2 **Vaccine lawsuit**
SMC prevails

3 **Direct or Diffuse?**
Who has a vision for the future?

5 **Orchestra show**
For Lincoln students.

7 **News Binge**
SMDP's news roundup.

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 23 Issue 14 MONDAY 12/04/23 smdp.com

Bye-bye REI

Santa Monica store to close in February



Thomas Leffler

REI: The store will not renew its lease in the new year.

MATTHEW HALL
SMDP Editor

REI is closing its Santa Monica store citing changing customer needs and an increase in the cost of doing business.

Company officials said the store will not renew the lease on its downtown Santa Monica location and will close on Feb. 29, 2024.

"The decision to close was not made lightly, but after consideration to the positive impact of the store, our market presence, and external factors," said spokeswoman Megan Behrbaum. "While Santa Monica remains a destination for locals and visitors alike, the needs of our customers and business have shifted over the nearly two decades that we've served this community. The overall operating environment has also changed and the cost to do business."

The store has seen significant changes to the surrounding area in recent years. It was one of several stores looted during the riots of 2020 and while two people were arrested in that case, the store's inventory was gutted. In addition, the nearby Parking Structure 3 was demolished this year to make way for a supportive housing project.

The company opened at the intersection of 4th and Santa Monica Blvd. in 2006 and replaced a Toys R Us that had been at the same location. The two-story, 32,000 square foot store was the seventh for the company in Los Angeles and that number grew to 14 including a brand new location in Marina Del Rey that opened in September of this year. The Marina store is the 31st in the state. Aside from the Marina, REI has locations in Arcadia, Burbank, Manhattan Beach, Northridge, Laguna Hills and Woodland Hills.

"A Marina del Rey location will allow us to better serve REI members and others who live, work and visit the amazing coastal community," said Steve Lochan,

SEE **REI** PAGE 6

Legion begins patrolling the Promenade



Scott Snowden

PATROL: The new security company is officially working the Downtown area.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

The new private security company tasked with patrolling the Promenade and Downtown areas begins its official rollout this Friday, December 1. Legion Corporation was awarded the contract after a request for proposals yielded submissions by over 20 companies and was narrowed down to just two. The decision came in a Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. (DTSM) board meeting just three weeks ago.

Following the abrupt departure of Covered 6 only a matter of hours after the contract had been signed at the end of September, DTSM voted to move ahead with a search for a replacement. The decision essentially reset the process back to square one albeit with a significantly tighter deadline for companies to bid on the contract following weeks of uncertainty.

However, a preferred choice quickly emerged and that was Legion Corporation, a Fresno-based company formed in 2012 by former Police Officer Joseph Shelley who served with the San Francisco Police Department for 11 years before transitioning to the private sector. The company has clients up and down California, Oregon, Washington and even in the UAE and the UK.

Shelley himself is softly spoken and his big gray beard and shaved head very much gives him the appearance of everyone's favorite uncle. Only his behemoth-sized biceps and heavily tattooed left arm hint at a security service-based background. Growing up in Fresno,

SEE **LEGION** PAGE 8



Gary Limjap
(310) 586-0339

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

garylimjap@gmail.com www.garylimjap.com

COLDWELL BANKER

CalRE # 00927151

Santa Monica College prevails over vaccine mandate lawsuit

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Santa Monica College has prevailed in a lawsuit criticizing a now expired vaccine mandate.

A Santa Monica College freshman, Carter Sparks sued SMC last year claiming the school's COVID-19 vaccine mandate for in-person learning infringed on his religious freedom and right to privacy. Sparks filed the lawsuit seeking court orders to declare the mandate unconstitutional and beyond the district's powers, along with injunctive relief and compensatory damages.

The college argued that Sparks did not qualify for a religious exemption, stating that his application did not express a sincerely held religious opposition to vaccination. The college also said that being Catholic does not automatically entitle someone to a religious exemption given the church doesn't have a prohibition on vaccination.

Sparks had submitted requests for religious and medical exemptions, citing natural immunity from a previous COVID-19 infection, but the college disputed the medical evidence presented in support of his claims.

The court rejected all of Spark's claims saying he had not shown damages nor had he proven he was treated differently from other students on campus.

Judge Lisa K. Sepe-Wiesenfeld said there was no basis for some of Spark's claims given the mandate had been rescinded and Sparks was no longer a student. The court also said there was little evidence a mandate would return.

"Several federal circuit courts have examined the issue of whether there is a reasonable expectation that COVID-19-related mandates and policies will be reinstituted, and those courts have concluded there is no reasonable possibility that the alleged violations in those actions will recur because those COVID-19 mandates were rescinded not in response to lawsuits but because of changed circumstances which remain the same since such mandates were rescinded," said the ruling.

In dismissing the suit, Sepe-Wiesenfeld said Sparks had not shown he was harmed.

"Further, Plaintiff also fails to allege how he was treated differently from other similarly situated persons, providing only a conclusory statement that he 'was similarly situated to the other students who sought a religious accommodation,' and he fails to allege the nature of the damages he suffered besides providing a conclusory statement that he 'suffered damages,'" said the ruling.

"Like institutions of higher education across the country, Santa Monica College adopted a vaccine requirement for students and employees in August 2021," said a statement provided by SMC. "The court's decision dismissing the lawsuit is a vindication of the prudent steps taken by the College to respond to an unprecedented global pandemic."

While the pandemic has ebbed, vaccine mandates remain controversial in parts of the country.

According to a study by the National Academy for State Health Policy, a majority of recent state laws regarding COVID-19 vaccines have focused on the authority of public entities and private businesses to mandate vaccinations.

> Like institutions of higher education across the country, Santa Monica College adopted a vaccine requirement for students and employees in August 2021
>
> - Statement provided by SMC

By the end of 2021, 22 states and Washington, DC, required government employees to be vaccinated or undergo regular testing. Two states banned COVID-19 vaccination mandates for all private employers, while 10 states banned mandates for state workers.

With the end of the public health emergency on May 11, 2023, most states ended COVID-19 vaccination mandates and some are now limiting entities' ability to require vaccinations. In 2023, several states passed laws restricting governmental and private entities from mandating COVID-19 vaccinations.

Texas, for example, prohibited governmental entities from implementing mandates and allocated no funds for promoting vaccinations. Eleven states limited private businesses from requiring vaccinations.

Legislation expanded beyond employment and access to goods, encompassing areas like adoption and hospital visitation. School-related bills focused on routine vaccination requirements, with some states prohibiting proof of COVID-19 vaccination.

Many states provided exemptions, including medical, religious, and philosophical, with a focus on private businesses. Religious exemptions faced challenges, with some states eliminating them, while others enacted laws requiring religious exemptions for all vaccinations. Overall, state legislation aimed to balance vaccination efforts and limit mandates from public and private entities, necessitating efforts to rebuild trust and engage populations around vaccine-preventable diseases.

editor@smdp.com

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

BECOMING SANTA MONICA

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Direct or Diffuse?

IS THERE A BETTER WAY TO ESTABLISH A VISION FOR SANTA MONICA?

I think Santa Monica is at an inflection point and we desperately need new leaders with a clearly articulated vision for the city. That strong vision should be something we as a community can get behind, enabling the city to govern forward and not backward.

So, today let's explore the idea of a directly elected mayor.

At another inflection point in 1946 following WWII, the city voted and approved a new city charter replacing three commissioners with the current council system as governance had become too complicated for three untrained politicians to manage.

All council members are now elected at-large, meaning the whole city votes for all of them, and they hire a city manager as the city's executive officer. The manager serves at the "pleasure of the council." The mayor is a ceremonial position, which recently changed to be a rolling appointment based on seniority. (Previously, the mayor was voted in by the council.)

What if we voted directly for a mayor with a staff, office, and responsibility for the city? This hypothetical situation would mirror other forms of government giving the mayor a veto over council and giving council the ability to override that veto. There would still be a city administrator to maintain continuity between mayors, but all departments would report to the mayor.

Could this directly-elected mayor better express the desires of residents, taking power away from the organizations that have always run things and making the city executive directly responsible to the citizens for both expressing and executing their vision?

Santa Monica elections are heavily influenced by what I would describe as political machines (or de-facto political parties if you prefer). For a long time, it was the chamber of commerce. Then in '79/'83 it became Santa Monicans for Renters Rights.

I am not opposed to any one group, SMRR, Chamber of Commerce, Dem Club etc. I would just like our politics to be less controlled by these institutions. It has become insular and stifling and I don't think it's working. New ideas are suppressed by an ingrained power structure. The vision is very blurry.

Driven largely by the riots and looting that hit the city in 2020, the election that year had a "change slate" beating the traditional machine-backed candidates that have dominated for so long. However, the election of 2022 saw the reemergence of traditional power blocks.

Currently we have a majority of four city council members disconnected from a central machine, but the central issue remains: there's a lack of central vision. By design, the city manager is charged with executing Council directives and is not responsible to the people. They are a servant of the city council, not the residents.

A directly-elected mayor would allow residents to take a direct stance on a singular vision for the future and hold a single person accountable for making it happen.

We saw this play out last year in LA with the competing visions of Karen Bass and Rick Caruso. The voters had a real choice, and they made it.

There are very good arguments against a directly-elected mayoral system. Opponents say a directly-elected mayor who is the city executive officer turns an essentially bureaucratic position into a political one. An unelected city manager is able to make important decisions that may not be politically popular, but that are necessary, without risk of direct voter blowback—the council shields the city manager so they can focus on the job and not on the optics of the job.

There is also a competence argument. A city manager is hired based on their resume and experience. A directly-elected mayor opens the door to those who might be popular but ultimately incompetent. With so much on the line, they argue, the current process ensures an experienced, competent executive. If the city manager doesn't pass muster, they can be fired by a vote of the city council.

Finally, there is the argument that if the city council is setting the policy and the mayor is running the city, there is a possibility of gridlock. That by giving the mayor so much power, and taking some oversight power away from the city council, you risk a council and mayor at odds, where the work of governance is lost in the "blood sport" that is politics. The current council, they argue, must come to a consensus of at least four votes, supposedly dissuading gridlock in favor of negotiation.

The current system reminds me of Plato's "Republic" and the philosopher king (without the eugenics, thankfully). Plato argued that you wouldn't hold a vote for ship's captain, because captaining requires skill and experience, and voting would open the position to all manner of incompetence. He argued that the philosopher, beholden to no one but truth, should govern.

I have always found Plato's "Republic" to be arrogant and patronizing. It suggests that the people aren't smart enough to decide who leads them. Then again people did vote for Donald Trump after all, so maybe we aren't worthy of the power of democracy.

I can't help thinking about our seven council members as philosopher kings,

SEE **SM** PAGE 11



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **62.1**

MONDAY
POOR TO FAIR
SURF: 1-2ft
Knee to thigh

NW swell mix from the weekend eases as a new round of steep-angled NW swell shows. Small SSW swell lingers. Mostly small scale surf across the region.

TUESDAY
POOR TO FAIR
SURF: 1-2ft
Knee to thigh

Small, steep-angled NW swell lingers. Some new S swell starts to show. Mostly small scale surf across the region. Morning winds look light.

Weather

Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 73.
Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 54.
Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 75.
Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 55.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2023/12/04	Mon	04:13 AM	3.85	H
2023/12/04	Mon	09:01 AM	3.21	L
2023/12/04	Mon	1:44 PM	3.86	H
2023/12/04	Mon	9:20 PM	0.87	L
2023/12/05	Tue	04:44 AM	4.13	H
2023/12/05	Tue	10:34 AM	2.72	L
2023/12/05	Tue	3:18 PM	3.54	H
2023/12/05	Tue	10:05 PM	1.10	L
2023/12/06	Wed	05:09 AM	4.45	H
2023/12/06	Wed	11:30 AM	2.10	L
2023/12/06	Wed	4:39 PM	3.41	H
2023/12/06	Wed	10:42 PM	1.32	L
2023/12/07	Thu	05:32 AM	4.80	H
2023/12/07	Thu	12:12 PM	1.44	L
2023/12/07	Thu	5:47 PM	3.39	H
2023/12/07	Thu	11:14 PM	1.54	L
2023/12/08	Fri	05:55 AM	5.18	H
2023/12/08	Fri	12:49 PM	0.79	L
2023/12/08	Fri	6:45 PM	3.44	H
2023/12/08	Fri	11:45 PM	1.74	L
2023/12/09	Sat	06:20 AM	5.56	H
2023/12/09	Sat	1:24 PM	0.17	L
2023/12/09	Sat	7:34 PM	3.51	H

Daily Lottery

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

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 11/29
6 47 50 61 68
Power#: 4
Jackpot: 400 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 11/28
27 37 42 59 61
Mega#: 11
Jackpot: 355 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 11/29
1 3 10 36 41
Mega#: 12
Jackpot: 19 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 11/30
1 13 14 16 26

Daily 3
Draw Date: 11/30
EVENING: 2 1 3
Draw Date: 11/30
MIDDAY: 7 5 4

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 11/30
1st: 07 - Eureka
2nd: 08 - Gorgeous George
3rd: 02 - Lucky Star
Race Time: 1:48.44

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.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2023242518 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 11/09/23.The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Santa Monica Dentist 2730 Wilshire Blvd Ste 201 Santa Monica CA 90403Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Videgain & Freed A Professional Dental Corporation 2730 Wilshire Blvd Ste 201 Santa Monica CA 90403If corporation or LLC- Print State of Incorporation/ Organization: CA This Business is conducted by: A Corporation The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/ ARegistrant/Corp/ LLC Name /s/: Videgain & Freed A Professional Dental Corporation Title: Secretary Benjamin Freed This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/09/2023NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS 11/20/23, 11/27/23, 12/04/23,12/11/23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2023256992 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 11/30/23. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as FCC License Exams 13900 Panay DS12 Marina Del Rey, CA 90292 Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON The full name of the registrant(s) is/ are Charles P Pascal 13900 Panay DS12 Marina Del Rey, CA 90292 If corporation or LLC-

DBA

Print State of Incorporation/ Organization: This Business is conducted by: An Individual The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A Registrant/Corp/ LLC Name /s/: Charles P Pascal Title: Owner Charles P Pascal This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/30/2023 NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS 12/04/23,12/11/23, 12/18/23, 12/27

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2023241351 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 11/08/23.The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Alex Clean 7415 S Normandie Los Angeles CA 90044Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Alex Garcia 7415 S Normandie Los Angeles CA 90044If corporation or LLC- Print State of Incorporation/Organization: CA This Business is conducted by: An Individual The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/ ARegistrant/Corp/ LLC Name /s/: Alex Garcia Title: Owner Alex Garcia This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/08/2023NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED

DBA

PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS 11/20/23, 11/27/23, 12/04/23,12/11/23

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2023245906 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 11/14/23.The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Kendall Clutter 6520 Zelzah Ave Reseda, CA 91335 Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Kendall Ann Seyer 6520 Zelzah Avenue Reseda, Ca 91355 If corporation or LLC- Print State of Incorporation/Organization: This Business is conducted by: An Individual The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 11/2023Registrant/Corp/ LLC Name /s/: Kendall Ann Seyer Title: Owner Kendall Ann Seyer This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/14/2023NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS 11/27/23, 12/04/23,12/11/23, 12/18/23

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 23SMC00586Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Ethel

Name Change

Elizabeth Cox for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:Petitioner or Attorney: Ethel Elizabeth Cox filed a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Ethel Elizabeth Cox to Ethel Eichelberger Cox The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 01/05/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: - The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA - COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1725 Main Street Santa Monica, CA 90401A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 23SMCP00572 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Ibrahim Abdulrazak for Change of NameTO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:Petitioner or Attorney: Ibrahim Abdulrazak a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Mohammed-Surur Ibrahim Mohammed-Surur to Mohammed Ibrahim Surur Salem Ibrahim Mohammed-Surur to Salam Ibrahim SururNurayne Ibrahim Mohammed-Surur to Nuraayne Ibrahum Surur The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 12/22/2023 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: – The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA - COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1725 Main Street Santa Monica, CA 90401A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once

Name Change

each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 23SMCP00549 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Ethan Gregory Plaskon Fitzgerald By and through Hugh Fitzgerald, Lisa Taglieri for Change of NameTO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:Petitioner or Attorney: Ethan Gregory Plaskon Fitzgerald By Hugh Fitzgeraldfiled a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Ethan Gregory Plaskon Fitzgerald to Ethan Gregory Fitzgerald The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 12/08/2023 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: – The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA - COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1725 Main Street Santa Monica, CA 90401A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 23SMCP00584 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles Petition of Julia Ann Friedman for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Julia Ann Friedman filed a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Julia Ann Friedmanto Julia Ann Lopate The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice
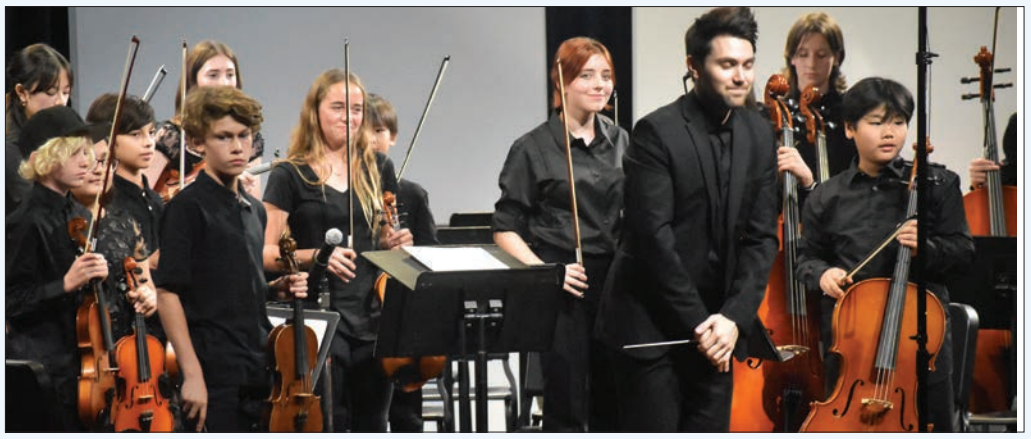
Name Change

of Hearing: Date 11/29/2023 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: 203 The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA - COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1725 Main St Santa Monica CA 90401 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

Public Notice

Notice of Proposed Rule: Proposal to list the northern distinct population segment (DPS) and the southern DPS of western spadefoot as threatened species. On December 5, 2023, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, proposed to list the northern DPS and the southern DPS of western spadefoot as threatened species. The Service published this proposed rule in the Federal Register FWS-R8-ES-2023-0095. The Service is seeking comments from the public on this proposed listing rule. Copies of the proposal and other information about this issue are available by accessing the internet at http://www.regulations.gov. Comments and materials from all interested persons or organizations must be postmarked or received by February 5, 2024. All comments must be submitted either to the Federal Rulemaking portal at: http://www.regulations.gov by following the instructions for submitting comments or by U.S. mail or hand- delivery to: Public Comments Processing, Attn: FWS-R8-ES-2023-0095, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, MS: PRB/3W, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3803. We will not accept e-mail or faxes. We will post all comments on http:/ /www.regulations.gov

Lincoln orchestras play to packed house







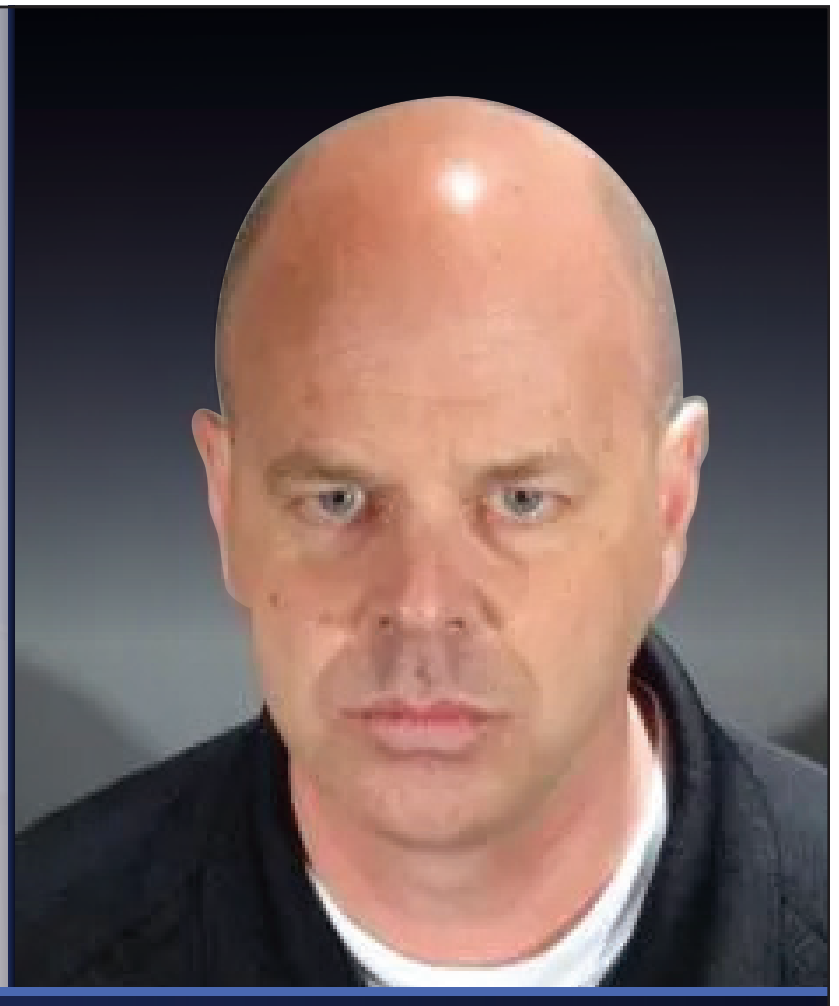

Photos by Thomas Leffler

SOUNDS OF THE SEASON: The Lincoln Middle School orchestras winter concert took place on Nov. 30, bringing in a sizable crowd of parents and locals to the school's auditorium. The program included performances from Lincoln's string orchestra, symphony orchestra, concert orchestra and chamber ensemble. The string orchestra performed the traditional French lullaby "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" along with two other pieces, while the concert orchestra amazed the crows with renditions of themes from "Game of Thrones" and the "Avengers" films. The chamber ensemble ended the night with classic movie themes from "Out of Africa," "E.T. The Extra Terrestrial" and "Home Alone."

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

You've kept your secret for so long.

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.

Santa Monica Arrests

For the week of Nov 23rd to 29th

Crime	Arrests
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	4
Parole Violation	3
Vandalism	3
Assault & Battery	2
Assault with a Deadly Weapon	2
Battery Causing Serious Bodily Injury	2
Burglary	2
Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol	2
Possession of Methamphetamines	2
Violation of Stay-away Order	2
Warrant	2
Carrying A Concealed Dirk Or Dagger	1
Corporal Injury To Spouse	1
Embezzlement	1
Felon in possession of loaded firearm	1
Grand Theft	1
Illegally Carrying a Loaded Firearm - Felony	1
Obstructing a Business Establishment	1
Obstructing Sidewalk on Promenade	1
Resisting Arrest	1
Trespassing on/near Pier	1
TOTAL	**31**

Ice hosts fireside chat





Photos by Thomas Leffler

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION: The final Culture Collective conversation event of 2023 took place on Nov. 28, a fireside chat at the Santa Monica Ice Rink hosted by Santa Monica Arts Commissioner Michelle Edgar and Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. Director of Operations & Placemaking Jeremy Ferguson. The event, titled "How Art Can Shape a Cityscape," included a panel with Edgar, Santa Monica Family YMCA CEO Hodge Patterson, artist Vida Rodriguez and contemporary artist RETNA. The panel discussed their individual connections to the arts world, how arts can transform a community like Santa Monica, and their own successes. Patterson told the crowd that YMCA participation has continued to rise in 2023, and that he looks forward to following up the success after taking the CEO title at the Santa Monica location six months ago.

REI

FROM PAGE 1

REI's divisional vice president of retail in an announcement of the Marina store last year. "The store will be next to a path popular with those who enjoy time outside for fitness or relaxing in the sun on a waterfront patio or boat."

The closure of the Santa Monica store coincides with other closures. The company will shutter its location in Fremont at about the same time and will also close a store in Portland in February.

The company said the Portland store was closing due to concerns over crime and security. The Fremont location was described as no longer being a good fit for the company due to missed sales targets and a high cost of operation.

Santa Monica officials said the closure was unfortunate but not disastrous for the area.

"We're certainly sad to see any business make the tough decision to close a location in our city, but we understand that corporations must make tough choices all the time based on a number of factors," said Santa Monica Communications and Public Information Manager Lauren Howland.

"While we hate to see a business close, we're pleased with the level of economic investment and activity we're seeing in downtown Santa Monica and throughout the city. We've made it easier to open a business here by updating our zoning codes and working closely with the business community to address issues such as public safety."

She said Downtown has seen other signs of growth including the remodel of the Nike store, the pending reopening of Barnes + Noble and Din Tai Fung in the mall.

Founded in 1938, REI is the country's largest consumer co-op. While anyone can shop at any location, members receive discounts on an annual basis. According to the company, there are 1.7 million REI members in the Los Angeles DMA and 4.6 million members in California.

"For 17 years, REI has proudly been part of the Santa Monica community serving our members and the outdoor community," said Behrbaum. "We look forward to continuing to serve members and customers from our Santa Monica store through next February. REI has 13 stores in the LA region, including Marina del Rey that opened on September 8. We apologize for the future inconvenience to our members and the outdoor community."

Roofing Supply









Bourget Bros. is your roof repair headquarters, with a complete supply of adhesives, tapes, sheeting and all the required tools.







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

News Binge: All of last week's stories in one place

SMDP STAFF

COUNCIL VOTES UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE 2022-23 FISCAL YEAR-END BUDGET REVIEW:

At a recent meeting of Santa Monica City Council, councilmembers voted unanimously 7-0 to move forward with the fiscal year 2022-23 year-end budget proposals. Per the council's Staff report, this included items like establishing new classifications and salary rates for various listed positions, revising the City's master fee schedule to revise certain user fees and changes, and authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant award from the California Library Literacy Services and from the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program.

LOCAL YOUTH AND PARENTS GIVE BACK TO THOSE LESS FORTUNATE:

The spirit of the holiday season is strong in two local families, including two children who decided to give up coveted birthday gifts to aid a vulnerable population. Local mothers Carmen Garcia-Shushtari and Elizabeth Ko had their respective sons Amory and Oliver born at UCLA Santa Monica Medical Center just one day apart in 2017, and six years later, the families collaborated during Amory and Oliver's birthdays to give back to the medical center's Child Life Department. The two families collected over $760 dollars for the endeavor, purchasing items from the Child Life Department's Amazon gift list, consisting of toys for all ages.

ATHLETES ATTEST TO IMPORTANCE OF ENVIRONMENT IN STORIED CAREERS:

The environment plays an important role in athletics, determining the effectiveness of athletes' moods and abilities, and not many know this better than outdoor sports legends Laird Hamilton and Gabby Reece. Hamilton, a big-wave surfing pioneer, joined former beach volleyball player Reece in a sitdown with Heal the Bay CEO Tracy Quinn for the organization's inaugural Speaker Series event, explaining why the environment impacts all facets of athlete life. The talk came as Heal the Bay was selected by LA28 Olympic and Paralympic Games organizers as one of the groups advising on issues of sustainability.

DEADLY INTERSECTION BECOMES A FOUR-WAY STOP:

Following the Santa Monica City Council's vote to strengthen the City's Vision Zero safety commitment to reduce road-related injured, the intersection at 19th Street and Idaho Avenue was transformed into a four-way stop last week. The decision comes after the intersection was the spot of the death of Tania Mooser and a crash involving citizen Paul Postel wherein Postel suffered four broken and two bruised ribs.

SMMUSD WORKING TO ADDRESS OVER-IDENTIFICATION OF HISPANIC STUDENTS AS LEARNING DISABLED:

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District is working on a new plan that identifies the causes of disproportionality regarding the over-identification of minority students as having learning disabilities. During the Nov. 16 meeting of the Board of Education, the board discussed and unanimously approved the adoption of a plan to address the issue after the California Department of Education found the district was "significantly" disproportionate in the category from the 2019-20 school year through the 2021-22 school year. Findings from the districts "Dispro Core Team" identified root causes of disproportionality, including a "lack of clarity, communication and understanding" of the districtwide support system framework, an "inconsistent implementation" of the district's English Language Arts program, and a "lack of cultural awareness and cultural competency" regarding inclusion and relationship-building with parents and students.



Photo by Scott Snowden

CRISIS: Businesses in Santa Monica are struggling with the impact of homelessness and a new group is forming to push for changes at the local level.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING THE LAST BEFORE THE MAYORAL HANDOVER:

Last Tuesday's meeting of Santa Monica City Council was a more subdued affair compared to recent weeks as everyone readjusted back to a work routine after the Thanksgiving break. The meeting was the last with Gleam Davis as Mayor, before the handover to Councilmember Phil Brock, which is expected to take place during the Dec. 12 council meeting. Davis joined the City Council in February 2009 and served as Mayor from 2018-19 and again in 2022. She also served as Mayor Pro Tempore from 2016 to 2018.

MCKINLEY KIDS SHOW OFF THEIR SKILLS:

A fall treat for local families took place on Nov. 17 at McKinley Elementary School, as over 20 students performed in the 2023 McKinley Talent Show. After a dozen students took part in an opening dance number set to Dua Lipa's "Dance the Night," individual acts graced the stage for a packed house. Talents shown off included performances on piano, ukulele, flute, violin and drums; as well as specialty skills like ballet and archery.

VIKINGS DREAM RUN STUFFED IN FINAL MOMENTS:

A remarkable season for the Samohi Vikings ended just yards short of a CIF Southern Section Division 9 title, dropping the championship game on home turf to the Rio Hondo Prep Kares, 29-27. Another close contest for the Vikings came down to the final play, a missed two-point conversion that would have extended the matchup into overtime. In his final game as a Viking, senior running back Caden McCallum had another heavy workload, carrying the ball 26 times for 157 yards and two touchdowns. Quarterback Wyatt Brown finished a successful sophomore campaign by completing 14 of 23 pass attempts for 226 yards, two touchdowns and an interception.

DESPERATE BUSINESSES SEEK NEW COALITION TO TACKLE CRIME AND HOMELESSNESS:

A group of more than thirty local businesses have formed a new coalition under the auspices of the California Restaurant Association (CRA) to advocate for businesses facing what they describe as a crisis driven by homelessness and crime. CRA is a statewide organization that provides advocacy, advice, support and resources for the hospitality industry, but the Santa Monica initiative is a new model for the group with a tighter focus both geographic and topical. CRA said Hospitality Santa Monica, a CRA coalition, has grown out of the frustration felt by local businesses.

LADY VIKINGS ROUT OPPONENT IN HOME OPENER:

The Samohi Lady Vikings soccer squad was back in action for the team's opening contest off the 2023-24 season on Nov. 27, defeating Bishop Montgomery by a score of 8-0. The team looked fresh and ready for the new season, controlling the pace of the game and giving the Bishop Montgomery goalie a wide variety of shots to defend. The team was also in action on Nov. 29, defeating West Torrance on the road 2-1.

UNDERSERVED SCHOLARS BECOME READY FOR SUCCESS WITH LOCAL PROGRAM:

Underserved youth, particularly those that come out of the foster care system, need an extra boost of visibility to bring their considerable skills and intelligence to colleges and the workforce. Local group Ready to Succeed is challenged with providing that visibility by providing resources and relationship-building opportunities throughout the high school experience. Beginning with youth as rising sophomores, the organization guides students towards graduation, college attendance and career success. Since Ready to Succeed began in 2016, the organization has served almost 500 scholars, including enrolling 130 youths into the three-year program in 2023. Of the students that already took part in the program, 92% graduate college in under six years, and 85% of students transitioned into a career track job within six months of graduation.

LOCAL ENTREPRENEURIAL WOMEN TASTE SUCCESS WITH LAUNCH OF NEW LODESTAR WHISKEY BRAND:

Two Santa Monica residents have ventured into the spirits scene with the launch of their debut drink, a blend combining a straight high rye bourbon and American single malt. Called Lodestar American Whiskey, it's the result of a collaboration between cousins Anna Axster and Wendellin von Schroder. Both women are self-proclaimed whiskey aficionados and originally hail from an entertainment and marketing background, traveling extensively and sampling all manner of similar spirits from all over the world to develop their taste in whiskey.

MIGHTY ST. MONICA MARINERS CAPTURE CIF DIVISIONAL TITLE:

Saint Monica Preparatory athletics secured its largest win in years in November, as the St. Monica Mariners football squad was victorious in the CIF Southern Section Division 13 championship game, defeating Walnut by a score of 28-21. The team is CIF divisional champions for the first time since 1998, and the victory was celebrated throughout the community, including a commendation by Santa Monica City Councilmember Christine Parra at a recent meeting of City Council. The Mariners' high-powered offense was led by freshmen in a balanced attack in the passing and rushing games. Freshman quarterback Bradley Cassier threw for 1,707 yards and 25 touchdowns in 14 games, and freshman running back Elijah Wilson gained 1,344 yards on the ground and scored 13

SEE **NEWS** PAGE 11

LEGION

FROM PAGE 1

he says that he was drawn to music at an early age and that same urge to express himself creatively led to a tentative embrace of martial arts.

However, that quickly began to dominate his life as he left the guitar behind and dived headfirst into Muay Thai and by the time he was 13, Shelley was also a student of Aikido, learning every aspect of the martial art as fast as he could find anyone to teach him.

"I really fell in love with Aikido, Japanese culture and the whole history and philosophical aspects of it, because it's very artistic," Shelley said. The next step in this learning curve was his desire to learn about Buddhism, which to this day he says he still makes time to study. At age 17 Shelley joined the Marine Corps.

However, not long after completing basic training and graduating from boot camp, he was medically discharged based on an incorrect diagnosis. "My foot really began to swell, I couldn't even get my boots on, so I was sent to a podiatrist who told me that I had flat feet and would always have this problem. So, I was discharged," Shelley said, adding, "It wasn't until I went to see a doctor afterwards, that a broken bone in my foot was identified. They just never properly examined it."

He was offered the chance to re-enlist, but that meant enduring basic training all over again and, as he puts it, "My Marine Corp recruiter wasn't very persuasive, he didn't exactly motivate me." Instead, Shelley found himself enrolling at university to study music, but that didn't present any jaw-dropping career opportunities, so after having worked as a part-time nightclub doorman and security guard to pay his tuition, he found himself drawn to law enforcement.

"I'd met and talked to lots of people from the FBI, CIA and DEA and such like and I thought these would be a good fit for me. But at the same time I inadvertently met and spoke to lots of police officers during the part-time jobs I was working and they told me how I could take on a variety of different roles all in one city. I could jump from narcotics to homicide to tactical and change departments if I wanted to," Shelley said.

At this point his 11-year relationship with the San Francisco Police Department began and for many years, Shelley even operated a mixed martial arts school in San Francisco, but tragically that didn't survive the pandemic. However, in 2012, he launched what would become Legion Corporation and was soon joined by Managing Director Marc Ginez, a Marine Corp officer of 20 years, together with Operations Officer Ricky Soares and Workforce Development Manager Arshad Razzak, both former SFPD officers.

Legion will officially begin operating on Friday, December 1 and coverage will start at 6 a.m. and run to 10 p.m. daily. The first week will very much focus on training, community engagement and security functions, including patrol and response. According to DTSM, "Operations staff will meet with security personnel weekly, making adjustments to deployment as the needs become better known. We already have a solid understanding of areas that need attention and we expect the needs to shift as the program progresses."

Since SMPD seems to have a monopoly on all-black workwear, it's important that the uniform adopted by Legion be professional, practical and appeasing. This was also an issue that Covered 6 was going to have to deal with.

"The goal that we have in mind is to make our security presence be official and friendly at the same time. So they're going to be wearing attire that is button-up shirts, they're gray with black pants and an identifiable blue baseball cap," Jeremy Ferguson, DTSM Operations Director, said, adding, "It makes them easily identifiable and it's easy to understand that they're not police officers. Legion has been very supportive of making sure that their identifier is unique, friendly, but yet official."

Themost significant distinction is that no employee will carry a lethal weapon, not even the supervisors. They will instead be armed only with the most basic, non-lethal forms of weapon, such as batons and pepper spray.

"I'm not going to get into politics, pro-gun and anti-gun, it's not about that in this environment. One security guard with a firearm is not beneficial to us," Shelley says, adding, "If a situation unfolds that truly warrants an armed response, just another supervisor with a sidearm is not going to make a difference, not really. If they need to call someone for back up, they're going to call the calvary. I want PD there with trained officers with the right equipment on scene."

The areas that are set to be patrolled are the same that were set out originally. Coverage of the Downtown area will break down as follows: Zone 1 represents the three block length of the Third Street Promenade. Zone 2 surrounds Zone 1, providing a larger perimeter extending to 4th Ct, Ocean Ave, California Ave and Broadway. Zone 3 covers the area between 4th Ct and 7th Ct and approximately Wilshire Blvd to Colorado Ave. Zone L is from 7th Ct to 8th Ct and runs from Wilshire Blvd to Olympic Blvd. Finally, Zone 0 is a higgledy-piggledy shape incorporating the Santa Monica Place Mall, the Metro E-Line station and a little bit of Colorado Ave.

Moreover, beginning on Tuesday, December 5 at 10 a.m. and running every two weeks for the first 90 days of deployment, DTSM will host a public meet and greet with the Legion security team at Ugo's on the Promenade. This will be a casual gathering where folk can meet the team, see the uniforms and get information on their deployment.

These sessions will last around 30 minutes after which there will be the opportunity to participate in a 60 minute "safety stroll" that will take a different route around Downtown each time. This gives DTSM staff and community members an opportunity to talk about specific locations, issues and opportunities. I'll have a member of our maintenance team with us to log defects as well.

AFTER TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, THE NEXT WALKS WILL BE:

- **December 12:** Second Court alley, Shop Stop & Talk, parking structures 6, 4, 2, Wilshire to Third Street Promenade.
- **December 26:** Third Street Promenade through Santa Monica Place to Colorado, Ocean from Colorado to 1300 block.
- **January 9:** Third Street Promenade to Wilshire, Third Court alley, parking structure 1, parking structure 5, to Broadway.
- **January 23:** 1300 block Ocean to Wilshire, Second Street to Broadway.

Ferguson also says that the Community Ambassador program has been extended through December and after that, any employee of Block By Block is invited to apply for a position at Legion, so hopefully no one will be left without a job.

scott.snowden@smdp.com



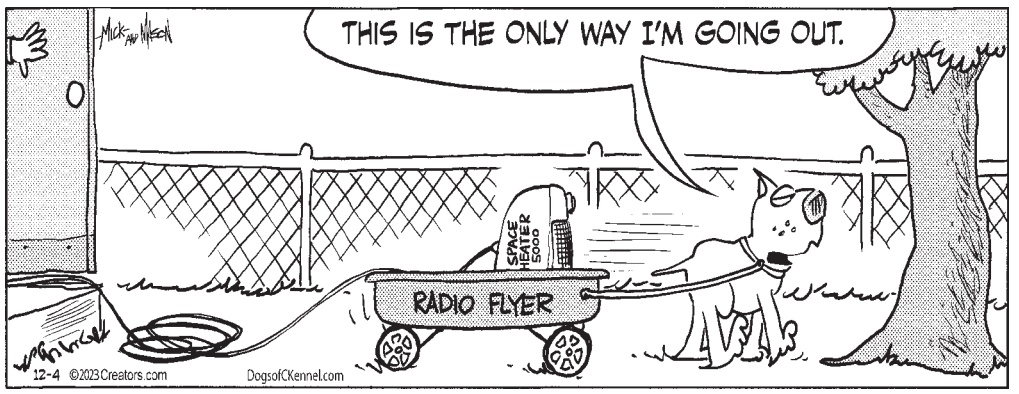
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



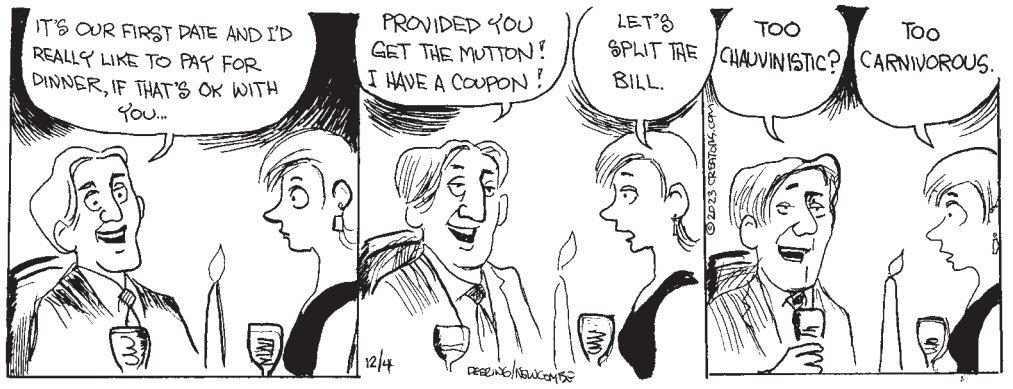
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



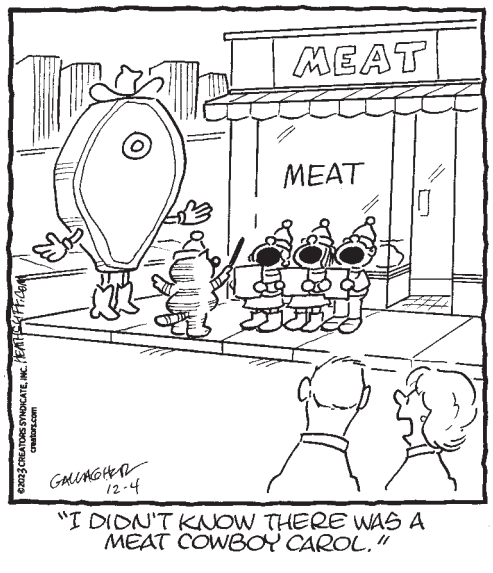
Zack Hill

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 6048

Inland waterway

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

Angle	Cobram	Moama	Rods
Area	Corowa	Murray	Rugged
Awed	Drink	Bridge	Scenic
Banks	Eels	Mussel	Skiing
Barham	Fish kill	Natya	Snag
Berri	Flow	Nets	Swim
Boat	Frog	Nyah	Trees
Boomanoomana	Grub	Ournie	Troll
Burst	Lake	Party	Warmth
Caddel	Logs	Race	Weed
Camp	Lures	Redfin	Weir
Cast	Meal	Relax	Worms

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
More than our fair share

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 (Dec. 4)

Welcome to your year of beautiful timing. It will be like watching the inner workings of an intricate mechanical clock -- cogs fitting together and turning to create an elegant sense of order. You'll win a game. You'll earn bigger and invest better. Smooth connections flow to beautiful events, shared projects, travel, and hearts taking flight together. Taurus and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 1, 3, 39 and 21.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You've been hurt before, but instead of making you fearful, it made you brave. You can't protect your heart against everything. Trying to do so would mean living a very small life. Experience keeps making you stronger.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're a loving person, but that doesn't keep dear ones from occasionally getting on your nerves. Even so, you'll have a charming way of turning friction into humor. Also, some solo time is warranted to recharge.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It's really OK to have a number of problems. It means you have a full life, and the challenges necessary to engage in it. You may feel you're being snagged into a difficult circumstance, but problems have to hook you to lift you up.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Trust is a prediction about how things will go. Knowing, on the other hand, is a lack of prediction. When there is no question in your mind, there's nothing to trust or distrust, just action. That's where you're at today, and it feels good.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Patterns of thought can be like old jeans you wear because they're worn in and comfortable even though they may not be your best look. Today, you'll level up and drop the thought pattern that's not helping you be who you want to be.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). We want good situations to go on forever, but of course everything changes -- sometimes fast, sometimes slow, always according to its own timing and not ours. Until then, enjoy, knowing when the moment is right, all will move along with grace.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You have your hand on the dial of your emotions. Maybe you can't exactly choose how you feel, but you will be able to turn the heat up or down so you can warm, simmer or boil your feelings according to your recipe for this day.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your participation in groups may be minimal, but in a short amount of time you'll still manage to inspire others to take action. You won't have to tell anyone what to do. You'll do it yourself and make it look cool.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The way to deep spiritual wisdom is deceptively simple. Do the right thing in the moment, do it again in the next. If the "right thing" isn't obvious, it's usually less, not more -- care instead of neglect.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Learning calms you. The more you understand something, the less you'll worry about it. Patience will be required for all that is unresolved, and tolerance for all that is resolved.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You need a better idea of where you are. Today's "map" comes in the form of expert estimation, insight from friends and other guidance. Maps can't come close to your experience of reality, but the context will aid your journey nonetheless.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Millions of your choices led you to be here, and one or two different ones would have landed you somewhere else entirely. In many ways, today's events have come from the creative center of you. Do not doubt your power to make a new scene.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

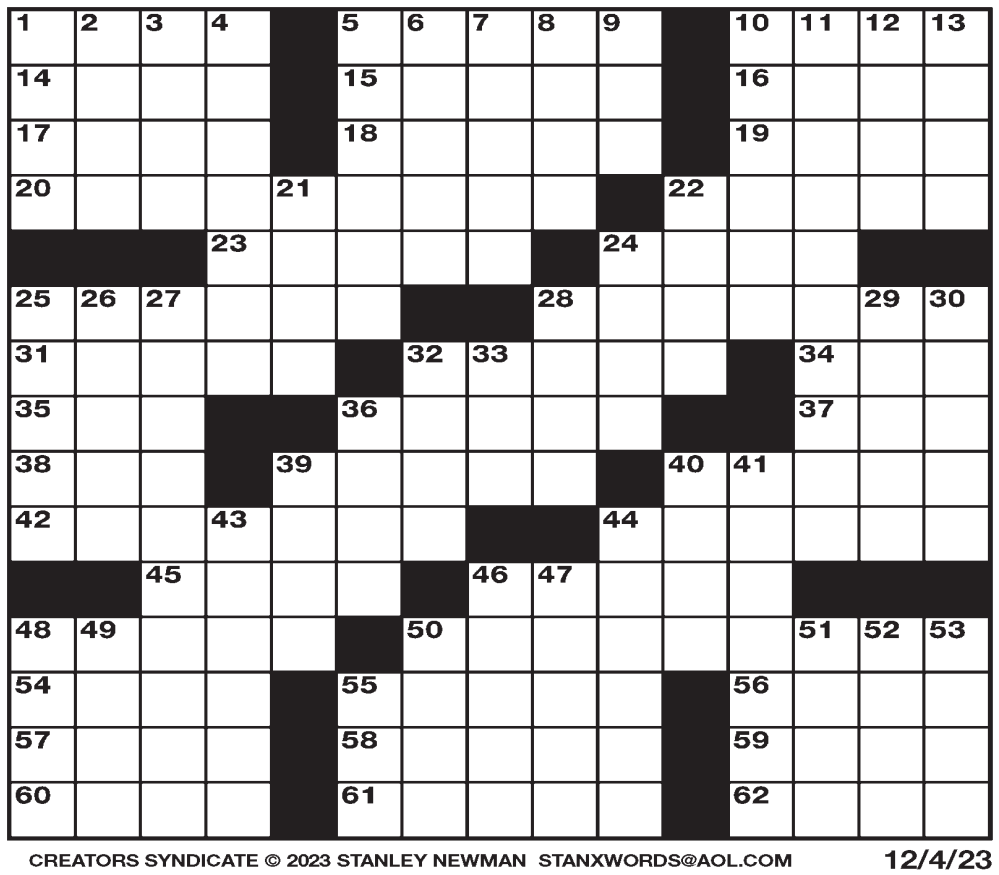
COME FRY WITH ME by Gail Grabowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Pets that purr
5 Barbie and Raggedy Ann
10 Hair tool with teeth
14 Region
15 Smartphone message
16 Casual greeting
17 Grocery shopper's aid
18 Cent
19 Shade trees
20 "Absolutely not!"
22 Change the color of again
23 Steed or stallion
24 Center of an apple
25 Optimally
28 Baby's portable enclosure
31 "It's my __" (blame-taking phrase)
32 Course with lettuce
34 Tic-tac-toe nonwinner
35 Boring routine
36 Punch sound, in comics
37 Use a chair
38 Toronto's province: Abbr.
39 Construction beam fastener
40 Nimble
42 How-to book's starting point
44 Ran amok
45 Chess corner piece
46 Watchful
48 First public appearance
50 Auto mechanic's lubricating device
54 Unlock
55 Control-tower tracking device
56 Bouquet holder
57 Act as a guide
58 Defeated person's words
59 "If all __ fails . . ."
60 Change for a $20 bill
61 Used a vegetable peeler
62 Geek

DOWN

1 Baby cow
2 Opera solo
3 School exam
4 Small bag
5 Leave for a trip
6 Signs of the future
7 Knight's pole weapon
8 Toe the __ (obey)
9 Sneaky
10 In good spirits
11 Underground petroleum source
12 "Goodness!"
13 Home plate, for example
21 Party thrower
22 Highway
24 Eagle's talon
25 Bushy hairdos
26 Tease
27 Soup veggie
28 Secret plan
29 Banish
30 Made mention of
32 Rescue
33 Gorilla, for instance
36 Garden-hose twist
39 Underground plant part
40 Ventilates
41 Took revenge
43 Freight weights
44 Brought up, as children
46 Intense devotion
47 Tenant's contract
48 Oaf
49 Fencing sword
50 Elaborate party
51 Strong wind
52 Cold War adversary: Abbr.
53 Can't do without
55 Fictional Van Winkle



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2023 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 12/4/23

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

NEWS

FROM PAGE 7

touchdowns for the Mariners.

ICONIC HOLIDAY SHOW BRINGS DANCERS BACK TO THE WESTSIDE:

The BroadStage in Santa Monica recently played host to Westside Ballet's celebration of "The Nutcracker," with the 2023 production marking the 50th anniversary of Westside's "Nutcracker" shows. To celebrate the occasion, the ballet company reached out to three alumni to take center stage as the Sugar Plum Fairy character, those being now-professional dancers Tiler Peck, Lucia Connolly and Lyrica Woodruff. Peck's involvement in the Dec. 2 and Dec. 3 performances caused quite the stir in the local arts community, as the ballerina rose the ranks after her training at Westside to become a principal dancer with the New York City ballet, and is known as one of the country's leading ballerinas.

SPREADING THE BOY SCOUT MESSAGE, ONE CHRISTMAS TREE AT A TIME:

For 50 years, the Boy Scouts of America Troop 2 of Santa Monica has run its own Christmas tree lot, turning the typical holiday purchase into a memorable experience. The lot at 2919 Wilshire Blvd is an immaculate setup of trees in all different types and sizes, and the lot also sells wreaths and flowers for holiday gatherings. Starting in 1973, the scout troop has had the monthlong fundraiser take place, bringing in customers from all across Los Angeles, and the fundraiser helps bring scouts along for activities like monthly campouts, a February ski trip and an annual summer camp adventure.

MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS VISIT PACIFIC PALISADES:

The American Legion Palisades Post 283 hosted five of the 65 living Medal of Honor recipients in November. About two dozen kids showed up to the first mentorship session followed by a second panel for adults. American Legion Palisades Post 283 commander Jim Craigg said that hosting the event bridges "history with the future" and "(inspires) us all to remember and carry forward the values of courage, sacrifice and patriotism."

SM

FROM PAGE 3

not directly running the city, but holding sway over their chosen executive; responsibility divided by seven and diffused through a hired administrator. I suppose we are the 'People's Republic of Santa Monica', after all!

Ultimately, it comes down to whether you think things are working or not. Are we at an inflection point where we must make changes to improve as a city and surmount the current challenges, or are we content?

Miles Warner is a Santa Monica parent and resident. His column will explore the emerging and changing identity of our city and stir the pot...a bit

BACK or UNFILED
TAXES?
BACK TAXES • BOOKKEEPING • SMALL BUSINESS
(310) 395-9922
SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA
100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1800 • Santa Monica 90401

KEEP IT MOVING
Professional Movers
You Pick the Location
We will take care of the rest
Call us Now:
(310) 430-3226





MONDAY | DECEMBER 4

CARD AND BOOKMARK MAKING WORKSHOPS
Up-cycle old cards into bookmarks or turn them into new holiday cards. Drop-in for fun crafting and a cozy atmosphere. The Library provides additional craft materials to all. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 3 - 5 p.m.

DISABILITIES COMMISSION
Civic Center Parking Structure, 333 Civic Center Dr, 6:30 - 8 p.m. Agenda available online at https://www.smgov.net/departments/clerk/boards.aspx?id=53687092550

BABY TIME
Introduce your child to storytime with interactive books, bounces, and more! Free tickets are available at 10:15 a.m. Starts at 10:30 a.m. Program is 20 minutes. For ages 0-17 months. Second session starts at 11:30 a.m. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

TUESDAY | DECEMBER 5

HA HA HANUKKAH
The Crow comedy club at the Bergamot Station Arts Center, 2525 Michigan Ave., will host a special two-night fundraiser for Jewish Family Service LA's food and hunger program, JFSLA SOVA. Performances take place at 8:30 p.m. on Dec. 5 and Dec. 7, with doors opening at 8 p.m. The show will feature the best Jewish comedians and half of the proceeds from the show will benefit the SOVA program. The Crow has also partnered with neighbors at Birdie G's on this two-day fundraiser, as part of 8 Nights at Birdie G's, a Hanukkah-ish dinner series presented by Resy. Each night, Chef/Owner Jeremy invites notable chefs from across the country to cook à la carte specials at this restaurant. For those enjoying an early dinner on Dec. 5 and 7, as well as attending our comedy show, Birdie G's will donate 10% of your dinner check to SOVA. When making a dinner reservation or if you've already made one, open the Resy app and add "I'm going to The Crow after!" in the "Any Special Requests" section. This will ensure the Birdie G's team makes a donation on your behalf. For more information, contact jamie@crowcomedy.com. Tickets $35.

AUTHOR TALK
The Santa Monica Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., will host an author talk with Chris Erskine at 6 p.m. in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium. Erskine will share stories from his new book on California's Bear Whisperer, "What the Bears Know." He'll also catch readers up on his latest attempts at parenting and grand parenting, plus offer tips on finding romance in Los Angeles. A book sale and signing follows.

WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 6

PLANNING COMMISSION
City Hall, 1685 Main St. 6 p.m. Agenda is posted online at https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Planning-Commission/

THURSDAY | DECEMBER 7

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

LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR WINTER CONCERT
Lincoln Middle School at 1501 California Ave. presents the Lincoln Middle School Choir Concert in the Lincoln auditorium at 7 p.m. The concert will feature performances by the Lincoln Middle School Chorus, Chorale, Concert Choir, and Camber Choir. Tickets are free, but a $5 donation per ticket is suggested.

CARD AND BOOKMARK MAKING WORKSHOPS
Up-cycle old cards into bookmarks or turn them into new holiday cards. Drop-in for fun crafting and a cozy atmosphere. The Library provides additional craft materials to all. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 3 - 5 p.m.

FRIDAY | DECEMBER 8

WILL ROGERS GROUNDBREAKING
Join Will Rogers Learning Community, 2401 14th St., for a school-wide assembly and groundbreaking ceremony at 9:45 a.m. on the big yard. Parents and community members invited. In preparation for Phase 1 of construction, which is set to begin during winter break, more temporary fencing was installed around the trailers to indicate the area is off limits. Students will be directed to play away from this area.

MOVIE FRIDAYS
Join the Third Street Promenade for a showing of the movie "Die Hard" starting at 7:30 p.m. on the 1200 block of the Promenade between Arizona Ave. and Wilshire Blvd. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. No advanced registration is required and all ages are welcome. Picnicking is allowed, but alcoholic beverages are prohibited. Dogs are welcome, tall chairs are not allowed. Public restrooms are available in the nearby Parking Structure 4.

SATURDAY | DECEMBER 9

COMPOST GIVEAWAY AT CITY YARDS
Join Resource Recovery and Recycling's quarterly compost giveaway on December, 9th, 2023 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at City Yards, 2500 Michigan Avenue. Please bring gloves and containers if you're picking up compost - a limited supply of bags are available. This is a self-service event so please be prepared to load your own compost. Also giving away FREE food scrap pails. One per household while supplies last. This event is open to all Santa Monica residents with proof of residency.

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