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Courtesy photos

NEWS OF THE YEAR: The Santa Monica Daily Press documented the news of the year in photos as well as news stories. In the first few months of the year, locals noticed a wave of dead birds on local beaches and despite months of investigation, no definitive cause of death was found although several reasons were possible. The winter months also marked an unusual overlap between the Winter Olympics and the Superbowl with national broadcasters coming to Santa Monica Place to highlight the intersection of the two. Local officials ramped up enforcement on the Pier in response to a surge of illegal vendors and that project eventually created a new model for team based enforcement in other parts of the city. Local schools held their annual Stairway to the Stars concert highlighting the success of SMMUSD's music programs.

The Year in Review Jan, Feb, March

Editor's Note: Today marks the start of SMDP's annual Year in Review. SMDP staff have summarized stories from throughout the year and all 12 months will run in chronological order this week. In today's edition, you'll find news from January through March.

JANUARY

After 25 years leading Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. and over three decades working in Santa Monica, Kathleen Rawson announced her departure from Downtown Santa Monica Inc. to become the CEO of The Hollywood Partnership.

Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer announced the city has defended its plan to permit 6,000 new mixed use housing units along the Expo Line transit corridor. A neighborhood group called Fix the City began fighting

SEE **YIR** PAGE 2

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YIR

FROM PAGE 1

the housing in 2018 with a legal case to block the building project, which encompasses the Exposition Boulevard corridor in Los Angeles, between Santa Monica and Culver City. The plan, called the Exposition Corridor Transit Neighborhood Plan, allows for dozens of new buildings to be constructed, including some along Olympic Boulevard between Centinela and Barrington, just outside Santa Monica city limits, that are zoned to stand 10 to 12 stories tall.

Two years after signing a lease, Mayra Vazquez was ecstatic to open the Buena Vida Tea Bar & Garden, or what she called her "little urban oasis." The tea bar is located at 726 Montana Ave in the former location of the Language of Flowers. Vazquez, who was always a fan of the flower shop, chose to keep its garden and elevate the space into a zen like patio hideaway designed for enjoying the perfect cup of tea.

City staff released a timeline for recontextualizing a pair of 1930s Stanton Macdonald Wright murals, which have been a subject of controversy for several years due to their depiction of native Americans and framing of Santa Monica's history. Community discussions were planned for May to October and staff is expected to report back to Council with recommendations for recontextualization by January 2023 with a goal to implement the project by the end of 2023.

Santa Monica students were back in classrooms following a winter break that coincided with a drastic uptick in local COVID-19 cases, with school officials saying their goal was to continue offering in-person instruction unless absolutely forced to go remote. The goal was not met in Malibu, where 20 new virus cases triggered a distance learning day for Malibu High School and Middle School students.



SMDP photo

100: Jerry Rosenblum died shortly after his 100th birthday.

The largest real estate deal in the city's history closed with the sale of eight properties to New York based real estate company Tishman Speyer. Tishman's purchase of 3.1 acres from WS Communities was one of the largest entitled land sales on the West Coast and the largest in Santa Monica's history. In total, the downtown development portfolio included 325,391 net rentable square feet, including 31,473 square feet of commercial space and 627 multifamily units – all of which are fully entitled and approved by city authorities.

SB 9 was passed by state legislators in September 2021 and came into effect this year. City Council voted to formally oppose the bill, but was forced to focus their efforts on managing its local implementation. The bill is meant to help increase California's housing stock by allowing up to four units to be built on a land parcel zoned for a single family dwelling. Council opposed the bill due to its lack of an affordability requirement and fears that it would result in speculative investors purchasing land parcels and building expensive new units.

Santa Monica inched one step closer to having a medical marijuana dispensary, as the city's lengthy permitting and regulatory process continued to crawl forward. Planning Commission issued a conditional use permit (CUP) to a long-awaited medicinal cannabis retailer that plans to move in at 1416 Wilshire Boulevard between 14th and 15th streets —

SEE **JANUARY** PAGE 3

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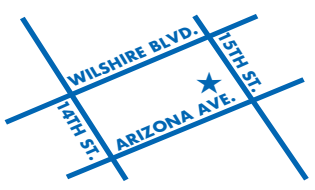
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JANUARY

FROM PAGE 2

not far from UCLA Medical Center. However, that was just the first in a laundry list of licenses, permits and fees needed to begin operations. Among the slew of permits and certificates required are cannabis permits, a county health permit, a seller's permit, insurance and an approved compliance report from code enforcement, plus required fees (around $20,000).

Following pandemic-era budget cuts, City Hall found some extra cash to spend on maintenance projects. In October of last year, Council determined a one-time $1 million capital improvement saving meant city staff could spend an extra seven figures on one priority in particular: clean and safe Santa Monica.

> "The highly-transmissible omicron variant of COVID-19, shortages of testing availability and changing county health guidelines contributed to a stressful new year for parents"

Rainstorms helped to replenish California's thirsty reservoirs, but had an unintended consequence: removing one of Malibu's tactics for enforcing homeless encampment removal. Malibu had been under a state of local emergency due to a rise in encampment fires amid dry, windy conditions. According to public safety officials, between January and August 2021, 17 fires had been reported at homeless encampments within Malibu city limits, with more than one spreading to nearby brush. However, wet weather undermined the rationale for the encampment ban.

The program to distribute LA County's free at-home COVID-19 test kits was paused due to problems with the vendor getting tests to people's homes in a timely fashion. The Department of Health Services eventually took over distribution of the test kits.

Choreographer and dancer Christine Suarez's vision for creating constructive and meaningful dialogue in divided times earned her a 2022 National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) grant. The money from the grant — which she must match with her own fundraising — will go toward furthering her mission of exploring what being American really means.

The highly-transmissible omicron variant of COVID-19, shortages of testing availability and changing county health guidelines contributed to a stressful new year for parents, teachers, students and administrators in the local school district. Schools reported about 10-12 percent positive cases results, with Samohi higher. Local schools also had to deal with staff shortages as the virus affected teachers, administrators and support staff as well as students.

The City of Santa Monica launched a new interdepartmental task force focused on criminal activity associated with unlicensed vending at the Santa Monica Pier. The group included representatives from SMPD, SMFD, Public Works, Code Enforcement and the City Attorney's Office. While the task force was composed of Santa Monica employees it worked in partnership with county offices including the County Department of Public Health. In its first deployment, enhanced enforcement of illegal vending on the Santa Monica Pier resulted in two arrests with police seizing an unregistered gun from a 14-year-old vendor and in a separate incident, a vendor was arrested in connection with an assault.

City Council discussed, but did not adopt, a potential COVID-19 vaccine mandate to cover a variety of indoor spaces. While LA County was requiring proof of vaccination for indoor service at bars, breweries, clubs, lounges and wineries since October, there was no countywide vaccine requirement for indoor spaces.

Malibu City leadership was back at the negotiating table with a new offer to break off from the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District: $40 million in an endowment fund focused on closing the achievement gap at six Santa Monica school sites. The two sides continued negotiating for much of the year before announcing a deal in October.

The Santa Monica Film Festival returned for its 16th iteration under the direction of Santa Monica native David Katz.

The Pico Improvement Organization (PIO) held a neighborhood block party to celebrate a new two-story tall mural celebrating the rich history of the neighborhood. The mural at Pico Blvd and Urban Street was painted by local muralist Marcel Blanco and commemorates several local legacy businesses while adding to the growing collection of street art along Pico Boulevard.

Local officials were alarmed by fliers found at several schools that linked vaccine debates to antisemitism. The fliers were found at Grant, McKinley, Edison, Will Rogers, Roosevelt, Lincoln and John Adams campuses. They featured a large red "A" and an overlapping green "V" that form a Star of David design. They also contained the words "anti-vaxxer" and a phone number to report individuals who were against vaccines.

The MLK Westside Coalition chose to shift its annual MLK Day celebration online in light of the Omicron surge, but the day's programming still packed a powerful, peaceful punch in honor of the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Santa Monica-based non-profit the Children's Lifesaving Foundation surprised UCLA COVID Ward Nurse Shannan Hough and her colleagues at the UCLA Hospital with beauty and skincare gift bags, put together by the staff of Venice-based OSEA Skincare. The bags were filled with high-end skin and beauty products donated by OSEA and their partner brands.

The Omicron fueled surge in COVID-19 cases entered a grim phase with hospitalizations and deaths increasing following weeks of skyrocketing infections.

The County Board of Supervisors began efforts to regulate living in vehicles. A multifaceted motion requested the county gather data, identify funding sources and make plans to support homeless people living in RVs while also removing the dilapidated vehicles from public roads.

In an effort to right historical wrongs, the City opened applications for households or descendants of households forcibly displaced by the construction of the I-10 freeway and Civic Center to receive priority for affordable housing in Santa Monica. The "Right to Return" pilot program acknowledged the harm done to primarily households of color through the use of eminent domain during the 1950s and 1960s. It aimed to create a form of reparations by giving these families the opportunity to return to Santa Monica through high priority placements on the City's Below Market Housing (BMH) list.

The eruption of an undersea volcano in the South Pacific sent tsunami warnings around the globe but Santa Monica escaped any significant damage. The National Weather Service issued a tsunami warning for the entire West Coast, however the day passed with no major incidents locally and the warning was lifted. While groups of eager surfers ignored warnings to avoid the water, they were met with unremarkable waves of two to three feet.

California State Senator Bob Hertzberg entered the race for Third District Supervisor. While he advanced to out of the primary and into the general election, he eventually lost to Lindsay Horvath.

Microsoft announced a deal worth nearly $70 billion for Santa Monica based Activision Blizzard, the maker of Candy Crush and Call of Duty, to boost its competitiveness in mobile gaming and virtual-reality technology. The all-cash $68.7 billion deal would turn Microsoft, maker of the Xbox gaming system, into one of the world's largest video game companies. However, the deal stalled due to opposition from regulators.

Santa Monica Travel & Tourism (SMTT) reported increases in tourism following pandemic induced shutdowns. Local hotel occupancy more than tripled, but was still below the 72 percent occupancy seen in 2019. The average daily hotel room rate was $346, up from 2020's average which was in the $200s. Sensors located along the Third Street Promenade that help the local business district measure foot traffic on the pedestrian thoroughfare also showed an increase.

Despite collecting over 39,000 signatures, an effort to recall CD-11 City Councilman Mike Bonin was rejected by the Los Angeles City Clerk as only 25,965 signatures were deemed valid. The recall was fueled by discontent over Bonin's approach to homelessness, which supporters of the recall said had gotten considerably worse during his tenure and become particularly egregious in Venice.

The city broke ground on a $72 million improvement project designed to further reduce the amount of water the city imports. The expansion and modernization of the Arcadia Water Treatment Plant near the intersection of Wilshire Boulevard and Bundy Drive is part of an ongoing effort to reduce imported water use in the city.

Parents who lost children to fentanyl-laced pills sold on Snapchat gathered to protest the company for what they said was a lack of effort in addressing the crisis.

Jerry Rosenblum, who lived in Santa Monica for nearly 60 years died. Known as a remarkably goal oriented person, at age 88, Jerry set a goal to write his memoir though he had no writing experience. In a year he had completed a first draft and published, "An Angel On My Shoulder." Jerry was delighted to be honored by Al Roker on "The Today Show" when he turned 100 and died a few weeks later.

Members of the Public Safety Reform and Oversight Commission (PSROC) called a special meeting to discuss what several members felt were barriers to the commission's ability to carry out its responsibilities. While commissioners held differing viewpoints on how well the City has supported its mission, Chair George Brown and several other commissioners said that a lack of resources and slow action from the City is holding back the commission's work.

The long-planned Phase Two redevelopment of Providence Saint John's Health Center went to Planning Commission with Providence Health Systems seeking approval for an overhaul of its South

SEE **YEAR** PAGE 4

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YEAR

FROM PAGE 3

Campus facilities and sign-off on an updated community benefits agreement. Officials ultimately approved plans to remove the existing Saint John's Health Center foundation building, MRI facility, John Wayne Cancer Institute, and a vacant apartment building to make way for ten new structures. The proposed facilities include hospital space, medical offices, medical research facilities, a health and wellness center, an education and conference center, a child and family development center, day care, restaurants, visitor accommodations, and a minimum of ten units of affordable multi-family housing.

An unexplained wave of bird deaths stumped environmental experts. Heal the Bay said it received reports of several dead sea birds on the sand in the area around Venice Boulevard and despite months of investigation, no definitive reason was found.

Officials announced that the Super Bowl Pregame show would be broadcast live from the Pier. The big game returned to the local area after an almost 30 year absence.

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: **Proposed Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance to extend Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance 2732 (CCS) to allow certain 100% affordable housing projects to request waivers or reductions of development standards pursuant to State Density Bonus Law**

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to introduce and adopt an Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance extending Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance 2732 (CCS) that was originally adopted by the City Council on December 13, 2022. This Interim Zoning Ordinance allows certain 100% affordable housing projects, except in the Pico Neighborhood Area as outlined in Santa Monica Municipal Code Figure 9.40.020.A, to request waivers or reductions of development standards pursuant to State Density Bonus Law. The interim zoning regulations set forth in Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance 2732 (CCS) will expire on February 11, 2023 unless extended by the City Council.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2023 AT 6:30 PM**

LOCATION: City Council Chamber, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Members of the public unable to attend a meeting but wishing to comment on an item(s) listed on the agenda may submit written comments prior to the public hearing via email to councilmtgitems@santamonica.gov or via mail to City Clerk, 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica, California 90401. Written public comment submitted before 12:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be available for online viewing. All written comments shall be made part of the public record. Please note the agenda item number in the subject line of your written comments.

You may also comment in person at the City Council hearing. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment in person.

Address your comments to: City Clerk
Re: Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance 2732 Extension

VIA EMAIL: councilmtgitems@santamonica.gov
VIA MAIL: 1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION: If you want more information about this project, please contact Roxanne Tanemori at (310) 458-2200 ext. 8202 or by e-mail at roxanne.tanemori@santamonica.gov. For disability-related accommodations, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (310) 458-8211 or (310) 917-6626 TDD at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, and is a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive, and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL: Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-2275.

Arts and Letters announced it would close after nearly two decades of operation on Main Street. The decision came two or three years earlier than the owners had planned due to the challenging retail environment amid the pandemic.

A homeless man was arrested after attempting to assault an employee at Councilwoman Lana Negrete's music store and subsequently attacking an elderly woman on the street. The assault followed a report detailing the amount City Hall spends on homeless services per year (about $5 million) but the report said little data was available to determine the outcome of outreach efforts.

Danny Alvarez was chosen to lead the Santa Monica Fire Department. Former Fire Chief Bill Walker departed in May of 2021 to the Bedford Fire Department in Texas and Wolfgang Knabe had been Interim Fire Chief since June of 2021.

The Santa Monica Fire Department (SMFD) released a report that said it responded to thousands of emergency calls in 2021, with "rescue & emergency medical service incidents" making up the largest share of the department's activities. SMFD Fire Captain Patrick Nulty said calls were beginning to pick up from the 2020 lull.

The Saga of Parking Structure 3 continued. Council previously approved plans to demolish the structure and replace it with an affordable housing project. Council picked a housing partner for the project (EAH Inc.) but the project was then delayed by a judge. However, opponents of the project failed to file their paperwork by a court ordered deadline and the same judge gave City Hall permission to tear down the facility.

FEBRUARY

The City's Black History Month programming focused on much needed healing for Santa Monica's Black community. Events began with an opening ceremony and continued with virtual and in-person events centered around the theme of Black health and wellness. Highlights included an art walk at Bergamot Station featuring Black-history themed exhibits and local students' artwork, the Black History Greens Festival at Virginia Avenue Park and the Celebrating Black Excellence Awards Ceremony.

Girl Scout Cookie season opened allowing scouts to hone their entrepreneurship skills and raise money for their troop's activities in front of local grocery stores and businesses.

The SMPD said crime decreased citywide for the third year running. In 2021, about 2.9 percent fewer Part 1 offenses — crimes including homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, grand theft auto and arson — were reported in the city compared to 2020. This followed a 5.5 percent reduction in those crimes from 2019 to 2020, and a 16 percent reduction from 2018 to 2019. The data came from a news release by the SMPD aggregating serious crime statistics for 2021.

A team of doctors at Providence Saint John's were the first in the nation to pioneer a potentially game changing treatment for one of the most severe forms of brain cancer.

Assembly member Richard Bloom said he would step down from political office, after announcing he was ending his campaign for LA County's Third Supervisorial District. Bloom had the option to campaign in his newly redrawn district but chose to pursue the Supervisorial seat instead. Upon withdrawing from that race, he said he would end his time as an elected official.

Nadia Virani, the owner of Marine Market, was locking up the well-loved Ocean Park bodega when she was attacked from behind, maced and knocked to the ground during a purse snatching.

The Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE)'s Committee on School District Organization planned, but never did, take up a petition that would break up the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) into seven separate voting districts. The proposal was among the first of its kind in the area but was put on hold pending resolution of efforts to split the district between Malibu and Santa Monica.

City Hall began plans to accommodate 8,895 state-mandated new housing units, of which 6,168 must be affordable, by 2029. While the efforts would eventually implode and cause the City to lose control of its development rules, efforts early in the year focused on mundane changes to local rules.

The parents of a 12-year-old boy and a 13-year-old girl who were decapitated in Lancaster plead not guilty to murder and child abuse charges. The children's father, Maurice Jewel Taylor Sr., worked in Santa

SEE **FEBRUARY** PAGE 5



SMDP photo

GAS: Gas prices skyrocketed for much of the year.

FEBRUARY

FROM PAGE 4

Monica as a personal trainer. Both parents were charged with murder and Taylor is seeking to represent himself in the at trial.

The LA County Mental Health Commission heard an idea to shelter homeless people on the underutilized roofs of parking structures dotted around greater Los Angeles. While the idea was pitched and discussed, it was never advanced to policy makers.

A budget update showed $30.7 million in General Fund revenue expected for this fiscal year with recommendations to put the money toward restaffing some positions and increasing services at libraries.

LA County's five-member Board of Supervisors announced its unanimous desire to see Los Angeles become a "haven county" for abortion access in the event other states began to restrict access to reproductive healthcare.

A massive new infrastructure project began near the intersection of Pico Boulevard and Main Street and while construction was disruptive, the final result is nearly invisible to residents as it is a large underground water storage system.

The cost of settling workers' compensation claims increased even as workers filed fewer claims. In Fiscal Year 2020-21, workers filed 261 claims with the City, which reflected a 21 percent decrease from the 330 claims filed in FY 2019-20. However, claims cost the City $31.6 million in FY 20-21 compared to $31 million in F Y 19-20. The cost increase was a result of pandemic-era staffing reductions.

With just days until the Ram's made a historic kick off at Los Angeles's SoFi Stadium, the football spirit infused the streets of Santa Monica. Large crowds gathered throughout the weekend as visiting fans filled hotels and locals took in the celebratory atmosphere on the Pier and Promenade.

At 2:30 a.m. an agitated and divided City Council narrowly voted to authorize an investigation into the leaking of confidential information related to the hiring of the City Manager and City Attorney. The investigation was proposed by Councilmember Gleam Davis, who had brought her concerns on information leaks to the City Attorney's office and was advised that the best course of action was to ask Council to vote to authorize an independent investigation. However, council reversed course at a later meeting and declined to pursue any investigation when Councilwoman Lana Negrete changed her mind.

Santa Monica City Hall reopened to the public, with the City Clerk, City Attorney, Rent Control, and City Manager's Office counters, plus passport services and other offices open once again.

Five talented Samohi science experts earned top marks at the regional Ocean Sciences Bowl tournament — called the Los Angeles Surf Bowl — hosted by NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) at CalTech. The winners of the Surf Bowl went on to compete with students from around the country at the national championship.

After keeping flight doors sealed for most of the pandemic, the Museum of Flying was back in business and invited residents to come explore the fascinating aviation history of Santa Monica. Located at 3100 Airport Ave, the museum is a stone's throw from the original site of the Donald Douglas Aircraft Company and contains many planes and memorabilia from the factory, which operated in the city from 1921 to 1958.

The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) said the City's plan to meet its housing requirements was not up to par. As a result, HCD declined to certify the City's 6th Cycle Housing Element and asked for a revised plan with more research into the feasibility of converting City-identified sites into housing and tweaks to the City's proposed development programs.

> "Community concern over a proposed 521 residential unit project slated to replace the Gelson's shopping center exploded after poorly organized public meetings and concerns over the calculations used to justify the development

Before embers had cooled on the Woolsey Fire, public outcry arose alleging failure by all levels of government. In response, LA County Supervisors launched an investigation into the man-made issues surrounding the fire — from preparation to emergency response and everything in between — commissioning an extensive after-action report, which came in the form of a 203-page review by the independent consulting firm Citygate Associates, LLC. The Supervisors formally closed their investigation citing completion of 80 of 86 recommendations in the report.

Four major league players testified they received oxycodone pills from a former Los Angeles Angels employee accused of providing Tyler Skaggs the drugs that led to the pitcher's overdose death. Pitchers Matt Harvey, Mike Morin and Cam Bedrosian and first baseman C.J. Cron played for the Angels during the years federal prosecutors say Eric Kay obtained drugs for players. Kay faced drug distribution and conspiracy charges. Kay was eventually sentenced to 22 years in prison for his crimes.

Sam V. Kardashian, a longtime Santa Monican and the owner of Southern California Disposal & Recycling Company, died at the age of 81, but his 30'x50' Old Glory flag continued flying on the company's 100-foot flagpole, a testament to Kardashian's love of his country.

Community concern over a proposed 521 residential unit project slated to replace the Gelson's shopping center exploded after poorly organized public meetings and concerns over the calculations used to justify the development.

Santa Monica Mayor Sue Himmelrich's remarks during the State of the City address took an uncharacteristically candid turn as the Mayor described being subjected to "cancel culture" and personal attacks. In her comments, Himmelrich said she was concerned that the current political climate would deter qualified candidates from entering the political arena out of fear of abuse.

Santa Monica began to see a loosening of mask rules. The LA County Department of Public Health (DPH) reported the County would "enter into a post-surge period." Although the date aligned with the lifting of statewide mask mandates, LA County's rule change was due to a drop in daily COVID- 19 hospitalizations to below 2,500.

A smaller scale version of the iconic 626 Night Market began in Lot 27 by 5th St. and Arizona Ave. and ran for five weekends. The 626 Night Market was inspired by the vibrant night markets of Asia and anchored by the culinary creativity of immigrant communities in the greater Los Angeles area. The festival was named after the area code of the San Gabriel Valley, where many of these communities are located and where the market was first established in Arcadia's Santa Anita Park. Due to its explosive popularity, the market has since expanded to Orange County and the Bay Area.

Nuggets of good news brightened the gloomy overtones of the City's midyear budget review — like the announcement of a $30 million influx of unanticipated revenues, which ever so slightly lessened the sting of the $188 million in revenue lost and over 420 staff positions cut as a result of the pandemic. This $30 million difference between the forecasted general fund revenues from Fiscal Year 2021 to 2022 and what was expected signaled that Santa Monica's economy was rebounding faster than predicted. This windfall was thanks to an uptick in hotel occupancy, parking, sales and real estate deals, which were a boon for tax revenues.

Citing "an increase in certain activities posing risks to public safety and the environment occurring in the vicinity of the beach and Santa Monica Pier, including the use of combustible fuels on the Santa Monica Pier," City Council adopted a new rule to prohibit not only the unpermitted use but the unpermitted possession of combustible fuel in close proximity to the historic structure.

Four months after announcing plans to close Chess Park following years of health and safety complaints, the City announced it would begin removing the benches and tables. The park was not closed but would become a "flexible, nonprogrammed beach front open space."

For four weekends in late summer 2021 two blocks of Main Street were transformed into a pedestrian plaza, and while fears were raised about traffic, noise and business disruption, a City evaluation found them to be largely unfounded. Despite the report's conclusions, the event did not repeat.

Santa Monica Housing Commissioner Leonora Camner spoke out about what her supporters called a "retaliation item" added to an upcoming City Council agenda: a motion from Council Members Phil Brock, Christine Parra and Oscar de la Torre to have Camner removed from the Commission. Critics said it was unethical for her to be on the commission given her organization Abundant Housing

SEE **REVIEW** PAGE 6

City of Santa Monica

SANTA MONICA RENT CONTROL BOARD
NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS

Applications and letters of interest are invited to fill one vacancy on the Santa Monica Rent Control Board. The person appointed will serve until the next general election in November 2024.

All persons are invited to apply regardless of race, sex, age, disability, religion, marital status, national origin, sexual preference, or ancestry. Applicants must be residents and registered voters in the City of Santa Monica. No Santa Monica City employee may serve as a member of any Board or Commission.

All interested parties please send applications and/or letters of interest to:

Alvin Ho, Board Secretary
City Hall
1685 Main Street, Room 202
Santa Monica, CA 90401
Alvin.Ho@santamonica.gov

Applications are due in the Rent Control Board office by 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 5, 2023.

Applicants will be invited to make a presentation of up to 3-minutes to the Rent Control Board at a public meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 12, 2023. The Rent Control Board will appoint a new commissioner that evening.

The State Political Reform Act requires certain officeholders to disclose their interest and income which may be materially affected by their official action. The applicant appointed to serve in this position will be required to file a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) upon assuming office, and annually thereafter. In addition, this position is required to complete two hours of Ethics Training (AB1234) biennially.

Applications and information on Board duties are available from the Rent Control Board Office, City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Room 202, by phone at (310) 458-8750 or online at www.santamonica.gov/rentcontrol.

Disability related assistance and alternate formats of this document are available upon request by calling (310) 458-8751.

REVIEW

FROM PAGE 5

LA advocates for affordable housing but supporters said the failed effort to remove her was a punishment for raising concerns about the housing element. Camner was one of the only local officials to warn the City's failure to adopt a compliant housing element would result in long-term problems.

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District invited community members to tour five local school campuses. The two-hour events were a peek behind the curtain at the campuses where community members could learn about existing facilities and discuss educational needs, historical resources, campus plans and future projects.

Council approved a $3M plan to bulk up enforcement at the Pier more or less in line with a program that began at the beginning of 2022 and the formation of a Pier Task Force. The Task Force included one police sergeant and four officers; one code enforcement supervisor and two officers; two fire inspectors; four public works staff members; and private security officers, who all worked at the Pier on Fridays through Sundays enforcing vendor laws, cleaning up trash and maintaining order.

A Los Angeles city audit found a $1.2 billion program intended to quickly build housing for Los Angeles' sprawling homeless population was moving too slowly while costs were spiking, with one project under development expected to hit as much as $837,000 for each housing unit.

The Samohi Girls Basketball team fell to Sage Hill in the CIF Semi-Finals. Despite a supportive crowd and a valiant effort, the Vikings were unable to overcome an early deficit for a final score of 58-41. The girls ended the season with a record of 20-7.

The City of Los Angeles received $1.7 million from the State of California to rehouse 60 individuals as part of a $50 million initiative to clear encampments.

Scores of Ukrainians and their supporters rallied in Palisades Park at the foot of the Santa Monica Pier in support of the besieged nation, the day after Russian President Vladimir Putin authorized a full-scale military invasion.

Election season was in full swing with an early debate between LA County Sheriff Alex Villanueva and the four Democratic Party challengers hoping to unseat him. All four blamed Villanueva's policies and leadership style for issues ranging from discord with the LA County Board of Supervisors to the continued proliferation of deputy gangs. Villanueva eventually lost the race to Long Beach Police Chief Robert Luna.

Santa Monica's Big Blue Bus system was still reeling from pandemic-induced challenges with average monthly ridership at less than half of its pre-pandemic levels. In a report, BBB said its ridership was at 46 percent of preCovid levels despite restoring service to about 81 percent of its historic maximum. Officials said several projects were in the works to improve the system's forecast but lingering impacts, such as funding uncertainty and staffing shortages remain.

After a two-year hiatus, k9 Connection returned to Olympic High School for their dog training program. Six students (Aleydis Sernas, Esteban Gonzalez, Rodrigo Delcastillo, Tarik Leno, Max Miguel, Blake Rugh) completed the course and received certificates from the organization. k9 Connections uses dog to help teach life skills and has spent much of the pandemic working with homeless individuals and their pets.

MARCH

The State of California stopped requiring schoolkids to wear masks as part of new indoor mask policies. The LA County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) said it would "shift to strongly recommending indoor masking requirements" at schools and child care centers, but would also no longer be requiring indoor masking.

Veo announced a new headquarters on the 3rd Street Promenade. The company was founded in Chicago in 2017 and brought its e-scooters and e-bikes to Santa Monica in 2021 after it was selected as one of four micromobility companies authorized to operate in the City. The new Downtown office space will function as the company's West Coast headquarters and the base for much of its new hiring and expansion.

SMFD Chief Danny Alvarez was sworn into office during a ceremony held at the new Santa Monica Fire Station 1 — the first time the public was invited to see the new station, which was completed in 2020.

Environmental attorney and Housing Commissioner Ellis Raskin tossed his hat in the ring for the City Council election casting himself as an independent progressive candidate. Raskin narrowly missed winning a seat during the November election.

Workers set about dismantling the tables and chairs at Chess Park. The Recreation & Parks Commission recommended the infrastructure be cleared following years of reports of crime and unsavory activity ongoing at the .29-acre park. For now, the lot will remain level ground, but City leaders say the door is open for amenities to return in the future once the municipal budget allows.

> Scores of Ukrainians and their supporters rallied in Palisades Park at the foot of the Santa Monica Pier in support of the besieged nation

Santa Monica resident Lauren Reicher-Gordon, senior vice president of the nonprofit Kidsave, talked about the work her organization does to help the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. Since 2016, Culver City-based Kidsave has been operating on the ground in Ukraine, with a mission of placing orphaned older kids and teens into loving homes. They also provide mentorship for teens. Kidsave operates in communities around the world: in Sierra Leone, Russia, Colombia, Ukraine and all around the United States.

Developers moved forward with the Miramar Hotel redevelopment project, more than a decade after the proposal was first conceived and nearly five years after developers released the most recent plans. The 262,000-square- foot luxury hotel and an adjacent parking lot will be replaced with a 500,000-square-foot mixed-use development including 312 hotel rooms, 60 condos, 6,600 square feet of retail space, three cafe/restaurants and, across the street, a 40,500 square foot, five-story multifamily residential building containing 42 affordable rental units.

The Santa Monica Pier launched the Locals' Night event series to draw on the talented entertainment provided by local businesses and provide residents with some Santa Monica centric programming.

Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) Chief Ramon Batista said increasing neighborhood patrols is key to his vision for the department and said he would move officers off other assignments to focus on responding to emergency calls.

SEE **MARCH** PAGE 7

Classifieds

Notice

Dish Wireless proposes to collocate wireless communications antennas at a top height of 53-feet 10-inches on a 74-foot 9-inch building at the approx. vicinity of 1900 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica, Los Angeles County, California, 90405. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Trileaf Corp, Samantha Neary, s.neary@trileaf.com, 2121 W. Chandler Blvd., Chandler, AZ 85224, (480) 850-0575.
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MARCH

FROM PAGE 6

Samohi junior Silvia Said was named the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica (BGCSM) Youth of the Year for her commitment to the Club and the Santa Monica community, earning a total of $4,000 in scholarships to use at USC, en route to her eventual career goal of joining the FBI.

Officials said freshmen and sophomores at Santa Monica High School would no longer be divided into "honors" and "regular" English classes beginning in the 2022-23 school year, a move that department personnel said would increase equity and positive outcomes for all.

A homeless man was arrested for stabbing another homeless man. SMPD said they were called to the Salvation Army. to investigate an assault with a deadly weapon. Witnesses said the suspect stabbed, beat and dragged the victim during the altercation. He then tried to leave the area but was seen by several individuals who provided his location.

A Los Angeles jury rejected an insanity plea and found 42-year-old Dylan James Jensen guilty on seven counts that included rape, sodomy and sexual battery sentenced him to life in jail for his crime. Jensen broke into a 68-year-old woman's apartment at the border of Venice and Santa Monica and raped her at knifepoint in 2018.

Dripology opened a new Santa Monica clinic. In addition to the artistic treatment rooms, Dripology offers several other services during a treatment including music, a foot massager, a Normatec leg compressor and even a meditative virtual reality headset. It's part of their intention to have people think of IV therapy less as a novelty tool for curing a hangover and more as a holistic wellness experience.

Fresh off the success of the Super Bowl Pregame Show, the Pier announced a second major sporting festival — this time celebrating the MLB's annual All-Star Game coming to Dodger Stadium.

Sunset Park resident Emma Brownrigg completed her Girl Scouts Gold Award, a prestigious honor offered by the 121-year-old institution by installing public pet waste dispensers around the neighborhood.

City Council voted unanimously to condemn the unprovoked invasion and violence waged on Ukraine. Council also directed the City Manager to look at Santa Monica's finances and investments to research any ways the City can economically sanction Russia.

Mask wearing officially became voluntary at Santa Monica public schools, following a unanimous (6-0) vote by the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) Board of Education at a special meeting. The decision followed a recommendation by SMMUSD Superintendent Ben Drati, who earlier in the week announced he felt it was time to lift the mask mandate.

Weiner shack Hot Dog on a Stick was torn down in preparation for a brand new building that will replace the 75-year-old structure that was first built in 1946. The new structure resembles the former location but is about 50 percent larger.

Governor Newsom unveiled a proposal for a statewide network of mental health-focused courts called CARE Courts, which stands for Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment. The courts would leverage the judicial system to compel severely mentally ill individuals to accept services and treatments without impinging on their civil rights.

The Promenade's first tattoo parlor and the first US location of internationally renowned tattoo brand Cleopatra Ink opened its doors and ink bottles at 1340 3rd Street Promenade.

Debate began over changes to the City's rent control rules. The Rent Control Board began discussions over a potential charter amendment that would alter their powers and the way rent control rules work. The discussions eventually exploded in controversy over just how rent control would be amended with a final proposal coming later in the year.

Construction delays caused by COVID-19, coupled with wrangling over historic resources, resulted in a 16-month delay to a host of project at various school sites, which in turn saw estimated costs rise by 16 percent.

What began as Covid era event designed to combine people's greater comfort with shopping outdoors and merchants' pressing need for revenue grew into a well loved community tradition with the return of the Spring Fling sidewalk sale on Montana Ave.

Two new holidays were officially recognized by the City: Juneteenth and Cesar Chavez Day. Juneteenth has been celebrated since 1865 and became a federal holiday in 2021, while Cesar Chavez Day has been celebrated in California since 1995.

A company that marketed and sold a "drinkable sunscreen" agreed to a legal settlement to resolve allegations of deceptive advertising.

The Los Feliz gourmet meat and fish grocer with a cult-like following opened a shop on Montana Ave. with hopes of creating a fresh neighborhood of McCall's fanatics. According to new co-owner Michelle Sarraf, McCall's stays true to the original owners' vision of being a chef's pantry, meaning it carries a carefully cultivated collection of ingredients to build an entire gourmet meal from scratch.

Los Angeles County Supervisors voted unanimously, 5-0, to request County CEO Fesia Davenport's office rally services for Ukrainian refugees, should any resettle in the County.

After several past failed attempts at legislative reform, a bill co-authored by both Assembly member Richard Bloom and Senator Ben Allen was reintroduced in Sacramento that aimed to limit Ellis evictions. Since passing in 1985, the Ellis Act has been the ire of rent control supporters, who are frustrated by the rate at which it drives no-fault evictions of rent controlled tenants. The bill did not become law.

Civil rights attorney Erin Darling announced he would run as a progressive candidate for L.A. City Council District 11 in Venice. Darling said he was tapped to run by a coalition of progressive Westside organizations, who were seeking a progressive candidate in the wake of current CD-11 Councilman Mike Bonin's decision to not seek a third term. Council District 11 encompasses the communities of Brentwood, Del Rey, Ladera, Playa del Rey, Playa Vista, Sawtelle, Westchester, Venice and the Palisades. Darling lost the race to Traci Park. Samohi graduate Mike Newhouse also mounted an unsuccessful campaign for the office.

Senior thesis projects may be associated with prestigious liberal arts colleges draped in ivy, but school administrators in Santa Monica said they believed they may offer an important educational opportunity for Samohi seniors in the project based learning pathway.

The Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) and the City of Santa Monica filed a joint lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of a state law that could otherwise force SMMUSD to move to district voting. The City and SMMUSD are seeking to block the enforcement of SB 442, which allows county-level committees to enact trustee-area (also called by-district) elections for school districts governed by city charters. It would essentially override the Santa Monica

SEE NEWS PAGE 8



SMDP photo

CHESS PARK: The amenities at Chess Park were removed due to constant problems with the local homeless population. .

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NEWS

FROM PAGE 7

City Charter to subdivide Santa Monica and Malibu into seven separate voting districts, each with its own representative elected by voters who live within the district boundaries, replacing the at-large system the lawsuit says has been in place since 1909. The proposal itself was delayed at the county level when terms of a school split were announced.

The Pier launched Wellness & Waves, a free hour-long yoga class at the West End of the Pier. The event was adapted from the popular pre-pandemic ROGA series, which consisted of a morning run followed by a short yoga class on the Pier.

Around 2,500 guests attended the outdoor Stairway of the Stars at the Memorial Greek Amphitheater. Nearly 850 elementary, middle and high school students performed from all SMMUSD schools in Malibu and Santa Monica. The event also included recognition of retired Samohi Director of Orchestras Joni Swenson.

Thousands of southern and central California grocery workers started voting to authorize a strike against several major supermarket chains. About 47,000 workers at hundreds of Ralphs, Albertsons, Vons and Pavilions stores were eligible to vote but contract negotiations concluded without a work stoppage.

The Santa Monica Storm won the 2022 AYSO Western States Championship, making them the top AYSO 11U team across six states. The Storm play at the highest level of AYSO, in the EXTRA program, representing Santa Monica against top soccer teams from other geographic regions. The local team remained undefeated the entire season, over 20 games.

Santa Monica's Pacifica Christian High School a cappella group — Wolf PACappella — traveled to take part in the International Championship of High School A Cappella (ICHSA) 2022 West Semifinal in Salem, Ore., for a chance to compete for the national title in New York.

A young male mountain lion was struck and killed in a hit-and-run collision on Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu. The male cougar, identified by his tag P-104, was the first mountain lion to be killed on PCH in the Santa Monica Mountains in the 20 years since the National Park Service began collaring and tracking the local mountain lion population there; the latest cougar to join the study, P-104 had been captured, tagged and released on March 8, just two weeks before his death on the highway.

The City agreed to a $1.75 million settlement with Wolfgang Mountford, who received a non-fatal shot to the head by SMPD in 2019. According to SMPD, Mountford was allegedly creating a disturbance by yelling loudly, throwing trash cans around and trying to open car doors. Officers had already encountered Mountford once that morning and when they were called back for a second time. SMPD said Mountford ran at and struggled with an officer who proceeded to shoot him with a bullet that grazed the back of his head. Mountford was treated on the scene by officers and Santa Monica Fire Department (SMFD) paramedics before being transported to a local hospital.

Nearly two years since Santa Monica last had a permanent city attorney, a third interim attorney, Susan Cola, was tapped to fill the position. City Council members had met ten times in closed session to discuss the hiring of a permanent city attorney and had yet to reach a consensus on who should fill the role.

Criminals broke into St. Monica's Church resulting in $150,000 worth of audio and video equipment stolen and an attempted desecration of the church's tabernacle.

Nine members of an alleged organized retail theft network accused of stealing hundreds of thousands of dollars in merchandise from stores throughout California were charged with conspiracy, felony grand theft and receiving stolen property. The charges came after a series of headline-grabbing thefts by mobs of people who rushed into stores — smashing windows and grabbing clothing, jewelry, tools, luxury purses and other goods. Police arrested five of the nine suspects in Los Angeles and recovered $62,000 in cash and $135,000 in merchandise stolen from stores that included Macy's, Columbia Sportswear, Abercrombie & Fitch, J.C. Penney, and Lululemon.

Susu Zheng, a fashion designer who came to Los Angeles from China and built a thriving online handbag business from scratch, opened a purse showroom on Main Street. Her store was subsequently robbed with thousands of dollars worth of merchandise stolen but she reopened and remains a welcome addition to the streets economy.

The City of Santa Monica received an application for a five-story mixed-used retail/residential property at 407 Colorado, on the corner of 4th Street and Colorado Avenue, after developer Worthe Real Estate Group submitted an application to redevelop the shuttered BancWest property. The proposed property includes 60 residential units, with about half of them studios and half of them one-bedrooms. Six of the one-bedroom units would be designated affordable housing for Very Low Income households. The building would also house close to 7,000 square feet of commercial space, with preliminary architectural drawings showing a coffee shop on the ground floor. There is no vehicle parking included in the application.

A late-season storm dumped about three-quarters of an inch of rain onto Santa Monica amid high surf and flood advisories.

The Malibu City Council discussed plans to address the regional homelessness crisis by transporting individuals experiencing homelessness to a shelter that offers services outside city limits.



SMDP photo

ELECTION: The election was defined by newly drawn borders for many offices.

After a two-year closure, the small but mighty Santa Monica History Museum reopened with a new temporary exhibition, Broadway To Freeway: Life and Times of a Vibrant Community, highlighting Santa Monica's historic Broadway neighborhood, a thriving African American and Mexican American community that was bisected and eventually destroyed after the creation of the Santa Monica (I-10) Freeway in the late 1950s.

LA County Sheriff's Department Homicide detectives investigated circumstances surrounding the suspicious death of a security guard at the Trancas Country Market shopping center, located not far from Zuma Beach in northern Malibu. The victim was identified as the overnight security guard at the upscale shopping center, which includes boutique shops, an independent organic grocery store and a Starbucks, among other tenants. Officials ultimately said the death was not the result of foul play.

Dreamed up by Chefs Chris Sageh and Jared Ventura, Nostalgia Bar & Lounge opened on Pico offering whimsical takes on childhood classics like a PB&J reimagined as a chocolate cake with chocolate ganache, peanut mousse, raspberry sorbet and candied peanuts. Similarly, Bradley Fry's cocktail offerings play with blasts from the past such as an Otter Pop inspired cocktail made with vodka, orange liqueur, blueberry, raspberry, honey, raspberry lemonade terpene and a berry fruit popsicle as a stirrer.

The Samohi community mourned the death of longtime local educator Dr. Frank X. "Doc" Ford after his death due to Alzheimer's disease. Ford was 81. For 23 years, from 1985-2008, Ford taught theater and film at Samohi, as well as directing plays and musicals there.

SMDP will publish the remainder of Year in Review in this week's papers. Review stories will also publish online at smdp.com.

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 27)

Wanting well is an art. Your cosmic birthday gift is that, unlike most humans, you'll want what will actually bring you joy. It starts with an open mind -- better to try everything than to assume you'll like what everyone else does. More highlights: an industrious team helping you meet goals, family additions and new property. Aries and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 14, 39, 6, 20 and 11.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Telling yourself to do things will only work if you really want to do them. You're not about to be bossed around by anyone, least of all you. You will respond to fun and rewards, though. How can you build that into your system?

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Even when people behave in less reliable ways than you deserve, all is not lost. An inconsistent relationship can still come through for you in some way. Even a stopped clock is right twice a day.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Choosing happiness won't involve clicking your heels together to teleport to a different scenario. Instead, it will have to do with finding the goodness and fun in your current circumstance and making the most of where you are.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). A new interest will require more of you than you anticipated, but because you're so curious, the exploration is effortless. It won't be long before it's harder to stay away from the subject matter than it is go deeper.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). While some offer their life choices up to social media for scrutiny in exchange for attention, you much prefer to run things by a select group of trusted individuals in person. You'll get all the feedback you need to progress.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). While it's impossible to measure immeasurable things, it's well within the realm of possibility to impart to others just how precious certain things are to you. They'll know you better as you give a vivid sense of your values and priorities.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll diplomatically assert yourself, seek influence and have your own identity beyond your various connections and roles. Here comes evidence that your ascent to leadership and prominence is underway.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Past events that were once overwhelmingly large in your psyche are now small scenes in the rearview mirror that shrink down further as you travel away. Soon they will be reduced to lessons that can fit inside the pages of a book.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The one who thinks of you often will continue to do so whether you check in or not, but taking the time to connect will reward both of you with a soul-nurturing feeling of belonging.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're a communication expert, working on multiple levels to make things better for all. People will try their best. For the plan to work, they don't have to understand completely; they just need to know what to do next.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll see things differently from how the others in your group do. An objective witness would find you factually accurate, but that matters little to the outcome of the situation. Getting along will be more important than being right.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). While it's easy to see how people respond to you in the room, you don't get a sense of what happens when you're not there. You can bet they wonder where you are, what you're doing, who you're with and more.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

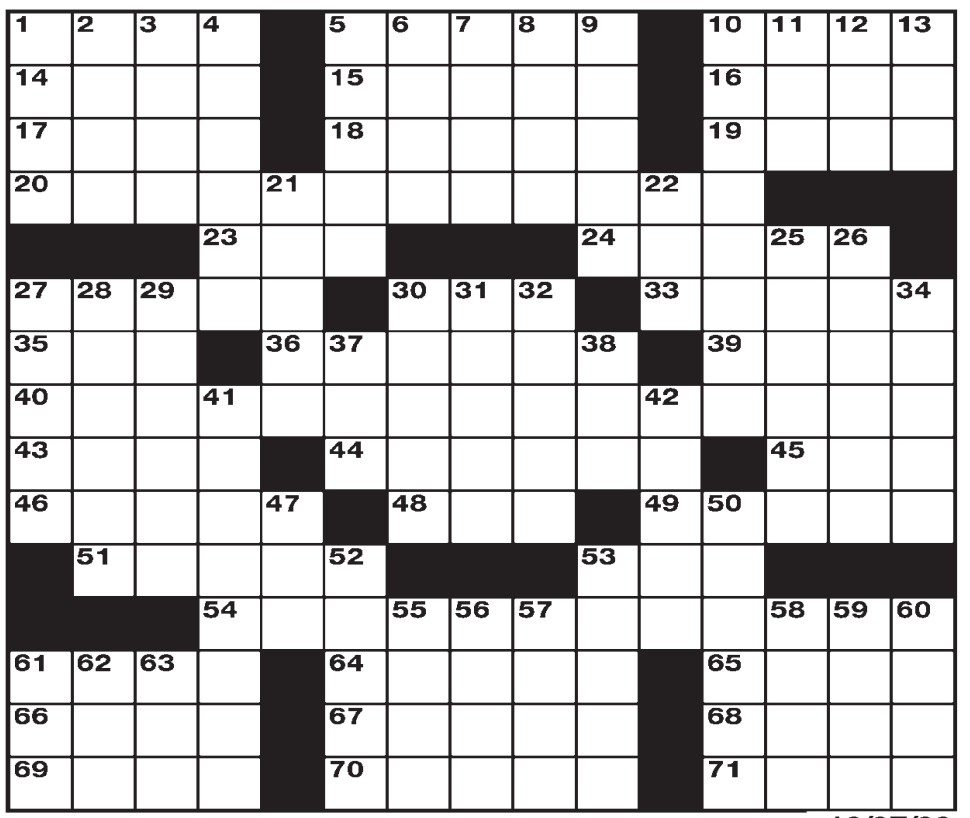
		5	9				2	
3					4	1		7
		7		2			4	
2	3							6
	7		2	9	6		3	
9							7	8
	9			7		3		
6		1	3					4
	5				9	6		

Newsday Crossword

GRIDIRON ACTION by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Bric-a-___
5 Con games
10 Soothing ointment
14 Nevada city
15 Quaint knickknack
16 Aroma
17 Granola ingredients
18 In any way
19 Butterfingers' cry
20 Creative obstacle for an author
23 Improve at a winery
24 Couches
27 Constellation of scales
30 "Just ___ thought!"
33 Foundations
35 Had breakfast
36 Expose as a fraud
39 "Pay ___ mind"
40 "Why are you hurrying?"
43 US alliance
44 Arrive at
45 Excessively
46 Glasgow residents
48 Crimson or maroon
49 Not moving
51 Keep ___ to the ground
53 Small bill
54 Plane passenger's document
61 Suburb of Phoenix
64 Loud racket
65 Nature walk
66 Awestruck
67 Small memento
68 Prepare for publication
69 Drags from behind
70 War horse
71 Ties the knot

DOWN
1 Forehead
2 Raise, as children
3 Prefix for freeze
4 Second-billed performer
5 Frighten
6 Uses scissors
7 Typical Saudi
8 Pepper grinder
9 Songs for a single voice
10 Publishers' expo
11 Needless fuss
12 Cut off, as a branch
13 Bride's new title, perhaps
21 Old-fashioned oath
22 Corn on the ___
25 Perceptive
26 Electric eye, for example
27 Suburban yards
28 Cornell's city
29 Hit, as a drum
30 Detest
31 "Don't like it? Tough!"
32 Still asleep
34 Not ___ (mediocre)
37 And so on: Abbr.
38 Model builder's buy
41 Carryalls
42 Auctioneer's warning
47 ___ Paulo, Brazil
50 Sister's son
52 Goes on a tirade
53 For days ___ (nonstop)
55 Cheer (for)
56 Flood barrier
57 Words of understanding
58 Office assistant
59 Lose traction
60 Theater backgrounds
61 Kitchen rug
62 Self-importance
63 Scatter, as seeds

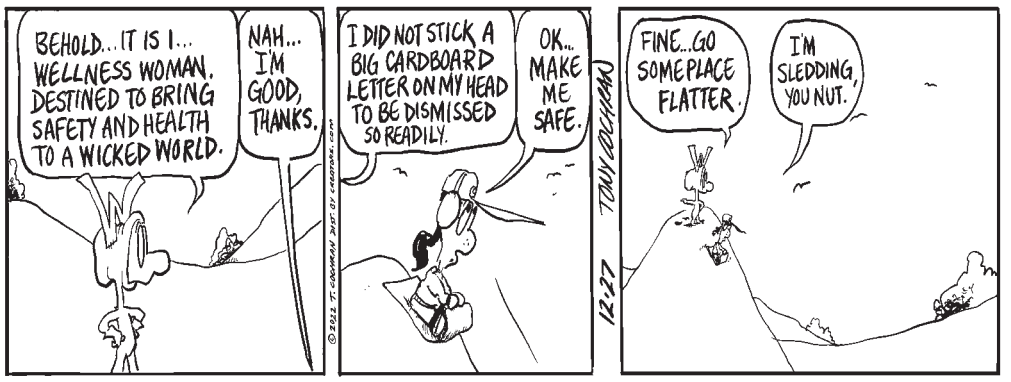


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Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



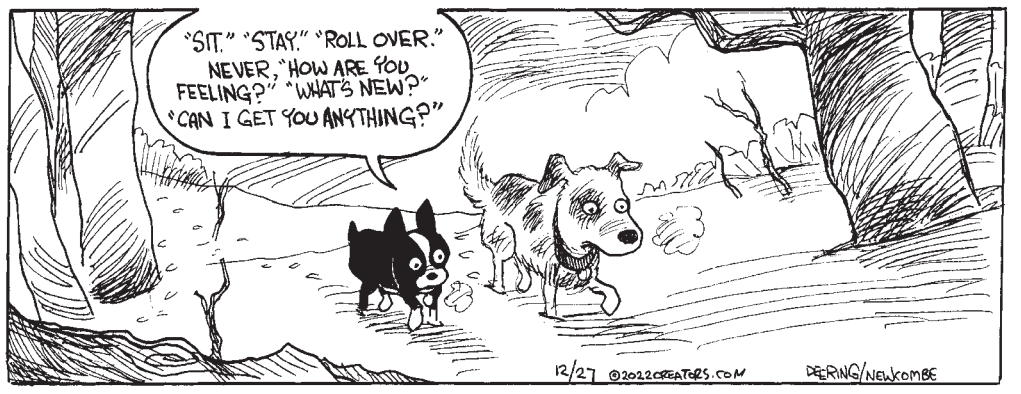
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



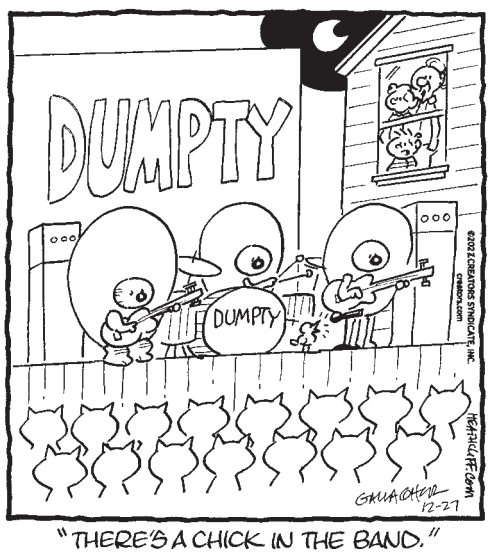
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

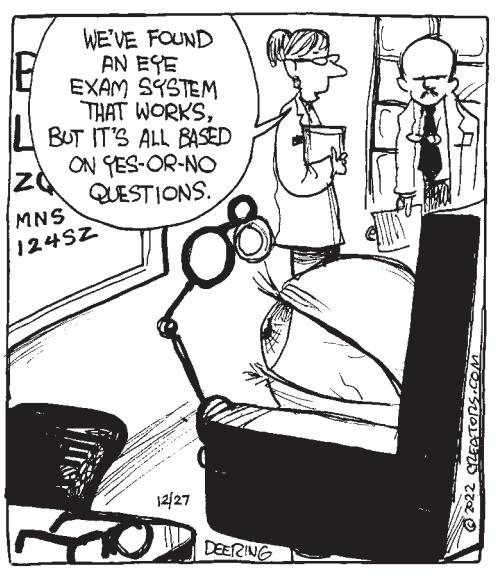
By PETER GALLAGHER



"THERE'S A CHICK IN THE BAND."

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 15 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5706

Main attraction

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

Agog	Coach	Idea	Noosa	Sail
Alps	Colo	Koala	Ocean	Shell
Arid	Crab	Laze	Olgas	Site
Avoca	Desert	Leura	Omeo	Terrigal
Axes	Dive	Look	Onslow	Tour
Beat	Earthworm	Lorne	Ouse	Town
Bega	Easel	Lost	Parks	Trek
Break	Eden	Lush	Plain	Trout
Cape	Eldon	Manly	Ramp	Weir
Tribulation	Eucla	Maps	Rare	West
Cars	Farms	Maya	Roma	Yass
Chair lift	Feed	Nerang	Ryde	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Gold medal winning shot

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

What's Up Westside
out and about in Santa Monica

TUESDAY | DECEMBER 27

ICE AT SANTA MONICA
Visit Winterlit's Ice at Santa Monica to experience all-day ice skating. Skate under the stars at the only 8,000 square-foot outdoor ice rink on the Westside and enjoy no timed sessions, no limits and an all-day skate pass lets you skate to your heart's content and includes re-entry. $20. 1324 5th Street. https://downtownsm.com/winterlit

TEACHERS GONE BAD (WINTER EDITION) AT THE CROW
Meet at The Crow this holiday season for the Winter Break edition of Teachers Gone Bad. This show is not kid-friendly and those easily offended should not attend. The Crow, 2525 Michigan Avenue, Unit F4. 7 - 8:30 p.m. https://jetbook.co/calendar/the-crow. Followed by the Chingona Comedy. If you are a Chingona—a strong-minded, strong-willed woman who knows the struggles of being a mom, sister, teacher or lover—this comedy show at The Crow is for you. https://jetbook.co/calendar/the-crow.

WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 28

TRIVIA NIGHT AT THE BUNGALOW
Meet at The Bungalow at Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows every Wednesday for Trivia Night. Test your knowledge, enjoy the food and fare and win over $500 worth of prizes every week. The Bungalow, 101 Wilshire Blvd. 7 - 9 p.m. https://thebungalow.com/santa-monica/#calendar.

KARAOKE NIGHT PARTY AT TAVERN ON MAIN
Sing a song, sing it loud and sing it strong at Tavern on Main's Karaoke Night Party, every Monday and Wednesday night from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. https://www.tavernonmainsm.com/events/karaoke-night.

THURSDAY | DECEMBER 29

DISCO MIXER AT STELLA BARRA
Follow the call of the disco ball! Stella Barra is partnering with X by Glenmorangie to bring a groovy mixer with guaranteed good vibes. Enjoy signature cocktails featuring this single malt Scotch, bar bites, games, music and more. Stella Barra Pizzeria, 2000 Main St. 6 - 9 p.m. https://www.exploretock.com/stellabarrapizzaria-santamonica/event/private/b4985856-24aa-4489-8582-88959601a47d

LIVE HOLIDAY MUSIC AT LOEWS SANTA MONICA BEACH HOTEL
Sip on handcrafted holiday cocktails and let the festive entertainment bring the magic of the season to life at Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel. All That Jazz – Thursdays from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel, 1700 Ocean Ave.

TOURS OF THE MARION DAVIES GUEST HOUSE
Santa Monica Conservancy docents share the rich history of the Beach House site from the 1920s onward. Free 20-minute visits docent tours are available on a walk-up basis, for groups of up to six people on 12 – 2 p.m. Schedule subject to change, call 310-458-4904 to confirm dates and hours.

FRIDAY | DECEMBER 30

FRIDAY NIGHT JAMS AT TAVERN ON MAIN
Start those weekend vibes buzzing with hot tunes by a roster of rotating DJs at Tavern on Main. This is a 21+ event with no cover charge. Enjoy lively music, great drinks and the best food. Tavern on Main, 2907 Main St 9 - 10:30 p.m. https://www.tavernonmainsm.com

SATURDAY | DECEMBER 31

NYE WOMEN'S WELLNESS EVENT
Vision boards, guided meditation, crystal healing and a restorative sound bath. Body Fit Training Santa Monica, 401 Wilshire Blvd #101 W. $75. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nye-womens-wellness-event-tickets-442267492977.

NYE COUNTDOWN AT THE PACIFIC WHEEL
Pacific Park on the Santa Monica Pier will once again countdown to the new year with a dazzling display of lights on the Pacific Wheel situated over Santa Monica State Beach. The New Year's Eve West Coast countdown to 2023 on the Ferris wheel is live on December 31, beginning at 11:30 p.m., and will feature fun designs, colorful displays, and a 60-second countdown at 11:59 p.m. in huge 90-feet tall animated numbers. You can see the enormous, 90-foot-tall display from the beaches south of the Santa Monica Pier or online at https://www.pacpark.com/live.

VIRGINIA AVENUE PARK/PICO BOULEVARD FARMERS MARKET
The family market in the heart of the Pico neighborhood's Virginia Avenue Park! Enjoy one of Santa Monica's farmers markets, widely considered to be among the best on the west coast and featuring field-fresh produce, hundreds of kinds of vegetables, brilliant cut flowers, breads, cheeses, delicious foods, live music and more. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. https://www.smgov.net/departments/pcd/farmercontent.aspx

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET
The Saturday market was established in 1991 and presents the largest percentage of certified organic growers of Santa Monica's four markets. Locals and tourists browse over 40 farm stands at this weekend market which is adjacent to the Third Street Promenade. 155-199 Arizona Ave

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



SURF REPORT
WATER TEMP: **58.1**

TUESDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:** 1-2ft Knee to thigh	Run of quality wind/conditions may continue per the latest model guidance. Will likely see a slightly larger WNW swell build in and peak through the day as smaller SSW swell blends in.
WEDNESDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:** 2-3ft Thigh to waist	Continued WNW swell with decent size at exposures. Wind and quality are the question mark as storm may impact the region -- models are in poor agreement on the specifics.

WEATHER

Tuesday: A chance of showers after 10am. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 64.
Tuesday Night: Showers likely. Cloudy, with a low around 54.
Wednesday: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 62.
Wednesday Night: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 53.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2022/12/27	Tue	12:54 AM	3.98	H
2022/12/27	Tue	05:34 AM	2.38	L
2022/12/27	Tue	11:39 AM	5.61	H
2022/12/27	Tue	6:58 PM	-0.62	L
2022/12/28	Wed	01:52 AM	4.19	H
2022/12/28	Wed	06:56 AM	2.41	L
2022/12/28	Wed	12:44 PM	4.78	H
2022/12/28	Wed	7:50 PM	-0.01	L
2022/12/29	Thu	02:50 AM	4.47	H
2022/12/29	Thu	08:41 AM	2.22	L
2022/12/29	Thu	2:06 PM	3.98	H
2022/12/29	Thu	8:46 PM	0.60	L
2022/12/30	Fri	03:44 AM	4.82	H
2022/12/30	Fri	10:22 AM	1.67	L
2022/12/30	Fri	3:46 PM	3.41	H
2022/12/30	Fri	9:43 PM	1.14	L
2022/12/31	Sat	04:33 AM	5.15	H
2022/12/31	Sat	11:38 AM	0.97	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: 12/21
12 15 24 34 59
Power#: 14
Jackpot: 186 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/20
3 4 33 36 52
Mega#: 17
Jackpot: 510 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 12/21
1 3 17 23 42
Mega#: 14
Jackpot: 18 M

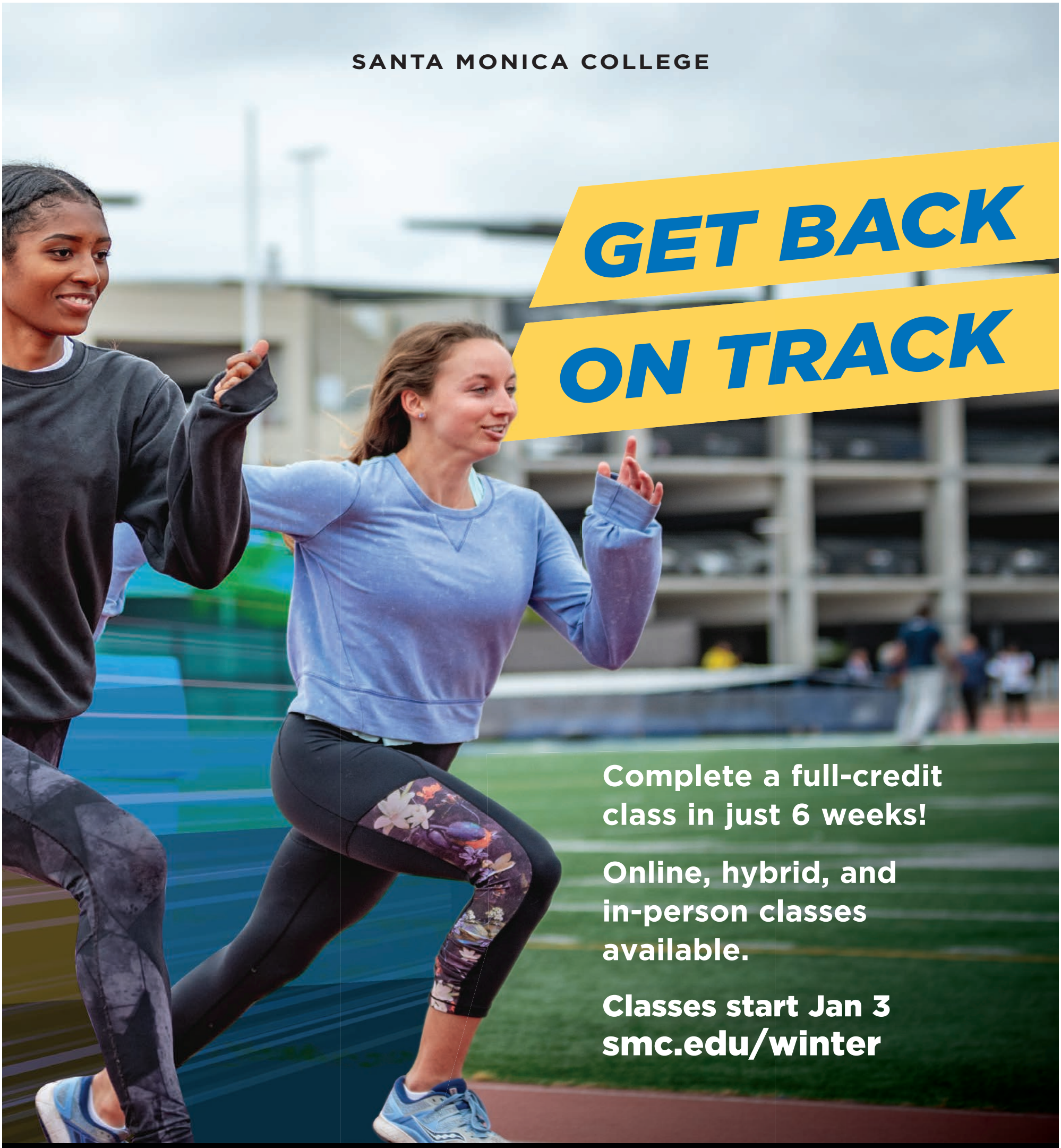
Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/21
6 17 28 29 35

Daily 3
Draw Date: 12/22
MIDDAY: 2 6 9

Draw Date: 12/21
EVENING: 3 3 9

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 12/21
1st: 07 - Eureka
2nd: 09 - Winning Spirit
3rd: 01 - Gold Rush
Race Time: 1:46.65

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TODAY!
Santa Monica Daily Press



SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

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