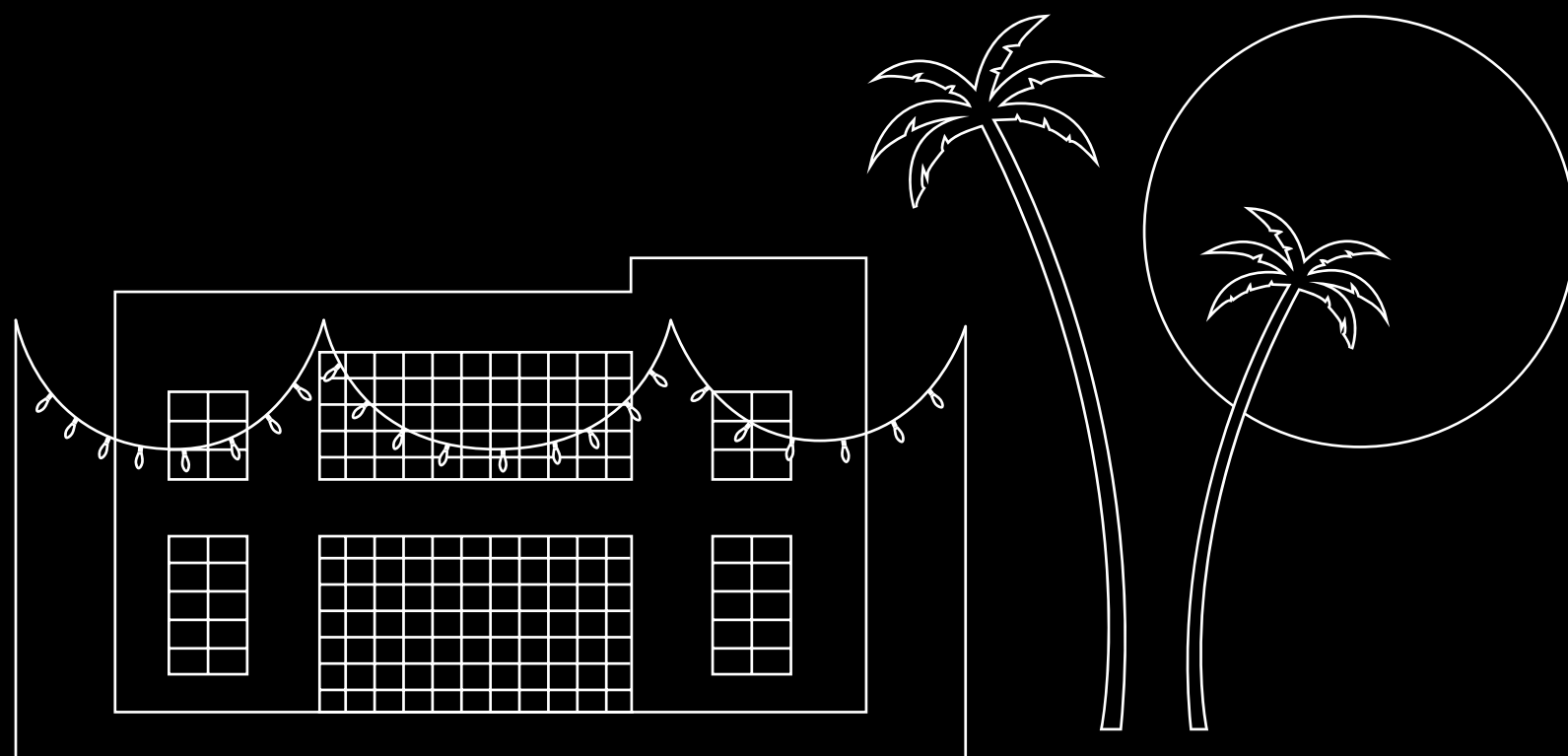
Schumer said Democrats support strong border security and believe that \$1.6 billion for border security, including physical barriers and technology along the U.S. southern border, “is the right way to go.”

White House spokesman Hogan Gidley said Trump and GOP leaders discussed a range of legislative priorities, including the California wildfires, the farm bill and “the great need for border security at this crucial time,” as well as prison reform and the budget. The group also talked about Monday's announcement by General Motors that it will shutter five plants and slash 14,000 jobs in North America, Gidley said.

Associated Press writer Jill Colvin contributed to this report.

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