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@smdailypress @smdailypress Santa Monica Daily Press smdp.com

Malls beef up dining, entertainment options to boost traffic

ALEX VEIGA
AP Business Writer

Shoppers braving the mall this holiday season may notice more that's new than the day's discounts.

Many mall owners are spending billions to add more upscale restaurants and bars, premium movie theaters with dine-in options, bowling alleys and similar amenities. Some have turned swaths of space that previously housed department stores over to health clubs and grocery stores. Others are undergoing no less than a ground-up transformation to

SEE **MALLS** PAGE 11

Twitter suspends white nationalists under new rules

ALEXANDRA OLSON
Associated Press

Twitter suspended the accounts of well-known white nationalists Monday, moving swiftly after putting into place new rules on what it sees as abusive content.

The account of far-right group Britain First, a small group that regularly posts inflammatory videos purporting to show Muslims engaged in acts of violence, was among the first to go dark. The individual accounts of two of its leaders, Jayda Fransen and Paul Golding, were also sus-

SEE **TWITTER** PAGE 5

Survey finds Santa Monicans love their parks









File photos

PARKS: Council will not pursue a ballot measure for new parks after a survey showed it lacked enough support to win. Survey responses showed locals were generally happy with their access to parks despite the city lacking green space in comparison to the county average.

KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

Santa Monica voters will not see a parks bond on their November 2018 ballots after a survey by Goodwin Simon Strategic Research found locals happy with the current park landscape in the city.

Only 55 percent of those polled leaned toward 'yes' on a general obligation bond to fund park expansions and improvements after the pollsters told them the estimated property tax impact. A super-majority of 66.67 percent is needed for a bond to pass.

"What makes it a challenge is the very success of the parks program that you have here," said Paul Goodwin, founding partner at the firm at a recent City Council meeting. "If you look at the polling numbers, it's quite remarkable not only how much they approve and like and feel warm about their parks - but the way they feel it's integrated into their lives."

Goodwin said nearly 90 percent of respondents said they feel good about how close they live to a park. Santa Monica averages about 1.5 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents, which is well below the county average of 3.3 acres per 1,000 acres. However, the metric does not include the 245 acres of sand and trails at Santa Monica State Beach.

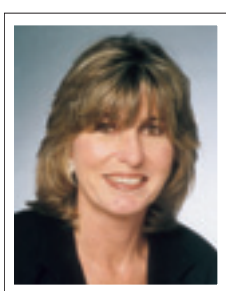
Overall, Goodwin says there is a lack of urgency when it comes to funding park expansions and improvements.

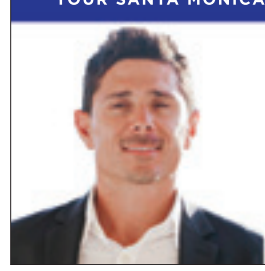
"It becomes quite a challenge to pass a bond with this level of support," Goodwin said.

With that information in mind, the City Council voted 6-1 to hit the pause button on drafting a bond measure until 2020. Mayor Pro-Tempore Gleam Davis and Councilmember Sue Himmelrich both noted the recent homeless population increase throughout the region may make the campaign for parks funding more difficult in the upcoming election.

In the meantime, several popular parks projects remain unfunded, including the 12-acre expansion of Airport Park. With a wish list that includes sports fields, community gardens and open space, the estimated cost to develop the available land is approximately $30 million, according to a recent report from the Community and Cultural Services Department. The City cannot request bids from a contractor until a funding source is identified.

SEE **PARKS** PAGE 3


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, December 19

Ocean Park Mystery Book Group

Join organizers as they discuss the latest authors in the mystery genre. Meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Emphasis on international authors and locations. All are welcome. No registration required. "Critical Mass" by Sarah Paretsky. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St. 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Gentle Yoga

In a class that is safe for seniors and beginners, as well as relaxing and stress-releasing for pros, veteran instructor Raghavan guides you through a gentle session of yoga and meditation. Space is limited. Please bring a mat or towel to the program. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd, 6:30 p.m.

Holiday Teen Party

Celebrate the beginning of Winter Break with games, music, and refreshments. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 6 – 7 p.m.

Tinker Tuesdays: LED Holiday Cards at Fairview

Make a light-up holiday card, with a simple circuit! Limited space; free tickets available 30 minutes before program. Grades K-5. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd, 4 – 5 p.m.

Wednesday, December 20

Montana Book Discussion Group: Chasing the Last Laugh

A rich and lively account of Mark Twain's late-life adventures abroad. In 1895, at age sixty, Mark Twain was dead broke and miserable—his recent novels had been critical and commercial failures and he was bankrupted by his inexplicable decision to run a publishing company. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Soundwaves Workshop and Concert at Main

An evening of graphic scores by various composers. All musicians are invited to participate in a one-hour workshop/rehearsal at 6 p.m. The performance will be at 7:30 p.m. and is open to the public. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

The Commission for the Senior Community

Santa Monica's Commission for the Senior Community focuses on preserving and improving the quality of life for Santa Monicans 60 and older. The Commission advises City Council on a wide range of issues relevant to older adults. The Commission also provides opportunities to educate seniors, their families and caregivers on these issues. 1:30 p.m. Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th St.

Thursday, December 21

Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting

Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Recreation and Parks Commission Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on the 3rd Thursday of each month in Council Chambers at Santa Monica City Hall (1685 Main St).

Housing Commission Meeting

Regular meeting of the Housing Commission. Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th Street, 1st Floor. 4:30 p.m.

Friday, December 22

December Drive-In Series for Kids

Bring your cardboard box car to our drive-in and watch some holiday favorites and discover new favorites! This double header features: How the Grinch Stole Christmas [1966|Unrated|26 Minutes] -AND- A Charlie Brown Christmas [1965|TV-G|25 Minutes] Ages 3 and Up. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 3:30 – 5 p.m.

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

PARKS

FROM PAGE 1

A three-acre expansion of Memorial Park has also been in the pipeline since the City bought the Fisher Lumber site in 2004. In 2016, Santa Monica voters passed Measure V, which included up to $20 million for Memorial Park improvements.

"While the $20 million in Measure V funding is significant, it is anticipated that additional funding will be needed over time to support a full upgrade and expansion of Memorial Park," the report said.

With the desire for more funding in mind, director Karen Ginsberg said her staff would look at potential public partnerships to pay for park improvements.

"I think that's the reality," Ginsberg said. "Whether it's palatable or not that's the reality."

Ginsberg's team selected MIG Inc. to update the City's Parks and Recreation Master Plan to guide development and funding for parks projects over the next few decades. MIG did master parks plans for Palo Alto, Irvine, Pittsburgh and San Jose.

"A comprehensive process is needed to ensure the plan is updated to align with the City's dynamic urban landscape and evolving resident demographics," the report said.

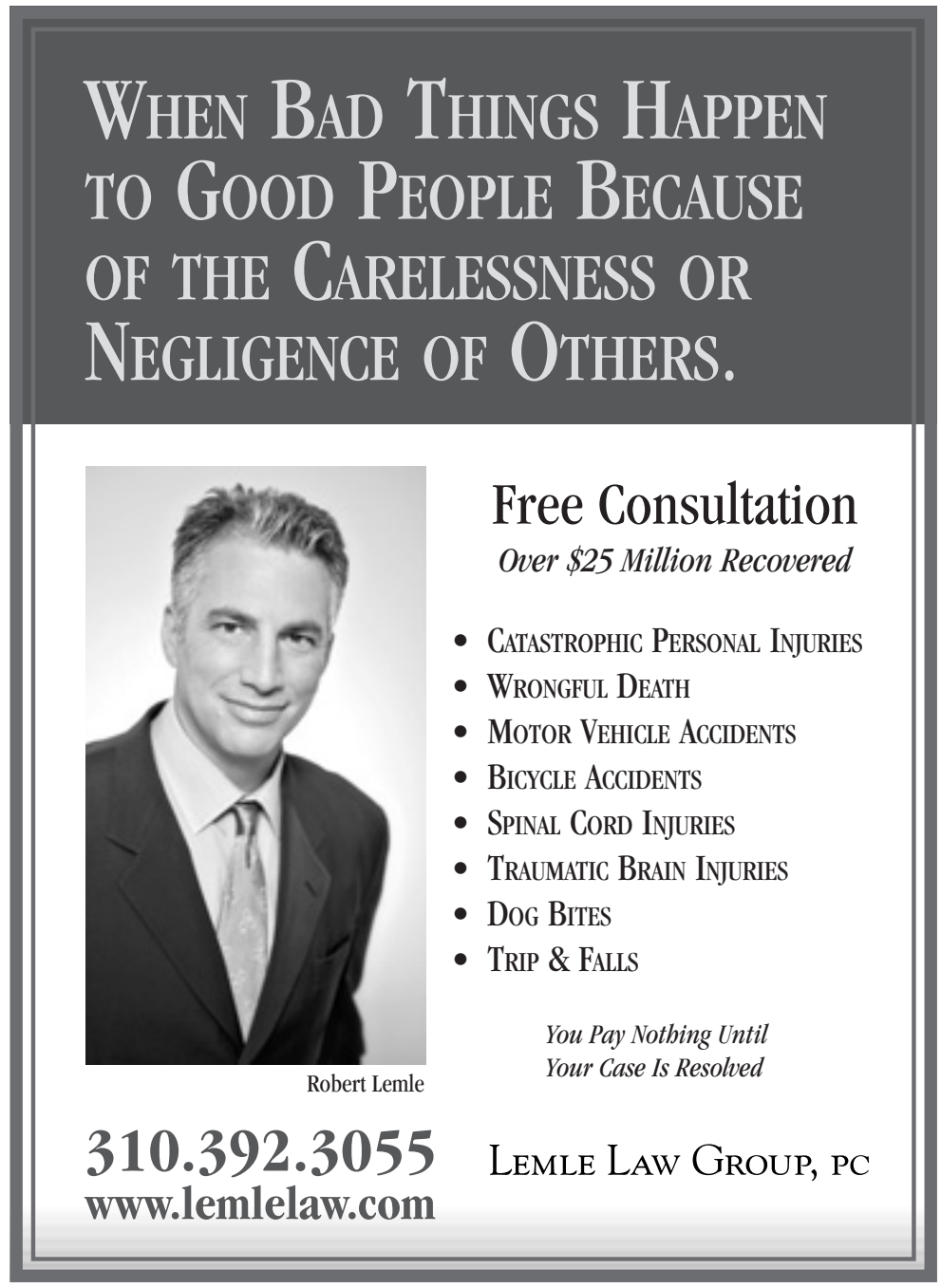
The $500,000 master plan will take about 18 months to complete with adoption anticipated for June 2019.

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What's the Point?

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

And that's a wrap for 2017!

This is my last new column of the year, next week will be a repeat of my most popular column of the year. I'm taking off from now until January 9, 2018.

What a year it's been for all of us eh? The first year of the Trump administration – what a wild ride this has been! Seems like it was a lot of noise and thunder and little was actually accomplished. The jury is still out on this Presidency, but so far, it's not looking too good.

As for the local scene – we certainly had a few issues this year – the airport runway is shorter, and who knows where that will end. I have a theory that shutting it will result in the eventual development of more condominiums and that there will not be the park space we've been promised. Plus the freeing up of the development restrictions around the airport will result in high rise condominiums on the border is my guess. Let's see what the residents think then, but it will be too late.

Same goes for my theory on the Civic Center – I just don't trust the powers that be to actually turn it into something that costs the city to maintain, versus building on it and making revenue. I'm jaded that way I guess.

Our city has undergone a sea change on development and it's not stopping any time soon. The Colorado/Lincoln development will be a major increase in living space and the only thing that I can say positively is that the Denny's will go away. Thankfully we're due to have a Mel's Diner just a few blocks south. Mel's is what we need – a good 24 hour diner.

I had a fair amount of feedback from my readers this year. Some liked my commentary, some thought I was dead wrong on issues like the Bird scooters – and after speaking with a couple of long time readers, I see that there is an issue to be dealt with in terms of Bird users. It was reported to me that underage teens and pre-teens were using the Birds on the sidewalk and they were terrorizing pedestrians. I was skeptical until I was walking my dog, and a young woman of about 20 in a flower print sun dress came riding along and almost hit me.

That's not to say I want the city to shut them down – I'd like to see the city find a way to foster them and maybe put some controls in place. Alternatively, someone who is injured by a teen or pre-teen could sue the parents and that may put a chill on the ridership.

In terms of the arts this was another great year of city events, even with the Pier Concerts causing concern, there were enough other cultural events to continue to make this a great city to live in. From events like Juneteenth to holiday parties on the Promenade and the ice skating at ICE, we have a lot going on around here to be grateful for.

Personally I had a great year. I published a book for a friend, saw a young man start a new career, and travelled a bit. I was in Seattle, Kansas City, Raleigh, Dallas, San Diego, and Mexico for Thanksgiving. I've completed the National Speakers Association academy to help me with my speaking career and have scheduled talks next year in Mexico, and New Zealand and I'm waiting to hear about Maryland and Singapore.

I've written 50 columns for GoodMenProject.com and about that same number for the Santa Monica Daily Press. I'm almost done with my next two books, Podcasting for Professionals and The Empowered Entrepreneur.

My personal coaching work has paid off for one of my students who has taken the ball and run with it for his new digital marketing company. Another student is almost done with his biography that we'll be rolling out next year for his speaking business.

As long as I ignore the news out of the White House, it was a great year. The big lessons for me this year were that 1) I don't tolerate anger as well as I used to, and 2) national politics is toxic.

I hope you have a wonderful Christmas, Kwanzaa and New Year's. I look forward to the joys of what the new year has to bring all of us.

David Pisarra is a Los Angeles Divorce and Child Custody Lawyer specializing in Father's and Men's Rights with the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or 310/664-9969.You can follow him on Twitter @davidpisarra

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) Informal Project Registration

NOTICE TO SOLICT CONTRACTORS for the District's Informal Bidding contractor list per Public Contract Code Section 22034

On December 9, 2010 the Board of Education of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District resolved to establish an Informal Bidding Procedure per Public Contract Code section 22032. In accordance with that code, the District is soliciting contractors to register with the District to bid on these projects. Informal projects are generally defined as facilities projects with an estimated value of less than $175,000 thousand dollars. Contractors on the list will be notified directly of all informal project opportunities within their trade. All bidders will be required to meet prequalification requirements prior to any bid submittals. Qualified Contractors must be licensed in the state of California, maintain workers compensation insurance, general liability insurance, pay prevailing wage rates, annual registration relative to Public Works reform SB 854 and comply with other state requirements. The District has contracted with QualityBidders to administer the registration process at no-cost via the web. All interested contractors can register with QualityBidders at www.qualitybidders.com to be added to the District's informal project listing.

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters to the Editor can be submitted to letters@smdp.com. Receipt of a letter does not guarantee publication and all content is published at the discretion of the paper. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content. All submissions must include the author's name, address and phone number for the purposes of verification.

TWITTER

FROM PAGE 1

pended.

President Donald Trump caused a stir last month when he retweeted a post by Fransen, drawing criticism from British Prime Minister Theresa May. Fransen and Golding were arrested in Belfast last week for allegedly stirring up hatred.

The guidelines, announced a month ago and put into force this week, address hateful images or symbols, including those attached to user profiles.

Monitors at the company will weigh hateful imagery in the same way they do graphic violence and adult content.

If a user wants to post symbols or images that might be considered hateful, the post must be marked "sensitive media." Other users would then see a warning that would allow them to decide whether to view the post.

Twitter is also prohibiting users from abusing or threatening others through their profiles or usernames.

The account for American Renaissance, a white nationalist online magazine run by Jared Taylor, was among those suspended. The magazine responded to the Twitter ban with the terse message, "this isn't goodbye" and referred readers to a chat site frequented by white nationalists. Brad Griffin, who blogs under the name Hunter Wallace on the website Occidental Dissent, said in blog post that he was also suspended, along with Michael Hill of the Traditionalist Workers Party and others.

The white nationalist Richard Spencer, whose account was not suspended, tweeted that he had lost more than a hundred followers in the past 24 hours and noted that he didn't "see any systematic method to the #TwitterPurge."

There appeared to be some inconsistencies in the enforcement. Still on Twitter was David Duke, with some of his posts hidden behind the "sensitive material" warning. However, Twitter allowed him to keep the message "It's Ok To Be White" as his header, even though the same phrase was hidden by the warning on his pinned tweet.

Twitter said it would not comment on individual accounts.

While the new guidelines are now in play, the social media company continues to work out internal monitoring tools and it is revamping the appeals process for banned or suspended accounts. But Twitter will begin accepting reports from users.

Users can report profiles, or users, that they consider to be in violation of Twitter policy. Previously, users could only report individual posts they deemed offensive.

Now being targeted are "logos, symbols, or images whose purpose is to promote hostility and malice against others based on their race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or ethnicity/national origin."

There is no specific list, however, of banned symbols or images. Rather, the company will review complaints individually to consider the context of the post or profile, including cultural and political considerations.

It is also broadening existing policies intended to reduce threatening content, to include imagery that glorifies or celebrates violent acts. That content will be removed and repeat offenders will be banned. Beginning Monday, the company will ban accounts affiliated with "organizations that use or promote violence against civilians to further their causes."

While more content is banned, the company has provided more leeway for itself after it was criticized for strict rules that resulted in account suspensions.

There was a backlash against Twitter after it suspending the account of actress Rose McGowan who opened a public campaign over sexual harassment and abuse, specifically naming Hollywood mogul Harvey Weinstein. Twitter eventually reinstated McGowan's account and said that it had been suspended because of a tweet that violated its rules on privacy.

"In our efforts to be more aggressive here, we may make some mistakes and are working on a robust appeals process," Twitter said in its blog post.

Twitter relies in large part on user reports to identify problematic accounts and content, but the company said it is developing "internal tools" to bolster its ability to police content.

Twitter also seeks to improve communications with users about the decisions it makes. That includes telling those who have been suspended which rules they had violated.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Malibu

Malibu Community Events

The City of Malibu is hosting several community events and classes in January including:

MUSIC TOGETHER DEMONSTRATIONS

The City of Malibu will be hosting Music Together Demonstrations at Malibu Bluffs Park (24250 PCH) on Monday, January 8 at 1 p.m. and Friday, January 12 at 10:30 a.m.

The Department offers a variety of Creative, Health & Wellness, and Informative Workshops to the community. In the Music Together Demonstrations led by early childhood education specialist Cheryl Lev, families will sing, move and play children friendly instruments together. Music Together is a national award-winning parent-child music and movement program. The demonstration will be followed by six-week sessions that begin January 19 or January 22.

The workshop is free and pre-registration is required. To register for a community workshop call (310) 317-1364. For more information about the instructors, class topics and materials visit MalibuCity.org/WinterWorkshops or call (310) 456-2489, ext. 239.

FAMILY SPANISH IMMERSION

The City of Malibu Community Services Department will be hosting a Family Spanish Immersion Workshop at Malibu Bluffs Park (24250 PCH) on Tuesday, January 16 at 11 a.m.

The Department offers a variety of Creative, Health & Wellness, and Informative Workshops to the community. The Family Spanish Immersion workshop, led by Un, Dos, Tres, offers parents and children the chance to experience the Spanish language and culture by engaging in a full-immersion workshop that incorporates early childhood development. The instructor will provide an interactive and entertaining environment that will

SEE MALIBU PAGE 7

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MALIBU

FROM PAGE 5

allow families to embark on a wonderful language adventure. The demonstration will be followed by a 6-week session beginning January 23.

The workshop is free, but pre-registration is required. To register for a community workshop, call (310) 317-1364. For more information about the instructors, class topics and materials visit MalibuCity.org/WinterWorkshops or call (310) 456-2489, ext. 239.

EMERGING FROM THE SLUSH: HOW TO GET YOUR SHORT STORY PUBLISHED

The City of Malibu Community Services Department will be hosting "Emerging from the Slush: How to Get your Short Story Published," a community workshop, on Wednesday, January 24 at 10 a.m. at Malibu Bluffs Park (24250 PCH).

The Department offers Creative, Health & Wellness, and Informative Workshops to the community. In this workshop led Robert Kerbeck, participants will learn the basics of writing a short story and how to get it published. The workshop will be followed by a five-week session beginning January 31.

The workshop is free, but pre-registration is required. To register for a community workshop, call (310) 317-1364. For more information about the instructors, class topics and materials visit MalibuCity.org/WinterWorkshops or call (310) 456-2489, ext. 239.

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP: INDIAN VEGETARIAN COOKING

The City of Malibu Community Services Department will be hosting an Indian Vegetarian Cooking workshop on Friday, January 26 at 3 p.m. at City Hall (23825 Stuart Ranch Road).

The Department offers Creative, Health & Wellness, and Informative Workshops to the community. In the Indian Vegetarian Cooking workshop led by Farhana Sahibzada, participants will discover the secrets of making flavorful Indian vegetarian recipes. During the workshop, students will learn the proper use of spice and herbs to create flavorful dishes that will please everyone. Some class supplies are courtesy of Vintage Grocers.

The workshop is $10 per person and pre-registration is required. To register for a community workshop, call (310) 317-1364. For more information about the instructors, class topics and materials visit MalibuCity.org/WinterWorkshops or call (310) 456-2489, ext. 239.

SUBMITTED BY MATT MYERHOFF, MALIBU MEDIA INFORMATION OFFICER

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DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 339 Calls For Service On Dec. 17.

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

Petty theft 1600 block 11th 12:25 a.m.
Burglary 1500 block 2nd 12:37 a.m.
Party complaint 200 block 21st Pl 12:54 a.m.
Party complaint 1300 block Stanford 1:10 a.m.
Battery 1100 block 5th 1:14 a.m.
Person with a gun 14th / Wilshire 1:31 a.m.
Traffic collision Lincoln / Olympic 2:03 a.m.
Petty theft 1600 block 11th 2:11 a.m.
Party complaint 1400 block Euclid 3:05 a.m.
Loud music 900 block 7th 3:09 a.m.
Battery 1400 block Franklin 3:16 a.m.
Shots fired 2200 block Oak 4:40 a.m.
Hit and run PCH / California Incline 5:14 a.m.
Encampment 1700 block the beach 6:43 a.m.
Prowler 1000 block PCH 6:48 a.m.
Burglary 2700 block Wilshire 8:01 a.m.
Petty theft 200 block Palisades Beach 8:08 a.m.
Bike theft 700 block Pier 8:10 a.m.
Auto burglary 1800 block 10th 8:18 a.m.
Encampment 1700 block 9th 9:43 a.m.
Petty theft 400 block Wilshire 9:43 a.m.
Encampment 1300 block 2nd 9:44 a.m.
Petty theft 1100 block 3rd 10:26 a.m.
Encampment 2800 block Olympic 11:06 a.m.
Petty theft 900 block 2nd 11:11 a.m.
Traffic collision 26th / Marguerita 11:28 a.m.
Petty theft 900 block 2nd 12:19 p.m.
Burglary 1800 block 9th 1:27 p.m.
Fight 1500 block Palisades Park 1:41 p.m.
Encampment 2600 block Barnard 1:53 p.m.
Auto burglary 1100 block 3rd 2:17 p.m.
Auto burglary 1100 block 4th 2:20 p.m.
Auto burglary 1100 block 4th 2:32 p.m.
Theft recyclables 300 block 10th 3:05 p.m.
Battery 1200 block the beach 3:20 p.m.
Strongarm robbery 26th / Broadway 3:21 p.m.
Petty theft 300 block Santa Monica Pl 3:58 p.m.
Battery 2000 block Virginia 3:59 p.m.
Encampment 1600 block the beach 4:02 p.m.
Traffic collision 26th / Georgina 4:05 p.m.
Injured person 2600 block Ocean Front Walk 4:05 p.m.
Encampment 1600 block the beach 4:07 p.m.
Drunk driving 1100 block 6th 5:16 p.m.
Death 300 block 15th 5:18 p.m.
Burglary 2500 block 10th 5:48 p.m.
Missing person 1800 block 17th 6:06 p.m.
Living in a vehicle 700 block Ashland 6:16 p.m.
Battery Ocean / Olympic 6:23 p.m.
Petty theft Lincoln / Broadway 6:40 p.m.
Identity theft 6th / Wilshire 6:45 p.m.
Petty theft 700 block Broadway 7:25 p.m.
Indecent exposure 200 block Wilshire 7:30 p.m.
Auto burglary 1400 block 2nd 7:44 p.m.
Battery 1100 block Pico 7:51 p.m.
Battery 1400 block Lincoln 8:02 p.m.
Petty theft 700 block Broadway 9:40 p.m.
Drunk driving 2500 block Kansas 9:44 p.m.
Drunk driving 2800 block Exposition 9:49 p.m.
Encampment 1400 block 2nd 10:55 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 28 Calls For Service On Dec. 17.

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

EMS 2100 block Ocean 12:08 a.m.
Automatic alarm 400 block Santa Monica 1:28 a.m.
EMS 2000 block 20th 1:45 a.m.
Traffic collision with injury Lincoln / Olympic 2:09 a.m.
EMS 2100 block Ashland 2:21 a.m.
EMS 3000 block 3rd 2:41 a.m.
EMS 200 block Santa Monica 3:14 a.m.
EMS 1300 block 15th 5:16 a.m.
EMS 800 block 20th 5:28 a.m.
EMS 2000 block Arizona 6:20 a.m.
EMS 300 block Pico 6:59 a.m.
EMS 900 block 16th 10:17 a.m.
EMS 500 block Colorado 11:44 a.m.
Wires down 1900 block Pico 12:23 p.m.
EMS 1700 block 17th 1:21 p.m.
EMS 900 block 3rd 1:31 p.m.
EMS 300 block Olympic 1:43 p.m.
EMS 1100 block 3rd 1:45 p.m.
Elevator rescue 2000 block Olympic 3:23 p.m.
Traffic collision with injury 26th / Georgina 4:05 p.m
EMS 300 block 15th 5:09 p.m.
EMS 2200 block Colorado 6:13 p.m.
EMS Ocean / Colorado 6:24 p.m.
EMS 300 block 19th 6:25 p.m.
Miscellaneous outside fire Euclid / Wilshire 9:21 p.m.
EMS 900 block Montana 9:49 p.m.
EMS 800 block 20th 10:11 p.m.





CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Crime Watch is culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department.

These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ON DECEMBER 6 AT ABOUT 6:36 A.M.

Officers responded to the 1300 block of 5th Street regarding a business with a broken window and a subject sleeping inside the location. Officers arrived and noticed the right front glass door was shattered. Officers located a subject sleeping on a couch next to the front door. Officers reviewed the surveillance video and could see when the suspect approached the front door. The suspect began banging on the door until it shattered. The suspect walked into the business and fell asleep on a couch. The suspect was taken into custody. Justin Talmage Pachoco 32, from Costa Mesa, was arrested for vandalism. Bail was set at $20,000.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Hypopressive Hype

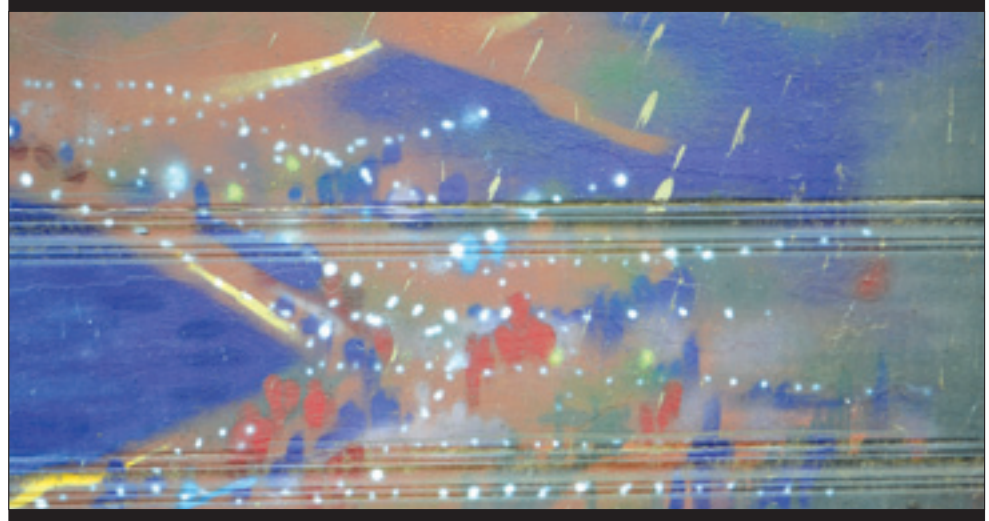
■ Hypopressive exercise, also known as hypopressive abdominal gymnastics, is a relatively new type of exercise touted as a way for women to manage leaky bladders or prolapsed wombs. It's all about intensely activating postural muscles while controlling breathing.

■ It's also very popular, promoted by physical therapists, athletic coaches and others as a way to strengthen muscles and remedy ailments. That promotion, however, comes with no actual evidence of efficacy. In a recent editorial in the British Journal of Sports Medicine, editors say there have been no studies to show its series of deep breaths and abdominal muscle contractions provide specific benefits.

■ On the other hand, a similar technique — pelvic floor muscle training developed by Arnold Kegel — has been shown to have benefits for urinary incontinence and prolapsed wombs.

MYSTERY PHOTO

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The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

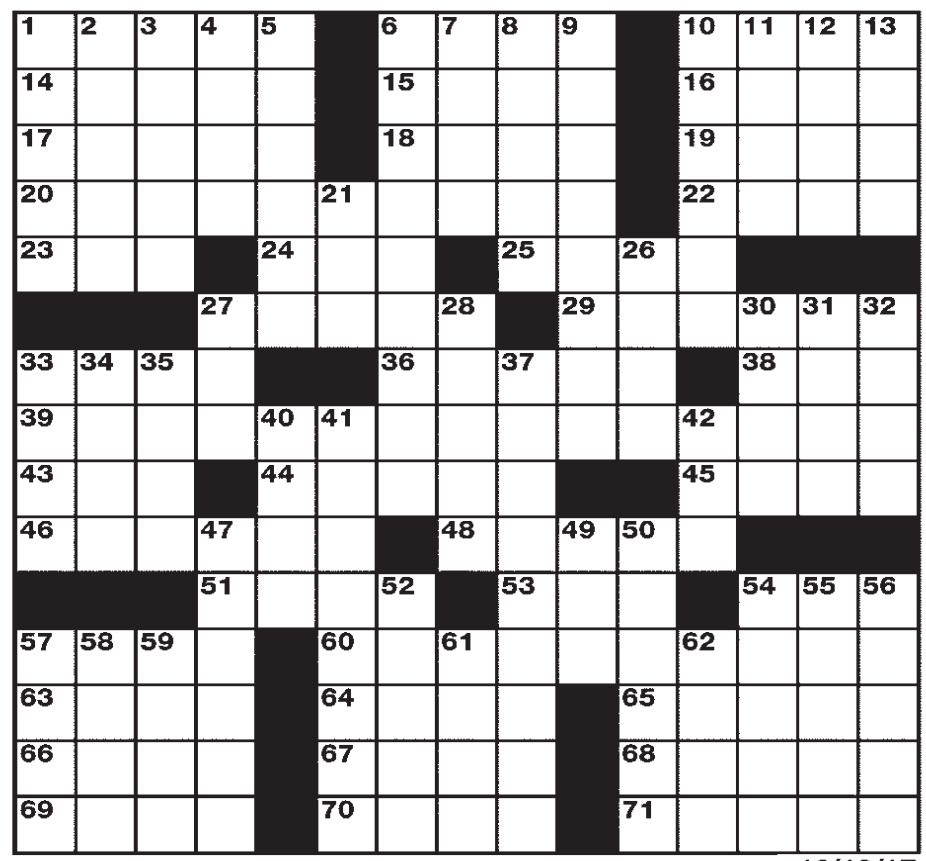
4		2		8	9		1	
		9				4		5
				1	4	8		
	5		7				6	
		3				1		
	6				3		5	
		8	9	6				
5		4				7		
	9		4	7		5		2

Newsday Crossword

TIMELY CHEER by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Boxing venue
6 Quite pleased
10 Baby's bed
14 Of the moon
15 Shoestring
16 Make over
17 Early afternoon hr.
18 Author unknown: Abbr.
19 "Once __ a time . . ."
20 People with deeds to dwellings
22 Castaway's home
23 __ day now (pretty soon)
24 Camcorder button
25 Current events
27 Computer storage measures
29 Spanish party
33 Pottery material
36 Actor Matt
38 Heavy weight
39 Group that runs an inn
43 Solid __ rock
44 Short golf strokes
45 Is indebted to
46 Puts a new price on
48 "All kidding __ . . ."
51 Flying mammals
53 Before, in poetry
54 Resort with hot springs
57 Walks away
60 Magician's word
63 Anger
64 "Sorry to hear that"
65 Plain to see
66 Laundry appliance
67 Bouquet holder
68 Sight or hearing
69 Soft "Hey, you!"
70 Historical periods
71 Walk inside

DOWN
1 Honolulu greeting
2 Talk too much
3 Foe
4 Back of the neck
5 National Guard outpost
6 Examined quickly
7 Narrow street
8 Squirrel snack
9 Major visibility problem for drivers
10 Ocean liner vacation
11 Salespeople, for short
12 Revered star
13 Dog biscuit shape, often
21 Moisten
26 Champagne or Chablis
27 Parting word
28 Speaker of the cheer in question
30 Soup's thicker relative
31 Voicemail sound
32 Bugs in colonies
33 Burn a bit
34 Come in second
35 Rat-__ (knocking sound)
37 Some rubdown experts
40 Women's links org.
41 Requires
42 "Miney" follower
47 Not in class
49 Taxing org.
50 Oust from power
52 Sun-powered
54 Bloodhound's trail
55 Handbag
56 Autumn flower
57 Hold firmly
58 Rowboat propellers
59 Swelled heads
61 Hernando's home
62 Baking appliance



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TRANSPORTATION TUESDAYS

Math + Transportation = New Teaching Materials

This week, the City of Santa Monica's Safe Routes to School program launched a new approach to educating elementary school students about walking, biking, skating, scootering, and riding transit with a booklet titled Math in My World. The booklet is full of math problem sets teaching California Common Core standards via word problems based in a world that students recognize as their home.

Research shows that students learn at a much faster rate when skills are taught through narratives. So instead of showing a six-year-old the somewhat-abstract idea that 2+1=3, they learn that Grace has 2 scooters and Sam has 1 scooter and together they have 3.



Courtesy photo

MATH: Ms. Meshel's 1st Grade Class received bicycle helmets for being the first students to try Math in My World!

By creating a learning environment for students to gain critical math skills while considering various means of moving around Santa Monica, kids are getting an early exposure to what it means to live in a healthy, active city where they can have fun on their bicycles and scooters, be kind to the environment, and excel in school.

The teachers are loving it too. All Math in My World workbooks are available at no cost to teachers and directly teach California Common Core. As a reward to the most excited teachers, the first classes to use the booklets are receiving bicycle helmets, keychains, or crazy socks. To date, 434 students in 16 classes have receive booklets and will be using them throughout the year.

To download Math in My World and learn more, visit www.santamonicasaferoutes.org.

Brought to you by the City of Santa Monica Mobility Division

GoSaMo

#GoSaMo smgov.net/GoSaMo

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 19)

In the next 10 weeks, luck, attitude and ability intersect in the perfect convergence to bring you money. Your excitement over an idea will be the defining factor – your idea of another person, or of the future, or of humanity in general. What/whom you take care of will reward you enormously in the spring. Aquarius and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 15, 5, 22, 28 and 31.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
It's all temporary – the mood, the circumstance, the things you want out of this... and yet, it matters. You'll feel as though you're defining yourself with the action you take.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
You'll be looking for ways to do more and need less and you'll find them. There's magic in this pursuit. It will also be quite addicting, especially in the case of doing things for others.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
You've often had the impression that the game is rigged. Today that suspicion comes sneaking around again, although this time it seems to be rigged in your favor... so is that going to be a problem?

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
Whether it's emotional or actual baggage, you'll be less effective trying to dead lift it on your own. You can handle much more weight with a little strategy. Can it be leveraged? Can it be rolled?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
An ordeal can be an adventure and an adventure can be an ordeal, and today they'll be one and the same, depending on how you look at this. It's easier to approach it brightly when there's someone to impress.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Trial and error is the only way to learn this complex thing you've taken on. Sure, the theoretical knowledge will help, but it can only take you so far. You'll advance through your mistakes. Mastery will be eventual and inevitable.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
You're great at slipping into the mindset that will serve the moment best. This is a talent in and of itself – a sign of emotional genius really – and you'll be able to trade on it for some nice dividends today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
It's not important that they know everything you mean. In fact, it's better that they don't. As people fill in the blanks with their own story, they connect with you. Mysteries are opportunities. Voids are invitations.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
What stands alone? Nothing and no one. Life here is about groups. Organisms, tribes, cultures... from bacteria to trees to animals and people, it's all working together. As much as you'd like that not to be true today, it still is.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
There's not one bad thing on your to-do list today. You could potentially take pleasure in every single activity. The thing is, there are so many of them, and most of them rather pressing. You can do this!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Your day-to-day is slowly morphing into a different pattern. Your style is changing, too. But your values will stay the same. Like a developing child, you will fulfill the potential of what you always were.

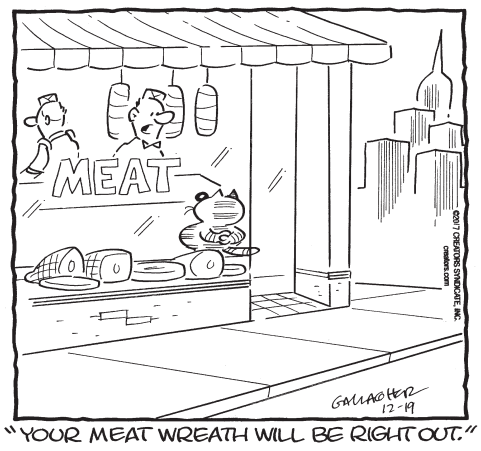
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Kindness and self-respect are at the center of your decision to step up and own your actions when they're great and when they're not. We're all just learning and in need of both encouragement and correction.

Saturn Change

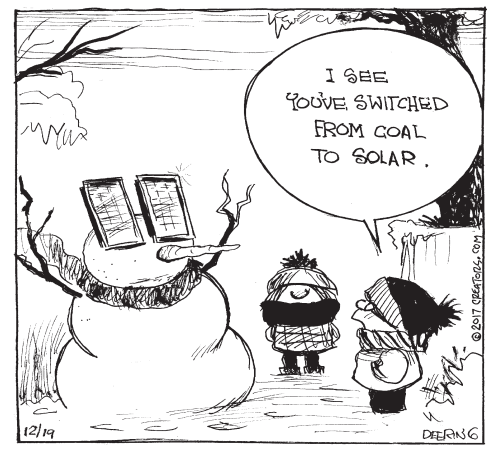
Part of being confident is knowing that you are protected if things don't go the way you anticipate or desire. The Saturn change prompts a spirit of readiness. Keep in mind that there are many means of protection that do not require strength. Distance is a defense. So is friendliness. So is cuteness. Think outside the box on the matter.

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smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

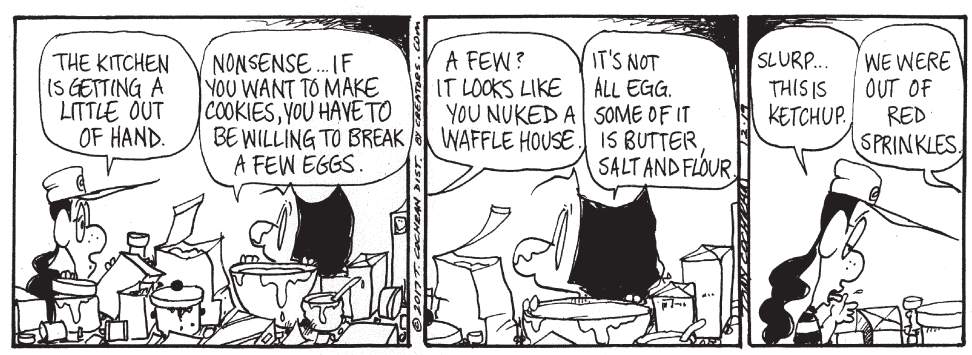
Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



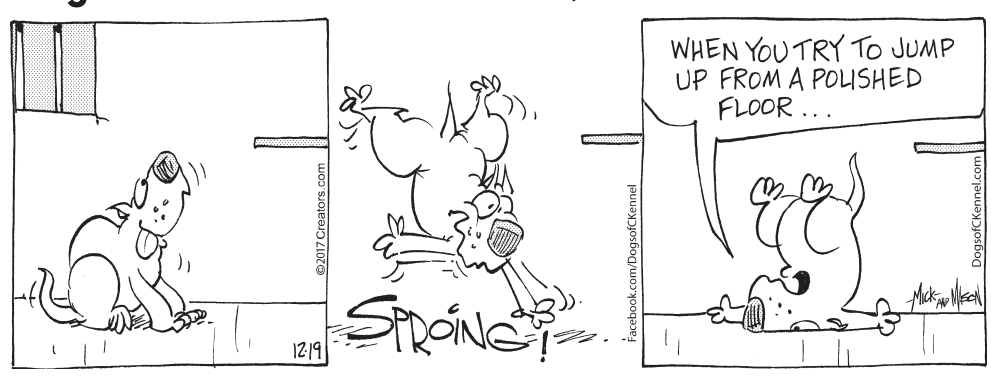
Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



Agnes
By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel
By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill
By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Los Angeles deputies aim to quell tide of human trafficking

MICHAEL BALSAMO
Associated Press

Los Angeles County is employing a unique approach to get women out of the sex trade.

The county is the nation's most populous with more than 10 million residents and it's widely regarded as the U.S. epicenter for human trafficking, mostly women forced into prostitution.

The program employed by the sheriff's department aims to get handcuffs on the traffickers and the men who pay for sex while offering services to sex workers who often are vulnerable children and young adults.

The technique was on display recently in Compton. Police arrested 17 men who solicited undercover deputies and took seven women and a 13-year-old girl who were being trafficked to a processing center where counselors met them.

The women shared intimate details about their lives and the counselors used the information to assist with emergency housing and social services. Attorneys were on hand to help assess their legal needs, which can include domestic violence, child custody issues and discussing whether prior convictions could be expunged.

The sheriff's department partners with nonprofit groups, including The Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking, whose counselors are embedded with deputies throughout the year and go out on sting operations to help rescue sex workers.

Becca Channel, the group's human trafficking task force coordinator, said the array of immediate help provides the foundation that can lead to women starting new lives. Still, not all are interested.

"Sometimes they want services and sometimes they just tell us to go away," said Sarah Leddy, one of the group's attorneys.

The teenagers who end up involved in prostitution typically are runaways from unstable homes or foster homes where they experienced violence or sexual abuse. Pimps often portray themselves as a father figure or a boyfriend for young girls, promising them money and a glamorous lifestyle.

That is hardly ever the case.

"Their whole life is usually one of neglect and abuse leading up to this point and by us just arresting them they are back out the next day and doing the same thing," said Capt. Chris Marks, commander of the sheriff's department's Human Trafficking Bureau. "We're not looking to prosecute these girls as sex workers. We want them off the street."

Statistics compiled by the National Human Trafficking Hotline show California leads the country in reports of sex trafficking.

"I think every big city is a hotbed for this, but a lot of it starts in LA and moves eastward," said sheriff's Lt. Barry Hall.

He led the recent sting operation, which had its first catch four minutes after an undercover deputy began pacing on a street corner. A man bluntly propositioned her.

"You gotta pay for that," she replied, telling the man it would be $40.

"Will you do a good job?" he asked.

After he agreed to meet her around the corner and turned down an alleyway, his car was surrounded by deputies and he was put in handcuffs.

"We go to get the girls who are being exploited, go after the guys who are exploiting them and try to impact the demand," Hall said. "If there's no one out there buying them there'll be no one selling and that's why we want to get as many guys in custody as we can."

MALLS

FROM PAGE 1

make room for office space, hotels and apartments.

The trend has been gaining traction as the companies that operate malls look for ways to keep people coming in at a time when Macy's, Sears and other big department store chains have shuttered hundreds of stores and consumers increasingly opt to shop online.

"The mix of uses at our malls is changing," said Stephen Lebovitz, CEO of mall owner CBL Properties. "It's becoming less apparel and more dining, more entertainment, more service, more fitness, wellness — the types of categories that are more popular."

CBL, which owns and manages 119 properties, including malls, outlets and open-air retail centers, has been adding more non-retail tenants after a wave of retailer bankruptcies and store closures in 2015 and this year, including at Gymboree, Payless ShoeSource and The Limited.

At its CoolSprings Galleria mall in a suburb of Nashville, CBL has put in a bowling alley and an indoor trampoline park, among other attractions. Lebovitz said the company is also trying to add dine-in movie theaters with reclining seats. "It's a nicer, more experience-focused type of use."

Carving out space for movie theaters, videogame arcades and food courts isn't a new strategy. What's noteworthy is the degree to which mall owners are now counting on tenants that sell experiences, rather than physical goods. The share of space occupied by non-retail tenants at regional shopping malls reached nearly 13 percent last year, according to commercial real estate tracker CoStar. It was 10.5 percent in 2012.

Since 2014, about 90 large U.S. malls have invested more than $8 billion in major renovations, according to a study by commercial real estate firm JLL. Some 41 percent of the malls in the study spruced up their food and beverage offerings with an emphasis on restaurants that serve more varied fare and, in some cases, alcohol.

"It was not that long ago that the food offerings in the traditional food court at shopping centers in the '80s and '90s were really more about just giving you something to eat while you shop," said James Cook, director of retail research at JLL. "Now the food and beverage is part of the attraction."

Westfield's Century City mall in Los Angeles has spent $1 billion to add more than 400,000 square feet of retail space. The renovation included a swanky outdoor dining plaza with gourmet restaurants and cafes. It also added the first Eataly on the West Coast. The Italian food market, which houses a variety of restaurants, drew an average of 3,600 people a day during its opening weekend.

The mall features a 15-screen movie theater, grocery store, fitness clubs and a health clinic. Westfield also installed an events and entertainment space. Pop bands Fitz & the Tantrums and DNCE took the stage at the mall's reopening gala in October, and "The Nutcracker" ballet played more recently.

Among the malls in the JLL study that improved their food and beverage options, more than half also invested in adding entertainment options.

The Kingston Collection in Kingston, Massachusetts, added a 36,000-square-foot bowling alley a year ago. Mall shoppers can also go there to play laser tag, try out summersault basketball dunks at an indoor trampoline park or race go-karts.

Shoppers who haven't been inside a mall since the last round of holiday shopping may notice fewer department stores and clothing chains. Among the retail chains that announced store closures this year are RadioShack, Payless, Wet Seal, J.C. Penney, Kmart, Guess, Macy's and Sears.

Retailers have been generally closing weaker locations, although some companies such as Macy's are shuttering stores that are too close to their other locations, according to CoStar data. And the majority of stores that Sears, Macy's, J.C. Penney and Kmart closed were located in middle-range or lower-tier malls that typically generate less money per square foot than the most upscale malls.

The closures are one reason mall owners are increasingly making room for other types of tenants, including hotels, apartments and grocery stores, said Mizuho analyst Haendel St. Juste.

"It's something that some have done for a while, some have been quietly doing for the past several years, but it's just now that everyone is piling on clearly because of the wave of retail store closures and anti-retail sentiment," he said. "It's a trend you'll see continue to evolve, but it's not without risk and not everyone is going to be able to pull it off."

Indeed, some malls have become something else entirely. Highland Mall in Austin, Texas, closed its doors in 2015 after it began to lose tenants as patrons increasingly shopped at a newer mall nearby. Highland is now a campus of Austin Community College, which is redeveloping the property.

Looking ahead, malls will increasingly incorporate housing and work spaces with retail. About 30 percent of the malls in the JLL study were adding non-retail space. Among those, about 40 percent were adding apartments. Thirty-three percent were adding hotels, while about 30 percent put in space for offices.

A focus on blending living, working and retail space is driving Westfield's planned redevelopment of the Promenade mall in the Los Angeles suburb of Woodland Hills. The project will feature more than 1,400 apartments, office space and retail. Westfield is also building a 23-story luxury tower in San Diego that will be part of a $600 million development that includes residential and retail space.

Cook calls it the return of a new urbanism, with more of a live-work-and-play atmosphere. "More apartments, more office space, more creative office space," Cook said. "All of that has a place in the shopping center of the future."

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