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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

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Hanukkah comes to Santa Monica with traditional menorah lightings



Courtesy Photo

HANUKKAH: The mobile menorah will mark the end of the holiday season with a sunset ceremony on the Pier.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Santa Monica's holiday celebrations are going strong this week with the Hanukkah season powering festivities into the new year.

While Dec. 25 may be the culmination of the Christmas season, this year it's also the start of Hanukkah and the Festival of Lights will run through Jan. 2.

Hanukkah marks a miracle experienced by early Jews during conflict with the Greeks. When Jewish practices were outlawed and temples desecrated, a small group of Jews led by Judah Maccabee revolted against this religious persecution. After reclaiming Jerusalem they only had enough oil to light the menorah for one day. However, the oil burned for eight days until and the miracle inspired the eight-day celebration of Hanukkah, also known as the Festival of Lights.

This year's celebration comes as controversy and conflict persist following the Oct. 7, 2023 attacks in Israel. The ongoing war has filtered into discussion far beyond its borders, influencing the recent U.S. Presidential election and prompting increased concern among locals on both sides of the issue.

Rabbi Eli Levitansky with Chabad in S. Monica said the holiday's origins in conflict continue

SEE **HANUKKAH** PAGE 5

Parents' suit against Snap, Inc. can now move to trial

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

A local case with massive implications for the social media world has been allowed to move to trial.

On Dec. 5, the State of California Second Appellate District denied a petition for writ of mandate from Snap, Inc. in a lawsuit filed in October of 2022. The suit, Neville et al v. Snap, Inc. was filed by Social Media Victims Law Center and C.A. Goldberg, PLLC, on behalf of families that had children die after taking substances sold by drug sellers operating on Snap, Inc.'s platform, Snapchat.

"65 families get to go to trial against Snap, Inc. in California Superior Court for the death of

SEE **LAWSUIT** PAGE 8

Future housing projects in non-residential zones to be subject to Administrative Approval

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

In an attempt to reduce the time and cost associated with developing new housing in the City, Councilmembers voted to direct the City to return with an ordinance that allows all housing projects proposed in all non-

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 11



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BID NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT SMMUSD invites sealed proposals for: RFP #25.02 – Districtwide Fleet Vehicles. All proposals must be electronically submitted via Secure Bids at https://colbisecurebids.com/o/smmusd/2502 on or before: **Thursday, January 16, 2024 2:00 P.M.** RFP forms and specifications may be obtained in the link provided within this notice.

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College protests swept across California last year. Why have they stopped?



Photo by Xinhua via Getty Images

PROTESTS: A pro-Palestinian protester confronts police officers outside Dodd Hall at the UCLA campus in Los Angeles on June 10, 2024.

BY JUNE HSU AND LIZZY RAGER

In stark contrast to the spring when hundreds of students were arrested and suspended for violating campus policies, far fewer participated in protests this fall. Campuses had warned students they would be enforcing these policies much more strictly than they had in the spring when rallies and pro-Palestinian encampments protesting the Israel-Hamas war grew unchecked.

As protests emerged this semester, campus police departments quashed any that broke the rules. In all, at least six students have been arrested and 12 have been suspended at universities around the state.

Throughout October, which marked one year since the start of the Israel-Hamas war, campuses reacted swiftly to violations of protest rules — known on campuses as time, place and manner policies.

While there have been some rallies and protests, no campus has seen the mass demonstrations, or encampments, that swept across California campuses last spring. That's when, according to a CalMatters analysis, around 560 people, largely students and faculty, faced discipline or arrests. Some student protestors erected tents and other structures that remained on campus for several days or, in some cases, multiple weeks before universities intervened. In light of legal actions and pressure from lawmakers, campus administrators are tightening enforcement.

"I think students are still definitely riled up and ready to have their voice heard," said Aditi Hariharan, president of the University of California Student Association. "Whenever they take steps to share their voice, I think the administration takes an opposing step and is trying to push them back."

> "I think students are still definitely riled up and ready to have their voice heard
> - Aditi Hariharan, president of the University of California Student Association

Meanwhile, some students and faculty are still facing charges related to last academic year's demonstrations. And now some who were arrested are suing their campuses.

NEW YEAR BRINGS EMPHASIS ON ENFORCING PROTEST POLICIES

While many of today's protest policies were in place prior to last spring, campus administrators showed discretion in the past over when or whether to respond.

Universities' varied approaches to dealing

SEE **PROTEST** PAGE 7

Advocates train immigrants to 'prepare to stay' in the US under Trump

Winston Leiva rattles off a long list of things immigrants should do to protect themselves against President-elect Donald Trump's promise to conduct mass deportations when he returns to the White House.

Make a plan for someone to care for your children if you are arrested. Don't open the door unless authorities slip a signed judicial warrant under it. And above all, exercise your right to remain silent.

"We already know this administration," Leiva told participants of a bilingual workshop in Los Angeles for immigrants who want to stay in the United States. "The truth is we don't know to what extent it will affect us."

The Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights meeting, in a conference room decorated with a colorful mural of civil rights icons and a large American flag, is one of many taking place nationwide as immigrant advocates steel themselves for Trump's second term. It's déjà vu for those who sprung to action during Trump's first four years, when he changed the nation's immigration system arguably more than any other U.S. president.

Advocacy groups from Utah to Massachusetts have hosted know-your-rights trainings to teach immigrants how to protect themselves, their friends and families from Trump's promise to start deportations on his first day back in office. The efforts are underway in immigrant-friendly states including California and Illinois — which both enacted protections for immigrants in response to Trump's focus on enforcement during his first administration — and those with more stringent laws affecting immigrants such as Florida.

Connecticut Students for a Dream, an advocacy group for undocumented youth, recently held a session in the city of Danbury, which is home to immigrants from Ecuador, the Dominican Republic and elsewhere. Organizers advised that you don't have to speak with immigration agents if they knock on your door, and warned in a Facebook post: "If you choose to speak, remember not to lie."

Advocates are also urging those who are eligible to complete applications for U.S. citizenship or other immigration benefits before next year, aiming to avoid potentially lengthy wait times under an incoming administration that seems focused on immigration enforcement rather than integration.

The Florida Immigrant Coalition is offering free clinics to help thousands of immigrants who may have a pathway to a legal status and can't afford a lawyer. Inside an already busy immigration court in Chicago, National Immigrant Justice Center attorneys who help run a legal help desk said they are trying to resolve as many cases as possible before Trump takes office.

"It feels a little different because we have a clear expectation of what is coming," said Lisa Koop, the Center's national director of legal services. "It is demoralizing that the electorate lived through what happened last time and decided to go back to it."

The Trump campaign has said the president-elect will start the largest deportation program in U.S. history during his second administration, but questions remain about how he will find and detain people.

Fear is widespread in immigrant communities. Advocates say they're fielding calls from immigrants with and without legal status and even from naturalized U.S. citizens worried about how the administration could affect them and their families — especially the American-born children of parents who wind up deported. Advocates are urging families to draft legal papers in case this happens.

"We know that separation is an issue, and we want to make sure that families are prepared for who takes care of their children, who takes care of their property," said Renata Bozzetto, deputy director at the Florida Immigrant Coalition.

In New Haven, Connecticut, immigrant advocates have been holding sessions in high schools.

"That's because they've reached out to us to request it," said Rachel Doft, director of legal services for Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services. "A lot of kids have questions, and especially kids in mixed-status families. They're really afraid of (Trump's deportation plan) and want to understand their rights."

In Chicago, immigration attorney Fiona McEntee said advocates learned a lot during Trump's prior administration, including better ways to organize. She was among hundreds of lawyers who provided free legal services to immigrants at O'Hare International Airport in January 2017, after Trump temporarily banned refugees and citizens from seven Muslim-majority countries from entering the U.S.

"As much as we didn't want to be here again, we're more experienced," McEntee said. "We are different immigration lawyers than we were eight years ago."

In Los Angeles, Julie Gomez, 50, sat and listened attentively to the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights workshop, filming key snippets on her cellphone. She came with an Armenian community member who needs help, and Gomez wants to learn and prepare so she can spread the word to others in her Guatemalan community. While she said she doesn't have reason to worry about Trump's immigration proposals, she knows many people who do.

"They're obviously worried because they could be deported and what would happen to their children?" Gomez said. "Confused, and worried."

Leiva, who manages community education programs at CHIRLA, spent more than an hour spelling out what immigrants should and shouldn't do if contacted by federal authorities. He said they should put all their important documents in one place and save money in case they need a lawyer. And if they are detained by authorities, Leiva said they should provide their name and birthdate — but nothing more — so relatives can look them up in an immigration detention database.

"Do not make their job easy," Leiva told the group. "They have a job. You have a right."

AMY TAXIN and SOPHIA TAREEN Associated Press. Tareen reported from Chicago. Associated Press writers Gisela Salomon in Miami and Susan Haigh in Hartford, Connecticut, contributed.



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **57.4**

MONDAY — *FAIR*
SURF: Waist to shoulder 3-4FT+
Looking like a fun day of waves for the winter focal points and size should spread around the region a little better than Sunday. Potential is there for the wind to stay down most of the day.

TUESDAY — *FAIR TO GOOD*
SURF: Chest to head 4-5FT
Another day to watch with more WNW swell moving in. Wind looks light in the AM but may rise up in the afternoon. Outlook is a little dicey, stay tuned.

Weather

Monday: Patchy fog before 10am. Otherwise, cloudy, with a high near 64.
Monday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52.
Tuesday: A chance of rain after 10am. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 61.
Tuesday Night: A chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 50.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)	High/Low
2024/12/23	Mon	04:12 AM	4.38		H
2024/12/23	Mon	10:59 AM	2.01		L
2024/12/23	Mon	4:01 PM	2.98		H
2024/12/23	Mon	9:42 PM	1.67		L
2024/12/24	Tue	04:46 AM	4.66		H
2024/12/24	Tue	11:57 AM	1.38		L
2024/12/24	Tue	5:37 PM	2.90		H
2024/12/24	Tue	10:25 PM	2.00		L
2024/12/25	Wed	05:18 AM	4.95		H
2024/12/25	Wed	12:40 PM	0.78		L
2024/12/25	Wed	6:53 PM	3.00		H
2024/12/25	Wed	11:05 PM	2.24		L
2024/12/26	Thu	05:49 AM	5.25		H
2024/12/26	Thu	1:17 PM	0.23		L
2024/12/26	Thu	7:45 PM	3.16		H
2024/12/26	Thu	11:44 PM	2.39		L
2024/12/27	Fri	06:21 AM	5.54		H
2024/12/27	Fri	1:50 PM	-0.23		L
2024/12/27	Fri	8:24 PM	3.30		H
2024/12/28	Sat	12:23 AM	2.46		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: 12/18
6 15 18 33 49
Power#: 7
Jackpot: 88 M

Fantasy 5 — Draw Date: 12/19
1 11 14 32 39

Mega Millions — Draw Date: 12/17
56 66 67 68 69
Mega#: 18
Jackpot: 825 M

Daily 3 — Draw Date: 12/19
EVENING: 6 2 8
Draw Date: 12/19
MIDDAY: 5 5 6

SuperLotto Plus — Draw Date: 12/18
4 5 17 19 47
Mega#: 6
Jackpot: 9 M

Daily Derby — Draw Date: 12/19
1st: 04 - Big Ben
2nd: 11 - Money Bags
3rd: 05 - California Classic
Race Time: 1:40.91

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Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24SMCP00657 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Krysten Clark for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Krysten Clark with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Krysten Clark to Kristen Clark . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 01/31 /2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: - The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1725 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90401 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24VECP00578 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Portia Martine Berman for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Portia Martine Berman with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Portia Martine Berman to Portia Martine . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 01/23 /2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: B Room: 530 The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 6230 Sylmar Ave Van Nuys, Ca 91401 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2024255282 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 12/17/24The following person(s) is (are) doing business as LHOOQ Design 1324 14th St Apt 10 Santa Monica, CA 90404. Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Seth Ellsworth 324 14th St Apt 10 Santa Monica, CA 90404 If corporation or LLC- Print State of CA This is Business is Conducted: An Individual . The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. Registrant /Corp/ LLC Name Seth Ellsworth Title: Owner Seth Ellsworth . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 08/15/2024NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE County CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code).

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Malibu

City of Malibu Prioritizes Public Safety Along PCH, Urges Balanced Approach to Safety and Access

Malibu officials have said the City of Malibu remains unwavering in its commitment to enhancing safety along Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) while ensuring public access to the area's natural beauty and recreational opportunities. The City supports the ongoing efforts by Caltrans to address critical safety concerns but expresses deep concern over recent comments made at a Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy & Advisory Committee Meeting that appear to prioritize public access over public safety.

"Public access and public safety are not mutually exclusive. Both are critical and must be addressed with equal importance," said Mayor Doug Stewart. "We cannot sacrifice lives for access. The City fully supports Caltrans' efforts to create a safer, more sustainable PCH for everyone—residents, visitors, cyclists, and pedestrians alike."

The call for increased safety comes in the wake of the tragic deaths of four Pepperdine University students and alarming statistics. According to Caltrans, over the last 15 years, 61 fatalities have occurred along the 21-mile stretch of PCH. In 2023 alone, there were 220 crashes on PCH in Malibu, including 93 involving injuries and three that killed seven people. In response, Caltrans has proposed significant safety improvements to PCH, including:

Relocation of On-Street Parking in Key Areas: This measure aims to reduce pedestrians crossing the highway at non-designated locations, a behavior that increases the risk of severe accidents.

Creating Bike Lanes: New bike lanes will offer pedestrians a safer path while reducing conflicts between vehicles, cyclists, and pedestrians.

The proposed improvements preserve parking on the side of the highway with the highest demand, typically the beach side, while relocating parking where it creates safety risks.

BALANCING SAFETY AND ACCESS

The City acknowledges the Coastal Commission's and MRCA's goals regarding parking replacement and supports a balanced solution that prioritizes safety. To offset the removal of certain on-street parking spaces, Caltrans' plan proposes innovative solutions, including:

Reverse-In Angled Parking: This configuration doubles parking capacity compared to parallel parking, addressing high-demand areas such as Zuma Beach, Nicholas Canyon Beach, and the Malibu Pier.

Beach-Side Parking Gains: Parking will be permitted in areas currently restricted, particularly in stretches where demand is higher.

Bicycle Access: High-quality bike lanes and increased bicycle parking will promote safer, sustainable access to beaches and trails.

SAFETY AS THE FOREMOST PRIORITY

The proposed changes reflect a thoughtful approach that balances public safety with public access. Malibu emphasizes that parking demand should never come at the expense of lives. Caltrans' Pacific Coast Highway Master Plan Feasibility Study demonstrates a clear commitment to addressing these dual priorities, with solutions that include:

Net Parking Gains: While approximately 1,535 spaces would be relocated, approximately 740 new spaces would be added under Caltrans' proposed plans, with additional opportunities for off-street parking and shuttle services under consideration.

Improved Traffic Flow and Visibility: Changes such as widened sidewalks and safer bike lanes further enhance safety for pedestrians and drivers.

A COLLABORATIVE PATH FORWARD

The City of Malibu calls on all stakeholders—including MRCA, Caltrans, and the Coastal Commission—to work together to achieve a shared vision of safety and sustainable access. Malibu remains committed to ensuring that PCH is a safe corridor for all who visit, live, and travel along this iconic highway.

"We believe safety must come first. Access must be achieved in a way that does not put lives at risk," said Stewart. "Malibu will continue to advocate for solutions that protect residents, visitors, and the environment while allowing access to the area's natural beauty."

The City of Malibu is dedicated to preserving its unique coastal environment and ensuring its residents' and visitors' safety, health, and well-being. Through proactive partnerships with local, state, and regional agencies, the City works to maintain sustainable access to its beaches, trails, and open spaces while prioritizing public safety.

For more details on Malibu's efforts to enhance safety, visit the Pacific Coast Highway Safety page (https://www.malibucity.org/1143/Pacific-Coast-Highway-Safety). There, you'll find comprehensive information about the City's initiatives to address the risks posed by dangerous, illegal, reckless, and distracted driving on PCH.

SUBMITTED BY MATT MYERHOFF

Countywide

Keep Pets Safe Against Bird Flu Threat

California has declared a state of emergency over growing concerns from the spread of the H5N1 bird flu virus. Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Los Angeles (spcaLA) suggests taking precautions to protect pets.

According to reports, about 60 people nationwide have contracted the virus, most likely due to their association with the poultry or dairy industries. However, in California 33 people contracted the virus from ingesting infected dairy. Two cats also became ill after ingesting raw milk from an infected cow.

spcaLA reminds the public that cats of any age should not drink cow's milk. Unweaned kittens should be given kitten milk replacer (KMR).

Furthermore, spcaLA recommends:

Keep cats indoors to avoid contact with sick or infected birds.

When outdoors, always keep dogs on leash to avoid exposure.

Don't feed pets raw milk or raw meat.

Signs of bird flu in pets include difficulty breathing, lack of coordination, sneezing, coughing, fever, and discharge from eyes and nose. If your pet exhibits a drastic change in behavior, take them to the vet.

SUBMITTED BY SPCALA

HANUKKAH

FROM PAGE 1

to resonate today.

"The reality is that the Jews are being attacked, no matter what their political opinion is or their observance," he said. "So it is, and hence the holiday of Hanukkah represents our ability to stand up against these people that attack us, that tried to attack us, and to withstand, persevere and despite, and maybe in spite of them, to continue to grow in our faith and traditions."

The menorah on Montana was vandalized last year but organizers said they are undeterred and will celebrate on Dec. 25 this year by lighting their 9-foot menorah at 15th and Montana.

"The message of Hanukkah is the message of light," said Rabbi Chaim Teleshevsky. "The nature of light is that it is always victorious over darkness. A small amount of light dispels a lot of darkness. Another act of goodness and kindness, another act of light, can make all the difference."

Following the Montana lighting, participants will gather to dance, sing and celebrate.

"I want my kids to grow up with pride in their Jewish heritage and a feeling of equality and self-confidence as Americans" said Amy Fiske, who is looking forward to attending the public menorah lighting. "Chabad Lubavitch's Hanukkah menorahs are arguably one of the most important developments ever to help my child's education. I wish they had this where I grew up."

As is tradition, Downtown Santa Monica will host a nightly menorah lighting at sundown. Residents are invited to celebrate the Festival of Lights with nightly menorah lightings, hosted by a different group each evening and officials said this special event brings unique programs that honor Hanukkah traditions, right in the heart of Santa Monica.

On the first night, participants can expect a hearty celebration with music, latkes (potato pancakes), hot chocolate and an abundance of joy.

DTSM isn't the only menorah in town and the nearby Santa Monica Place will also host a nightly lighting through Jan. 1 as will several local businesses who display menorahs on roofs, parking lots and store windows.

To mark the end of the holiday, Chabad of S.Monica is hosting the final night of Hanukkah at the end of the Santa Monica Pier via their mobile menorah on Jan. 1.

The bike-mounted menorah will pedal to the end of the Pier and will illuminate the final light to the backdrop of the sun setting over the ocean.

Rabbi Menachem Levitansky said it's a beautiful ceremony in a beautiful location.

"I like to say that it's the closing out at sunset, the tradition is as it becomes night, the symbol in general of the menorah and Hanukkah is to bring light into the darkness," he said. "So as the sun sets we light the menorah to bring that light into the darkness and it comes in all kinds of shapes and formulas, not just night, everyone has their own darkness and the menorah is to shine the light and it continues on to burn bright to bring the light to the world."

> "I like to say that it's the closing out at sunset, the tradition is as it becomes night, the symbol in general of the menorah and Hanukkah is to bring light into the darkness
> - Menachem Levitansky

Rabbi Eli Levitansky said while locals have always been welcoming to the menorahs, the mobile menorah also attracts the city's visitor population.

"Part of the Hanukkah experience we have, as an example, a mobile menorah that we have on a bike, and we drive it around, especially downtown, and people come over from all walks of life, asking about what it is, and discussing and appreciating the fact that it's there, and getting to know about the different culture or belief that they haven't seen yet or had any experience with," he said.

He said the educational opportunity is a foundational part of the holiday.

"Back to what I said initially, that is part of the holiday of Hanukkah, it is to bring light into a place of darkness," he said. "And there is so much good in the world. However, the fact is that, unfortunately, there is much darkness, in the both in the spiritual sense and then on a physical, emotional, psychological sense, and when you share the message of the menorah, of which is to do another act of goodness and kindness, that's a light that has a ripple effect to people around you. When you do something good, people see that, and they reciprocate, and that brings a tremendous amount of good and light into the world that's applicable to everybody."

He said while this is the busy season for Chabad, they are still available to the community if they need help over the holiday. He said they routinely visit convalescent homes in the area and they will make visits to those that need it.

Menorah lightings will be held around sunset most nights, between 4:30 - 5:30 p.m. For more information visit https://www.jewishsmonica.com/, ChabadNorthOfMontana.com/Hanukkah or https://downtownsm.com/holiday-happenings.

editor@smdp.com

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Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Countywide

Public Health Honored with 2024 California State Association of Counties Innovation Award for Transformative Substance Use Disorder Service and Bed Availability Tool

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health has announced that its Service and Bed Availability Tool (SBAT) has been awarded the 2024 Innovation Award by the California State Association of Counties (CSAC). This esteemed recognition is given to the highest-scoring program among more than 400 entries submitted by counties across California, underscoring the SBAT's groundbreaking approach to improving access to substance use disorder (SUD) services.

Developed by Public Health's Substance Abuse Prevention and Control Bureau (SAPC), the SBAT is a best-in-class web-based tool designed to connect individuals and families with SUD treatment services and residential bed availability in real time. The SBAT offers a user-friendly, filterable interface that simplifies navigation of one of the nation's largest networks of SUD providers, with over 350 sites across Los Angeles County. Since its launch, the SBAT has proven to be a vital resource for connecting residents to critical services, especially those in underserved and marginalized communities.

Since its inception, the SBAT has driven significant results connecting people with SUD services, with a total of 485,000 page views. A backend dashboard for the SBAT that provides data on how individuals are interacting with the tool was also launched in 2021, with its page views skyrocketing from 1,800 in 2021 to over 49,000 in the first half of 2024 alone. The tool's innovative features—such as language translation, proximity-based searches, and filters tailored to specific populations—continue to foster a seamless user experience. Importantly, over 93% of residential providers now update their bed availability daily, ensuring accurate and up-to-date information for those seeking help.

"The Service and Bed Availability Tool exemplifies our commitment to innovation and equity," said Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed., Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. "By making real-time access to substance use disorder treatment services simple and transparent, we are breaking down barriers and ensuring that all residents, regardless of their circumstances, can find the support they need. This award recognizes both the innovative tool and the dedicated team of staff and providers that support efforts to improve access to substance use treatment services across Los Angeles County. We are tremendously honored by this acknowledgment from the California State Association of Counties."

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Annual Challenge Awards celebrate the innovative and creative achievements of California's counties as they develop new and effective solutions to improve programs and services for their residents. The awards highlight best practices in county government while honoring the dedicated staff behind transformative initiatives. Awards are presented across multiple categories based on population size and issue areas, ensuring recognition for a diverse range of programs.

SUBMITTED BY PUBLIC HEALTH

Countywide

Board of Supervisors Approve Motion to Move Towards Keeping Pets and Families Together in Los Angeles County

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has approved a motion to direct the Los Angeles County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA), in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC) and the Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA), to assess the feasibility of a pet ownership ordinance to rent-stabilized units within the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County and to explore recommendations and best practices to address the rise of pet owner surrenders and housing challenges by pet owners in Los Angeles County.

According to the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's Veterinary Public Health division, 1 in every 4 people in Los Angeles County owns a dog or a cat. Pet ownership also skyrocketed during the pandemic, as a 2024 national poll by the American Psychiatric Association demonstrated 62% of respondents stated their pets reduce stress and anxiety, and 84% stated their pets provide a positive impact on their mental health.

Dogs, cats, and other pets consistently enter a shelter for reasons including being lost, abandoned, unaffordable veterinary costs, and housing challenges. Since 2020, housing has been one of the most frequent reasons for dog owner surrenders, particularly those between the weight of 23-55 pounds, and most often for dogs weighing more than 56 pounds. With residents in the County navigating with the rising costs of housing, and much of housing in Los Angeles County having pet, breed, and weight restrictions, many must choose between keeping their pet or having a roof over their head, resulting in many dog owner surrenders at County shelters. This challenge is also reflected in data provided by Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), where as much as 10% of persons experiencing homelessness have pets. Although provisions in temporary shelters for pets belonging to persons experiencing homelessness are now more broadly being done, cost and options continue to be barriers to finding permanent housing for those that own pets.

"Animal shelters are at capacity. The housing crisis in LA County continues to grow. No-pet policies, pet fees, pet deposits, breed restrictions, and weight restrictions exist as barriers to entering and maintaining housing," said Diana Cruz, Program Director, of HeartLA." Supervisor Solis and Supervisor Horvath have created an opportunity to finally address the crisis and ensure that our community members have a safe and inclusive place to call home. "

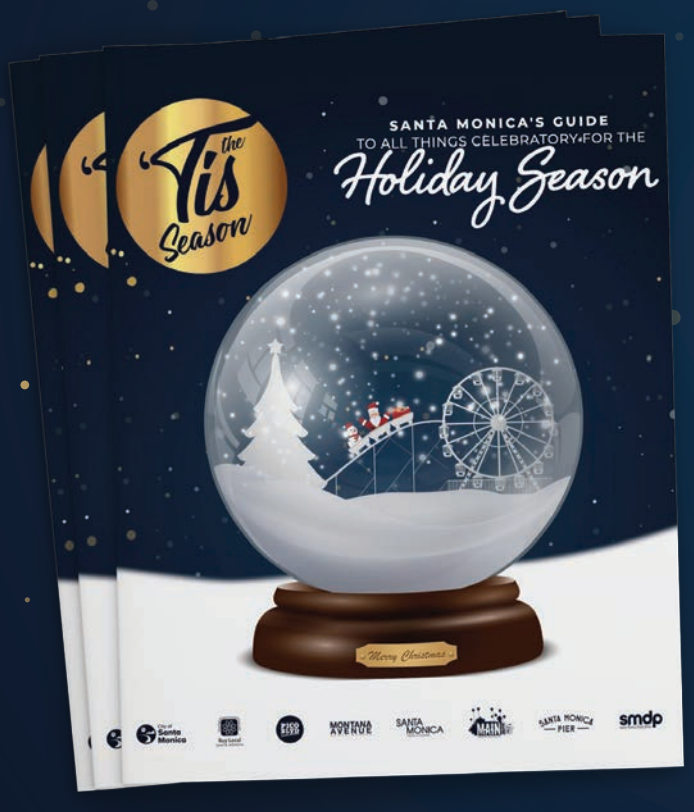
With these ongoing challenges, in the fiscal year 2023-2024, 19% of dogs were euthanized in Los Angeles County, including 1,535 that were euthanized due to the amount of time and lack of space in a shelter. Prohibiting pets based on weight restrictions, or the banning of pets altogether in rental dwellings, has contributed significantly to the overflow crisis and has tragically raised the rates of euthanasia in County animal care shelters.

"Renters with animal companions often face discrimination when searching for housing, forcing many to surrender their pets to already overwhelmed shelters," said Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, Third District. "This is an important step toward protecting renters who are animal guardians, so no one has to make the heartbreaking choice between their loved ones and a place to call home."

SEE **BRIEFS** PAGE 11

Santa Monica's 'Tis the Season

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PROTEST

FROM PAGE 2

with the encampments led state lawmakers and system administrators to seek uniform enforcement of policies governing where and how students can protest. Signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom in September, SB 1287 requires the University of California and California State University systems to update their policies and create training to educate students on "what constitutes violent, harassing, intimidating, or discriminatory conduct that creates a hostile environment on campus."

> Even when dealing with divisive issues, all student voices have the right to be heard and none should be silenced
> - Steve Glazer

"Even when dealing with divisive issues, all student voices have the right to be heard and none should be silenced," said now former state Sen. Steve Glazer, an Orinda Democrat, speaking in support of the bill in an Assembly judiciary committee hearing. "I believe this legislation will restore an environment of civil discourse on our campuses."

In response to the new law, the leadership of both the UC and Cal State systems communicated the need for consistent time, place and manner policies for the start of the academic year. Michael Drake, the UC president, wrote a letter to the 10 UC campuses outlining policies on free speech and protests, including a complete ban on camping and erecting encampments, blocking campus facilities, and refusing to identify oneself. The letter largely banned actions already enshrined in laws and campus policies.

At UCLA, university police officers arrested four people Nov. 19 during a protest the campus' Students for Justice in Palestine organization announced as a "Nationwide Student Strike." According to acting UCLA Chief of Police Scott Scheffler, the protestors violated time, place and manner policies after they attempted to block access to the campus walkway through Bruin Plaza. This case is still under investigation.

Scheffler is the second acting chief at UCLA since the former chief John Thomas was reassigned in May, following criticisms of his handling of the spring protests on campus. The UCLA Police Department announced Dec. 10 was Thomas' last day with the university.

Also at UCLA, one person was arrested Oct. 22 for failing to disperse during a student rally of about 40 people. The campus police department posted on X that the rally violated the school's protest policies against erecting unauthorized structures on campus.

At UC Santa Cruz, police arrested one student who was using a megaphone during a demonstration on Oct. 7, according to an eyewitness who spoke to LookOut Santa Cruz. Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office public arrest reports show one person was arrested on the Santa Cruz campus for obstruction of a public officer and battery without injury that day.

While no arrests were made, Pomona College has suspended 12 students for the remainder of the 2024-25 academic year following an Oct. 7 demonstration in which they entered, damaged and vandalized a restricted building, according to the student newspaper. The college also banned dozens of students from the four other campuses of the Claremont Colleges, a consortium that includes Pomona.

Private colleges have implemented their own policy changes. Pomona College now requires students and faculty to swipe their ID cards to enter academic buildings. Since last semester, students and visitors entering USC are also required to show a school or photo ID.

SOME STUDENTS ARE STILL FACING CHARGES FROM LAST YEAR'S PROTESTS

Few charges have been filed after UCLA's encampment made headlines in April, when counter-protestors led an attack on encampment protesters while law enforcement did not intervene for several hours. The following day, 254 people were arrested on charges related to the protest encampment. In October, two additional people were also arrested for participating in the counter-protester violence.

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's office is pursuing three felony cases against individuals arrested at UCLA in relation to violence during last spring's protests.

Meanwhile, the city attorney's office is reviewing 93 misdemeanor cases from USC and 210 from UCLA, according to information it provided to CalMatters last month.

Lilyan Zwirzina, a junior at Cal Poly Humboldt, was among the students arrested in the early morning of April 30 following protesters occupying a campus building and ignoring orders to disperse from the university. Law enforcement took her to Humboldt County Correctional Facility where she faced four misdemeanor charges, including resisting arrest. Zwirzina thought she'd have to cancel her study abroad semester, which conflicted with the court date she was given.

"I was pretty frustrated and kind of freaked out," Zwirzina said. Authorities dropped the charges against her in July.

The Humboldt County District Attorney's Office didn't pursue charges against 27 of the 39 people arrested, citing insufficient evidence. The 12 remaining cases were referred to the Cal Poly Humboldt Police Department for investigation. Those cases remain under investigation, according to the university.

> They are righteously demanding that their colleges, the ones they pay tuition to and housing fees and pour a lot of money into, that that university or college stop investing in companies that are directly supporting this genocide and indirectly supporting it
> - James Gutierrez

For 13 people, including students, arrested at Stanford University in June, the Santa Clara County District Attorney Jeff Rosen has not pressed charges as of Nov. 20, according to information his office provided CalMatters.

Elsewhere across the state, some district attorneys are pursuing misdemeanor and felony charges against student protesters. Orange County District Attorney Todd Spitzer is pursuing misdemeanor charges against 50 people, including two UCI professors, a teaching assistant, and 26 students, stemming from a protest at UC Irvine on Oct. 22, 2023. Charges include failure to disperse, resisting arrest and vandalism.

At Pomona College, 19 students were arrested April 5 on charges of trespassing after some protestors entered and refused to leave an administrative building. Students arrested either had their cases dismissed or have accepted community service in lieu of further legal action. James Gutierrez, the attorney representing the arrested students, said he asked that the college drop charges against its students, citing their right to protest the use of paid tuition dollars.

"They are righteously demanding that their colleges, the ones they pay tuition to and housing fees and pour a lot of money into, that that university or college stop investing in companies that are directly supporting this genocide and indirectly supporting it," he said.

STUDENTS FIGHT BACK AGAINST CAMPUS PROTEST POLICIES

As administrators face the challenge of applying protest policies more uniformly and swiftly, the truer test of California public higher education institutions' protest rules will be playing out in court.

In one already resolved case, UC leadership agreed in August to comply with a court order requiring the campus to end programs or events that exclude Jewish students. A federal judge ruled some Jewish students in support of Israel who were blocked from entering the encampment had their religious liberties violated — though some Jewish students did participate in UCLA's protest encampment.

Now, students have filed at least two lawsuits against their campuses and the UC system for violating their rights while ending student encampments last spring. In September, ACLU NorCal filed suits against the UC and UC Santa Cruz for not providing students due process when they immediately barred arrested students from returning to campus.

"Those students should have gotten a hearing, an opportunity to defend themselves or to explain themselves, and the school would have shown evidence of why they created a risk of disturbance on campus," Chessie Thacher, senior staff attorney at ACLU of Northern California, said.

UC Santa Cruz spokesperson Scott Hernandez-Jason said the university "appreciates the court's careful deliberation" and that the university "is committed to upholding the right to free expression while also protecting the safety of its campus community."

In October, ACLU SoCal filed lawsuits on behalf of two students and two faculty members against the UC and UCLA alleging the actions the university took to break down the encampment violated their free speech rights.

UCLA spokesperson Ricardo Vazquez told CalMatters via email that the university would respond in court, and that UCLA "fully supports community members expressing their First Amendment rights in ways that do not violate the law, our policies, jeopardize community safety, or disrupt the functioning of the university."

"The encampment that arose on campus this spring became a focal point for violence, a disruption to campus, and was in violation of the law," Vazquez said in the email statement. "These conditions necessitated its removal."

By June Hsu and Lizzy Rager. June Hsu and Lizzy Rager are fellows with the College Journalism Network, a collaboration between CalMatters and student journalists from across California. CalMatters higher education coverage is supported by a grant from the College Futures Foundation.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2024239725 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 11/21/24The following person(s) is (are) doing business as La Mirada Heights Sky Active Living 13001 La Mirada Blvd La MIrada, CA 90638. Los Angeles Articles of Incorporation or Organization Number (if applicable): Ai #ON. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Ventas Palms GP, LLC 500 North Hurstbourne Parkway, KY 40022. If corporation or LLC- Print State of DE This is Business is Conducted: A Limited Liability Company . The date registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on N/A. Registrant /Corp/LLC Name Ventas Palms GP, LLC Title: Secretary Dana J. Baker. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/22/2024NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE County CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411 et seq. ,Business and Professions Code).

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24STCP03257 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Armen Martirosvan and Manushak Titanyan for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Armen Martirosvan a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Artyom ~~Khojayan to Artyom Martirosvan~~ . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 01/31/2025 Time: 10:00 a.m, Dept: 86 Room: 836 The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1111 N Hill St Los Angeles, CA 90012 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24SMCP00629 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Lisa Constance Siewit for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Lisa Constance Siewit with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Lisa Constance Siewit to Lisa Constance Siewit Holler . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 01/17/2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: - The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1725 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90401 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24SMCP00619 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Emilia Isoko Miyamoto for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Emilia Isoko Miyamoto with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Emilia Isoko Miyamoto to Silver Isoko Miyamoto . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 01/17/2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: - The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1725 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90401 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24SMCP00641 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Dian Yu for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Talma Liberman Slionski with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Talma Liberman Slionski toTalma Liberman . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 01/24 /2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: - The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1725 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90401 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 24SMCP00655 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Jose Honore Essoh for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Jose Honore Essoh with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Jose Honore Essoh to Josey Eddoh . The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 01/31 /2025 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K Room: - The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1725 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90401 A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press

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

LAWSUIT

FROM PAGE 1

our children from fentanyl poisoning via Snapchat," one of the parents, Sam Chapman, stated. "We won our demur and Snap, Inc. was allowed to appeal to a higher court on First Amendment grounds. They just lost their appeal, and we get to go to trial against them on 12 allegations."

Chapman added that the group "took a product liability approach" and will now have their legal representation involved in what he said was "the largest pallet of discovery against any social media platform to date."

The plaintiffs second amended complaint, filed on July 20, 2023, describes the Snapchat platform as an "open air drug market" and that the platform's role in illicit drug sales "was the foreseeable result" of the platform's designs. These design choices, the plaintiffs state, include Snapchat's "ineffective age verification and parental controls," as well as its automatic message deletion feature and a "quick add" feature that targets minors.

Counts against Snap, Inc. range from strict product liability and negligence to fraudulent misrepresentation. The original complaint had 16 counts, of which four were sustained in Snap demurrals, those being counts related to "tortious interference with parental rights," "public nuisance," "aiding and abetting," and "loss of consortium and society."

In January, Snap, Inc. told the Daily Press that it will continue to defend the case against what it believes is "legally and factually flawed" allegations, adding that the company is "committed to advancing our efforts to stop drug dealers from engaging in illegal activity on Snapchat."

"The fentanyl epidemic has taken the lives of too many people and we have deep empathy for families who have suffered unimaginable losses," Snap, Inc.'s statement to the Daily Press read. "At Snap, we are working diligently to stop drug dealers from abusing our platform, and deploy technologies to proactively identify and shut down dealers, support law enforcement efforts to help bring dealers to justice, and educate our community and the general public about the dangers of fentanyl."

thomas@smdp.com

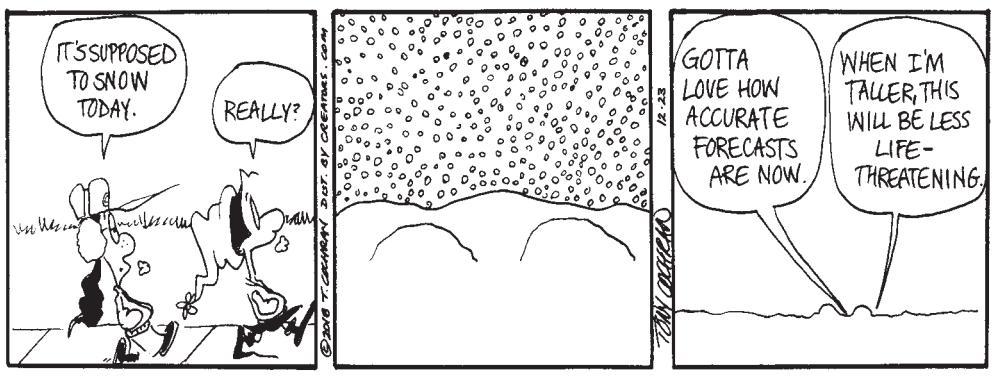


File Photo

LAWSUIT: A lawsuit from families of children who died from fentanyl poisoning via Snapchat is allowed to move forward, an appellate court recently decided.

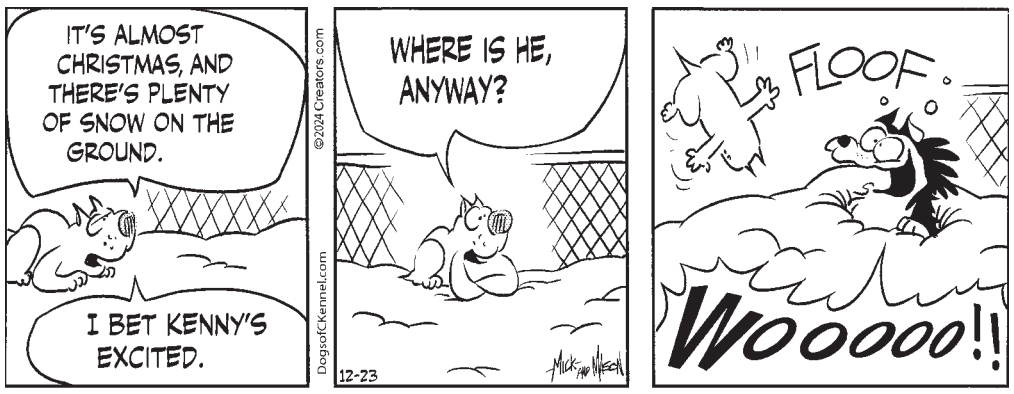
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



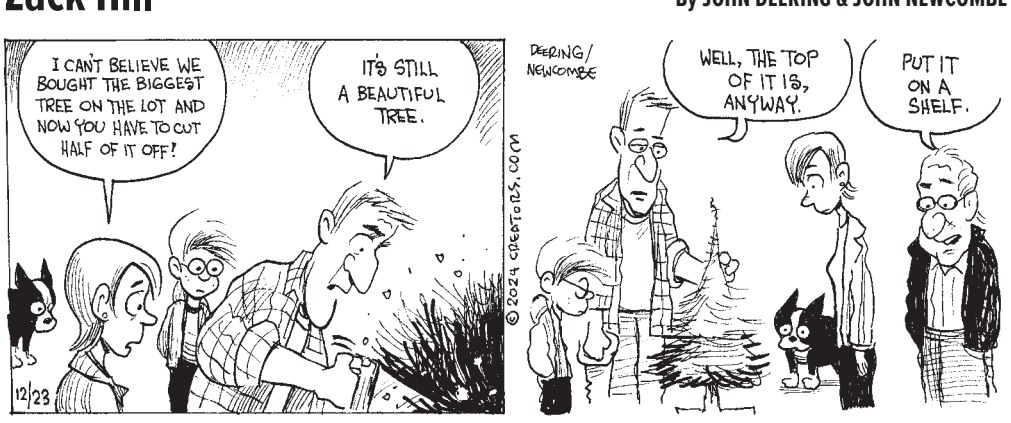
Dogs of C-Kennel

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 26 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 6433

Going to a concert

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

AC/DC	Group	Newsboys	Sherbet
Audio	Harp	Pioneer	Sia Furler
Band	Indie	Pnau	Silverchair
Bee Gees	INXS	Quiet	Snog
Catfish	Iva Davies	Rabbit	Song
Country	Lee Kernaghan	Rock	Spod
Cut Copy	Meale	Rogue Traders	Talk
Drums	Mixing	Sample	Vines
Electrics	Nazxul	Sets	Zoot
Funk			

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 23)

You'll radiate a magic warmth that draws love to you. Because you make people feel seen and important, they form connections with you that become a net. You'll cast it into the social world, pulling back bounty and making wishes come true again and again. More highlights: You'll hit and surpass a financial goal, and then you'll double your money teaching others to do the same. Taurus and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 22, 1, 19 and 40.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You can tap into abundant creativity at any time because you know the route. You will get into the mindset and keep going, thinking, dreaming and making things to match your magic.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It's tempting to try to keep all the plates spinning, but you're not here to dazzle onlookers. You're here to feed them. It requires you to put all plates down and focus on the meat of the matter.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Pay attention to your feelings, but don't make them the most important factor in your decisions. Regard them in context and with judiciousness. While they often tip you off to things you can't rationally explain, feelings can also take off in wild, false and fanciful directions.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Some make the mistake of assuming they're fascinating and talented so everyone will automatically pay attention. Not you. Instead, you give yourself over entirely to learning about others with a level of interest that's both rare and genuine, which is why people flock to you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Ultimately, you aim to delight the people you love, but they can be the most difficult ones to create such an effect with, given the role of familiarity in relationships. Strangers are the easiest to delight, as you have the element of surprise going for you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Today brings a wave of fresh inspiration. You'll dive headlong into a task, focus well and trust in your instincts. This powerful combination will lead you to one of your most productive days.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When you can clearly see your destination, the goal feels achievable; winding roads make this impossible. You're on such a road now, and realizing you're going to need more faith, imagination and commitment to fuel the journey. Take heart. Keep going.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Though your mission is to make things better for others, you will set off a chain reaction with your selflessness, which leads right back to you, lying unintended, surprising and wonderful benefits at your feet.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When passion aligns with purpose, the rewards come naturally. You'll be paid to do something you would have done for free anyway - a perfect reminder of why you started this journey in the first place.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Revisiting your personal highlights will lift your spirits and remind you of your strength, fueling the confidence you need to tackle the day ahead. Take a private moment to remember what you've accomplished and talk yourself into a bright mental state.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Too many choices on the table have a paralyzing effect on our decision-making mechanisms. A closer look will reveal only a couple of options that truly align with your goals. Trust yourself to pick wisely.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You don't have to create peace; you just have to find it. You don't have to reconcile the books, check the balances or solve the problems. Peace isn't a solution. It's a welcoming, an acceptance, a release.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

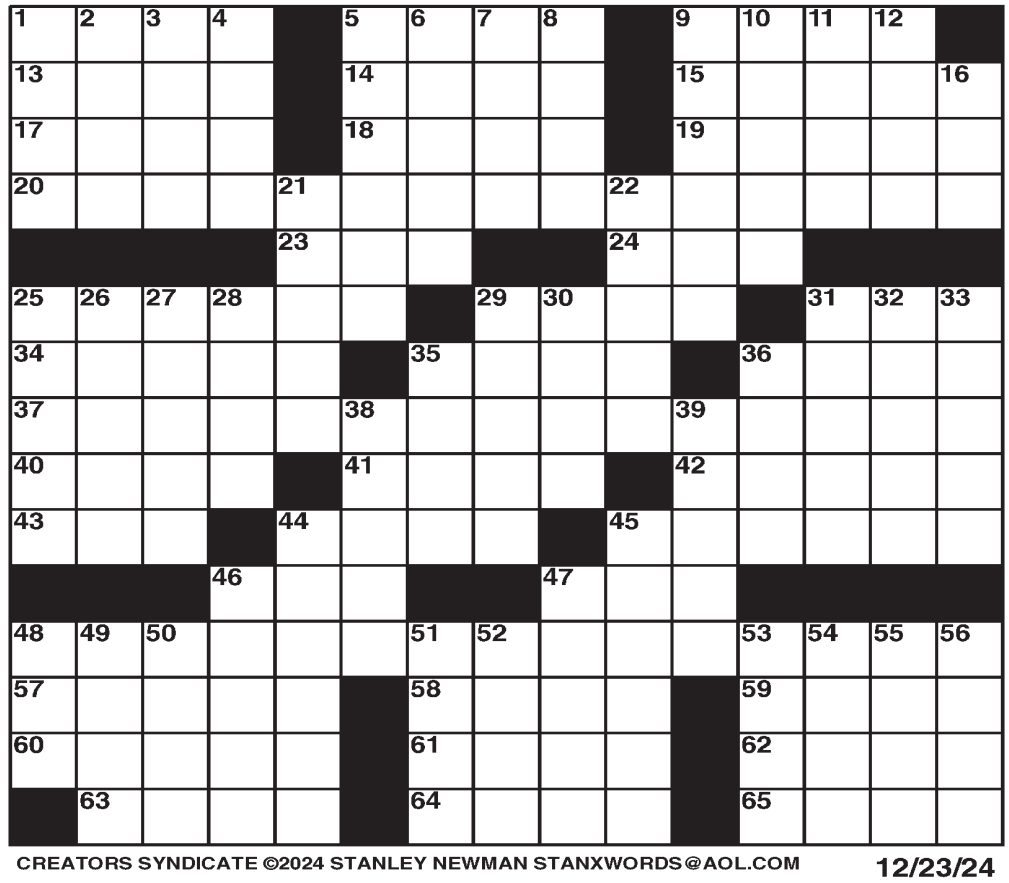
GREAT LENGTHS by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Appear to be
5 Online diary
9 "Hey you!!" whisper
13 Not doing anything
14 Begin again with
15 Rubber glove material
17 Not as much
18 Author unknown: Abbr.
19 Drop __ to (write to)
20 Length of a football field
23 "Good" cholesterol: Abbr.
24 Stoplight's color
25 Topped with foam, as a latte
29 A long way away
31 Egyptian snake
34 The five vowels
35 Stash away, as cargo
36 Neighborhood
37 Airplane's final-approach altitude
40 Clicking sounds of disapproval
41 Examine by touch
42 Finds a tenant for
43 "Absolutely!"
44 House, in Mexico
45 Typical birthday present for a child
46 Spain's Costa del __
47 By way of, on itineraries
48 About eight times the distance to the moon
57 Offer to a hitchhiker
58 *Garfield* dog
59 __ Scotia, Canada
60 Make very happy
61 Flash of lightning
62 Staff of a ship
63 Ran from danger
64 Amuse immensely
65 Barnyard egg layers

DOWN

1 Grain storage tower
2 Eve and Adam's garden
3 Otherwise
4 Netlike fabric
5 After-dinner drink distilled from wine
6 Tennis great Ivan
7 Aroma
8 Here today, __ tomorrow
9 Any member of a sports team
10 Bowl of greens
11 Mix with a spoon
12 Be apt (to)
16 Paper ballot marks
21 Informal approval
22 (Had) sketched
25 Not lean, as meat
26 Actress Witherspoon
27 Pig sounds
28 Young children
29 On an ocean cruise
30 Young horse
31 "Well, __ you clever!"
32 Handle efficiently
33 Gullible person
35 Takes to court
36 Not very many
38 Most __ (especially)
39 Nightmare, for example
44 Made up, as a phrase
45 Excellent test grade
46 Strike down, in the Bible
47 Shout like "Presto!"
48 Fill in __ blank
49 Dog's wild relative
50 White gemstone
51 Soft throws
52 Much-admired celebrity
53 Rainfall measure
54 Folk knowledge
55 All tied up, as a score
56 Carpentry tools with teeth



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12/23/24

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

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

residential zones to be processed through an Administrative Approval process.

This will be regardless of the size of the parcel upon which the housing project is located, considers "housing projects" as defined by California's Housing Accountability Act and excludes the Bergamot Area Plan.

The item came at the request of Councilmembers Jesse Zwick, Natalya Zernitskaya and Mayor Pro Tem Caroline Torosis and the City Manager and City Attorney are asked to return with an ordinance by April 30, 2025.

"According to our municipal code, housing projects that are eligible for Administrative Approval are still required to hold a public meeting prior to submitting an application, and they also have to go through the Architectural Review Board," Zernitskaya said, adding, "So even with this proposed amendment under the Municipal Code, there would still be opportunities for public input."

However, the written comments received regarding this item showed both support and disapproval, with one from the Wilshire Montana Neighborhood Coalition claiming, "You aren't asking for any data relating to our development activity before instructing staff" and that there was "no evidence that process needs to be faster or that this process slows or would be faster with proposed change" and that there is "no information about how many parcels are impacted by size."

"It's my understanding that we're going to be hearing updates to the approval process in Q1 or Q2 2025, to make our laws consistent with the new versions of state law that were updated in the last legislative session," said Councilmember Ellis Raskin, adding, "And I'm wondering if we can re-examine all of this at that time and figure out how to potentially address opportunities for community input, not just through streamlining DRBs (Dispute Resolution Board), but also through community workshops."

Councilmember Dan Hall enquired as to whether this would affect Measure LC in any way and consequently, future zoning for the airport or for a park, to which City Attorney Doug Sloan responded, "No, this has nothing to do with what can be built, this is just the process to get it done. It does not affect what can be done at the airport."

"I just wanted to reiterate that I have zero intention of having this affect the airport whatsoever," Torosis said, adding, "I think that it's really important to note that there is required public participation before any application can be submitted, period. So, I just want to make sure that people know that."

> According to our municipal code, housing projects that are eligible for Administrative Approval are still required to hold a public meeting prior to submitting an application, and they also have to go through the Architectural Review Board
>
> - Natalya Zernitskaya

The motion was made by Zernitskaya and seconded by Zwick and passed unanimously 6-0 since Councilmember Barry Snell was absent for his very first City Council meeting.

Mayor Lana Negrete, who handled her first meeting in the center seat with elegance and efficiency remarked, "I would just say that if we knew, it was going to be a direct result of more affordable units, it would be a no brainer, but unfortunately, we can't assume that ... But again, I'm happy to have this come back. And echoing Councilmember Raskin's point that the state is already coming down with these requirements and so by the time this comes back, this might be a requirement by the state of California, anyways."

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BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 6

"The challenges around pet surrenders are a result of systemic and social issues we must address together, and one that requires a multi-pronged approach to ensure we make a lasting difference in keeping pets and families together," said Chair Pro Tem Solis. "That is why this motion, Keeping Pets and Families Together, is a critical step in ensuring pet equity in housing, and will explore solutions through stakeholder engagement and analysis of existing laws. Together, we can ensure we support our pet owning-families equitably."

The approved motion's feasibility study will include stakeholder engagement with renters, landlords, and relevant community-based organizations to assess needs, challenges, and impacts of a pet ownership ordinance for rent-stabilized units in unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County. In addition to outlining needed resources, the study may include recommendations for adopting such an ordinance, such as requiring residential rental agreements to allow at least one common household pet in a rental unit, and the elimination of pet weight restrictions for common household pets in residential dwellings.

SUBMITTED BY JESSICA COREAS



MONDAY | DECEMBER 23

BEACH BELLES PERFORMANCES
3 - 7:30 p.m. Santa Monica Place, 395 Santa Monica Pl. Catch these seasonally inspired dancers as they bring festive cheer and high kick-style performances perfect for the whole family to enjoy.

AIRPORT COMMISSION
7 p.m. City Council Chambers, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main St. The Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the City Council in matters pertaining to the administration of Santa Monica Municipal Airport and other aviation matters affecting the City.

TUESDAY | DECEMBER 24

SOCIAL SERVICE ASSISTANCE
9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. Help with family nutrition and health care access is resuming at Virginia Avenue Park thanks to Providence St. John's Community Health Program. Trained community health workers will be available to meet in person with community members and assist with enrollment in CalFresh, as well as navigate enrollment or questions for MediCal and Medicare. Appointments can be made by calling 310-458-8688, drop-ins are also welcome.

WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER AT ORLA
5 - 8 p.m. Regent Santa Monica Beach, 1700 Ocean Ave. Experience an unforgettable holiday at Orla, where panoramic ocean views set the stage for a celebratory prix fixe dinner. Crafted by Chef Michael Mina, this indulgent menu features a Mediterranean twist, blending seasonal flavors with coastal elegance for an exceptional dining experience. $125 for adults, $45 for children ages 3-10. For more, visit https://santamonica.regenthotels.com/experience/holidays/.

THURSDAY | DECEMBER 26

OAKWOOD ROOTS FARMERS AND WELLNESS MARKET
11 a.m. - 6 p.m. 685 Westminster Ave. Oakwood Roots Venice Farmers' and Wellness Market is a hub for local foods, wellness classes and holistic healing. This is part of a larger effort to revitalize the abandoned parking lots across the street from the park into a community hub, in partnership with Community Corporation of Santa Monica and Hoopbus.

SLOW FLOW YOGA
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. ARTime Barro, 302 Pico Blvd. Join for a meditative and relaxing practice involving mindful movement and deep breathing. Let your creativity flourish as you unwind and make space for clarity and inspiration. Tickets $10, for more visit: https://www.artimebarro.com/workshops/slow-flow-yoga.

FRIDAY | DECEMBER 27

DRUNK THEATRE LA HOLIDAY SHOW
9 - 10:30 p.m. Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St. Drunk Theatre is the entirely improvised, unpredictable and crazy comedy show that'll kick your weekend into overdrive. Cast includes Sahil Desai, Ittai Geiger, Cassie Grilley, Rodd Naimi, Oleg Trofimov and five shots of whiskey. Tickets $22, VIP tickets $35, to purchase visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/drunk-theatre-la-wildest-holiday-nye-comedy-show-tickets-1052174802157.

DISCO POR FAVOR
9:30 - 11:30 p.m. Nalu Vida Venice Beach, 1 Washington Blvd., Venice. Join Nalu Vida and resident DJs Brian Epstein and Joeshua, as well as guests, who will be playing House, Disco, Rare Groove and Soul music. For more information, visit naluvida.com.

SATURDAY | DECEMBER 28

TANTRA SPEED DATE
7:45 - 10:45 p.m. Love Yoga Venice, 835 Lincoln Blvd. At Tantra Speed Date, trained facilitators use cutting-edge relational techniques to bring you and your dates into a mindful state of presence. Interactive guided exercises light that "spark" for you, no awkward small talk needed. Tickets $74, to purchase visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tantra-speed-date-los-angeles-venice-meet-singles-speed-dating-tickets-941169652767.

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 29

SUNDAY TASTING
12 - 9 p.m. Ester's Wine Shop & Bar, 1314 7th St. New themes every week for Sunday Tastings, curated by Sommelier Randall Middleton. Enjoy a flight for $25 per person, which includes a mini cheese pairing and link to a video of the team telling stories about the lineup.

FISHERMAN'S VILLAGE WEEKEND CONCERT
2 - 5 p.m. Fisherman's Village, 13755 Fiji Way, Marina del Rey. Break out your dancing shoes for free outdoor concerts, featuring great performers playing R&B, Jazz, Latin, Pop and Blues.

MONDAY | DECEMBER 30

FREE MAT PILATES
7 - 8 a.m. ARTime Barro, 302 Pico Blvd. 50 minutes of Mat Pilates-inspired movement to build strength, flexibility and core. 10 minutes of gentle stretching and mindfulness to center and ground your energy. Bring comfortable workout clothes, a yoga mat and water for hydration.

TUESDAY | DECEMBER 31

NYE AT SALT
4 - 10 p.m. SALT Restaurant & Bar, Marina Del Rey Hotel, 13534 Bali Way, Marina del Rey. Ring in 2025 with a delightful three-course prix fixe dinner. Indulge in Maine Lobster Bisque, savor Salmon Soba, or enjoy Boneless Short Rib, followed by a decadent Bread Puddling Soufflé. A la carte menu available as well. To reserve, visit: https://www.opentable.com/booking/experiences-availability?rid=156871&restref=156871&experienceId=373364&utm_source=external&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=shared.

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