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Marina Del Rey celebrates with seasonal boat parade











Anna Sofia Moltke

PARADE: The Marina Del Rey Boat Parade returned to the water this year with a variety of illuminated watercraft, fireworks and celebrations at Burton Chase Park.

Legal Aid Foundation recognizes local lawyers for winning long-delayed tenants' rights case

MATTHEW HALL
SMDP Editor

The Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles recently honored the Scali Rasmussen law firm with its Pro Bono Law Firm Award in recognition of a yearslong effort to find justice for a group of Santa Monica residents displaced from their homes.

The case began in 2015 when the Overlook Hotel, located on Ocean Front Walk near the Pier, caught fire.

The fire was a result of the building's substandard electrical system according to Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles and Scali Rasmussen, who represented the tenants pro bono. The tenants said the building also contained defective plumbing, fire prevention and heating systems, mold and infestations of bedbugs and cockroaches.

In the 2016 lawsuit, the tenants alleged that their landlords, the Mink family, maintained their apartment building in an uninhabitable and unsafe condition and then illegally tried to terminate their tenancies after the fire forced them to vacate the building and failed to pay them temporary relocation benefits required under local law.

After the fire, the Mink family

SEE **LAWYER** PAGE 8

With limit approaching for Uller claims, City Hall has spent $107 million so far

GRACE INEZ ADAMS
SMDP Staff Writer

The window for sexual abuse victims of former Santa Monica City employee and volunteer Eric Uller to file a claim with the City will come to a close at the end of this year when the statute of limitations for the case is set to expire. The Dec. 31, 2022 deadline will mark the end of litigation in an abuse scandal that has affected scores of residents, particularly Latino boys from the Pico neighborhood.

Uller was accused of abusing young boys between the late 1980s and early 2000s while he was employed by the City and volunteered in the Police Activities League (PALs). He committed suicide just before his criminal trial in November 2018.

In the four years since the first

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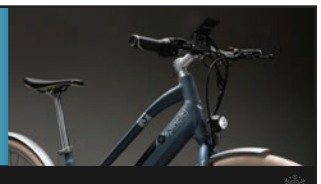
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Fallout from Los Angeles racism scandal keeps shaking City Council

MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press

Two months after becoming entangled in a racism scandal that shook public trust in Los Angeles government, disgraced City Councilman Kevin de Leon has refused calls to resign and is attempting to rehabilitate his reputation as he faces a politically uncertain future.

As of Monday, de Leon, a former state legislator, is the only council member still resisting calls from President Joe Biden to step down, while continuing to collect his annual salary of nearly $229,000 — among the most lucrative paydays for city council members in the nation.

Gil Cedillo, another councilman involved in the scandal over a leaked recording of racist insults emerged in October, had vanished from public view within days of its disclosure but refused to resign. His term expired Monday at 12:01 a.m., after he lost a reelection bid earlier this year.

Continuing fallout from the racism scandal is one challenge that will confront the city's new mayor, Democrat Karen Bass, as she takes office Monday. Meanwhile, three other current or former Council members have been indicted or pleaded guilty to corruption charges.

Stripped of his ability to participate in council committees, facing widespread pressure to resign and after an extended absence from council meetings, de Leon has been maneuvering in public and private to emerge from political purgatory, despite being reviled by colleagues who say they cannot work with him.

His situation deteriorated Friday, when he scuffled with an activist who heckled him at a holiday toy giveaway that was partially captured on video and posted on Twitter. The confrontation left children at the event in tears.

Council President Paul Krekorian, who has called on de Leon to step down, said in a statement that the councilman, one of his staff members and a volunteer were attacked and he called it intolerable. The Los Angeles Times reported that activists said de Leon was the aggressor.

"This city has endured horrendous division and toxicity in recent months," Krekorian said. "We need to reject hatred in all of its forms and we need to reject the atmosphere of intimidation, bullying and threats."

De Leon appeared Friday at his first council meeting since mid-October, setting off a chaotic protest between competing factions in the audience. About a dozen protesters bellowed at de Leon to leave the ornate chamber, while his supporters chanted "Kevin, Kevin."

Some council members walked out and police ejected two people, fearing they might fight.

"Leave, Kevin!," one protester shouted at de Leon. "This is why these meetings need to be shut down."

The scandal triggered the resignation in October of then-City Council President Nury Martinez and a powerful labor leader, Ron Herrera, along with calls from Biden and other elected officials for de Leon and others to resign.



Courtesy photo

KEVIN DE LEON: The disgraced councilman has yet to resign.

The uproar stemmed from a leaked recording of crude, racist comments from a year-old meeting involving Martinez, Herrera, de Leon and Cedillo — all Latino Democrats — in which they plotted to expand their political power at the expense of Black voters during a realignment of district boundaries.

The once-a-decade redrawing of district lines can pit one group against another to gain political advantage in future elections.

The California Legislative Black Caucus has said the recording "reveals an appalling effort to decentralize Black voices during the critical redistricting process." A long line of speakers at Council meetings that followed said it echoed the Jim Crow era and was a stark example of "anti-Blackness."

De Leon has apologized repeatedly but said he will not resign. He argues that he wants to continue working on homelessness, fallout from the pandemic and the threat of evictions for renters in his district, which includes downtown Los Angeles and the heavily Latino Boyle Heights neighborhood.

There is no legal avenue for his colleagues to remove him — the council can only suspend a member when criminal charges are pending.

Krekorian, the council president, has said "the only way we can begin to heal as a city is for Mr. de Leon to take responsibility for his actions, accept the consequences and step down."

While de Leon has largely stayed away from City Hall, he has continued to quietly conduct business, including attending holiday events and meeting officials on pending homeless projects and illegal dumping problems.

With his appearance at the council

SEE **FALLOUT** PAGE 6

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Ballot blockade: California industries rely on referenda to stop laws

BEN CHRISTOPHER AND JEANNE KUANG
Special to the Daily Press

For a reported cost of just more than $4 million, California's fast food industry may have bought itself a two-year reprieve from one of the most contentious state labor laws in recent memory.

Last week, a coalition led by the International Franchise Association and national business groups announced it had collected enough signatures to qualify a referendum for the 2024 ballot. If at least 623,212 of the 1 million-plus submitted signatures are valid, that would give voters the opportunity to overturn a first-in-the-nation law that would create a state council to set wages and other workplace standards for a large swath of California's burger-flipping, taco-hawking industry.

The 2024 election is still nearly two years and many millions of dollars away, but the likely qualification of the referendum constitutes its own victory for the franchisees: It would buy them some valuable time.

Unlike initiatives — ballot measures that enact new laws — referenda, which overturn statutes passed by the state Legislature and signed by the governor, have an added feature that benefit their backers even if they ultimately lose on Election Day. As soon as a referendum campaign qualifies for the ballot, the law that it targets is put on hold. And because state law only allows referendum votes to be held during regular general elections, that reprieve can last as long as two years.

That could explain why the "people's veto" seems to be having a moment of late. With Democrats dominating the Legislature and governor's mansion and proving ever more willing to aggressively regulate, penalize or phase out specific industries, those targeted interest groups have turned to the will of the electorate.

In 2014, after state lawmakers passed a bill barring stores from distributing single-use plastic bags, manufacturers took the battle to the ballot. The referendum campaign failed, leaving the law in effect, but only after a lengthy delay. A more ambitious plastics recycling proposal was headed to this November's ballot, until a last-minute legislative deal between industry and environmental groups.

Then in 2020, when the Legislature voted to end cash bail, the entire bail bond industry qualified a referendum to put bail reform on hold. The industry ultimately succeeded, persuading voters to nix the law.

Then this year, voters were asked to reconsider the Legislature's work once again. This time, the law in question was a ban on most flavored tobacco products. Tobacco giants including Philip Morris and R.J. Reynold ponied up the money to qualify a referendum. By nearly a 2-1 margin, voters opted to keep the long-delayed ban.

The 2024 ballot is shaping up to be more of the same.

First, there's the effort by the fast food industry. On Friday, the Secretary of State's office directed county election officials to start verifying a random sample of signatures and gave them until Jan. 25 to finish. Second, oil and gas producers are mounting their own effort to overturn a law that bans new oil and gas wells within 3,200 feet of homes, schools, hospitals and other "sensitive" facilities. The industry has until Thursday to submit the necessary signatures.

PUTTING A PRICE TAG ON A PAUSE

Under the moniker "Save Local Restaurants," fast food giants such as In-N-Out Burger, Chipotle, Starbucks and McDonald's have raised nearly $21 million to overturn the labor-backed law. The group had spent $4.3 million through the end of September, according to its most recent filing, with the bulk of that money being used to fund signature gathering. It's a continuation of a battle the industry has been waging throughout the year. In the final months of the last legislative session, the International Franchise Association spent more than $5 million lobbying members of the Legislature not to support Assembly Bill 257.

> "Pausing it will not only stave off, but prevent up to a 20% food increase cost for consumers - Jeff Hanscom"

It's not difficult to see why overturning the law — or at least delaying its implementation — might be worth the expense. One of the law's provisions would allow the new council to mandate a minimum wage as high as $22 an hour next year for fast food restaurants, compared to the overall minimum wage that rises to $15.50 an hour on Jan. 1.

UC Berkeley economist Michael Reich, who performed a preliminary calculation for CalMatters, said the higher wage bill could add up to as much as $3.6 billion over two years. That figure equates to about $6,000 for each of California's more than 500,000 fast food workers.

Reich's calculation comes with a few caveats. It's based on the assumption that if the law goes into effect, the council would impose the $22 minimum wage in six months — as early as next July. A more gradual approach is more likely, he said.

And though the law would only apply to large chains, defined as fast food establishments with more than 100 locations nationwide, federal labor statistics don't distinguish how many workers fall into that category. Reich's figure is based on a wage hike from the current California average hourly wage of all fast food workers, which he estimated is more than $19.

It's also not clear how franchised fast food restaurants would respond to higher labor costs. Another economist, Christopher Thornberg, said a back-of-the-napkin calculation shows a pause on the law would save the industry about "one to two billion dollars a year."

But it's fast food consumers, not the businesses themselves, who would ultimately pay the higher wage costs in the form of higher prices, he said. Thornberg this year authored an industry-commissioned report at the U.C. Riverside Center for Economic Forecasting & Development that estimated that the law's increased labor costs would result in a 20% hike in fast food prices.

"Pausing it will not only stave off, but prevent up to a 20% food increase cost for consumers," said Jeff Hanscom, vice president of state and local government relations at the International Franchise Association.

The association estimates about 15,600 franchised fast food restaurants in California would be subject to the council's regulations. That number doesn't include non-franchised chains such as Starbucks and Chipotle, which would also be covered by the law. A pause on the law also means halting a fast food council from setting numerous other workplace standards such as training requirements, safety rules and the temperature of a restaurant.

"No one really knows what they could do," Hanscom said. "Knowing we're now back to the certainty of the status quo will allow business owners in California to operate without that fear of what's coming down the road."

WINNING EVEN WHEN YOU LOSE

Though precise numbers may not be available on the benefits of delaying a law, for an industry on the wrong side of a piece of legislation, a temporary pause can be well worth the price of a campaign, even if the referendum eventually fails.

Few political observers expected Proposition 31, the November referendum on the state's flavored tobacco ban, to be particularly close. And it wasn't. In the final uncertified count, California voters upheld the ban 63% to 37%.

But thanks to the unsuccessful referendum campaign, the ban only briefly went into effect on Jan. 1, 2021, as the law prescribed. It was then paused when the referendum qualified later that month, and is likely to remain on hold until as late as Dec. 21.

According to reports filed with the state, the tobacco industry-funded campaign spent a little more than $15 million on signature gathering in late 2020. The coalition spent less than $2 million during this year's actual campaign — a negligible sum by the standards of statewide ballot battles.

The Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, an advocacy group that supported the ban, estimated that the industry made an additional $784 million during that nearly 700-day delay. CalMatters reached out to both the "No on 31" campaign and R.J. Reynolds Tobacco, one of the campaign's biggest financial supporters, requesting comment on that estimate. Neither responded.

"It was a good investment on their part," said Jerry Hill, a former Democratic senator from San Mateo, who introduced the flavored tobacco ban. "They were using the referendum to delay the inevitable."

On Nov. 9, the day after the polls closed in California, R.J. Reynolds, along with a coalition of vape and chewing tobacco companies, filed a lawsuit to challenge the ban in federal court. A few days later, the court rejected the companies' request to put the law on hold.

WHAT'S BEHIND THE REFERENDA UPTICK?

California voters have had the option to veto legislation passed in Sacramento since 1912. But after a surge in referenda through the 1940s, the practice fell out of favor through around 2000. The recent run of referenda on the ballot since 2016 isn't unprecedented, but is part of a longer-term trend, said Mary-

SEE **ELECTION** PAGE 8

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
Grace Inez Adams
grace@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

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

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WINNER

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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Karen Bass' ability to curb Los Angeles homelessness will test California Democrats – and government itself

Promising to "move people inside" and announcing her plans to declare a state of emergency on homelessness as her first official act, Congresswoman Karen Bass, a native of Los Angeles who has represented parts of the city for nearly two decades, took the oath of office as its mayor on Sunday.

In her first address as the city's 43rd mayor, Bass focused largely on the city's frustrating struggle to create housing and shelter its large population of unhoused people. She pledged to "urgently move people inside and to do so for good," and made the campaign to address homelessness the centerpiece of the work that lies ahead.

"We will save lives, and we will save our city," Bass said. "This is my mission as your mayor."

The audience of several thousand people, gathered at LA Live rather than City Hall because of rain, greeted her promise with a standing ovation. Gov. Gavin Newsom, members of Congress and Vice President Kamala Harris, a sometime rival and sometime ally who administered the oath on Sunday, all joined in the applause.

Bass' inauguration launches her tenure as the chief executive of America's second-largest city and establishes her place as a leading figure in California and national politics. It makes her Los Angeles' first woman mayor and guarantees that she will be seen as an exemplar of the political left as she and the city's Democratic leadership tackle the gritty problems of urban life – public safety, inequality and, especially, housing and homelessness.

Those problems are felt acutely in Los Angeles these days.

"I've never seen the city so dirty," former Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa said last week. "I've never seen this many homeless."

The city has been desperate before, and the current atmosphere is closer to quiet fear than shout-out-loud urgency. But homeless encampments, City Hall turmoil and pockets of rising crime have all contributed to a sense of helplessness. It's bad, Villaraigosa and others acknowledged.

Bass was elected in part because voters believed this situation called for a coalition-builder, which she is. Among other things, she founded the Community Coalition in Los Angeles. But coalitions require partners, and Bass is being asked to work with a City Council that is divided and angry – and includes five new members, who were also sworn in on Sunday.

The council is still reeling from an audio recording that surfaced in the home stretch of the mayor's race. It captured members of the council insulting their colleagues in crude, racist language. Most disturbing was the context of the secretly recorded meeting: Three members of the council, all Latino, gathered at the offices of the county's Labor Federation to divide up the city's political representation – potentially at the expense of Black influence.

That is corruption of a high and insidious order, and it runs deep in Los Angeles today.

One of the council members featured on the tape, Kevin de Leon, has refused calls to step down, and until last week, had dodged the council's public meetings, allowing protesters to yell at his empty chair. When he turned up in person, they wheeled their ire at him directly, first in the council chambers and later at a holiday party when he scuffled with a group of protesters. It, too, was caught on tape.

Los Angeles County, meanwhile, has picked up a new member of the board and replaced its thuggish and not-too-bright sheriff, Alex Villanueva. The new sheriff in town, Robert Luna, inherits the position amid perennial tensions regarding lines of authority. He leads the department, but the board sets its budget and priorities, and there is no agreement, at least yet, on what those should be.

As for Bass, she brings real strengths. She is experienced in government, having served in the California Legislature starting in 2004. She was highly regarded by her colleagues and In 2008, she became the first African-American woman to serve as Speaker of any legislature in the nation. She moved to the U.S. Congress in 2011 and was elected six times to her seat there. In the mayor's race, she beat billionaire developer Rick Caruso, overcoming more than $100 million of his own money, in large measure because while he channeled anger at City Hall, she seemed to have the skills to improve it.

Bass is likeable in ways that mask her toughness. Although committed to coalition building, she is also driven and opinionated, a forger of consensus but within a strictly Democratic worldview. She is polite to those who criticize her, but she takes note.

Her job now is to solve problems, one in particular.

"No question that the thing that's in front of her is homelessness," said Raphe Sonenshein, executive director the Pat Brown Institute at Cal State Los Angeles and a leading historian of the city. "First, homelessness, then homelessness and then homelessness."

That's a problem that is both vast – more than 40,000 Angelenos will go to sleep tonight outdoors – and ancient. It was Jesus who warned: "The poor you will always have with you." Any problem that caught the attention of Jesus is probably bigger than a mayor. And yet, Bass has invited judgment of herself based on her handling of this question. She has promised to house 17,000 people in her first year.

Politically, mayors usually avoid that, for fear that failure will haunt the politician who over-promises. Look no further than Bass' predecessor, Eric Garcetti, who began his tenure by focusing on small improvements – back to basics, he called it – only to be drawn in by the heartache of homelessness. He invested money and political capital, and made some headway, but homelessness got worse, not better, on his watch.

Will Karen Bass solve this problem? "No," said Antonia Hernandez, president of the California Community Foundation, a Los Angeles-based nonprofit that, among other things, is attempting to address homelessness through its grant-making. "She is not going to solve it. Period."

Instead, Hernandez argued that Bass will be judged on the more modest gains that she might make by alleviating the suffering of those who are homeless and accelerating the city's ability to approve new housing – perhaps by suspending some of the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.

But that would require council participation, and that body's internal divisions make it a difficult partner at a crucial moment. Councilman Marqueece Harris-Dawson acknowledged that it has been a difficult period, but said he believes the council will be there to work with Bass.

He acknowledged that previous efforts to combat homelessness – the city passed a $1.2 billion bond measure in 2016 to support housing construction – underestimated the need. The challenge now, he said, is for Bass and the council to reverse the rising number of homeless people and encampments and to make enough of an impact for the public to sense it firsthand.

It's not enough to make modest gains, Harris-Dawson said. "People have to see fewer people on the street."

TEST FOR DEMOCRATS – AND DEMOCRACY

In one sense, this is familiar. In the mid-1990s, the combined effects of an economic downturn and the social upheaval triggered by the police beating of Rodney G. King in 1991 created broad agreement that it was time for LA to try something new. Mayor Tom Bradley elected not to run for a sixth term, clearing the way for Richard Riordan to succeed him. Riordan's slogan, "Tough Enough to Turn L.A. Around," captured the mood of the moment.

For Riordan, the mission was simple to express and subject to measurement. His job was to make Los Angeles safer, and he promised to hire more police. For Bass, the promise to confront homelessness is more difficult to evaluate. What if fewer people are homeless three or four years from now, but LA remains dotted with encampments and battered by blight and insecurity? Will she have succeeded or failed?

Those are questions that have a particular political valence because this problem will be addressed entirely by Democrats. Democrats hold every elected office in the city and constitute the vast majority of voters. Even Caruso, who had been a Republican and an independent, switched to become a Democrat 18 days before announcing for mayor, tacitly acknowledging that there is no place for a Republican in this city's leadership.

If Democrats fail here, they can hardly blame Republicans.

"There will be people who look at this through a particular, partisan lens," Villaraigosa said. That partisanship may also work to Bass' advantage, the former mayor added, as it gives President Biden and Gov. Newsom extra incentive to see that Bass succeeds.

The new mayor will prove "adept and agile" at leveraging that position, Villaraigosa predicted.

All of those add up to big stakes, but there may be even larger ones. Sonenshein, for one, sees the test before Los Angeles less as one for Democrats and more as one for democracy.

As Sonenshein noted, the very idea of democracy is under stress in this country and around the world. At issue for many is whether democracy is up to the challenges of modern life: Can it protect rights, deliver services and make life better? Those are the questions that will be asked of Bass and her colleagues in the coming months and years.

"This is a time," Sonenshein noted, "when government and democracy should be at their best."

Does democracy depend on success in Los Angeles? That's a heavy burden and a lot to demand of a new mayor. Bass takes up the work today.

This article was originally published by CalMatters. Guest Commentary written by Jim Newton. Newton is a veteran journalist, best-selling author and teacher. He worked at the Los Angeles Times for 25 years as a reporter, editor, bureau chief and columnist, covering government and politics. He teaches at UCLA and founded Blueprint magazine.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Citywide

The Postal Service is Ready for Busiest Week of 2022

This is the last week to get holiday gifts and greetings in the mail by the recommended deadlines. Customer traffic at all Post Office locations has been steadily increasing since Dec. 5, and this week is expected to be the busiest.

The Postal Service has been preparing for the holiday peak — the time between Black Friday and New Year's Day — since January, building on investments and organizational strategy improvements made ahead of the successful 2021 holiday mailing and shipping season.

Preparations include converting 100,000 workers to full time since the beginning of 2021, with more than 41,000 part-time workers converted to full time since January 2022. A national drive began in October to hire an additional 20,000 seasonal employees, an extra 10.5 million square feet of space has been added to the network to process packages, 23 temporary peak annexes have been opened in addition to the 48 parcel support annexes opened for peak 2021, and we've installed 137 new package sorting machines. This brings the organization's total to 249 new processing machines since the launch of the Delivering for America plan in March 2021. The new equipment combined with increased operational and network improvements will expand the organization's package processing capacity to 60 million packages a day.

As in previous years, Sunday delivery has been expanded in select locations that experience high package volumes. The Postal Service already delivers packages on Sundays in most major cities. Mail carriers will also deliver Priority Mail Express packages for an additional fee on Christmas Day in select locations.

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2022 HOLIDAY SHIPPING DEADLINES

The Postal Service recommends the following mailing and shipping deadlines for expected delivery by Dec. 25 to Air/Army Post Office/Fleet Post Office/Diplomatic Post Office (APO/FPO/DPO) and domestic addresses*:

Dec. 16 — APO/FPO/DPO (except ZIP Code 093) USPS Priority Mail Express Military service
Dec. 17 — USPS Retail Ground service
Dec. 17 — First-Class Mail service (including greeting cards)
Dec. 17 — First-Class packages (up to 15.99 ounces)
Dec. 19 — Priority Mail service
Dec. 22 — Priority Mail Express* service Alaska
Dec. 18 — Alaska to/from continental U.S.– First-Class Mail and Priority Mail
Dec. 21 — Alaska to/from continental U.S.– Priority Mail Express Hawaii
Dec. 17 — Hawaii to/from mainland – First-Class Mail and Priority Mail
Dec. 21 — Hawaii to/from mainland – Priority Mail Express

*Not a guarantee, unless otherwise noted. Dates are for estimated delivery before Dec. 25. Actual delivery date may vary depending on origin, destination, Post Office acceptance date and time and other conditions. Some restrictions apply. For Priority Mail Express shipments mailed Dec. 22 through Dec. 25, the money-back guarantee applies only if the shipment was not delivered, or delivery was not attempted, within two business days.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Packages containing used electronics or other hazardous materials — lithium-ion batteries, in particular — must now be shipped via surface transportation using Parcel Select Ground, USPS Retail Ground, Parcel Return Service or Ground Return Service.

Certain items may have restrictions or prohibitions when sent through the mail. See the list of hazardous, restricted and perishable mail or ask a Postal Service employee for more information on what can and cannot be sent through the mail.

Mail and packages that weigh more than 10 ounces and/or are more than a half-inch thick and use stamps as postage cannot be dropped into a collection box or left for a carrier to pick up. Instead, take them to a retail associate at any of our more than 34,000 Post Office locations. This requirement does not apply to Click-N-Ship customers.

Additional news and information — including all domestic, international and military mailing and shipping deadlines — can be found on the Postal Service's Holiday Newsroom webpage: usps.com/holidaynews.

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Malibu

Registration is Now Open for the City of Malibu's Winter Day Camps

The City of Malibu Community Services Department is proud to offer Winter Day Camps December 20 through December 29 during the Santa Monica - Malibu Unified School District winter break. Registration is now open for the programs, which are held Tuesday through Thursday at Malibu Bluffs Park and Malibu High School.

Sports Camps will include basketball, skateboarding, soccer, tennis, and a multi-sport day camp. Enrichment Day Camps will consist of art, yoga, and a theater improv class. The City's Day Camps are presented in a fun, educational, and inviting environment.

For more information, visit www.MalibuCity.org/DayCamps. To register, visit www.MalibuCity.org/Register.

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City of Santa Monica

**CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Proposals for

**Groundwater Injection Wells SM-11i and SM-12i
Engineering Design Services Project
Project No. SP2678**

The City of Santa Monica is inviting proposals from firms interested in design services for the, **Groundwater Injection Wells SM-11i and SM-12i Engineering Design Services Project.**

The purpose of the RFP is to select the most qualified consultant to provide design services for two groundwater injection wells and four monitoring wells to recharge the groundwater aquifer in the City of the subject project.

RFP questions to be submitted to **via ProcureNow,** no later than 3:00 p.m. on January 16, 2023.

Proposers shall upload RFP via ProcureNow, no later than **3:00 p.m. on January 30, 2023. Size of the electronic proposal shall not exceed 10 MB.**

RFP Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca.

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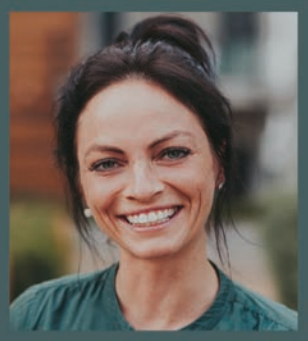
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GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Business wants voters to overturn legislative decrees

BY DAN WALTERS

Over the last decade, as Democrats solidified their dominance of the state Capitol, they have repeatedly attempted to change how private businesses operate in California

Those efforts have taken many specific forms, including mandates on employee benefits, making it easier for unions to organize workers, and regulating — or even prohibiting — products and services offered to customers.

All such efforts were aimed, their legislative and interest group sponsors said, at expanding equity and accountability for the benefit of workers and consumers.

Whatever their motives, as those efforts proliferate, the affected businesses have done what they could to block or at least modify what was happening. Nevertheless, those seeking more governmental regulation of business practices have scored some major victories and in response, affected businesses have increasingly used referenda to erase new laws or initiatives to repeal or modify them.

Those countermeasures have a mixed record of success, to wit:

— In 2014, the Legislature passed and then-Gov. Jerry Brown signed legislation to ban single-use plastic bags for groceries or other consumer goods. An industry referendum to block the new law failed in 2016.

— In 2018, the Legislature eliminated cash bail for criminal defendants. Two years later, the bail bond industry persuaded voters to reject the law.

— In 2019, legislators passed a sweeping law that reduced the ability of businesses to use freelance workers under contract. Rideshare and delivery companies such as Uber and Lyft placed a measure on the 2020 ballot to exempt themselves from the new law. Voters passed it, but it's since been challenged in court.

— In 2020 the Legislature prohibited the sale of flavored tobacco products, saying they encourage young people to smoke. However, the tobacco industry's referendum to block the ban was rejected by voters this year.

Corporate use of the ballot to thwart the Capitol's Democrats is likely to continue.

The fast food industry has submitted signatures for a referendum to overturn the creation of a new agency, dominated by unions and union-friendly appointees, that would set wages and working conditions for fast food employees. If it qualifies, the law would be suspended until voters decide the issue in 2024.

The oil industry is gathering signatures for a referendum to overturn a newly enacted law that would ban new oil wells within 3,200 feet of schools and other public facilities. If it qualifies, it also would go on the 2024 ballot.

Another oil industry referendum is likely if the Legislature passes Newsom's proposal to impose limits on its profits from gasoline sales and impose financial penalties for exceeding them.

Newsom's original proposal was an excess profits tax, which would not have been subject to referendum because the state constitution declares that tax measures cannot be challenged via referendum.

However, non-tax laws, unless passed with two-thirds margins as "urgency measures," are subject to referendum. If Newsom's limit/penalty law is enacted next year as a non-urgency measure, the industry would have a 90-day window in which to qualify a referendum. The law would be suspended until voters had the final word.

The proliferation of business-sponsored ballot measures to overturn what legislators and the governor decree has angered groups, such as unions and environmental and consumer rights organizations, that support more oversight of business practices. They are pressing the Legislature to make the qualification of ballot measures more difficult.

However, Newsom and his predecessor, Jerry Brown, have opposed such changes for the simple reason that governors sometimes turn to the ballot themselves to enact laws that the Legislature is unwilling to pass.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

FALLOUT

FROM PAGE 2

meeting Friday, it's clear he is trying to gradually step back into the public sphere. Meanwhile, organizers behind an effort to recall him from office have been cleared to collect petition signatures needed to qualify the proposal for the ballot.

Council members also have received a spate of letters from people identifying as de Leon's constituents, defending him and urging the council to let him resume his duties. They also asked the council to refrain from any additional punishment, which is being considered and could include restricting de Leon's office funds.

Democrat Bass takes charge as LA mayor amid homeless crisis

MICHAEL R. BLOOD AND CHRISTOPHER WEBER
Associated Press

Karen Ruth Bass, a former physician assistant who shattered glass ceilings with her rise to a leadership post in the California legislature and later a prominent spot in Congress, took a ceremonial oath of office Sunday as mayor of Los Angeles.

A progressive Democrat, Bass becomes the first woman and second Black person to hold the city's top job and will formally assume her duties Monday amid multiple crises in the nation's second most populous city.

She was sworn in ceremonially by Vice President Kamala Harris, a longtime friend and former California attorney general. The formal oath was administered privately by the city clerk.

> "I call on the people of our city to not just dream of the L.A. we want, but to participate in making the dream come true - Karen Ruth Bass

Bass will be tasked with easing rising crime rates, restoring trust in a City Hall shaken by racism and corruption scandals and addressing the issue of over 40,000 people living in trash-strewn encampments or rusty RVs that have spread into virtually every neighborhood.

Striking a tone of unity, Bass said the many, disparate arms of government must come together to confront homelessness.

To move in a new direction "we must have a single strategy" that brings together government, the private sector and other stakeholders," Bass said, speaking in a downtown theater near City Hall.

She said if people link arms rather than point fingers, lives will be saved. She called that "my mission" as mayor.

She also urged residents to become involved in city government, echoing John F. Kennedy's presidential inaugural address in which he said, "Ask not what your country can do for you –- ask what you can do for your country."

"I call on the people of our city to not just dream of the L.A. we want, but to participate in making the dream come true," Bass said.

Bass — who was on President-elect Joe Biden's short list for vice president — claimed the post last month after overcoming more than $100 million in spending by rival Rick Caruso, a billionaire developer and Republican-turned-Democrat who campaigned as a centrist and promised a strong emphasis on public safety.

Caruso would have represented a turn to the political right for the heavily Democratic city. Bass swayed voters by arguing she would be a coalition builder to help heal a troubled city of nearly 4 million.

"We are going to build a new Los Angeles," Bass had promised at an election night rally.

A marquee outside the theater featured a photo of a beaming Bass with the slogan "A new day for Los Angeles." The backdrop for the stage, topped by U.S flags, was an oversized shot of the steps and columns of City Hall.

In a surprise appearance, Stevie Wonder got the crowd dancing, playing "Living for the City." He and Bass shared a hug.

Bass, 69, ran as the consensus pick of the Democratic establishment and was endorsed by Biden, former President Barack Obama and former first lady and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

Despite her close ties with the Democratic political community, she has described herself as a change agent who plans to declare a state of emergency on her first day in office to deal with homelessness. She has signaled she will seek to marshal "all of the resources, all of the skills, the knowledge, the talent of the city" to get homeless people into housing.

Details on the emergency order have yet to emerge, though she has said she intends to get over 17,000 homeless people into housing in her first year through a mix of interim and permanent facilities.

She also will contend with entrenched urban problems that include a housing shortage, crumbling streets and some of the nation's worst traffic.

"The mayor's first priority and likely the main one for some time to come is homelessness," said Raphael Sonenshein, executive director of the Pat Brown Institute for Public Affairs at California State University, Los Angeles.

"The voters don't expect a miracle but will be looking for a clear and credible path toward measurable and visible improvement," Sonenshein said. "It's an opportunity for an energetic reset on a crisis that has seemed stuck, and also a chance to restore confidence in local government in Los Angeles."

She replaces beleaguered Democrat Eric Garcetti, who ends two bumpy terms with his nomination to become U.S. ambassador to India stalled in the Senate, apparently over sexual misconduct allegations against a former top Garcetti adviser.

Bass takes office as the City Council contends with a racism scandal that led to the resignation of its former president and a powerful labor leader, while one councilman snared in the scandal has resisted calls to resign. Meanwhile, three current or former council members have been indicted or have pleaded guilty to corruption charges.

Bass made history in the state Assembly by becoming the first Black woman to serve as speaker of any state legislature. She also served as chair of the Congressional Black Caucus in 2019 and 2020.

ULLER

FROM PAGE 1

allegations of sexual abuse were made against Uller in October 2018, close to 100 victims have come forward and the City has paid out a total of $107.3 million in settlements. Due to the ongoing litigation, the City declined to comment on the precise number of victims and their claims.

There have been multiple groups of claimants who have received settlement money including 24 individuals who received a total of $42.6 million in March 2020 and an additional 61 alleged victims who settled for $54.9 million in 2021. Former Santa Monica City Attorney George Cardona said at the time that he questioned the veracity of the allegations of some of the claimants in the second group, but the City ultimately chose to settle with all of them.

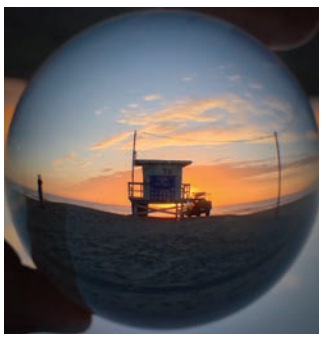
In addition to the settlement payments, the City has taken actions since the allegations came to light to prevent future such incidents including, creating a new code of conduct for providing youth services and expanding requirements for Child Abuse Mandated Reporter Training for all employees, volunteers and contractors for any City-managed youth programs.

The City also hired abuse prevention organization Praesidium Inc. in 2018 to review youth programs and advise them on how to prevent any further child abuse. In March 2020, the City signed a $625,000 four-year contract with Praesidium to serve as a Child Protection Officer for City-run youth programs.

In the remaining few weeks before the period to file claims against Uller slams shut, the City Council is continuing to meet with legal counsel about the matter and will discuss pending litigation against the City and PALs at the upcoming Dec. 13 meeting.

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The pay range for this position in Santa Monica, CA is $ 147,410 – 194,400 (yr); however, base pay offered may vary depending on job-related knowledge, skills, and experience.

A sign-on bonus and restricted stock units may be provided as part of the compensation package, in addition to a full range of medical, financial, and/or other benefits, dependent on the position offered. This information is provided by CA Equal Pay Act. Base pay information is based on market location. Applicants should apply via Amazon's internal or external careers site.

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LOCATION 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401



ELECTION

FROM PAGE 3

Beth Moylan, a University of the Pacific law professor.

What might explain what she describes as a "slight uptick?" Moylan points to the increasingly Democratic dominance in Sacramento, with a majority of lawmakers now more willing to slap legislative targets on large, well-resourced industries. Those industries may be "seeing this as the only option now, whereas they were having more success in prior decades sorting and killing bills in the legislative process," she said.

Though the state constitution doesn't explicitly say that a referendum, once qualified, puts the underlying law on hold, the text has been interpreted that way by state courts for decades.

Now some advocates who have grown tired of this electoral maneuver are calling for change.

At a press conference held last week by the Service Employees International Union California, which sponsored the fast food law, advocates said they want the state to require proof of "grassroots support" before qualifying a referendum. That could include requiring a certain share of signatures to be gathered by volunteers, rather than firms that pay workers by the signature.

"Petition circulators were once almost universally unpaid," said Trent Lange, president of the California Clean Money Campaign, who said he hasn't taken a position on the fast food referendum. "Now, however, corporations and billionaires can buy their way onto the ballot by using unlimited amounts of money to hire mercenary signature-gathering firms."

SEIU has accused the referendum campaign of lying to get voters to sign petitions, submitting videos to the Secretary of State's office and the Attorney General's office in which signature gatherers appear to tell the public they would be supporting an increase in the minimum wage. Neither office has said whether they are investigating the complaints. Hanscom, of the International Franchise Association, said the group has not heard from either office, but it believes the "referendum was pursued in a way that met the letter of the law."

Another voice that's called for change: The Los Angeles Times' editorial board, which called the recent run of referenda a "perverse application of a system designed to empower ordinary people against corporate influence in the state Capitol."

Hill, the former state senator, said "it is easy — and too easy — to file a referendum by a corporation with paid signature gatherers… They have nothing to lose and everything to gain by doing this."

"I do think that there needs to be reform in the referendum space," he added, "and I would hope that the Legislature or a commission or something could look at it."

There's little indication yet that the Legislature is willing to take that step.

State Sen. Lena Gonzalez, a Democrat from Long Beach and the author of the oil well setback bill that could wind up on the 2024 ballot, called the campaign an "abuse" of the electoral process in a conversation with CalMatters earlier this year. Asked last week, a spokesperson for the senator said she had "no specific concrete policies" under consideration.

Assemblymember Isaac Bryan and Sen. Steve Glazer, the current Democratic chairpersons of the respective chamber's election committees, also declined to comment.

In an interview with CalMatters during her reelection campaign, Secretary of State Shirley Weber said her office was considering whether to support changes to the referendum process "because it can easily be bought." She also said she wants to find ways to better educate voters because referenda can be particularly confusing — a "yes" vote is to uphold the law being challenged, not to support the industry.

Last week, Weber's spokesperson said the office was "still in discussions about best approaches to this issue" and encouraged the public to check back in 2023.

In recent surveys, support for monkeying with the ballot measure qualification process has been lukewarm at best. And though there were calls for change from lawmakers and advocacy and watchdog groups after the unsuccessful recall election of Gov. Newsom last year, interest in changes to the statewide process waned after Election Day.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

LAWYER

FROM PAGE 1

filed paperwork with the Santa Monica Rent Control Board to withdraw the property from the residential rental housing market under the Ellis Act. They then began planning to convert the Overlook Hotel and adjacent properties into a commercial enterprise.

The tenants wanted to fight the eviction but lacked the financial means to wage a protracted legal battle against a wealthy, well-established real estate company. So they sought advice from LAFLA's Director of Housing Justice Barbara Schultz, who in turn directed them to Scali Rasmussen. Shareholder John Swenson ultimately co-led the plaintiff's case alongside shareholder Jeffrey Erdman.

"Our clients' position was that the damage could be repaired and did not necessitate an eviction," said Swenson. "This wasn't just some place to store their possessions for these tenants - they had a life here, a community here. The named plaintiff in the case had been living there for 30 years."

The Mink family delayed the trial in the lawsuit for three and a half years before a judge ruled they had to pay their former tenants $1 million.

The efforts by Scali Rasmussen's pro bono team - which collectively dedicated thousands of hours to the effort - were recognized by LAFLA at its Access to Justice Gala in October.

Accepting the award on the team's behalf, Erdman called the case a "remarkable thing to work on" and "a labor of love for so many people in our firm." He highlighted in particular the hard work of Swenson, who personally put in well over a thousand pro bono hours into the case.

Christian J. Scali, the firm's managing partner, offered similar praise for Swenson, Erdman, and the rest of the firm's pro bono team.

"While providing top-tier service to our clients is our firm's reason for being, it's always been important for us that we seize any opportunity to make a positive impact on our community," said Scali, who also worked on the case. "We're thankful to LAFLA for recognizing that effort."

editor@smdp.com

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 13)

Because you know yourself better than ever, you'll key into your own delight. You'll choose a new focus, and as you quickly advance through this realm, you'll be happy with your choice. You'll revel in rare moments of complete freedom when you have the means to do exactly what you'd most prefer. Gemini and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 22, 31, 16 and 2.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're happy to be there for your friends and loved ones, whether in good times or bad. Just showing up to witness what's going on in another person's world will make a difference. Shared joy multiplies, and shared grief reduces.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your charm emerges, sometimes unbidden but often at your summoning as you realize the high stakes involved in winning people to your side. You'll be particularly effective at tuning into what people need and want.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You start out enacting a typical day in the life of you, but something happens to make business as usual impossible. Whatever comes up, you not only handle it but appreciate the variation and interest it brings to your life.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You've chased dreams and caught a few, too. As for the ones that got away, carry a little hope around with you in your travels today and keep your eyes open for opportunity. Fresh chances will be on offer.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Relationships progress. You're starting to know someone very well and maybe even predict some of their reactions and next moves. Avoid getting too sure or comfortable, though, as mystery is a gift to savor and protect.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There's a difference between observing and judging. It's easier to stay objective when you have nothing to gain or lose in the equation. Once the stakes involve you personally, you'll benefit from outside opinions.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's said that children are best disciplined by speaking softly, which is heard loud and clear. Use the same principle with yourself. Tell your internal voices to pipe down. The firm and fair whisper of reason will ring.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's time to sell yourself. Don't sell yourself short, but definitely don't sell yourself tall either because that's a good way to seem desperate and insecure. Look into the pupils of your customer's eyes. Stop when it's sold.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You want everyone to feel at home even when you're not technically in your home, so your default is to act as a host. You'll encourage everyone to participate. Your friendly attitude will attract good fortune.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Help will come from somewhere — maybe not the place that promised to provide it, but it will come. If you keep working hard, your team will eventually join you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You have many gifts, but it's your tenacity that makes you a winner. It's your day to learn the difference between helpful and unhelpful input, especially coming from your own mind.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Creating puts you in a beautiful mood. Whether it's a tasty meal, a well-thought-out piece of work, a doodle or a tune to hum, you'll be in top form when you execute this.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

	8		6	9				
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Newsday Crossword

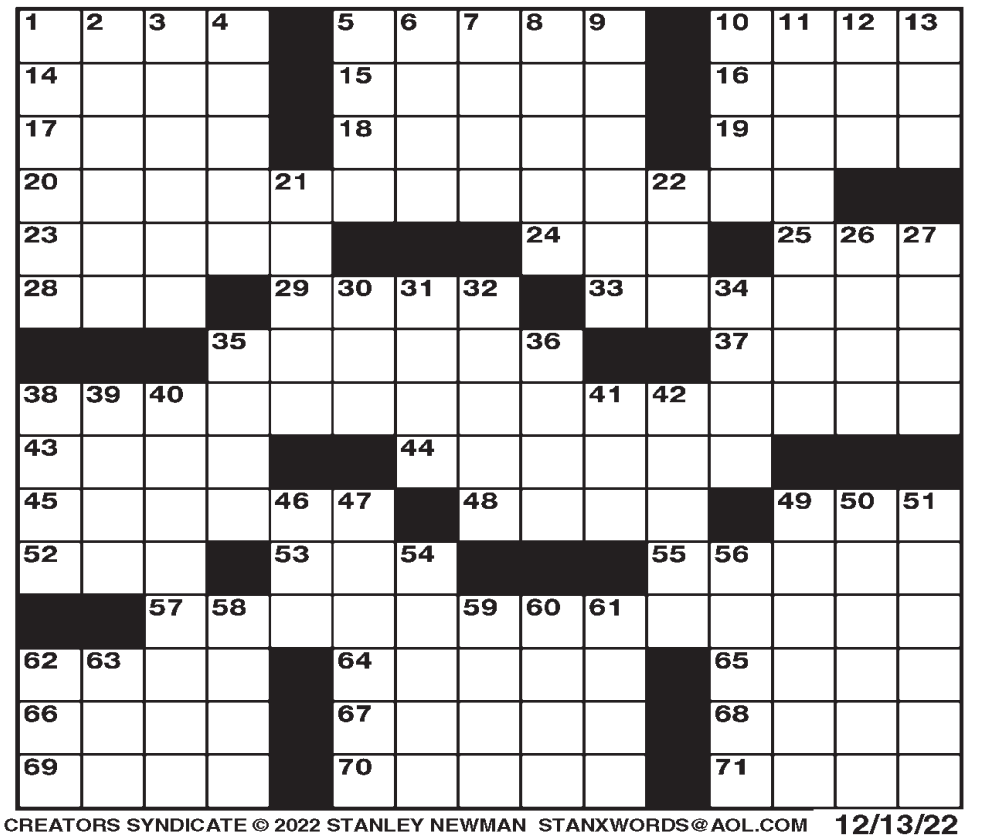
MANI-PEDI by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Circle segments
5 Deep gorge
10 A long way off
14 Travel aimlessly
15 Undue hurry
16 Green gemstone
17 __ extra cost (free)
18 Church platform
19 "That's too bad"
20 Clumsy person
23 Back-of-book directory
24 Beer barrel
25 Shade tree
28 Big fuss
29 Rudely abrupt
33 Warplane mission
35 "Already?"
37 S&L's outdoor conveniences
38 Fluffy serving of spuds
43 San Juan, Puerto __
44 Figure of speech like a metaphor
45 Soul music icon Franklin
48 Mobile phone, for short
49 Author's negotiator: Abbr.
52 Church bench
53 Tack on
55 Traditional Arctic dome home
57 Very stern and tough
62 Wife or husband
64 Self-confidence
65 Joins in marriage
66 Sign seen by a seer
67 Any pick-me-up drink
68 __-jerk reaction
69 Raven or robin
70 Laid out, as cash
71 Tax form IDs

DOWN

1 Saudi __ (Mideast nation)
2 Shaped like Santa
3 Lacks the skills for
4 Struck down, in the Bible
5 Sear on a grill
6 50% portion
7 Wine region of Italy
8 Smelled awful
9 Combines two companies
10 Slightly open
11 Unnaturally high voice
12 Tooth doctors' org.
13 Hi-__ monitor
21 Retired police officer
22 Swelled head
26 Green citrus fruit
27 Untidy room
30 Find a purpose for
31 Fishing poles
32 Subject for discussion
34 Hourly charge
35 Small stain
36 Alaskan city
38 Rolled-up sandwich
39 Add to the payroll
40 Free drink at a restaurant
41 Up to, in ads
42 Bold poker bet
46 "That's what you think!"
47 Adjusts to change
49 Visitors from another planet
50 California's __ Gate Bridge
51 Throws softly
54 Start to sag
56 Stares awkwardly
58 Transmit
59 Sup in style
60 B __ "boy"
61 Splinter group
62 Crowd around
63 Male pal in Paris

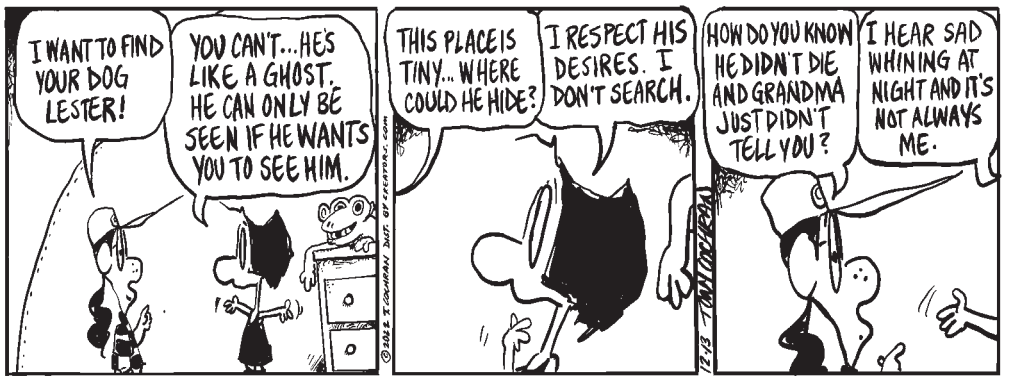


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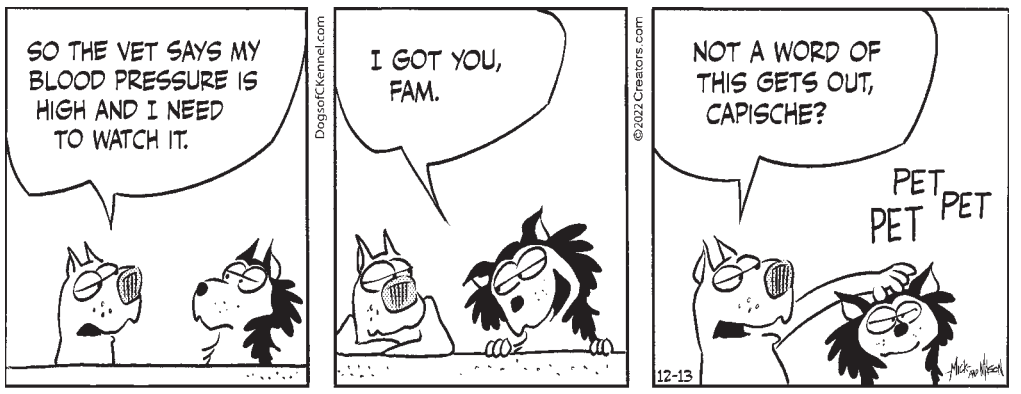
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



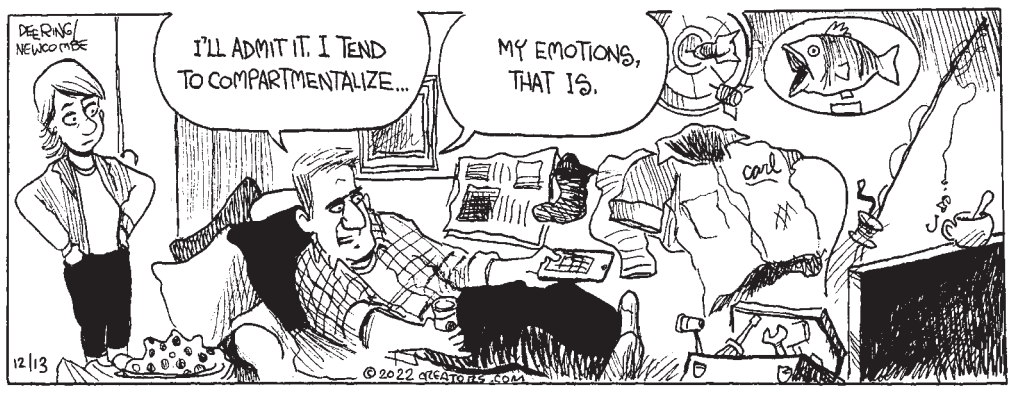
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



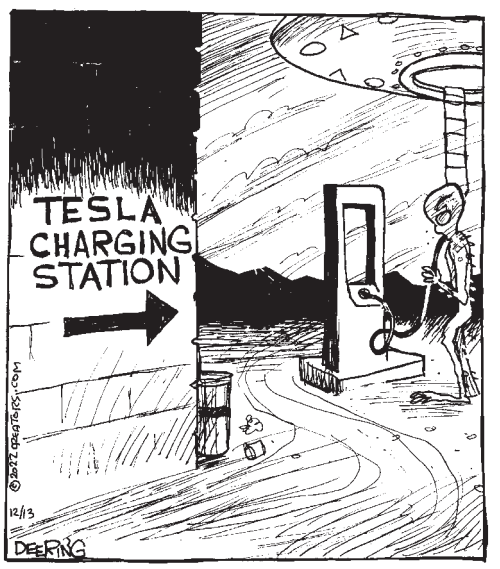
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



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

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In the Sixties

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

Aims
Askin
Beards
Bodgie
Bolte
Boom
Break
Britain
Civil rights
Cold war
Cool
Court
Dawn
Decimal
Easy
Events
Fraser
Free
Grow
Hair
Hope
Hunt
Ian Chappell
Ideals
J O K
Jobs
Johnny O'Keefe
Laver
Love
Minis
Music
Nagle
Optimistic
Patsy
Rally
Rattle
Roche
Rose
Shake
Slang
Space race
Tunes
Unity
Wigs

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
The loss of innocence

WISE & Healthy Aging
(310) 394-9871
Adult Day Service Center
Your trusted source for adult day care for your loved one. Let us give you the break you need.
Somos Amigos
"Somos Amigos" (we are friends) is our Spanish Language Program offering mental stimulation, exercise-strength training and recreation.
Let Us Help You Address Early Memory Loss
A Program of WISE & Healthy Aging
WISE Minds
A Veterans Benefit!

What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

TUESDAY | DECEMBER 13

ARISE, MY FRIEND, MY BEAUTIFUL ONE, AND GO FORTH! – HANUKKAH EDITION

Brought to the Museum by The Braid, the troupe that transforms stories from the page to the stage, this show brings out the Hanukkah story's themes of empowerment and triumph. Will a Jewish woman from Mexico City moving to a small town in Oregon find acceptance? What happens when you give up Jewish foods to lose weight; does it also mean you have to give up your Jewish identity? And what is Hanukkah, Bakersfield style? Find out in this heartwarming show. 7:30 - 9 p.m. $8. Virtual event. https://mjhnyc.org/events/arise-my-friend-my-beautiful-one-and-go-forth-hanukkah-edition/

WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 14

MEL'S DINER 75 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Meet at Mel's Diner for their 75 year anniversary celebration on December 14th! Enjoy 75% off all classics, taste the iconic favorites and dine with the best at Mel's Diner. Mel's Diner, 1670 Lincoln Blvd. 7 a.m. - 11 p.m. https://www.instagram.com/

THURSDAY | DECEMBER 15

MONTANA AVENUE BRANCH BOOK GROUP DISCUSSION

Join a community-led monthly book club, centered in the Montana neighborhood. The group currently meets on the Montana Branch Patio. This month's book is "Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine and the Murder of a President" by Candice Millard. Montana Avenue Branch Library. 6 - 7 p.m.

'APPY HOUR' DEVICE WORKSHOP

Bring your smartphone or tablet and receive small group help to get you started with using your device. Main Library. 2nd Floor Tutoring Center, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

WALK-IN TUTORING

Location is Main Library, 2nd floor Tutoring Center. Friendly volunteer tutors provide help with basic reading and writing skills, using the Internet, filling out online forms, using email, resume writing, and job searches. Main Library, 1 - 3 p.m.

BABY WINTER BALL

Bounce, crawl and dance until naptime! Little ones are invited to dress up and have a ball (and play with some, too). For ages 0-2. Main Library, Children's Activity Room, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

CREATIVE ROUNDTABLE WITH ERIKA ANDERSON

Join Erika Anderson, ED at Sarah Myerscough Gallery, London, for a virtual friendly meet and greet. Established in 1998, Sarah Myerscough Gallery represents a distinguished group of contemporary craft and design artists, specializing in material-led processes with a focus on wood and natural materials. The gallery works in both public and private collections, maintains a full program of exhibitions and participates in leading art fairs around the world, including PAD London, Masterpiece London, Design Miami/Basel, Design Miami, SALON Art + Design New York, and FOG Design + Art San Francisco. Virtual, 12 - 1 p.m. https://18thstreet.org/event/creative-roundtable-erika-anderson/

LOCALS NIGHT AT SANTA MONICA PIER

Join us at the Santa Monica Pier once a month for a curated series for locals. On December 15, enjoy special holiday fun with seasonal storytelling, crafts, live music, interactive performances, a car show, caroling, photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus and so much more! Gather your friends and family and head down to the Pier for this special experience. You really won't want to miss out on this incredible and unique outdoor setting to unwind with friends and loved ones all while celebrating Santa Monica's holiday cheer. The Pier, 3 - 10 p.m. https://www.santamonicapier.org/localsnight

RIBBON CUTTING AT TAVERN ON MAIN

It's time to celebrate! Tavern on Main is honored to host the Santa Monica Chamber and its Young Professionals as they recognize coming on five months of being open. The Ribbon Cutting is open to all and will take place at 5 p.m. Young Professionals mixer 7 p.m. Tavern on Main, 2907 Main St. https://www.tavernonmainsm.com/

FRIDAY | DECEMBER 16

SANTA MONICA BEACH BELLES AT SANTA MONICA PLACE

Come watch the Santa Monica Beach Belles perform high-flying kicks that will "wow" the whole family at Center Plaza, December 16-18 and Christmas Eve. This classic Santa Monica holiday event is one you won't want to miss. 3 - 7 p.m. Santa Monica Place, 395 Santa Monica Place. https://www.santamonicaplace.com/Events/Details/571847.

HOLIDAY POINTSETTIA WORKSHOP

Artist Carmela Morales will provide a workshop on Friday, December 16 from 6-7:30pm at 18th Street Arts Center, Olympic Campus. These workshops will teach you how to make your own paper Poinsettia flower. 18th Street Art Center, 1639 18th St. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/make-your-own-paper-poinsettia-for-the-holidays-tickets-465960559577

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



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **60.8**

TUESDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:** 2-3ft Thigh to waist	Lining up to be a decent little clean up session. Easing NW leftovers and small scale SW swell shows best size west of Dume. Morning conditions look more favorable as coastal storm exits the region.
WEDNESDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:** 1-2ft Knee to thigh	Smaller NW swell leftovers and minor SW swell. Wind looks favorable for the morning.

WEATHER

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 56. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.
Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 42. Northwest wind around 5 mph.
Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 58. North northeast wind around 5 mph.
Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 43.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2022/12/13	Tue	02:01 AM	3.39	H
2022/12/13	Tue	05:11 AM	3.13	L
2022/12/13	Tue	11:16 AM	4.73	H
2022/12/13	Tue	7:11 PM	0.38	L
2022/12/14	Wed	03:01 AM	3.56	H
2022/12/14	Wed	06:31 AM	3.23	L
2022/12/14	Wed	12:08 PM	4.26	H
2022/12/14	Wed	7:59 PM	0.64	L
2022/12/15	Thu	03:44 AM	3.81	H
2022/12/15	Thu	08:35 AM	3.10	L
2022/12/15	Thu	1:21 PM	3.78	H
2022/12/15	Thu	8:50 PM	0.90	L
2022/12/16	Fri	04:16 AM	4.15	H
2022/12/16	Fri	10:16 AM	2.59	L
2022/12/16	Fri	2:59 PM	3.41	H
2022/12/16	Fri	9:37 PM	1.13	L
2022/12/17	Sat	04:43 AM	4.55	H
2022/12/17	Sat	11:17 AM	1.87	L

DAILY LOTTERY

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

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 12/10
9 23 47 49 68
Power#: 19
Jackpot: 124 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/9
8 19 53 61 69
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 400 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 12/10
13 18 19 22 38
Mega#: 11
Jackpot: 15 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/11
3 13 14 15 33

Daily 3
Draw Date: 12/11
EVENING: 3 2 8
Draw Date: 12/11
MIDDAY: 5 2 6

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 12/11
1st: 04 - Big Ben
2nd: 01 - Gold Rush
3rd: 05 - California Classic
Race Time: 1:49.79

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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To the Communities of Santa Monica and Malibu for Your Support of Measure SMC.

Vote YES on Measure SMC

Santa Monica College builds great futures for local students.

Providing Our Communities the *Very Best* in Transfer, Career, and Lifelong Education.

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

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