Seaview HOTEL
Parking | Kitchenettes | WiFi Available
1760 Ocean Avenue
Santa Monica, CA 90401
310.393.6711
Starting from $88 + Taxes
BOOK DIRECT AND SAVE SeaviewHotel.com

MASER CONDO SALES
The Westside's ONLY real estate brokerage dedicated to selling condos and townhomes.
MASERCONDOSALES.COM | 310.314.7700
CalBRE#01340306

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press
TUESDAY
12.24.19
Volume 19 Issue 35
@smdailypress @smdailypress Santa Monica Daily Press smdp.com

The Year in Review
Today is part one of our three issue Year in Review coverage. The Daily Press has summarized the year's news as written about on our front page.

Year in Review Part 1: January - April



Courtesy photo

RAINBOW GARDEN: Plans to build a garden learning center on Montana Avenue were announced in January.

The Daily Press is summarizing the year's news as it was covered in our pages for the year. Today, we are covering the first four months of the year.

JANUARY

Target announced the opening of a store on Santa Monica Boulevard. near Bundy Drive. The news followed plans to open a store in downtown Santa Monica at 5th Street and Broadway. Like the downtown Santa Monica store, the location at 11840 Santa Monica Blvd. is smaller than a typical Target at about 31,000 square feet. Both locations are part of the company's nationwide push to open compact stores in urban neighborhoods.

Cedars-Sinai opened its first primary care practice in Santa Monica. The healthcare provider expanded its offices at the corner of Santa Monica Boulevard and 20th Street to add four primary care physicians, labs and X-ray facilities. The location will also hire specialists in hematology and oncology, neurology, cardiology and ear, nose and throat.

Several Santa Monicans were elected to the California Democratic Party. Fourteen locals formed a slate to run for delegate positions in the state party and 11 were elected Jan. 27 to represent Assembly District 50, which stretches from Malibu to Hollywood. The Progressive Slate included 10 Santa Monicans, including City Councilmember Sue Himmelrich, Rent Control Board members Caroline Torosis and Anastasia Foster and Santa Monica Democratic Club President Jon Katz. Three members of the competing Grassroots Slate were elected: incumbent delegate Steve Bott, Santa Monica College trustee Barry Snell and Tamara Levenson, who co-managed the Westside Democratic HQ.

Officials said Lincoln Boulevard will get its long-awaited streetscape makeover by early 2021. Construction on the Lincoln Neighborhood Corridor Plan (the LiNC) will start by the end of 2019 and last until early 2021, costing $5 to $6 million. The City of Santa Monica has been working on the LiNC since 2015 and has already installed a bus lane and planted 50 new trees along Lincoln.

SEE **YEAR** PAGE 2

The Associated Press picks the top moments on TV from 2019

MARK KENNEDY
AP Entertainment Writer

Many have noticed how fragmented our TV viewing is, with multiple competing streaming services and dozens of channels pulling us in different directions. But the year also saw some jaw-dropping moments that found huge audiences, whether it was a royal interview or a viral alien. The Associated Press has put together a list of the best TV moments in 2019.

ALL HAIL A TRUE WARRIOR

It was neither Jon Snow nor Daenerys who won the climactic Battle of Winterfell on "Game of Thrones." It was Arya Stark, who bravely launched herself at The Night King and stabbed the White Walker leader, ending his reign of terror and turning the Army of the Dead into frozen dust. She had been through a lot: Family slaughtered, blindness, surviving an assassin's guild. The last we see of her, she's sailing west of Westeros, to a land which has never been documented on the maps. She earned herself a grand adventure.

" SILENT ALL THESE YEARS "

In March, "Grey's Anatomy"

SEE **TOP MOMENTS** PAGE 11

Let's cancel 'OK Boomer' in 2020, and the humblebrag, too

LEANNE ITALIE
AP Entertainment Writer

Either loudly sing your own praises or don't in the new year, but let's leave the humble brag behind, along with a few other oversaturated, cloying or just plain silly cultural quirks that deserve a big goodbye.

Among them are pop-up shops, cancel culture and the ever-present "OK Boomer" retort on social media. With much ado about something, here's our annual Over It list of things that should remain in 2019:

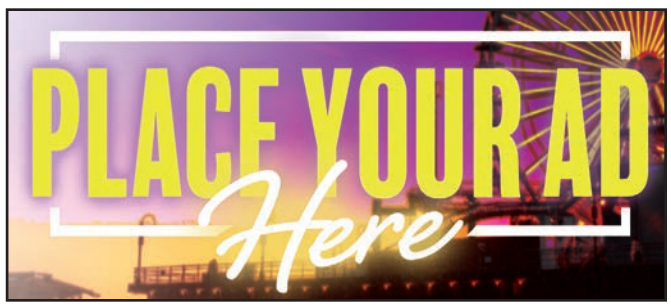
DOUBLE-WRISTING

Wearing two timepieces has been around since the 18-century dandy and his double pocket watches, intended to culturally elevate as opposed to making sure he was

SEE **CANCEL** PAGE 11

Buy Local SANTA MONICA
buylocalsantamonica.com
Support your community!


GABY SELLS YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!
GABY SCHKUD
GABY & ASSOCIATES
310.291.5800
WHERE EXPERIENCE DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE!
LIC #01178267



YEAR

FROM PAGE 1

City Council decided on a set of goals and values to prioritize in the city of Santa Monica's 2019-2021 budget at its annual retreat Jan. 26. The new budget will organize the services the city provides under these priorities and include metrics that track their progress. City Hall will allocate more funding toward making Santa Monica a safer and more affordable place to live, reducing homelessness and addressing climate change.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors extended funding for homeless outreach in Santa Monica after Supervisor Sheila Kuehl recommended budgeting $300,000 towards the city's Homeless Multidisciplinary Street Team program. The county previously put $300,000 toward the program for the 2018 calendar year and the extended support brings the total county contribution to $600,000.

Sun Scooter launched its app and deployed 100 bright yellow scooters around Los Angeles and 200 in South Florida. Although the company is based in Santa Monica, it cannot operate scooters within city limits because the city of Santa Monica only allows Bird, Lime, Lyft and Jump, which is owned by Uber, to do business in the city under its Shared Mobility program.

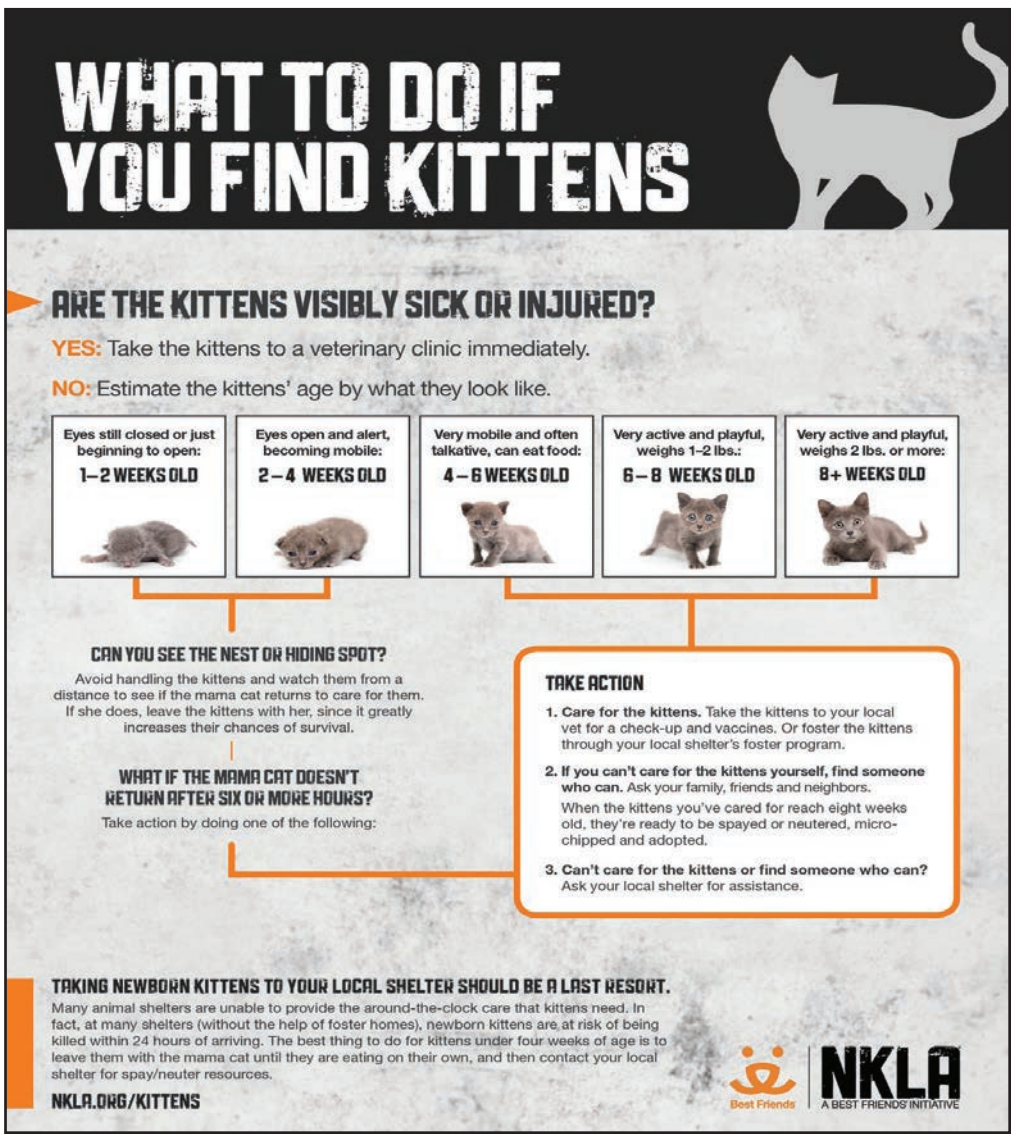
A reality TV director, an actor, and a former director of operations for events (such as the Academy Awards and American Idol) teamed together to create a Santa Monica-based comedy TV show about dating called 'Swipe.'

Rent Control officials lost an initial battle over the fate of a former rent control property that had been brewing for more than 15 years. A judge ruled against the Rent Control Board's efforts to bring a Mid-City apartment building in Santa Monica under rent control after allowing the owner to rent the 13 apartments at market rates since 1993. The board filed an appeal and ultimately won, bringing the building back under rent control.

A UCLA study categorized the injuries of scooter riders during the explosive growth of the industry and found that e-scooter riders are most likely to be hospitalized for head injuries and broken bones. The study surveyed Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center and UCLA Medical Center-Santa Monica from September 2017 to August 2018 and recorded 249 patients who visited the emergency room with injuries associated with e-scooter use.

City Hall moved to clarify the complaint process for the homeless shelters it funds in response to multiple Santa Monica Shelter residents alleging neglect from The People Concern staff.

City Council set priorities for the City of Santa Monica's 2019-2021 budget using results from a community survey conducted over the last month. The 2,800 people who took the survey rated neighborhood safety, homelessness and affordability as their chief priorities. Transportation, environmental health and over-development were also common concerns.



The Pico Youth and Family Center held a fundraiser to raise money to repair the damage caused by a car that crashed into the center earlier this month. Two men in a rented Bentley were driving above the speed limit down Pico Boulevard when they lost control of the vehicle and spun around several times before careening into the building. No one was hurt, but the crash destroyed the building's windows, several computers and office equipment and furniture.

City Council voted unanimously to designate a strip of Craftsman bungalows on 11th Street as Santa Monica's fourth historic district. The decision went against a report city staff made to the Landmarks Commission in November that found the bungalows lacked historical merit. The district is composed of 10 buildings on 11th Street between Wilshire Boulevard and Arizona Avenue, seven of which are Craftsman bungalows built between 1905 and 1925.

City Council appointed an activist from the Pico Neighborhood who serves on a city commission to the seat vacated by Tony Vazquez. The council chose Ana Maria Jara from a pool of 76 applicants. Jara, a 40-year resident of Santa Monica, served as vice chair of the Social Services Commission and previously served as chair of the Commission on the Status of Women. Jara took the seat as the city of Santa Monica battled a California Voting Rights Act lawsuit filed by another Latina resident of the Pico neighborhood, Maria Loya.

More than 300 volunteers walked down every street in Santa Monica to count the city's homeless population. Santa Monica joined communities across the county in conducting the annual Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count. The count documented a three percent increase in homelessness.

Demolition began at the former Fred Segal building. The proposed replacement project is an 84-foot high building with 249 residential units. The ground floor will include pedestrian-oriented commercial uses, such as retail and restaurants. The project will also include ground floor open space, including a public plaza with seating, landscaping, outdoor seating for dining and widened sidewalks.

A vintage store opened on Pico Boulevard giving furniture, art and decor from old homes across California a new life. Almost everything in California Rediscovered is reused, whether it's for sale or not.

The city of Santa Monica settled a potential lawsuit over payments for Section 8 tenants. A private housing provider had threatened to sue the city, alleging payments amounts for Section 8 tenants were too low for current tenants. The city disputed the claim and the settlement allows for higher payments for new tenants but retains lower payment amounts for existing tenants.

City Council authorized a renovation of City Yards. Construction on the 15-acre industrial site near Bergamot Station was scheduled to start in June. Most essential services the city of Santa Monica provides operate out of City Yards, including street maintenance, custodial services and traffic operations. It's been awaiting a $115 million reboot since 2015 and the Planning Commission granted the project a development review permit on Jan. 16.

Santa Monica schools approved their own self-funded early learning program, eschewing Head Start. The Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District school board unanimously voted to not renew a five-year contract through the Los Angeles County Office of Education for Head Start services.

A company that collects and inspects e-scooters overnight might be the answer to the safety issues that have followed them since they first hit the streets in fall 2017. Sweep is a local company that evolved from a group of friends charging scooters on the Santa Monica Pier into a logistics machine that operates in cities across the United States and is planning a global expansion. The company dispatches teams at night to pick up scooters and trained mechanics run each one through a safety check, making repairs as needed.

Two parents accused SMMUSD of requiring some students to purchase their own educational materials and sued the district with the help of a lawyer already embroiled in a lawsuit against the city of Santa Monica. The district lost the case and settled with the plaintiffs.

The city released a ten-year projection of its revenues and expenditures. It will start spending more money than it takes in by fiscal year 2020-2021, and by FY 2028-2029 it could be in the red by up to $50 million if a recession affects revenues.

The Planning Commission voted to allow a pair of local philanthropists to turn a vacant apartment building into a garden that will teach children from local elementary schools and preschools how to grow and prepare produce – free of charge. Most of the corner lot will be filled with vegetable planters and fruit trees, with a low black building set far back from Montana Avenue housing a classroom and kitchen. City Council also approved the plan with restrictions.

The Arnold Strongman USA Competition came to the Pier, marking the competition's first time in Los Angeles. The competition, hosted by Arnold Schwarzenegger, featured ten of the strongest men in the world, all competing for a spot in the Strongman World Championships.

An Expo Line train hit and killed a man at the 17th Street Station. The Los Angeles Sheriff 's Department said a pedestrian on the platform of the 17th Street Station was hit by a train at about 8:20 a.m. The train came to a stop just before 14th Street and the victim was pronounced dead at the scene by the Santa Monica Fire Department.

A week of rain washed into the region bringing with it high surf, mudslides and some localized flooding. High surf produced localized

SEE **REVIEW** PAGE 3

REVIEW

FROM PAGE 2

beach erosion and dangerous swimming conditions including sneaker waves and rip currents. Mudslides also temporarily closed sections of PCH.

Silicon Beach Chamber Orchestra kicked off its 2019 Chamber Music Series with a concert at St Paul Lutheran's church. The goal of these shows, the orchestra says, isn't just to entertain, but to broaden audiences' horizons while also developing a respect for the classics.

Developer-paid fees funded a preschool at Santa Monica College, low-flow toilets and new bike lanes. The city of Santa Monica collected $5,643,129 from developers in the 2017-2018 fiscal year and spent $2,520,596 on child care, transportation, affordable housing loans and water sustainability projects.

City Council increased the amount landlords must pay their tenants if they evict them under the Ellis Act or if the landlord or a family member moves into the unit. The increase is the first since 2011. It also raised the per diem evicted tenants get to temporarily stay in hotels while they find new housing from $165 to $292 per day.

The City Attorney filed a criminal complaint against the son of Santa Monica's most notorious landlord. The city announced that it charged Adam Shekhter, Saul Reuben Robin, Edward Jose Valentin and several affiliated companies with tenant harassment, maintaining a public nuisance and violating local zoning laws.

Santa Monican Elizabeth Gelfand Stearns has spent years working to fight Alzheimer's disease and the former Universal Studios executive recently helped champion a landmark bill that will allocate $100 million to fight Alzheimer's disease over five years.

A Mid-City resident returned to his apartment near Santa Monica Boulevard and 26th Street at about 2:30 p.m. to find a woman sleeping on his couch. He had left for vacation on Dec. 23. He arrived at his apartment to find that someone had taken the screen off of a window and flipped the front door locks. When he opened the door, he saw a woman he described as about 30 years old and 5 feet 6 inches with blonde hair sleeping on his couch.

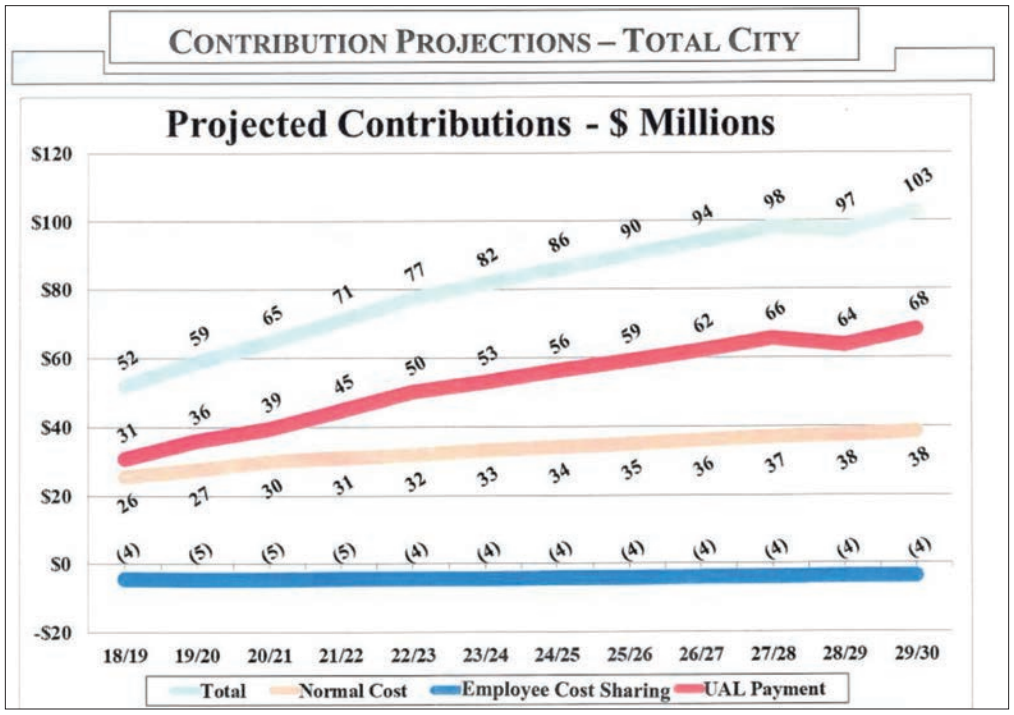
The Coastal Commission approved a rehabilitation project for the combined public safety center in Marina Del Rey. The facility is made up of two components, a shared land-based facility utilized by the Department of Beaches and Harbors, the Sheriff's Department for the Marina Del Rey Sheriff Station and a waterside dock utilized by the Lifeguard Division of the Fire Department, and the Sheriff Department's Harbor Patrol Unit and storage.

Water rates increased nine percent in 2019 as the city of Santa Monica embarked on several projects to wean itself off of imported water. The average single-family home customer will pay about $4.33 more per month for water to fund the design of a larger, more efficient water treatment plant, the purchase of a new well and the cost of replacing the city's aging water mains.

A man hijacked a Rapid Line 720 bus in Los Angeles and forced the driver to take him to Santa Monica. The man boarded the bus at Barrington Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard near the Sawtelle neighborhood, threatened the female bus operator with a knife and she hit the duress button inside the bus to alert law enforcement.

The Santa Monica Police Department received new body-worn cameras because the cameras officers were wearing proved unreliable and faulty. An unspecified amount of data recorded by the body-worn and in-car

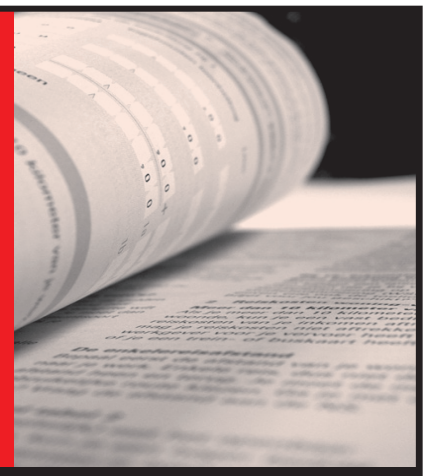
SEE **JANUARY** PAGE 4



File image

BUDGET: City Hall made several budget decisions in 2019 to address rising employee costs and threats to revenue, such as a possible recession.

Tax RELIEF TODAY



Specializing in 1099
Independent Contractors and Business Owners

Owe 10K or more in back taxes?

Don't talk to the IRS alone!

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS, LET ONE OF OUR EXPERIENCED TAX ATTORNEYS FIGHT FOR YOU!
We can protect from collections and negotiate on your behalf.

We help with back taxes, wage garnishments, bank levies, payroll taxes, penalties and interest.

CALL NOW FOR A FREE CASE REVIEW!

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Call Today for a Free Consultation 310-907-7780

MEALS ON WHEELS WEST
Delivering More Than a Meal



We deliver meals to formerly homeless people in their new homes, helping them to maintain stability and stay off the streets. Our Wellness Check monitors the health and wellness of our clients.

REFER - VOLUNTEER - DONATE
Kevin@mealsonwheelswest.org | 310-394-5133 Ext.5

BACK or UNFILED TAXES?

ALL FORMS • ALL TYPES • ALL STATES

(310) 395-9922
SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA
100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1800 Santa Monica 90401



WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE BECAUSE OF THE CARELESSNESS OR NEGLIGENCE OF OTHERS.



Robert Lemle

OBTAIN MAXIMUM LEGAL COMPENSATION

MILLIONS RECOVERED

- CATASTROPHIC PERSONAL INJURIES
- WRONGFUL DEATH
- AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENTS
- BICYCLE/SCOOTER ACCIDENTS
- RIDE SHARE ACCIDENTS
- SPINAL CORD INJURIES
- TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURIES
- DOG BITES
- TRIP & FALLS

No recovery, No fee

310.392.3055
www.lemlelaw.com

LEMLE LAW GROUP, PC

JANUARY

FROM PAGE 3

cameras, some of which did not work, was lost.

Developers were prohibited from satisfying their affordable housing requirements by including a very small number of extremely low-income units in market-rate buidlings. City Council voted to suspend the option as a means of increasing the number of low and moderately priced housing options in the city.

The city of Santa Monica held four family fun days at Reed Park to potentially discourage the criminal activity that has become widespread there this year. Meet Me at Reed started in summer 2017 and was held again this past summer after it proved popular with families.

Santa Monica experienced 8.8 percent more serious crime in 2018, including thefts, burglaries and aggravated assaults. The same category of crime rose by 12 percent in 2017 and 5.5 percent in 2016. Serious crimes have risen 29 percent in Santa Monica between 2015 and 2018 and law enforcement has maintained that legislation that has decriminalized certain offenses has allowed repeat criminals to return to the streets shortly after being sentenced.

Go-karts were temporarily zipping past electric scooters on the Santa Monica beach bike path, and both were operating illegally. A company called Gogogo began renting go-karts for people to drive along the beach, even though City Council outlawed all electric and motorized devices on the path. The company was shut down shortly after opening.



Courtesy photo

CITY YARDS: City Hall announced plans to redevelop the City Yards, including the former recycling center.

New state legislation extended some of the insurance and safety protections Santa Monica provides for dockless scooter and bike riders to all Californians. AB 1286, by Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi (D-Torrance), required that cities and counties adopt and scooter and bike companies comply with safety rules like the ones set forth in Santa Monica's Shared Mobility Pilot Program.

Council voted to shorten its often lengthy meetings by incentivizing members of the public to speak for one minute instead of two. Members of the public who address Council for one minute can speak at the beginning of the item, while those who use two minutes will speak after.

Jackie Rivera-Krouse took over the Santa Monica Farmers Market from longtime manager Laura Avery. Rivera-Krouse, who was born in Santa Monica and grew up in northeast Los Angeles, said some of her earliest memories are of the Santa Monica Farmers Market.

Two new apartment buildings were approved in downtown Santa Monica, one replacing an office building and the other filling an empty lot. One is a six-story building at 1437 7th Street with 10,000 square feet of commercial space on its ground floor and 65 apartments in its upper stories. The other is a five-story building at 1235 5th Street with about 1,800 square feet of ground floor commercial space and 23 apartments.

Fresh N' Lean opened its first store at 705 Montana Ave. offering grab-and-go meals designed for meat eaters, vegans and those trying to lose weight. Customers can visit the

SEE **FEBRUARY** PAGE 5

FEBRUARY

The SMMUSD Board of Education discussed adding security cameras around the perimeters of school campuses and requiring all campus visitors to check in through an ID verification system that runs their identity through criminal databases. The measures are intended to make the district's schools more secure against crime and other scenarios, such as active shooter situations.

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Jenny Rice
jenny@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Rose Mann
rose@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Madeleine Pauker
madeleine@smdp.com
Brennon Dixson
brennon@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Cynthia Citron,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra,
Sarah A. Spitz

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Achling Holliday
ross@smdp.com
Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

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

The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 8,200 on weekdays and 8,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

PUBLISHED BY NEWLON ROUGE, LLC

© 2019 Newlon Rouge, LLC, all rights reserved.

AWARD WINNER

AWARD WINNER

Sustainable Quality Awards
WINNER

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.

FEBRUARY

FROM PAGE 4

store in person, order a la carte deliveries or try different meals before they sign up for one of the company's delivery plans.

Stephen Lloyd Fader, 42, was charged with murder after stabbing his mother and father. His mother died at the scene but his father survived.

Several Santa Monica parents began a campaign to change the start of school days. The Change.org petition asks the school district to move school start times for all middle and high schools to 8:30 a.m. or later for the benefit of students' wellbeing.

Santa Monica was spared any serious damage during a weekend storm but PCH was closed due to sporadic flooding and debris flows.

Heroic Wine Bar opened at 514 Santa Monica Blvd. serving Italian fare from award-winning chef Barbara Pollastrini in addition to a wine, cheese and charcuterie menu. All cheeses and meats at both the deli and the wine bar are imported and the wines are rated 90 points or higher.

Tyra Banks announced an attraction called Modelland at Santa Monica Place. Banks, a supermodel and television host, said she is launching a ticketed retail and dining experience at the downtown Santa Monica mall. It will be the flagship location of what she is planning to expand as a global chain.

Community Corporation of Santa Monica won $1 million in a countywide challenge to come up with housing solutions for those experiencing homelessness. CCSM is proposing using prefabricated housing units to construct permanent supportive housing, which would reduce costs by up to 25 percent and cut construction time in half.

A former mechanic for Bird alleged in a lawsuit that the company breached its agreement with the city of Santa Monica to provide safe, durable scooters. Screenshots of Bird's internal communication show that an operations specialist asked mechanics in November not to take scooters off the road or report them as damaged if they had missing screws, grips or kickstands, loose necks, handlebars, bolts or brains or broken reflectors.

Experiential retail became a trend locally as stores began offering customers an interactive shopping or entertainment experience that they can only get by visiting a physical store. An increasing number of retailers are opening in-store restaurants and bars, hosting free and ticketed events or giving customers the chance to interact with new technology.

The Coastal Commission approved a partial demolition and remodel of a long vacant building in one of the Santa Monica's most desirable locations. The properties at 423 – 429 Ocean Ave are across the street from Palisades Park with ocean views. The 16 former apartments have been vacant for a decade and will be converted into 14 condominiums after the Coastal Commission required a density increase beyond limits previously set by Santa Monica.

The growth of co-working in Santa Monica accelerated rapidly as two industry giants, Spaces and WeWork, announced plans to open more than 180,000 square feet of co-working space near Bergamot Station. Spaces has signed an almost 70,000 square foot lease at the Water Garden on 26th Street and WeWork is taking over the 116,000 square foot Lantana Campus on Olympic Boulevard.

Outer, a Santa Monica-based direct-to-consumer furniture company, launched Neighborhood Showrooms, a concept that will display Outer's outdoor furniture through a customer's home.

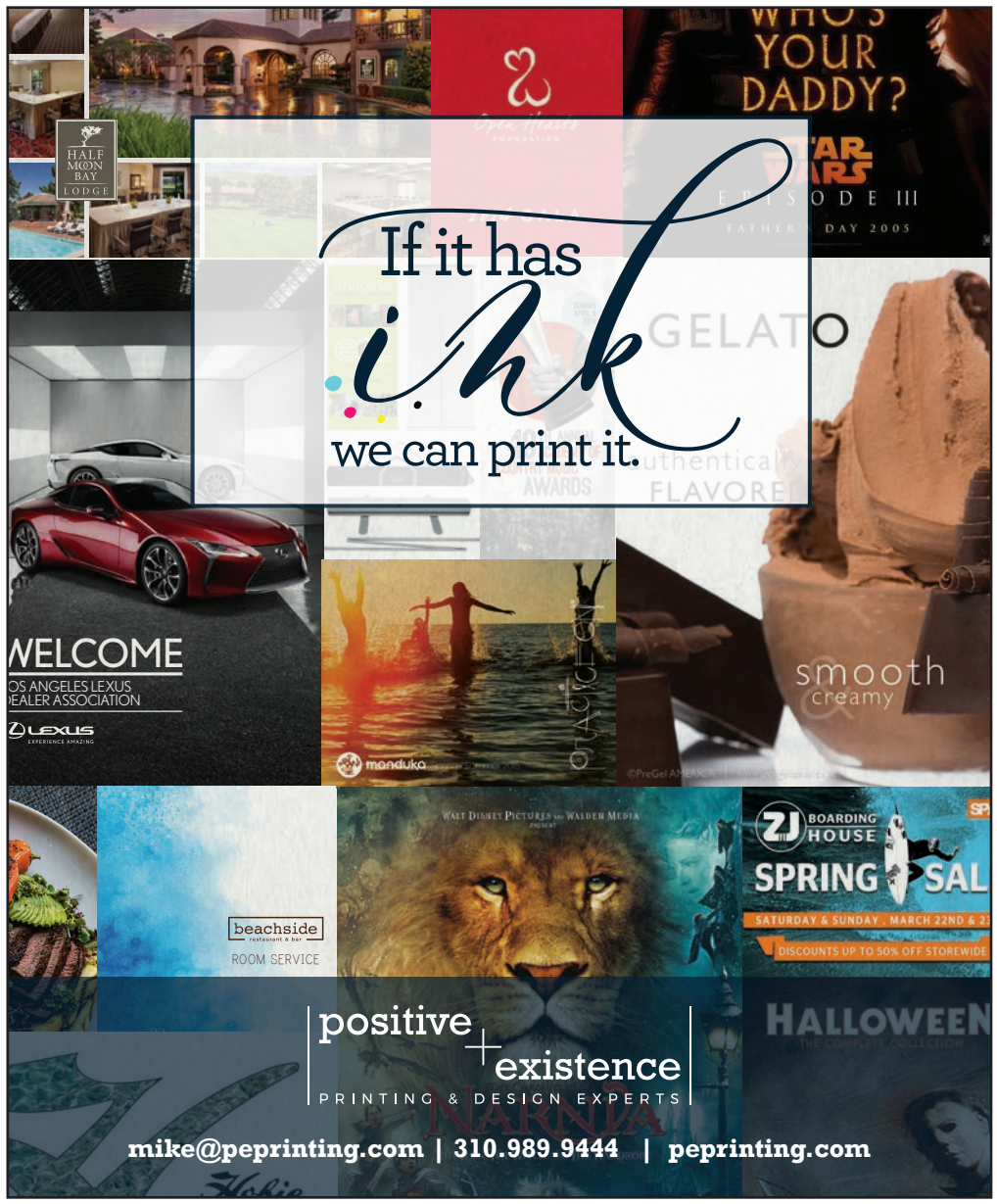
Kevin Ferron was arrested and charged with attempted murder after attacking his girlfriend at their home. Arrest records show Ferron had been arrested four times in the last year, and police said he has a prior history of domestic violence.

SEE **SUMMARY** PAGE 6



Courtesy photo

11TH STREET BUNGALOWS: Advocates filed applications to establish a new historic district.



FINDING A NEW DENTIST IS TOUGH!!!
(BUT WE MAKE IT EASY!!!)
YOUR CHOICE

If you don't like what we have to say we will give you a copy of your x-rays at no charge

DENTAL CARE WITHOUT JUDGEMENT!

WE OFFER UNIQUE SERVICES
*Nitrous Oxide available
*No interest payment plans
*Emergencies can be seen today
*Our dentists and staff members are easy to talk to

TRY OUR NO OBLIGATION
$1 EXAM
INCLUDES FULL XRAYS
*Offer to non insured patients

OR

TRY OUR NO OBLIGATION
$59 EXAM AND CLEANING
For New Patients
INCLUDES FULL XRAYS
*Offer to non insured patients

AND OF COURSE WE DO
• Invisalign • Periodontist on Staff • Oral Surgeon on Staff
• Cosmetics and Implants • Zoom bleaching • and more

SANTA MONICA FAMILY DENTISTRY
DR. ALAN RUBENSTEIN
1260 15th ST. SUITE #703
(310) 736-2589



WWW.ALANRUBENSTEINDDS.COM





SUMMARY

FROM PAGE 5

Camron Lee, was arrested as a person of interest in connection with the murder of De'Ommie de la Cruz. De la Cruz was celebrating a friend's birthday on a party bus that stopped near the Santa Monica Pier in 2017 when someone began firing a gun into the crowd. De la Cruz was hit by several gunshots and died.

An advertising campaign for season nine of 'The Walking Dead' spooked children on the Third Street Promenade. The AMC show that explores life after the zombie apocalypse put up posters at 1201 Third Street Promenade, a building that Barnes and Noble vacated, featuring actors from the show dressed as zombies. The show hired actors to dress up as zombies and walk around the Promenade.

WISE & Healthy Aging, a nonprofit headquartered in Santa Monica, tipped off Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer that a nursing home in Westlake was improperly discharging homeless and mentally-impaired residents, resulting in a $600,000 settlement.

City Council approved the Santa Monica Pier Corporation's request to move the Pier concert's start date to the third Wednesday in August, which was estimated to increase attendance by about 30 percent and make Twilight more attractive to corporate sponsors.

The City of Santa Monica officially lost the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) lawsuit. The judge said future City Council elections should be determined by a seven district map. The final ruling reinforced the amended tentative ruling. City Hall appealed the decision.

Huckleberry Cafe, a comfort food cafe located off Wilshire (and 2018 Most Loved SM Breakfast/Brunch winner), celebrated its ten-year anniversary. Owners Josh Loeb and Zoe Nathan said Huckleberry's longevity and support from the community have been a surprise and they're both thankful for the local support.

A 40-unit building at 601 Wilshire Blvd. will replace a FedEx and a defunct ticket services center and another 40-unit building at 525 Colorado Ave. will replace a one-story building and parking lot occupied by software company Carbon Five. Each will contain more than 6,000 square feet of commercial space facing the street.

The VOID opened on the Promenade offering a new virtual reality concept tied to popular movies such as Star Wars and Wreck it Ralph.

The Breeze Bike Share program lost revenue and ridership to competition from dockless scooters and bikes.

Three companies trying to take cars off the road during peak commute hours worked together to make it easier for companies to encourage their employees to carpool. Waze Carpool announced that it partnered with commuting platforms RideAmigos and Luum so employers using Waze can incentivize employees to carpool, such as by giving gift cards, paid time off, gas money or parking passes.

Big Blue Bus installed solar-powered LED signs that will show arrival times at 10 large bus shelters and 166 bus stops in Santa Monica and Los Angeles by mid-2019. The 176 shelters and stops comprise 76 percent of BBB ridership. BBB has also equipped 19 of its newest buses with free Wi-Fi and a wireless connection will be standard on all new buses.

Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library is a volunteer-run 501 3(c) non-profit that raises funds and advocates on behalf of the Santa Monica Public Library System. The group set a goal to raise about $100k to fund many programs throughout the year, including Santa Monica Reads, the Summer Reading Program, SMPL at the Beach, Soundwaves concerts, author talks, movie screenings and branch programming such as literacy improvement for kids.

The Santa Monica Police Department arrested three people and seized 21 handguns, eight long guns/rifles, over 4000 rounds of ammunition, cocaine, methamphetamine and heroin in a raid triggered by local drug sales. More than $200,000 in cash was also found at the scene.

Richard Bloom, a former Mayor of Santa Monica who represents the Westside in the California State Assembly, introduced a bill that would make California the 25th state to mandate that private health insurance companies cover the costs of hearing aids for children. Bloom also announced that he introduced legislation to tax soda sold in California as a way to tackle the state's diabetes and obesity problems.

The state senator representing Santa Monica introduced a bill that seeks to phase out single-use plastics by 2030. Sen. Ben Allen, who represents the Westside, Hollywood and the South Bay in the California State Senate, introduced legislation requiring all single-use packaging and products to be reusable, recyclable or compostable. The bill has been shelved until next year's legislative session.

Stunt workers stepped up their campaign for recognition at the Oscars. Alex Daniels, 38-year veteran stunt coordinator and president of the Stuntmen's Association, said the stunt community has been fighting for representation at the Oscars since at least 1991. Even with several stunt members in the Academy and several discussions and meetings, they have gained no traction in their fight.

MARCH

A longtime art auctioneer held his last auction at Bergamot Station. Robert Berman, owner of Santa Monica Auctions, announced plans to downsize and move his gallery.

SEE **MARCH** PAGE 7

MARCH

FROM PAGE 6

A three-story building was announced to replace Coogie's Cafe in Mid-City and a four-story building was announced for a property at 5th and Wilshire. The mixed-use building with 46 units and 12,080 square feet of ground floor commercial space will supplant Coogie's. The other development will contain 15 units and 1,933 square feet of ground floor commercial space.

City Council discussed how to make parks and beaches safer and cleaner, directing city staff to research the cost of stationing ambassadors and installing lighting, cameras or other security features at Reed and other parks and funding community-organized park events and activities like the Meet Me at Reed family fun day series to deter criminal activity.

The Third Street Promenade began adding new features designed to attract visitors and encourage them to linger including new outdoor seating and games. Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. and the city moved forward with their Promenade 3.0 plan based on data gathered in a survey, which found that two-thirds of visitors to the Promenade come from Santa Monica or Los Angeles.

SMMUSD lost about $8.8 million in state funding last year due to a switch in its funding model. The Los Angeles County Office of Education told the district that the district was not entitled to the funds because it had become a basic aid school district during the 2017- 2018 school year and withdrew $8.86 million from SMMUSD's financial accounts without prior written notice.

Three Lincoln Middle School students won first, second and third place in an essay contest that asked Los Angeles-area students how they would engineer the city of Los Angeles to be completely powered by renewable energy. Eighth grader Simona Trentchev, 7th grader Emma Howard and 6th grader Bella Brito won the American Society of Civil Engineers contest with essays that proposed harnessing thermal, human and solar energy to wean Los Angeles off fossil fuels.

A 47-foot high building with apartments, commercial space and creative offices will be built near Bergamot Station. The building will join several other mixed-use developments planned near the Expo Line station, replacing a small office building and parking lot at 1618 Stanford St. with 47 apartments, 4,004 square feet of ground floor commercial space, 11,733 square feet of subterranean office space and a parking garage with 102 parking spaces for cars and 75 for bicycles.

Astro Doughnuts and Fried Chicken opened its second local location on Main Street. The doughnut shop famed for its unique doughnuts replaced Books and Cookies.

The Cayton Children's Museum announced an opening date. The museum almost doubled its size when moving to Santa Monica Place.

SMMUSD launched a project-based learning program for high schoolers in a renovated space at Olympic High School for students entering ninth grade. The four-year program allows students to pursue their own interests, form relationships with real-world experts in those topics and demonstrate their knowledge with a project or presentation at the end of each semester.

A man broke into a home on Pacific Coast Highway and set it on fire before fleeing to the roof of an adjacent house. All southbound lanes on PCH were closed from the California Incline as police officers and firefighters put out the fire and talked the man down from the roof, eventually arresting him for burglary and arson.

Santa Monica will experience more frequent droughts and coastal flooding, hotter temperatures and poorer air quality as the world's climate changes throughout the next century, according to documents released by City Hall. However, officials said the city's geography and the city of Santa Monica's Climate Action & Adaptation Plan (CAAP) will shield residents from some of the impacts of climate change.

The city of Santa Monica distributed 2,000 lawn signs to households to encourage safe driving in school zones and residential areas as part of its Vision Zero efforts that involve infrastructure improvements aimed at making specific intersections and corridors safer.

Emergency service personnel searched the Santa Monica coast for a swimmer who went missing after signaling for help. A body was ultimately found 10 days after the individual disappeared.

Six victims of Eric Uller filed claims against the City of Santa Monica and the Santa Monica Police Activities League (PAL) for failing to protect them from sexual abuse inflicted by Uller. Los Angeles-based law firm Taylor & Ring filed the claims on behalf of the six anonymous men who allege Uller sexually abused them while he was a volunteer in the PAL youth program during the 1990s. Three additional victims filed a separate but similar suit.

The air quality in Santa Monica, while generally good, gets worse on the weekends and varies across the city. The Pardee RAND Graduate School conducted a research project in Santa Monica that provided insights into air quality at the neighborhood level.

A new tenant in one of Santa Monica's rent-controlled apartments would need to earn $91,200 per year to afford a studio, according to an annual report on the city's rent control system. The city is also showing modest gains in its rent controlled housing supply. 70 apartments and houses in Santa Monica became subject to rent control in 2018, a little more than the number of rent-controlled units that were taken off the market through the Ellis Act.

The Santa Monica Quilt Guild, a charitable quiltmaking nonprofit, produced more than 25 quilts for families in Malibu affected by the Woolsey fire. The guild handed blankets to a SMMUSD representative to distribute to families. Quilt blankets made ranged from sofa quilts to bed quilts, with sizes for babies, toddlers, teens and adults.



File photo

RUNNERS HIGH: The Los Angeles Marathon ended in Santa Monica. The race will return in 2020 for its 35th anniversary.

Organization guru Marie Kondo's Netflix show aired in January and Santa Monica's thrift and consignment stores were still awash in items the show's viewers decluttered.

The annual Stairway to the Stars series of concerts hit its 70th year anniversary and brought SMMUSD's most talented musicians together to perform with prestigious guest conductors. Nearly 1,000 elementary, middle, and high school students participated.

Two people were hit by vehicles in a single weekend, with one collision resulting in a fatality.

A man fell off an electric scooter and died after being struck by a vehicle in Ocean Park. Two days later, a teenage girl riding a bicycle was hit by a Metro bus in front of the Santa Monica main library.

After rolling out a new utility that provides electricity from renewable sources such as wind and solar to residents, local officials expanded the program to businesses.

A police chase down Pacific Coast Highway (PCH) resulted in an arrest of a man suspected of breaking into multiple cars and pretending to be a parking attendant at a beach parking lot.

The City opened applications for another round of microgrants that focused on creating more economic opportunities in the Pico neighborhood.

Local police seized almost $50,000 worth of fentanyl and cocaine from a Mid-City home. The Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) served a search warrant for a residence near the intersection of 11th Street and Santa Monica Boulevard and recovered nine ounces of fentanyl, about 2.5 ounces of cocaine and more than $12,000 in cash. Officers arrested Shane Michael Spring, 36, and Sasha Carillo, 33, both from Santa Monica, for possessing and selling narcotics.

After a century of acting as an educational and social hub for the Santa Monica community, the Ocean Park Library celebrated its 100th anniversary this year.

City Council temporarily prevented developers from including affordable housing intended for extremely low income households to increase the number of affordable units in the city overall.

The Los Angeles Marathon ended in Santa Monica. Elisha Barno (Kenya) and Askale Merachi (Ethiopia) won their divisions and beat more than 20,000 runners to the finish line.

A trio of new hirings was approved at SMMUSD. Principals for Malibu High, Malibu Middle School and a new director of special education were named. Patrick Miller, Melissa Andino and Deanna Sinfield were named to their respective positions.

A woman filed a lawsuit against the Police Activities League alleging sexual assault by an employee. The suit followed a pair of lawsuits against the organization and the city over abuse by Eric Uller.

A fast-growing artificial intelligence company expanded from the fjords of Norway to Silicon Beach. Boost.ai, which makes software that automates customer service, announced last week that it is opening a North American headquarters in downtown Santa Monica.

Following the exit of Busy Bee Hardware in late 2017, Fisher Hardware and Lumber said it would close in 2020 due to pending increases in rental costs.

The man accused of trying to rob a Montana Ave. Jewelry store with a bomb was sentenced to two years in state prison. Robert Abalov (dubbed the "Bomber Robber" by authorities) was sentenced after pleading no contest to one count of attempted second-degree robbery.

SEE **APRIL** PAGE 10

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (DECEMBER 24)

You've been putting these efforts into a project and not getting the outcome you really want. That changes this year. It's not that you're doing anything drastically different; it's just that all the work catches up to you. You break through a plateau and start seeing amazing results beyond your dreams. Cancer and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 27, 20, 14, 44 and 7.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The bottom line is that you have to (SET ITAL)do(END ITAL) things to remember them. Memories are created with action. Being told something or experiencing it passively as an audience member of a show leads to forgetting.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You will find the right match for what you're offering, though most likely not right away. You'll start with situations that work well on some levels but not others, and you'll learn from this so that later you can create an amazing fit.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Ideas live longer than people. Ideas can change what people cannot, scale macro or micro, alter landscapes, oceans, asteroids, atoms. Given the power of ideas, shouldn't you be having more of them?

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The options haven't always been conducive to living life your way, but you didn't let that stop you from dreaming about better times. Now you have choices you didn't have back there. Act. Move and make new things happen.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Taking the high road has so many benefits beyond morality that it could even be considered a strategy, and certainly one you'll never regret, no matter how the other person happens to play it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Be the chooser instead of the chosen. You're ready. You know enough about who and what is out there to make good decisions. If you wait until someone picks you, you won't get the chance to pursue your own interests.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Yes, it's all coming together and in a way that will defy expectation and explanation. So have faith, keep doing the work and don't worry. Worry ruins the process, which later you'll realize was the best part all along.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Sure, you're known for being serious about your endeavors and intense in your affections, but you can lighten up with the best of them. Your current lightheartedness gives a joyful lift to everyone around you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Prioritizing your mental and spiritual wellness means different things to you at different times. Right now, it's a matter of pacing yourself and being satisfied that whatever you're doing at any given time is enough.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It was once just a little idea, and now it's hogging the dance floor of your mind. This song needs singing. Express it. Let it pop from your mouth the first moment that seems spacious enough.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Warm exchanges happen with those you know well and those you don't. The former will be sweet, the latter enchanting. Socializing is work though. And so it is with all work, for best results, take breaks.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It's pretty simple how this plays out. You do the happy things, and then joy courses through your being. Your passion will inspire, and even those who don't share your interests will be uplifted by your enthusiasm.

Sleigh-Flight Moon

Are you planning a holiday surprise? The lucky angle of the sun and Uranus lend marvelous assistance with this. As for those going a distance to be with loved ones, the Sagittarian moon of journeys and expeditions will be an expedient travel companion as well as a cheerleader for Santa's sleigh. "Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!"

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION

"Holiday, I know you're really into music and especially lyrics so I thought I'd ask: 'The 12 Days of Christmas' -- WHY?!" Signed, Annoyed Caroler. Such a good question! What's the matter? You don't like songs that take 10 minutes to sing and involve the memorization of random symbols and archaic traditions that no one has ever heard of? Or is it the concept of what constitutes appropriate gifting of one's true love that gets you down? Admittedly, the scenario posed in the song would be so much pressure to pull off, and to what end? A home filled with dancers dodging various avian species and leaping over pipers... no wonder the song all but comes to a halt when the prospect of golden rings comes up. It's the one decent gift! Celebrate that and give the milking maids the day off. In a nutshell, the carol, which seems to have originated in the late 18th century, may very well have been a memory game. Popular at the time were challenges of memory in which participants test their recall on the lyrics and, when they mess up, the opponent is awarded in some way, like by a favor or a kiss. With that in mind, you might have a new appreciation for the carol if you take it back to its origins and turn it into a drinking game.

CELEBRITY PROFILES

Capricorns often begin their career paths earlier than others and this is also true of Ryan Seacrest, who hosted the morning announcements in high school and interned at a radio station as a teen. Born under three luminaries in Capricorn, the sign of moguls, Seacrest was an early Christmas present to his parents who remain his biggest fans and have been known to visit him on air. **Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.**

WORD UP!

Tintinnabulation
Noun
The ringing or sound of bells.

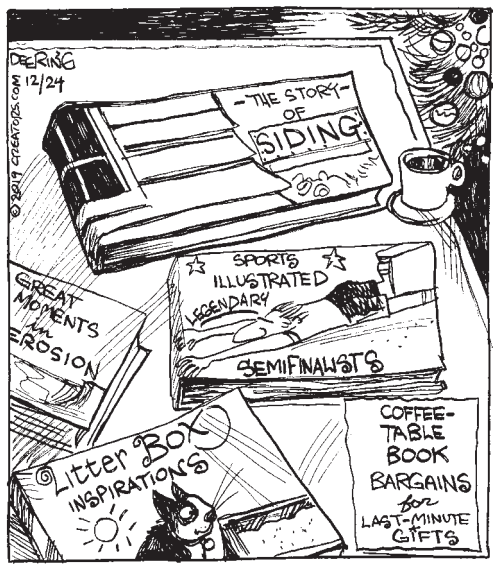
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



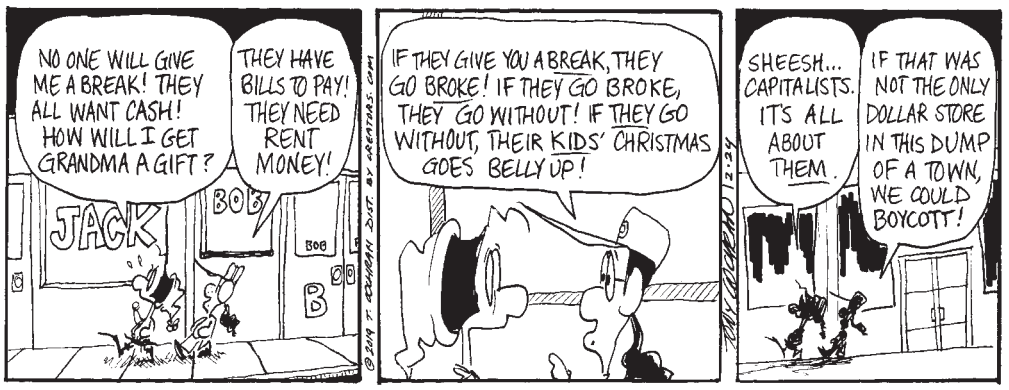
Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



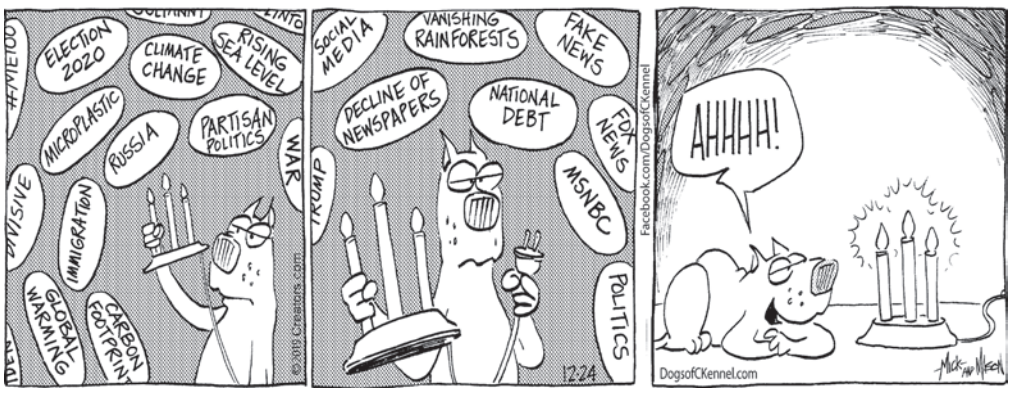
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



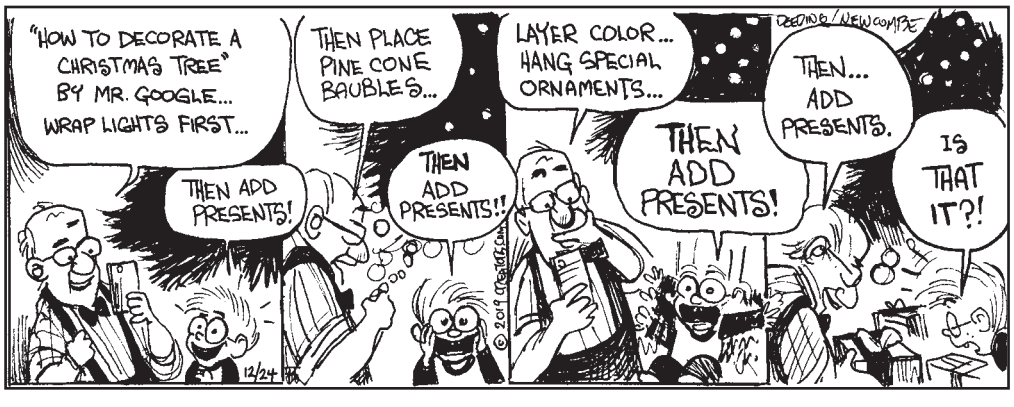
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



RUN YOUR DBAs IN THE DAILY PRESS FOR ONLY $80
INCLUDES RECEIPT AND PROOF OF PUBLICATION. Call us today!
Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

DO YOU HAVE COMMUNITY NEWS?
Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

Briefs

The Beach

It's Time to Take the Plunge at Third Annual Polar Bear Swim

On Saturday, December 28, dip your toes, take a plunge or go for a 300-yard or 500-yard buoy swim in the great Pacific, then warm up in the heated Beach House pool. Celebrate this annual tradition with friends and family while enjoying the pool and poolside activities including snacks, warm beverages, and photos with our mascot, Pat the Polar Bear.

The pool opens at 9 a.m., then head to the beach where you can run through the snowflake arch on the way to your plunge. At 9:20 a.m., it's the Kids Polar Plunge followed by the Adults Polar Plunge at 9:30 a.m. The 300-yard swim will follow at 9:40 a.m. and the 500-yard buoy swim at 9:50 a.m. The pool will be open until 1 p.m.

New this year - all Polar Bears are invited to participate in our Hygiene Kit project with West Coast Care. Bring items such as new socks, toothbrushes and travel-sized toothpaste to support people in our community. No matter how small or large your donation, the impact it has on the life of an individual is remarkable. Those donating will be entered into a drawing for one of five complimentary pool passes.

Admission will be charged for polar bears entering the pool deck to visit, soak or swim in the heated pool, take a hot shower and munch on the tasty snacks provided. Pool Admission: $10/Adults, $5/Senior Adults 60+, $4/Youth 1-17. Register https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/74936 for the third annual Polar Bear Swim.

Annenberg Community Beach House is located at 415 Pacific Coast Highway, Santa Monica, CA 90402. Parking is $3 per hour or $8 per day. For more information visit annenbergbeachhouse.com or call 310-458-4904. The Annenberg Community Beach House is wheelchair accessible and ADA compliant. For disability-related accommodations, please call Guest Services at 310-458-4904.

The Annenberg Community Beach House at Santa Monica State Beach is operated by the City of Santa Monica. The Beach House is made possible by a generous gift from the Annenberg Foundation, at the direction of Wallis Annenberg, and in partnership with the City of Santa Monica and California State Parks. Additional funding was provided by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development.

MIRANDA IGLESIAS, PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATOR

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

A	C	E	D	■	M	I	F	F	■	S	T	R	A	P
D	A	R	E	■	I	D	L	E	■	T	H	I	N	S
L	I	R	A	■	S	O	O	T	■	R	E	N	T	S
I	R	O	N	■	F	L	E	A	M	A	R	K	E	T
B	O	N	S	A	I	■	■	■	E	W	E	■	■	■
■	■	■	■	S	T	O	R	I	E	S	■	S	H	E
C	H	I	L	I	■	W	O	N	T	■	H	E	A	T
B	A	R	G	A	I	N	B	A	S	E	M	E	N	T
E	R	I	E	■	R	E	I	N	■	L	O	D	G	E
R	D	S	■	B	A	D	N	E	W	S	■	■	■	■
■	■	■	N	U	T	■	■	■	R	E	P	A	I	R
G	A	R	A	G	E	S	A	L	E	■	R	I	D	E
I	N	O	I	L	■	A	R	I	A	■	I	S	E	E
S	T	O	V	E	■	W	E	P	T	■	C	L	A	D
T	I	M	E	R	■	S	A	S	H	■	E	E	L	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	4	7	6	5	9	1	8	2
2	9	5	7	8	1	6	3	4
1	6	8	3	2	4	7	5	9
5	7	9	1	3	8	2	4	6
8	2	4	9	6	5	3	1	7
6	3	1	4	7	2	8	9	5
4	8	2	5	1	6	9	7	3
7	5	6	8	9	3	4	2	1
9	1	3	2	4	7	5	6	8

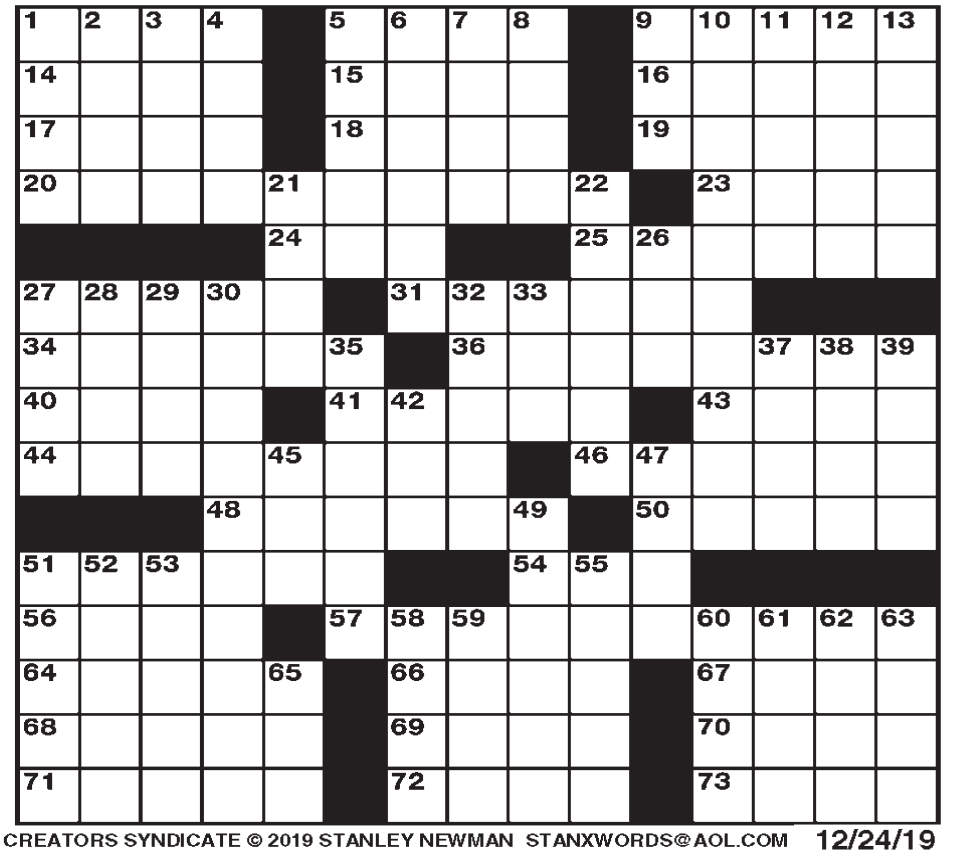
	8		3			7		
		4		8			9	
	5		7	6	4		3	
		3			8		1	
7				3				4
	9		4			3		
	1		5	2	3		8	
	6			9		1		
		8			1		2	

Newsday Crossword

FOURTH-LETTER WORDS by Sally R. Stein
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Out of danger
5 Slender
9 Go with the flow
14 "Not guilty," for one
15 "Look what I did!"
16 Extinguish, as a fire
17 Software buyer
18 Make the first bet
19 African nation with a "South" namesake
20 Store's sales event
23 Invoice
24 Colo. neighbor
25 Self-assurance
27 Test score
31 Net-guarding hockey position
34 Mechanical beings
36 Leaves high and dry
40 Prayer ender
41 Didn't like at all
43 Tenor's solo
44 Keep for later
46 Glossy fabrics
48 They don't mingle
50 Casino city, for short
51 Jockey's seat
54 __ Baba
56 Matured
57 Acts like a gossip
64 The worth of something
66 Reach across
67 Neighborhood
68 Heroic tales
69 Frying medium
70 Sharp taste
71 Schoolroom furnishings
72 Historical periods
73 Pantry pests

DOWN
1 Potato, slangily
2 In addition
3 Know somehow
4 __ Grey tea
5 "Bedtime" reading
6 Small canine
7 Notion
8 More than a few
9 Some mag pages
10 Go out with another couple
11 Broadcast's sound
12 Biblical song
13 Flour sack wt., maybe
21 Mad as __ hen
22 Soup alternatives
26 Fraternity jewelry
27 Mardi __
28 City around the Vatican
29 Aid in a crime
30 Mickey Mouse colleague
32 Western film
33 Lincoln's nickname
35 Made bright
37 Not a duplicate: Abbr.
38 Ship of 1492
39 Back talk
42 Suffix for stock or block
45 Fa, __, la, ti . . .
47 Hertz competitor
49 Egypt's desert
51 Didn't throw out
52 With wide-open mouth
53 Sandwich shops
55 Gives temporarily
58 Maui or Tahiti
59 Practice boxing
60 Numerical info
61 Teheran's land
62 Tenant's payment
63 Price stickers
65 Double-curve letter



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2019 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 12/24/19

APRIL

FROM PAGE 7

Katie Richards, a 17-year-old Samohi senior, won a $40,000 scholarship from Edison International. Richards was one of 30 students to receive a $40k scholarship from Edison International, who doles out $1.2 million in scholarships annually to students prepared to embark on a STEM-related career.

Charging drivers $4 to enter parts of Santa Monica and West Los Angeles could reduce traffic by 19% during peak hours, according to a study from the Southern California Association of Governments. No official proposal exists to establish a congestion fee, but officials said a fee could reduce pollution and traffic.

Apartments smaller than 375 square feet were temporarily banned while City Hall crafted new laws to regulate micro-apartments. City Council voted to prohibit market-rate micro-apartments in response to developer WS Communities' plans to build six buildings entirely comprised of units smaller than 375 square feet within a four-block radius downtown. Developers were also temporarily unable to build housing for extremely low income households as City Hall refined its housing rules to encourage more units for median income residents.

APRIL

A U.S. Army veteran was arrested after authorities discovered he was allegedly plotting to bomb one of several locations in Southern California, including Long Beach, the Santa Monica Pier, Huntington Beach and Los Angeles freeways as revenge for a mass shooting at a New Zealand mosque the prior month.

A driver struck a woman riding a Bird scooter as she crossed 16th Street on Montana Avenue. The woman was riding the scooter on the right side of the street on Montana, which includes a bike lane. She turned left and was struck from behind by a man driving a Toyota Yaris, suffering a head injury.

A noted community leader and activist died after a short illness. Beth Leder-Pack worked as an information analyst for the Rent Control Board for 25 years and was active in a multitude of community organizations, fighting for affordable housing and workers' rights.

A new aircraft company has touched down at Santa Monica Airport, touting a futuristic airplane and an ambitious business plan. ICON Aircraft, which is headquartered in Northern California, opened its first showroom at Corporate Hangar 7.

The Window burger joint opened in Venice, bringing a walk-up casual atmosphere and low-cost but high-quality foods with it. East Coast-style burgers, Impossible burgers, fried chicken sandwiches, kale salads and grain bowls are on the menu.

Santa Monica High School broke ground on the Discovery Building, which is scheduled to open by the end of 2021, and will house 38 classrooms for the school's M and O houses, including science and computer labs, three multipurpose rooms, common areas and seminar rooms.

Four new buildings will provide 188 apartments downtown and in Mid-City, including 40 designated for low-income seniors and 30 for other low-income households. 1514 7th St. and 1445-1453 10th St. will be entirely affordable, while 1235 5th St. and 1543 7th St. will be mixed-use buildings with 23 and 100 units, respectively.

A man from Huntington Beach was arrested for assaulting a parking attendant at a downtown bank. John Douglas Steuart, 57, attempted to exit the parking lot of Bank of America at 1301 4th St. without paying. When a parking attendant confronted him about paying the parking fee, Steuart hit her with his car and continued to accelerate while she lay on the ground.

Tacos Punta Cabras closed due to a dispute with its landlord over mold, water leaks and a rodent infestation.

The Santa Monica Police Department provided disciplinary records from the past five years showing that officers have mistakenly fired a gun while pursuing a robbery suspect, stolen earbuds from a store manager and attempted to get preferential treatment to adopt a puppy.

Santa Monica announced its first Pride Month. Santa Monica Pier, Santa Monica Place, the Third Street Promenade and surrounding businesses hosted food festivals, happy hours, storytelling time for kids and silent discos to celebrate the LGBTQ+ community.

Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. used new software to take photos and measurements of curbs and sidewalks in the downtown area, creating a map that it could use to change where scooter riders leave their devices, how delivery drivers park and where Ubers and Lyfts wait for riders.

City Hall announced a plan to build affordable housing on a property it owns downtown. The City owns 1318 4th St., which is currently home to Parking Structure No. 3. The structure is heavily used but has long been slated for demolition, and the City designed Parking Structure No. 6 to replace the parking capacity that would be lost. The new affordable apartments will likely be reserved for homeless people.

President Donald Trump swung through Santa Monica. The president was on his way to a 2020 reelection campaign fundraiser in Beverly Hills. His arrival included a motorcade which brought traffic jams momentarily throughout Santa Monica.

City Council voted on regulations for sidewalk vending to comply with a new state law that requires cities to establish rules for vendors without prohibiting or criminalizing them. In addition to creating a permitting system for vendors, City Hall is looking to ban them from the beach, Santa Monica Pier, part of Palisades Park and the Third Street Promenade and direct them to other downtown areas like the Colorado Esplanade.

A former coach at a local Catholic high school alleged its athletic director verbally and physically threatened him and devalued the school's girls' sports programs.

The city released a six month update on the Shared Mobility Pilot Program, showing 105 scooter and bike parking zones have been stenciled on city streets and sidewalks and police have issued 1,542 citations to riders.

The School on Wheels came to the Santa Monica Bay Women's Club to honor more than 200 volunteers who go out into communities every week helping homeless children with their school work and studies.

A Santa Monica man was sentenced to more than nine years in prison for an inter-state identity theft case and mortgage fraud case. George French Jones, Jr., 50, was sentenced to 116 months by U.S. District Judge Robert N. Scola in Miami, after previously pleading guilty to mail fraud and identity theft charges in connection with a mortgage fraud scheme involving two waterfront residential properties in Broward County, Florida. He was also ordered to pay over $1.8 million in restitution.

A transportation center that sells Big Blue Bus passes and parking permits opened downtown. The GoSaMo Center replaced the former Transit Store on the ground level of Parking Structure 5 at 1444 4th St.

Environmental advocates gathered in Santa Monica this week in defense of an endangered wolf species. The Center for Biological Diversity planned a rally to encourage the California Fish and Game Commission to oppose a Trump administration proposal that would remove the gray wolf from the federal Endangered Species Act.

Hollywood writers and agents developed a protracted labor dispute that included a directive from the Writers Guild of America for its members to fire their agents.

Santa Monica Police officer Rashad Riley died during a Hawaiian vacation. Riley jumped off a tall rock at the beach and was swimming back to shore when he apparently encountered trouble near the rocky area.

Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. (DTSM) launched a pilot program to set aside two parking spaces in front of 2nd Street restaurants HiHo Cheeseburger and Uovo for drivers contracting with food delivery apps like Postmates and DoorDash. Two spaces in Parking Structure 1 on 4th Street will also be available.

Rob Bailis left Cal Performances at UC Berkeley to serve as artistic and executive director of the Broad Stage. The performing arts space incorporates a 500-seat theater and a 100-seat black-box theater, which host concerts, plays, dance performances, operas and lectures.

The restaurateurs behind Milo & Olive opened a to-go pizza parlor on Pico Boulevard. Milo SRO, which stands for Standing Room Only, bills itself as the laid-back little sister to the ever-popular bakery and pizzeria Milo & Olive.

O'Brien's Irish Pub celebrated its quarter-century anniversary. Owner Willy O'Sullivan, said his business has survived so long in the city due to being a lot like its owner — thriving and changing things up when times get tough.

Two developments that sparked protests from Ocean Park residents moved forward. City Council denied appeals filed by South Ocean Avenue Residents and Unite Here Local 11 against multi-story, mixed-use buildings at 1828 Ocean Ave. and 1921 Ocean Front Walk.

City Hall will cut about 29 jobs and save $17 million in spending by mid-2021 to prepare for its coming financial shortfalls as it pays down its $448 million unfunded pension liability over the next 13 years. Even with an accelerated payment plan for the pension liability that will save $106 million in interest and fewer employees and services, the city of Santa Monica's General Fund will still be at least $15 million in the red in eight years.

A proposal from the state assemblymember representing Santa Monica to control rising rents did not move forward this year. Assemblymember Richard Bloom canceled a public hearing on his bill to change a 1995 state law that blocks rent control on apartments built after that year and on all single-family homes.

A two-alarm fire damaged the roof of a downtown apartment building Wednesday night but there were no injuries to residents or firefighters.

Ownership at a Third Street Promenade food hall consolidated with half of its current and planned restaurants now under the same ownership. K2 Restaurants, a Los Angeles based restaurant group, already owns STRFSH, Azulé Taqueria and Supertoro in the Downtown location. The company announced that it now owns Paperboy Pizza, also located on the second floor of The Gallery.

A four-story building will replace a gift store on Wilshire Boulevard, near Santa Monica's border with Los Angeles. The building at 3223 Wilshire Blvd. will add 53 apartments, four of which will be affordable to households earning 30 percent of the area median income, and about 5,400 square feet of commercial space to Northeast Santa Monica.

A popular Mediterranean restaurant near Santa Monica Airport opened a new location downtown. Crimson serves healthy Persian fare in a sleek space at 606 Broadway.

editor@smdp.com

TOP MOMENTS

FROM PAGE 1

offered one of its most moving episodes. The female doctors and nurses of Grey Sloan Memorial Hospital lined a hallway to both protect and support a rape victim, who had said every man she saw reminded her of her rapist. The episode is named after the Tori Amos song about a sexual assault and was inspired, in part, by Christine Blasey Ford's testimony at the Brett Kavanaugh hearings. It was written by a woman, Elisabeth Finch, and directed by a woman, Debbie Allen. After it aired, it led to a 43% increase in calls to the National Sexual Assault Hotline.

IS THIS LOVE THAT I'M FEELING?

Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper seemed to have a kind of chemistry that was almost combustible when they performed their song "Shallow" at the Oscars in February. They sang to each other, they smoldered, they snuggled on the piano bench. So intense was their onstage bond that speculation went wild about whether they shared a real-life romance, too. When both soon split from their respective long-term partners, the gossip went even wilder. But Gaga told Oprah Winfrey it was all an act: "We mapped the whole thing out — it was orchestrated as a performance."

GROUCHY, GRIM ORIGINS

"Saturday Night Live" managed to mock both "Sesame Street" and Hollywood's love affair with gritty anti-heroes with its mock trailer in October for the dark movie "Grouch." In the video, David Harbour (of "Stranger Things" fame) asks in a raspy voice: "When everyone calls you trash and everyone treats you like trash, why don't you just become trash?" It was a hysterical send-up of dark origin stories like "Joker" that included Snuffleupagus as a pimp, The Count as a pill head and Elmo as a crack dealer. The video was watched more than 6.7 million times.

" I HAVE THAT RIGHT "

Billy Porter became the first openly gay man to earn an Emmy for best dramatic actor in September, winning for his role of Pray Tell on FX's "Pose." The Tony Award-winner received a standing ovation as he took the stage. "James Baldwin said, 'It took many years of vomiting up all the filth that I had been taught about myself, and halfway believed, before I could walk around this earth like I had the right to be here.'" He added: "I have the right. You have the right. We all have the right."

A PRINCE LEFT SWEATING

An on-camera interview can be a good way to clear the air, but not for Britain's Prince Andrew. The royal's effort to put the Jeffrey Epstein scandal behind him may have done him irreparable harm. His sit-down with BBC's Newsnight in November backfired when the prince failed to show empathy for the young women who were exploited by Epstein, even as he defended his friendship with the convicted sex offender. Some of his answers were widely mocked on social media and he soon stepped down from royal duties.

WHEN A KING PROVED A QUEEN

Journalist Gayle King was unflappable in March as R. Kelly leaped up in anger during an interview and cried out: "Y'all trying to kill me!" King didn't flinch from challenging the singer as he denied multiple allegations that he sexually abused underage girls and was controlling in his relationships. She drew praise for her performance, with commentators calling it a journalistic master class. "Robert, we have to have a conversation," she said to R Kelly. "I don't want you just ranting at the camera."

"DOMESTIC POLITICAL ERRAND"

The nation was riveted when former White House official Fiona Hill went to Congress in November and dismantled a main line of the president's defense in the impeachment inquiry. Hill said Donald Trump's top European envoy was sent on a "domestic political errand" seeking investigations of Democrats. She also urged lawmakers to stop peddling a "fictional narrative" at the center of the impeachment probe. Hill was praised for her poise and ability to remain calm amid the political crosswinds and intense scrutiny.

"THE VERDICT IS GUILTY"

A gut-wrenching moment of top-notch TV occurred during the last few minutes of the second episode of "When They See Us." The four-part Netflix series explores the true story of the Central Park Five, five black and Latino teenagers who were coerced into confessing to a rape they didn't commit in 1989. In that second episode, show creator and director Ava DuVernay shows the court verdicts read aloud as the five young actors sob and a trumpet wails.

CONQUERING HERO

American soccer midfielder Megan Rapinoe won the gold medal at the women's World Cup title in July, as well as the Golden Ball and the Golden Boot for its top scorer. She celebrated her two goals in the quarterfinal match against France by raising both arms in victory, reminiscent of Russell Crowe in "Gladiator." She seemed to say: Are you not entertained? Rapinoe was a force off the field, too, becoming a vocal advocate for equitable pay and the treatment of female athletes.

OUT WITH A BANG

After 12 seasons, "The Big Bang Theory" bid a last goodbye in May, with Jim Parson's Sheldon giving a touching speech after winning the Nobel Prize for physics. After earlier squabbles with his friends, he puts aside his lengthy prepared remarks to thank them, asking them to rise. "I apologize if I haven't been the friend you deserve, but I want you to know, in my way, I love you all." The sweetness of the moment is added by the appearance of Sarah Michelle Gellar as the show's last celebrity guest: "Is that Buffy, the Vampire Slayer?" Sheldon asks.

AWWWWWWWW

Was there anything cuter than Baby Yoda this year? Introduced at the end of the first episode of "The Mandalorian," the non-verbal puppet has become an instant pop-culture phenom, spawning memes, fan art and even a New Yorker cartoon. The 50-year-old, big-eyed and green infant arrived in November and was a boost for Disney Plus, giving the streaming service a cuddly viral ambassador. "Officially, 2019 belongs to Baby Yoda now," Esquire declared. Who can argue with that?

CANCEL

FROM PAGE 1

really, really on time. Later, Marlon Brando pulled off the two-wrist tango but, you know, he was Brando. Young celebs have caught on, Chris Pratt, Johnny Depp and Drake included. These days it's all about the digital add-on, plus a statement piece. Can you see our side eyes?

EMAIL RECEIPTS

Firstly, huge thanks for your out of office responses. Those are gold, but please stop asking for receipts. Learn to live with the suspense like the rest of us as to when we read or do not read your missives, either email, text or otherwise. The same goes for when we most likely do or perchance do not delete said missives at our convenience. Our inbox. Our rules. Keep your curiosity and aggressive email tactics to yourself.

HUMBLE-BRAGATHON

For the truly humble, we appreciate you. For the passive-aggressive, not so much. Merriam-Webster sums up the humblebrag nicely: "To make a seemingly modest, self-critical, or casual statement or reference that is meant to draw attention to one's admirable or impressive qualities or achievement." Just own yourself. The dictionary titans say the term has been around since 2002. It was later popularized by the comedian, TV producer and writer Harris Wittels, who died in 2015.

POP-UPS

There's one for ketchup. There's one for ice cream. There's one for "Friends." There are tons with the sole mission of selling you merch, as opposed to selling you merch while also being mildly entertaining. The Business of Fashion notes that Amazon and other digital disruptors have contributed to traditional retailers closing thousands of stores. The prime but empty real estate is up for grabs on short-term leases for ever-rotating tenants. Pop-ups are now a "strategy" on both ends, from commercial land barons to the sellers of goods, luxury to goofy. Some aren't mad about it. We're all popped out.

CANCEL THE CANCELERS

There's nothing wrong with calling out bad behavior, a bad person or bad practices, especially the kind that are truly threatening and make people feel unsafe. There is most definitely something wrong with the mob mentality that swirls on social media unchecked. The cancel culture is often stoked by sheeples with no interest in drilling down to truths. Mean for mean's sake or 100 percent willing to gulp gossip is not cool. We say, think before you cancel. We need cancel truth. Unite!

BOOMER BACKLASH

Once upon a time in Memeland there was an older dude who trashed Millennials and Gen-Zers for Peter Pan syndrome. For that, younger folks have declared 2019 the year of "OK, Boomer," as in Baby Boomer. Not that the yoots and their pejorative for intransigence, intolerance and tech phobia among their elders is entirely wrong, mind you. It's just time to calm down a bit. The phrase "OK, Boomer" has a richer history. As the legend goes, it surfaced on Reddit in 2009 and on 4chan in 2015. According to The Boston Globe, TikTok videos with the "OkBoomer" tag have been watched more than 44 million times and counting.

INFLUENCER FATIGUE

Is it the end of the line for influencers? Greg Petro, writing for Forbes.com, declared in November: "Consumers, especially younger ones, are losing trust in paid influencers and looking instead to organic grassroots communities where their like-minded peers are sharing content and commentary about brands and products they actually love." Rock on, Greg! Side note, exactly how many followers does one need to score an influencer gig? Asking for a friend.

REVIEWS AND SURVEYS

Everybody is looking for feedback of all kinds, all the time. Don't be so needy! Just send the toilet brush. Your survey doesn't just take "a minute." You have all the reviews you need. If we had something to say, we'd say it. We're putting the incessant requests for service and purchase reviews and surveys high on the annoying list alongside the onslaught of robocalls.

SPOUSAL GUSHING

It's your anniversary. It's your wife's birthday. We get it. You're married or you have an otherwise significant other and you want your social media world to know all about how you actually feel about the big day, the big event, so you post a pic, and your words go something like this: "To my angel spouse, the perfect love of my life. You complete me." The reality at home might be more like this: "If you eat my leftovers, I will end you!" Or maybe true love is alive and flourishing. Love is grand, but in the words of 4-year-olds the world over: "Ewwwww." In the words of far more cynical grown ups, "Get a room!"

Briefs

Fairview Library

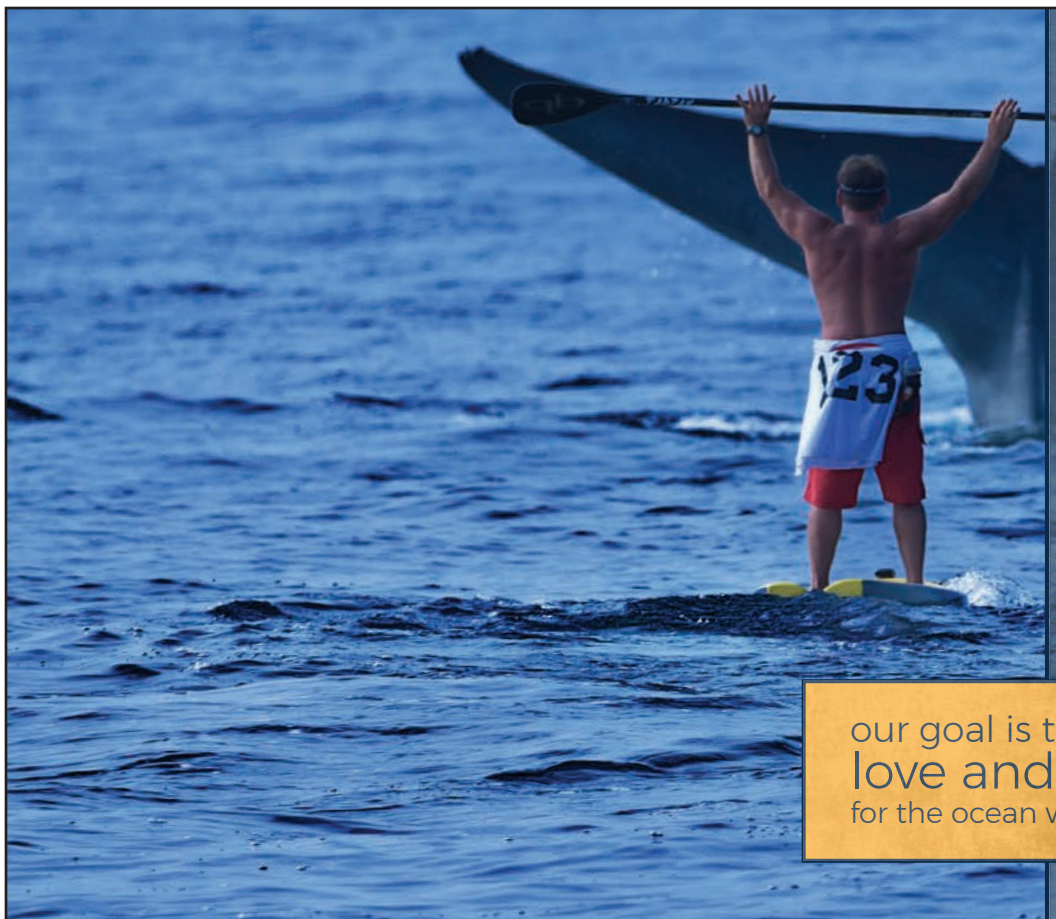
Fairview Branch Library presents "Read and Play" and "Get Started with 3D Printing"

Spend the afternoon playing with family and friends in our indoor play space featuring a short family story time at 3:30 pm, followed by play activities for ages 0-5 designed to cultivate key developmental skills on Saturday, December 28, 2019. This free, 90-minute program will be held in Fairview's Community Room.

Learn the basics of 3D printing and design by completing a guided project at the Fairview Library on Monday, December 30, 2019 at 2:00 pm. This free, 90-minute program will be held in Fairview's Community Room and is for children ages 7-10. Space is limited, to register, email ideashappen@smgov.net at least one week prior to the program.

The Fairview Library is wheelchair-accessible. For special disabled services, call (310) 458-8681 at least one week prior to event. The Fairview Library is served by Big Blue Bus routes 8,16, and 44. Ride your bike. Bicycle parking racks are available at the library.

CHRISTA MUSCATINE, YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIAN



sometimes fact
is just so much
better
than fiction

our goal is to share our
love and passion
for the ocean with the world

PRO SUP SHOP

stand up paddleboard lessons · rentals · sunset cruises · team building events · board sales

prosupshop.com · 310.989.4350 · info@prosupshop.com
4175 Admiralty Way, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292



Make it an Old Fashioned Christmas

A Bike Under Every Tree.

THE ORIGINAL BIKE SHOP
ON MAIN STREET

THE BIKE SHOP SANTA MONICA

2400 Main Street Santa Monica
Across from Urth Cafe

310.581.8014

BikeShopSantaMonica.com
BikeShopCalifornia.com