2 **LA Official**
Convicted for bribery.

3 **Restaurant Review**
Osteria Del Fornaio.

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

4 **Noteworthy**
Yo! Bruce!

5 **About Town**
Easter events.

Volume 23 Issue 94 THURSDAY 3/28/24 smdp.com

Comedians to take wise crack at superstardom at local festival

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

This April 1, there's no fooling about what the center of the city's comedy scene will be.

Starting on the hijinx-filled date through April 6, The Crow at the Bergamot Station Arts Center hosts the Bergamot Comedy Festival, featuring performer showcases and free educational panels fronted by leaders in the comedy and entertainment industries. The week-long festival was a partnership between local, regional and national groups; including City of Santa Monica Cultural Affairs, Santa Monica Travel and Tourism, the Los Angeles Times and MasterClass.

Crow VP of Communications Daphne Ruiz said the endeavor has "been a labor of love" and something they've "always kind of had in the back of our mind," something Crow Founder Nicole Blaine agreed with, particularly holding an event of this magnitude at Bergamot.

"I feel like this really hits with what Bergamot Station Arts Center was made to be," Blaine said. "It (is) supposed to be a collective of community, celebrating the arts, and there is supposed to be programming here that is free, that is vibrant, and that represents the voices from all the different walks of life … I feel really honored that I'm doing the work in my hometown, in a place that I grew up seeing art."

Blaine took inspiration for the festival by attending many of her own as a standup wanting to learn more about her trade. The panels, with subjects such as breaking into comedy clubs and how to write for late-night television, were curated

SEE **COMEDY** PAGE 8

Culture Clash comes to SMC

Photo Credit: Andrew Boone / Santa Monica College

WORKSHOP: Writer, performer, and founding member of Culture Clash Herbert Sigüenza shared his experience with students from the Santa Monica College Theatre Department in a workshop recently. The following weekend, Sigüenza took the stage at BroadStage in his one-man show, A Weekend with Pablo Picasso.

Heath adds emotional layer to all-time physique with new documentary

THOMAS LEFFLER
SMDP Staff Writer

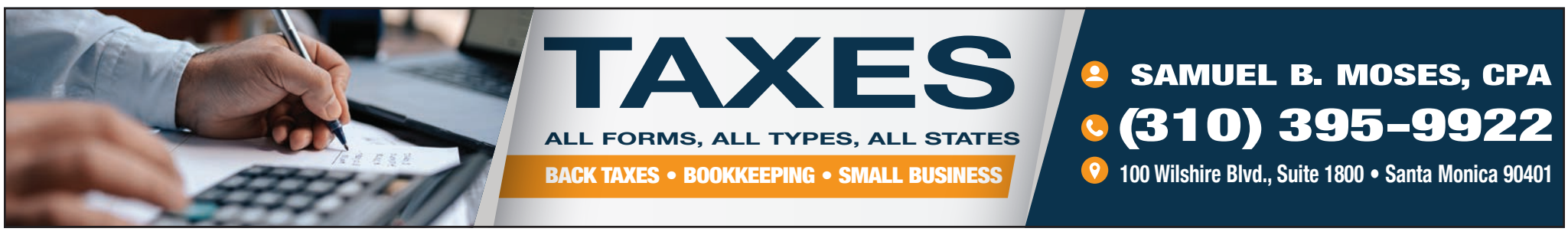
Being a leader of one's profession comes with much adulation, but even more pitfalls attempting to stay on top. This occurs especially in the realm of athletics, where the mental toll is only exacerbated by constantly pushing the body to its limits.

Not many know more about being on top, and about stress on the physical form, than seven-time Mr. Olympia champion bodybuilder Phil Heath. Faced with a crossroads in his athletic career after an end to his time on the basketball court, Heath was inspired by all-time greats like Arnold Schwarzenegger and Jay Cutler to become a beast in the gym and the competitive ranks, but not without struggle. For a long time, his hulking frame hid a layer of vulnerability, one Heath finally was ready to share with the world in the new documentary "Breaking Olympia."

"Breaking Olympia," much like Heath's seven Mr. Olympia titles, is an uncommon feat, being the rare documentary distributed by a major movie studio, Universal Pictures. Produced by Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson's company Seven Bucks Productions and directed by Brett Harvey, the newly-released film chronicles the bodybuilder's rise to superstardom and the surrounding ramifications of fame.

"They provided me an opportunity to really show Phil, not just Mr. Olympia," Heath told the Daily Press during a media scrum at the famous Gold's Gym in Venice,

SEE **OLYMPIA** PAGE 11



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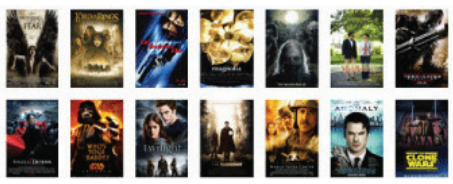
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Former Los Angeles Deputy Mayor Raymond Chan convicted in sprawling bribery case

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former Los Angeles Deputy Mayor Raymond Chan was convicted Wednesday of racketeering, bribery, fraud and giving false statements to investigators in a sprawling pay-to-play corruption scandal at City Hall.

The federal jury reached the guilty verdict less than 24 hours after lawyers finished closing arguments, the Los Angeles Times reported.

Sentencing was set for June 10. Chan's attorney, John Hanusz, told the judge that they will appeal.

"Chan used his leadership position in City Hall to favor corrupt individuals and companies willing to play dirty," U.S. Attorney Martin Estrada said in a statement. "With today's verdict, we send a strong message that the public will not stand for corruption and that pay-to-play politics has no place in our community."

This was Chan's second trial in the bribery case involving downtown Los Angeles real estate development projects. The first fell apart after his lawyer, Harland Braun, was hospitalized and unable to return to work for months. A judge declared a mistrial last April.

In the latest trial, Assistant U.S. Attorney Brian R. Faerstein told jurors that Chan and former City Councilmember Jose Huizar used the downtown real estate boom of the prior decade to enrich themselves and their allies, the Times reported.

Faerstein described Chan, 67, as a crucial intermediary between Chinese developers looking to build high-rises and Huizar, who headed the powerful committee that shepherded such projects.

In opening arguments March 12, Faerstein said Chan "got bribes for himself, and he got bribes for other public officials."

Chan is the last defendant charged in the City Hall corruption investigation to go on trial. Huizar, who pleaded guilty to racketeering and tax evasion charges, was sentenced in January to 13 years in prison. More than a half-dozen others have been convicted or pleaded guilty to federal charges, including Huizar's brother, Salvador Huizar.

> Chan used his leadership position in City Hall to favor corrupt individuals and companies willing to play dirty
>
> -Martin Estrada, U.S. Attorney

"This case was, and always has been, about Jose Huizar," Hanusz said.

Hanusz agreed that Huizar and the others were corrupt. But he said while Huizar accepted flights to Las Vegas, casino chips and lavish hotel stays, Chan received none of those things.

Chan, while working with developers, was motivated not by greed but by a desire to make Los Angeles more business-friendly, Hanusz said.

Chan was the top executive at the Department of Building and Safety until 2016, when he became the deputy mayor in charge of economic development under Mayor Eric Garcetti, who was not implicated in the scandal. Chan held that job for slightly more than a year, then left city government to become a private-sector consultant, representing real estate developers.

Prosecutors have accused Chan of secretly setting up a consulting firm while working for the city and overseeing government actions for which he was paid by a developer after he left his city employment, the Times said.

SMMUSD
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Notice of Public Hearing – Measure R Parcel Tax

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District will conduct a public hearing on the matter of the 2024-25 Special Parcel Tax (Measure R) regarding applying a Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) adjustment. The public hearing will be held on April 18, 2024 at 7 p.m. in the Santa Monica-Malibu District Office at 1717 4th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 and via Zoom. The link to provide public comment via Zoom may be found at the top of the agenda. Agendas may be found at https://www.smmusd.org/Page/4047. Subsequent to the public hearing on April 18, 2024 at the regularly scheduled meeting, it is the intention of the Board of Education to adopt a resolution to levy the tax at the rate of $512.86 per parcel, which includes a 3.4% CPI adjustment. The CPI-U for Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, base year 1982-84=100, from February 2023 through February 2024, was used to calculate the adjustment. Information to apply for the Measure R Senior Exemption may be found at https://www.smmusd.org/Page/3905. The application form and supporting documentation must be completed, signed and returned by June 30, 2024. To be added to the mailing list, please email MeasureR@smmusd.org.

RE-VIEW

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Osteria Del Fornaio

Merv Hecht

PIZZA: Merv Hecht recently traveled to Osteria Del Fornaio on Wilshire Blvd.

My friend and I decided we wanted Chinese food for dinner, so we went to the Lotus on 4th and Wilshire. You might remember that I wrote a favorable review of it a few months ago (it seems like last week). We arrived there to find it had closed - so much for Chinese food near the ocean! I heard a rumor recently that it will re-open as a Korean steak house. That will be nice - stay tuned.

We were pretty hungry, so we saw a new restaurant across the street and decided to go there. I had seen it for a while but hadn't tried it yet. We were pleasantly surprised. The room was light and airy with high ceilings, and tables around a long table where large groups could sit (and did while we were there) with good spacing between the tables. That reminded me a bit of Basque restaurants where single people sat at a large table and mingled with others. Did you know there used to be a Basque restaurant in Santa Monica? In any event this is a beautiful restaurant and there are two patios outside, one covered and one open air. This will be a terrific venue if Santa Monica ever heats up.

I saw some good looking pizza coming out of the open view kitchen, but we decided on pasta. Both pasta dishes were excellent, and we were too full for dessert. The menu was pretty standard for Santa Monica Italian restaurants, but there is a chef's special menu each week. There are so many Italian restaurants in Santa Monica that it's hard to find one that has something special that makes it worth going to. This restaurant has very few reviews on the internet, is not open for lunch, and doesn't have anything on the menu not available in at least one or two dozen restaurants nearby. When I say something special, or different, I mean something like the duck ragu pasta I had at Felix a few weeks ago.

The food and service here is good, it has a nice setting, and the prices are middle of the road. They have an excellent drink menu although the wine list is average. If I find myself nearby one night when I'm hungry I'll probably stop in, and perhaps have one of the very attractive courses on the menu, such as the Grilled Cauliflower, the Pollo ai Funghi ($34), or the Costata al Pepe (ribeye steak in brandy sauce $49). All of these dishes look very good on the menu. But I might end up at one of the other 200 Italian restaurants in town.

Osteria Del Fornaio
osteriadelfornaio.com/santamonica
401 Wilshire Blvd
424-538-4488

Merv Hecht, like many Harvard Law School graduates, went into the wine business after law. In 1988, he began writing restaurant reviews and books. His latest book "The Instant Wine Connoisseur, 3rd edition" is available on Amazon. He currently works for several companies that source and distribute food and wine products internationally. Please send your comments to: mervynhecht@yahoo.com

Surf report

WATER TEMP: **56.1**

THURSDAY
POOR TO FAIR
SURF: 1-2ft
Knee to thigh

Little more size due as more of a long-period, lully WNW swell moves in. Should be joined by fresh NW swell mix late. Lightest wind through the AM, onshore WNW wind issues looking likely for the afternoon.

FRIDAY
POOR TO FAIR
SURF: 1-2ft
Knee to thigh

Looks like wind issues, with west flow in the AM shifting SW through the afternoon/evening as area of low pressure offshore nears the region. WNW/NW swell mix continues.

Weather

Thursday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 63.
Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 50. West southwest wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.
Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 60. South southwest wind 5 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.
Friday Night: Rain likely, mainly after 11pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 51. Chance of precipitation is 70%.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2024/03/28	Thu	05:52 AM	0.19	L
2024/03/28	Thu	11:55 AM	3.33	H
2024/03/28	Thu	4:59 PM	1.54	L
2024/03/28	Thu	11:24 PM	5.03	H
2024/03/29	Fri	06:37 AM	0.28	L
2024/03/29	Fri	12:47 PM	2.85	H
2024/03/29	Fri	5:11 PM	1.90	L
2024/03/29	Fri	11:53 PM	4.93	H
2024/03/30	Sat	07:35 AM	0.41	L
2024/03/30	Sat	2:11 PM	2.44	H
2024/03/30	Sat	5:12 PM	2.23	L
2024/03/31	Sun	12:32 AM	4.76	H
2024/03/31	Sun	09:01 AM	0.48	L
2024/04/01	Mon	01:36 AM	4.55	H
2024/04/01	Mon	10:46 AM	0.28	L
2024/04/02	Tue	03:23 AM	4.46	H
2024/04/02	Tue	11:56 AM	-0.12	L
2024/04/02	Tue	7:38 PM	3.27	H

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

Power Ball
Draw Date: 3/25
7 11 19 53 68
Power#: 23
Jackpot: 865 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/26
4 7 10 15 29

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 3/26
7 11 22 29 38
Mega#: 4
Jackpot: 20 M

Daily 3
Draw Date: 3/26
EVENING: 3 7 1
Draw Date: 3/26
MIDDAY: 5 1 5

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 3/23
10 12 13 28 30
Mega#: 20
Jackpot: 21 M

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 3/26
1st: 03 - Hot Shot
2nd: 09 - Winning Spirit
3rd: 11 - Money Bags
Race Time: 1:49.59

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Santa Monica Daily Press

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

- **RFP #404: Contractor to Assist Los Angeles Area Fire Chief's Association Regional Training Group with Production of Training Videos & Curriculum Development**
- **Submission Deadline Is April 17, 2024 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL.** The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is OpenGov (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for the RFP package.

Classifieds

Summons

Summons (Family Law) FL-110(Derecho familiar) CASE NUMBER(Número del Caso):24STFL01364NOTICE TO RESPONDENT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): NOEL RUIZ YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO HAN DEMANDANDO LEA LA INFORMACIÓN A CONTINUACIÓN Y EN LA PÁGINA SIGUIENTE) PETITIONER'S NAME IS (NOMBRE DEL DEMANDANTE): MICHELLE RIVER You have 30 calendar days after this Summons andPetition are served on you to file a Response (form FL-120) at the court and have a copy served on thepetitioner. A letter, phone call, or court appearancewill not protect you.If you do not file your Response on time, the courtmay make orders affecting your marriage or domesticpartnership, your property, and custody of yourchildren. You may be ordered to pay support andattorney fees and costsFor legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. Gethelp finding a lawyer at the California Courts OnlineSelf-Help Center (www.lawhelpca.org), at theCalifornia Legal Services website (www lawheloca.orol,or by contacting your local county bar association.NOTICE–RESTRAINING ORDERS ARE ON PAGE 2:These restraining orders are effective against bothspouses or domestic partners until the petition isdismissed, a judgment is entered, or the court makesfurther orders They are enforceable anywhere inCalifornia by any law enforcement officer who hasreceived or seen a copy of them.FEE WAIVER: If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask theclerk for a fee waiver form. The court may order you to pay back all or part of the fees and costs that the court waived for you or the other party.Tiene 30 días de calendario después de haber recibido la entrega legal de esta Citación y Petición para presenter una Respuesta (formula no FL-120 ante la corte y efectuarentrega legal de una copia al demandante. Una carta o llamada telefónica o una audiencia de la corte no basta para protegerlo. Si no presenta su Respuesta a tiempo, la corte puede dar Órdenes que afecten su matrimonio o persia de hecho, susbienes y la custodia de sus hijos. Le corte también le puedeordenar que pague manutención, y honorarios y costos legales. Para asesoramiento legal, póngase en contacto de inmediato con un abogado. Puede obtener información para encontrar unabogado en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California((www.lawhelpca.org), en el sitio web de los Servicios Legales de California (www lawheloca orat o poniéndose en contacto con el colegio de abogados de su condado.AVISO–LAS ÓRDENES DE RESTRICCIÓN SEENCUENTRAN EN LA PÁGINA 2. Las órdenes de restricción están en vigencia en cuanto a ambos cónyuges o miembros de la persia de hecho hasta que se despida la petición, se emita unfallo o la corte de otras órdenes. Cualquier agencia del orden público que haya recibido o visto Una copia de estas órdenespuede hacerlas seater en cualquier lugar de California. ??EXENCIÓN DE CUOTAS Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario un formulario de exención de cuotas. La corte puede ordenar que usted pague, ya sea en parte o por completo, las cuotas y costos de la corte previamente exentos a petición de usted o de la otra parte.The name and address of the court are (El nombre y direcci6n de la corte son)iLOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT – STANLEY MOSK COURTHOUSE111 N HILL STREETLOS ANGELES, CA 90012The name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's attorney, or the petitioner without anattorney, are: (El nombre, direcci6n y número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o deldemandante si no tiene abogado, son)iMICHELLE RIVERA, 1144 5TH ST., APT. 110, SANTA MONICA, CA 90403, PHONE:310-628-9085Date (Fecha) 2/08/2024 Clerk By (Secretario Por) David W. SlaytonDeputy (Asistente) /s/L.Murillo

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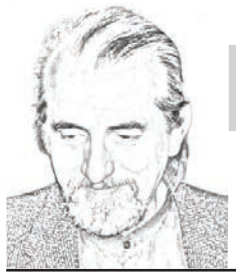

OPINION **NOTEWORTHY**

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Yo! Bruce!

Courtesy photo

B, YO: The legendary Bruce Springsteen and Yo-Yo Ma will be performing locally.

WHERE'S WALDO?

Where's JACK NEWORTH? Beats me. What day is it? For a guy facing some health issues that are no LAUGHING MATTERS, he sure does bounce around a lot. Not his choice, of course. He would much rather be back in his own bed, and let's hope that comes about soon. He's not even in Santa Monica now, but nearby, and seems to be getting good medical attention. Not that Jack likes attention. I've spoken to him frequently and he seems to be his same witty, sardonic self. It still seems like a good idea to swamp Jack with notes of appreciation for his many years of loving Santa Monica and hating all that Drumpf stands for, maybe short notes or postcards (53c). He should eventually receive them at this address:

JACK NEWORTH
2700 Neilson Way
Santa Monica, CA 90405

TYPICAL SANTA MONICA PERFORMANCE WEEKEND?

OK, not every four-day run is this good but… come on. We're fortunate people, indeed. Take advantage.

Last Saturday 5 p.m., final performance of a long run of PAUL LINKE's one-man tribute to his friend and collaborator Charles Nelson Reilly, Ruskin Group Theatre, SM Airport. Then over to Harvelle's on 4th Street, 9:30, for smokin' blues from SOUTHSIDE SLIM. Sunday evening, down Pico to the venerable McCabe's for LOS STRAIGHTJACKETS, those anonymous hard rockers in Mexican wrestling masks, who thrill you with all instrumentals. Plenty of time to then head back to Harvelle's to catch the amazing and unique TOLEDO DIAMOND, every Sunday night (for 20-some years straight!) Every Monday night you can go just outside SM to the Cinema Bar on Sepulveda to hear the virtuoso Django Reinhardt-style '30s jazz of THE HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES, and that previous Friday night, if you could manage a drive to the gorgeous Disney Hall in downtown LA, you could have heard a jaw-dropping performance of John Adams' monumental "Naive and Sentimental Music" tribute to conductor Esa-Pekka Salonen, here with his San Francisco Symphony Orchestra, also performing the beautiful Sibelius Violin concerto.

I'm still recovering, but with a smile on my face. It's what I moved here for, from New Mexico 40 years ago, and boy was that the right choice.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES – You can go to the Cinema Bar any Monday, 9 - 11:30, for more than a decade now, and hear these hot players run through Django Reinhart-style '30s jazz. They should have copies of their new album "Nova" there for sale. This amazing ensemble is a treasure, just over the border from SM. Mon 9 p.m., Cinema Bar, Culver City, no cover.

YO-YO MA, KATHRYN STOTT – If you are making the wise move to see Yo-Yo Ma, you should also see Springsteen. Oh sure, Ma doesn't play nearly as loud or electrically as The Boss, but Bruce can't caress a cello to make you cry. Both are transcendent musician-philosopher-world ambassadors who have deservedly risen to the top of their genres after decades, using music to convey something more than just melody. Both have global platforms they use to promote a worldview that we all are really the same, and that music can show that. They have both boldly crossed genres and demolished barriers to demonstrate that human truth. If there is a global language, it is music. There is good reason why would-be autocrats (like the Blue Meanies) often try to eliminate or control music. Neither of these giants will be with us forever. This is a rare opportunity to see them on successive nights. I highly recommend that. Kathryn Stott is

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 11

AROUND TOWN

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Easter Weekend Events & Meals

SMDP's Weekly Guide to Food & Entertainment Goings-On In & Around Town includes Easter events and meals, Arts Month events, and much more!

Courtesy image

EASTER: It's time for egg hunts.

Aviator Nation Venice Presents Broken Zoo Comedy: It bills itself as "the nation's wildest comedy show" and is bringing the crazy to Venice with complimentary drinks. Friday, March 29, 8 - 11p.m. @ 1224 Abbot Kinney Blvd.

Penmar Golf Tournament to Benefit Educating Young Minds (EYM): EYM is a non-profit educational institution that provides services to students from kindergarten through senior year in high school. President and Director of EYM, Angelese Echols-Brown founded this organization to provide holistic educational assistance to students of color, which was desperately lacking in the Los Angeles public school system. Saturday, March 30, 8a.m. @ 1233 Rose Ave.

2024 Arts Month Reception: Enjoy a reception celebrating the launch of Arts, Creativity and Culture Month in Santa Monica. Mingle with local artists and enjoy light noshes while showing your support for arts advocacy, culture and creativity! Saturday, March 30, 2 - 4 p.m. @ Annenberg Community Beach House. https://santamonica.gov/events/4hjc1x7pb75gdy17a12rnc1t5f/202403301400

Seguimos - Contemporary Art in Costa Rica: It features installation, video, photography, painting, works on paper and sculpture by an intergenerational group of thirteen Costa Rican artists, the majority of whom are highly regarded in Central America, but have never exhibited in the United States. The artists in this exhibition reflect a spectrum of interests and concerns facing Costa Ricans today, five of the artists identify with the queer community and all position themselves within the broadest developments in contemporary art, with particular focus on the topics of body, identity and place. Opening Party & Artist Reception Saturday, March 30, 3p.m. @ Craig Kroll Gallery, 2525 Michigan Avenue, Building B-3 https://www.craigkrullgallery.com/next

Stanley Clarke N•4EVER: Four-time Grammy winner Clarke, who is one of the most celebrated acoustic and electric bass players in the world and BroadStage's new Artist in Residence, returns with his new band 4EVER, for a night of raucous jazz harmony, rock, funk, R&B, hip-hop, fusion, and more. Saturday, March 30 https://broadstage.org/tickets-shows/calendar/stanley-clarke-n-4ever/

Children's Easter Egg Hunt: Join the Fairmont Miramar for a delightful Children's Easter Egg Hunt in the Miramar Gardens, where the grounds transform into a playground of hidden treasures and giggles as kids search for the lucky golden egg. Sunday, March 31, 11a.m. - 12p.m. @ 101 Wilshire Blvd. https://www.fairmont-miramar.com/easter-weekend-at-the-miramar/

Bergamot Comedy Festival: The festival will take place at The Crow @ Bergamot Station Monday, April 1 - Saturday, April 6 with ticketed performer showcases and FREE educational panels led by industry leaders. Each of the 56 up-and-coming performers featuring at BCF was hand-picked from a thousand submissions across the U.S. with a particular focus on highlighting female-identifying, BIPOC, and LGBTQ+ talent. https://www.bergamotcomedyfest.com/tickets

Take a Self-Guided Public Art Tour: The City has created a tour of selected works on the Beach, in Downtown and the Civic Center areas. The suggested route can be accomplished by bicycle/car, or on foot in sections and predominantly visits public artworks in the City's collection, interspersed with a few public artworks by other entities including Metro and private developers. https://santamonica.gov/media/Art/Santa_Monica_Public_Art_Tasting_Tour-1.pdf

WHAT TO EAT & DRINK?

Easter Brunch @ Esters: The "little kitchen that could" is firing up Tortilla Española (with the option to add caviar) and Waffles. Starting at noon, they'll have a Live Jazz Trio and Rosé Champagne Flights ($35 for 3 wines). Sunday, March 31, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. https://www.esterswineshop.com

SEE **AROUND TOWN** PAGE 11

KAFE K

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MOST LOVED 2024 Santa Monica

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St. Paul's Lutheran Church
All are welcome at God's table.

Holy Week and Easter

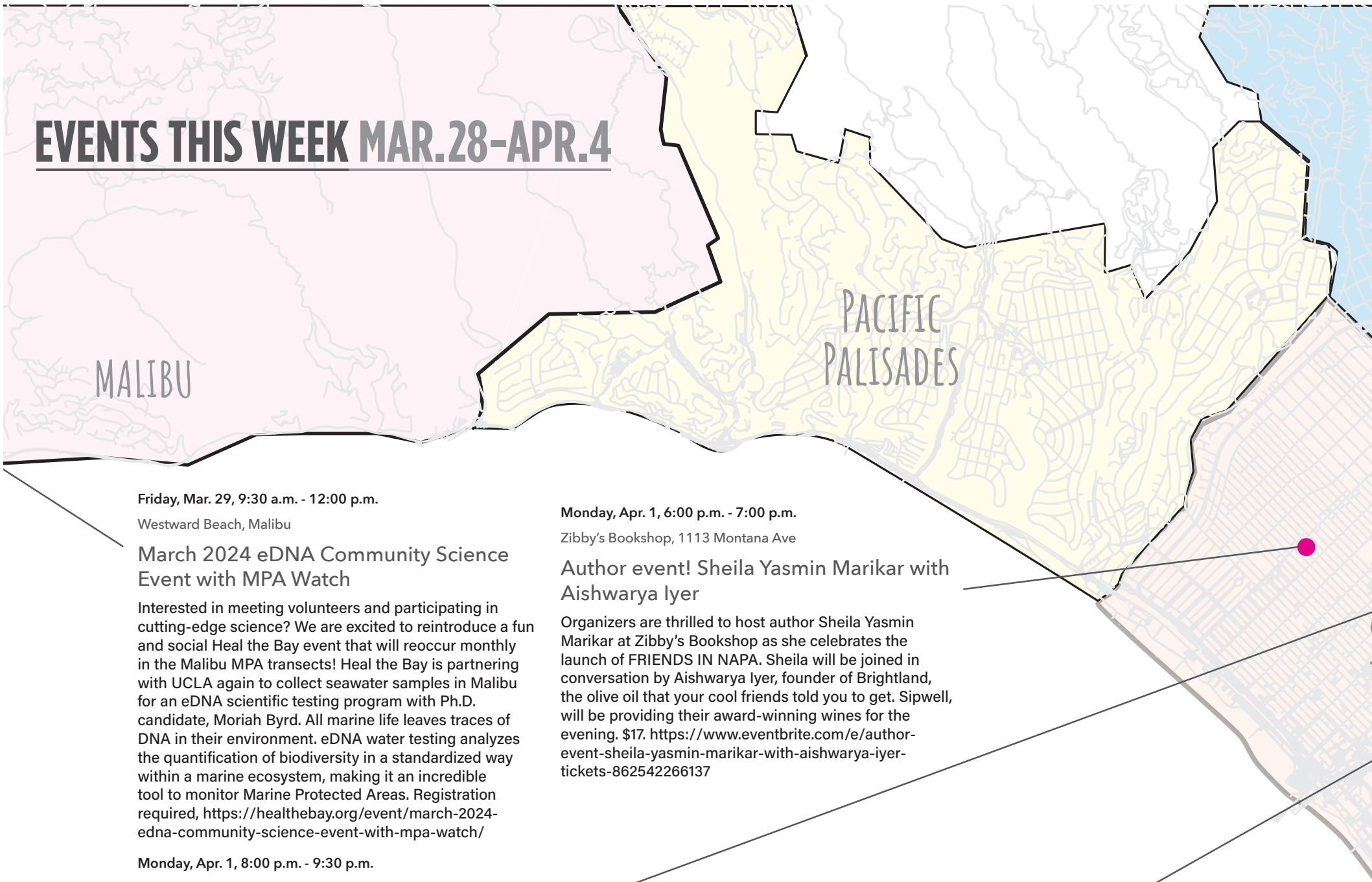
MAUNDY THURSDAY, MARCH 28
Lord's Supper with Footwashing and
Stripping the Altar, **7 p.m.**

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29
Stations of the Cross, **Noon**
St. John's Passion and
Adoration of the Cross, **7 p.m.**

EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31
Service and Festival Holy Communion, **10:30 a.m.**
followed by an Easter Egg Hunt

958 Lincoln Blvd, Santa Monica, CA 90403
https://www.stpaulsantamonica.org

EVENTS THIS WEEK MAR.28-APR.4



Friday, Mar. 29, 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Westward Beach, Malibu

March 2024 eDNA Community Science Event with MPA Watch

Interested in meeting volunteers and participating in cutting-edge science? We are excited to reintroduce a fun and social Heal the Bay event that will reoccur monthly in the Malibu MPA transects! Heal the Bay is partnering with UCLA again to collect seawater samples in Malibu for an eDNA scientific testing program with Ph.D. candidate, Moriah Byrd. All marine life leaves traces of DNA in their environment. eDNA water testing analyzes the quantification of biodiversity in a standardized way within a marine ecosystem, making it an incredible tool to monitor Marine Protected Areas. Registration required, https://healthebay.org/event/march-2024-edna-community-science-event-with-mpa-watch/

Monday, Apr. 1, 8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

The Crow, 2525 Michigan Ave., F4

Bergamot Comedy Festival

$20 to $50—VIP Tickets include a 1-year subscription to MasterClass
The Bergamot Comedy Festival is a week-long stand-up comedy celebration spotlighting the country's newest and most distinct rising talent. Along with comedy shows each night there will be FREE educational programming for the local community.
Monday, April 1 @ 8 PM - The Crow and LOCA present Tomorrow's Ladies of Late Night, an all-female lineup of the best comedians who are TV ready. Tuesday, April 2 @ 8 PM - Main Room and The Nest, two showcases on our two stages of up-and-coming and professional comedians. Wednesday, April 3 @ 8 PM - Main Room and The Nest, the second night of double showcases on our stages. Thursday, April 4 @ 8 PM - Main Room and The Nest, the third night of double showcases on our stages. Friday, April 5 @ 8 PM - The Crow and Comedy Gives Back team up for a show where 100% of the proceeds will go to Comedy Gives Back, the largest nonprofit in the country that raises awareness for mental health in comedy.Saturday, April 6 @ 8 PM - College students compete for the title of America's Best College Comic and share the stage with pro comedians.
https://www.bergamotcomedyfest.com/tickets

Check out more events at: smdp.com/events

Monday, Apr. 1, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Zibby's Bookshop, 1113 Montana Ave

Author event! Sheila Yasmin Marikar with Aishwarya Iyer

Organizers are thrilled to host author Sheila Yasmin Marikar at Zibby's Bookshop as she celebrates the launch of FRIENDS IN NAPA. Sheila will be joined in conversation by Aishwarya Iyer, founder of Brightland, the olive oil that your cool friends told you to get. Sipwell, will be providing their award-winning wines for the evening. $17. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/author-event-sheila-yasmin-marikar-with-aishwarya-iyer-tickets-862542266137

Saturday, Mar. 30, 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Promenade Playhouse 10931 W Pico Blvd Los Angeles, CA

L.A. Festival of Cinema 2024

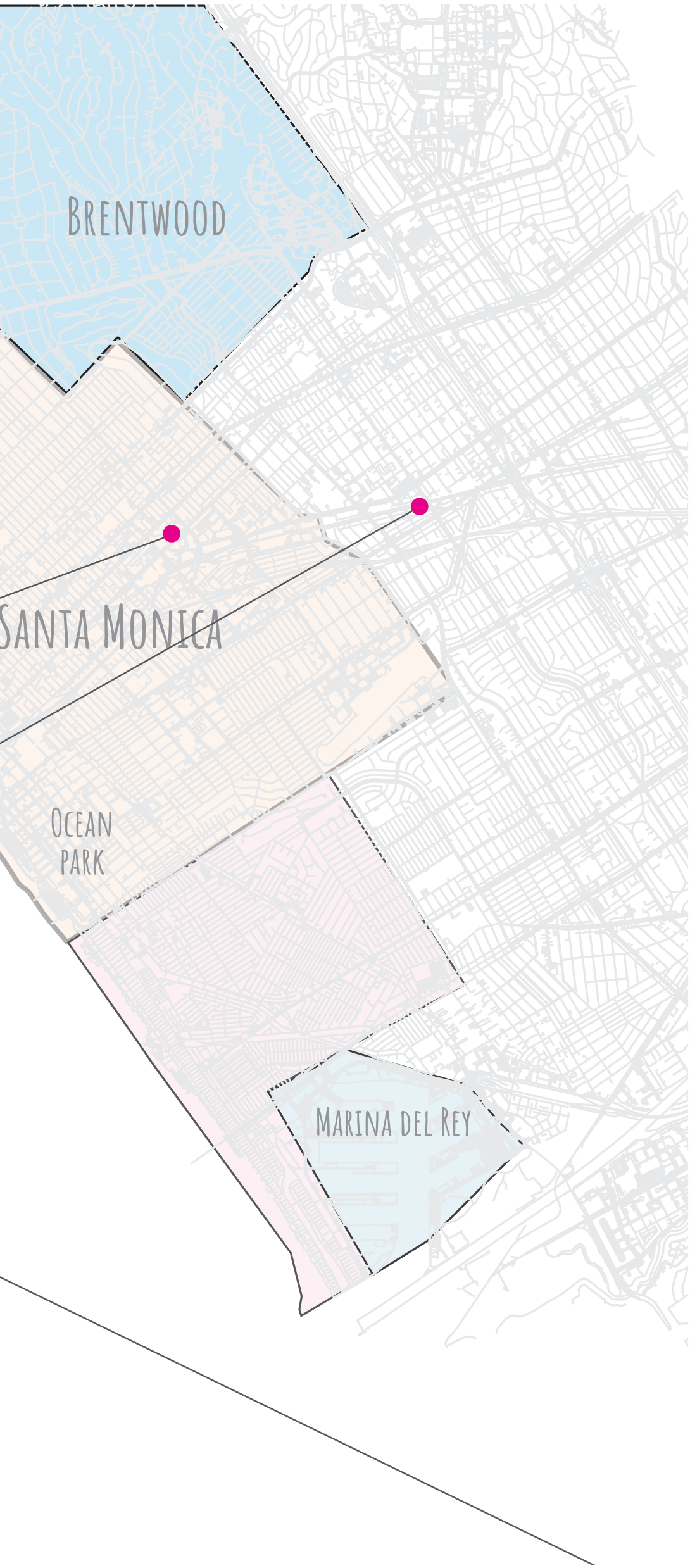
$10. The 5th edition of the L.A. Festival of Cinema is taking place on the 30th of March at the Promenade Playhouse. They are excited to return for one more unique cinematic evening filled with 10 films of independent cinema. Blending feature-length and short films in a captivating program of two screening slots, this year's edition brings indie films by filmmakers from all walks of life. Fiction and documentary films, dramas and comedies, and animations compose the LAFC24 selection, which spans a wide range of genres and styles. https://lafestivalofcinema.com/

Friday, Mar. 29, 10:00 a.m.

3930 West Century Boulevard Inglewood

Tour: The Clippers Intuit Dome

Join the A+D Museum for a hard-hat tour of the new home of the Los Angeles Clippers - the Intuit Dome! You will hear professional insights from the construction managers, including unique design characteristics, challenges during construction, and the expected impact on the local community. The stadium itself is a world-class sports arena that yields 915,000 gross square feet and 18,000 seats. Impressively, the complex is working towards a LEED Platinum certification. It will operate on 100% carbon-free energy from day one, with enough on-site energy storage to power a basketball game or concert. $12 - $80.
10 a.m. - Safety Briefing & Introduction to the Project
10:30 a.m. - 11:30am - Tour of the Intuit Dome
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tour-the-clippers-intuit-dome-tickets-849946682407



THURSDAY | MARCH 28

HANDS-ONLY CPR

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health is coming to the library to provide Hands-Only CPR training. This is drop-in training - come anytime between 2:30 and 4:30 p.m. - it only takes about 10 minutes to complete. Note: this is not a certified CPR class. You will not receive a certificate. This training is a lie-saving skill that will help you feel more confident to respond in an emergency. CPR without mouth-to-mouth breaths. Only to be used on teens or adults. No documents are required from anyone who would like to be trained. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. Palisades Branch Library, 861 Alma Real Drive, Pacific Palisades.

REAL WOMEN HAVE CURVES

"Women of Color in Film" revisits the award-winning 2002 coming-of-age feature set in East Los Angeles. A discussion follows the screening at 4 p.m. at Santa Monica College Cayton Center, 1900 Pico Blvd., Room #202.

LA STARTUP AND TECH MIXER

Kick off 2024 the right way with the best networking in Los Angeles. As seen in Entrepreneur Magazine, the premier tech networking event has one of the largest membership groups in Southern California and is growing every month. Join them 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Santa Monica Whaler, 101 Broadway, for drinks, amazing company, top companies and top talent. General admission tickets $9, VIP tickets $16. To purchase, visit: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/la-startup-and-tech-mixer-tickets-855586501257

WESTERN REVENGE

Tales of lust, love and female rage - Dance, Aerial and Burlesque. $25-$50. Harvelle's Santa Monica, 1432 4th Street, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY | MARCH 29

LIBBY AND ONLINE CATALOG WORKSHOP

Space is limited. Please RSVP to reserve your space by registering in person at the branch Reference Desk or calling 323-459-2754. Join organizers for a workshop to learn how to use their emedia app, Libby, and how to search the library's online catalog - taught by their new Cybernaut. The workshop will cover, among other topics:
Downloading the app to your device and connecting your library card.
Borrowing and placing holds on items.
How to use the Libby icons including "Shelf."
Accessing your personal account on the library website.
Searching and requesting a physical book online through the library's catalog.
Paying fees online.
You can see a complete list of workshops and services at lapl.org/cybernauts.
1 p.m. Palisades Branch Library, 861 Alma Real Drive, Pacific Palisades.

SPRING BREAK READING PARTY: FANTASTIC FICTION AT PICO

Bring your book or discover a new one while we read together in the same room, with a different theme for each day. Refreshments provided. For grades K- 5. 2 - 3 p.m. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd.

BOLLYWOOD NIGHT

This event is 21 and over. Any ticket holder unable to present valid identification indicating that they are at least 21 years of age will not be admitted to this event, and will not be eligible for a refund. The Venice West
1717 Lincoln Blvd,
Venice, $17, https://www.ticketweb.com/event/bollywood-night-the-venice-west-tickets/13576903

SATURDAY | MARCH 30

TODDLERS, BABIES, DADS!

Join organizers on Saturday mornings. Where kids play freely, learn and grow, while dads relax, meet other dads, get tips and tricks! Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. 8:30 - 11:15 a.m.

GET READY FOR KINDERGARTEN!

Help your little one prepare to start school with Get Ready for Kindergarten storytime! This storytime includes books and music and will be followed by a craft. In March, they will focus on Math and Science, including ways to include early number concepts in your day-to-day life. In April, they will focus on Talk and Play and how playtime helps little ones learn the social skills that will be vital in their interactions with peers and teachers in school. This special Get Ready for Kindergarten storytime is best suited for children ages 3-5 years old and their caregivers. 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Donald Bruce Kaufman - Brentwood Branch Library, 11820 San Vicente Boulevard, Los Angeles

UCLA GLUCK REED TRIO

The UCLA Gluck Reed Trio will be bringing their wonderful music to the library. Don't miss this musical morning. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. 11 a.m. Palisades Branch Library, 861 Alma Real Drive, Pacific Palisades.

NOIR FILM FESTIVAL

Join them to experience noir films - they are often based in Los Angeles. In a Lonely Place (1950) directed by Nicholas Ray, chronicles a gifted but washed-up screenwriter with a hair-trigger temper—Humphrey Bogart, who becomes the prime suspect in a brutal Tinseltown murder. The only person who can supply an alibi for him is a seductive neighbor (Gloria Grahame) with her own troubled past. 2 p.m. Palisades Branch Library, 861 Alma Real Drive, Pacific Palisades.

2024 ARTS MONTH RECEPTION

Join us for a reception to celebrate the launch of Arts, Creativity and Culture Month in Santa Monica. Stop by and check out the "Our Pico" portrait exhibition in the Beach House gallery and meet photographer Sam Comen - this Pico Neighborhood worker portrait exhibit has recently been acquired for the city's Art Bank collection. Mingle with local artists and enjoy light noshes while showing your support for arts advocacy, culture and creativity! 2 - 4 p.m. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Highway

COMEDY

FROM PAGE 1

with curious questions in mind, as Blaine wanted an environment to ask anything, even baseline questions that may be embarrassing to ponder otherwise.

"I think the majority of people in this industry are always of service, and they always want to help," Blaine added. "So everything with this festival is coming from the point of view of, what does a comic need to know .... equitable education, to me, is one of the most fabulous ways to jumpstart anyone's career."

The industry veterans taking part in the festival range from showrunners like Netflix's "Survival of the Thickest" creator Danielle Sanchez-Witzel, to writers like NBC's "Night Court" scribe Mathew Harawitz. Late-night television expertise will be taught by "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon" creative consultant Michael Cox, who said the festival "is an excellent opportunity for not only comedians, but for the industry to scout."

Another high-profile guest is Andrew Reich, who served as executive producer on arguably comedy's all-time greatest television hit, "Friends." Having friends in the industry has paid off for Blaine, and will also pay dividends for festival attendees.

"The coolest part about the entertainment community is it is a community, and when I react out to a top agent and say, would you be willing to speak and share you knowledge, they do," Blaine said. "They say yes, because ... it's going to make their job easier, because if they can connect with the up and coming artists, and tell them what they want, then they're going to be able to give that (to) a network ... there's a mutually beneficial experience that comes out of all of this."

Photo by Monique Hernandez

COMEDY FESTIVAL: Nina Nguyen will be one of 50 performers during the Bergamot Comedy Festival.

There will be no shortage of talent to pluck from, as the fest provides the opportunity for diverse perspectives to shine. The week's lineup is 50% female and nonbinary identifying, aiming to cultivate an empathetic community via good humor. After the public panels in the early evening, showcases take place at The Crow featuring comedians such as Nina Nguyen, Haley Warren and Bee Gutierrez.

Blaine stated she opened The Crow to find out how to participate in "society moving forward with using storytelling," and believes she found 50 worthy comedians that will "make it better" for the next generation of women, people of color and the LGBTQ+ community.

"The truth is that storytelling is still one of the most powerful ways to serve social justice, and when we get those diverse points of view on (big platforms) ... (people) all of a sudden understand the perspective of someone who is clear and artistic and has (had) crimes (committed) against them for gender and sexuality, and you all of a sudden care about them because the storytelling is so profound," Blaine said.

Along with the panels and showcases, the festival also includes private perks for ticket holders, including group yoga, group tarot reading and more in-depth panel discussions. The April 1 opening night also has the "Tomorrow's Ladies of Late Night" finalist showcase and an opening party. April 5 is "mental health day" sponsored by Comedy Gives Back, with the day's private perk being mediation and mental health programming.

The festival was made possible in part with support from Art of Recovery, a Cultural Affairs initiative, a show of solidarity between Santa Monica government and Bergamot. In a February meeting of Santa Monica City Council, councilmembers voted unanimously to create an economic support program for the center, and much of the public made their voices heard in supporting Bergamot.

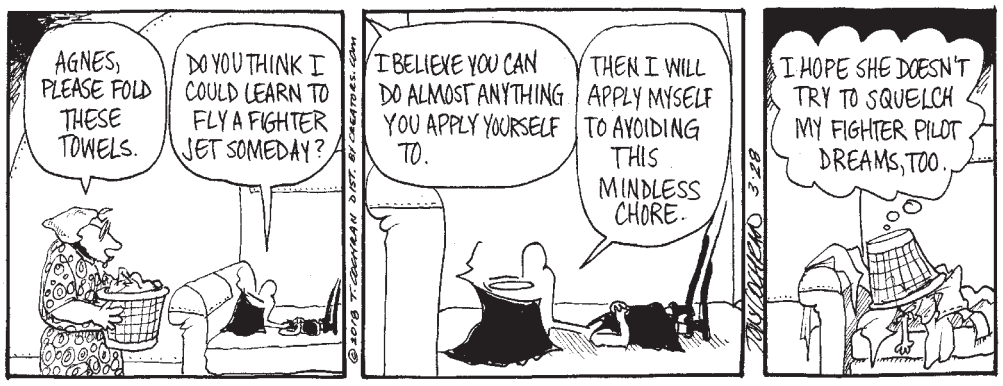
"It was really, really touching," Ruiz said. "It was amazing to see the community come out and support and really see the value of having a community-centric art space. If the community hadn't come out and supported that, who knows what they would have turned that space into. Instead of only looking toward commercially viable spaces, (this is) really making that (safe space) for art galleries and art spaces such as ours."

General admission tickets for showcases are $20, with a $45 VIP ticket including a 1-year subscription to MasterClass. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit bergamotcomedyfest.com.

thomas@smdp.com

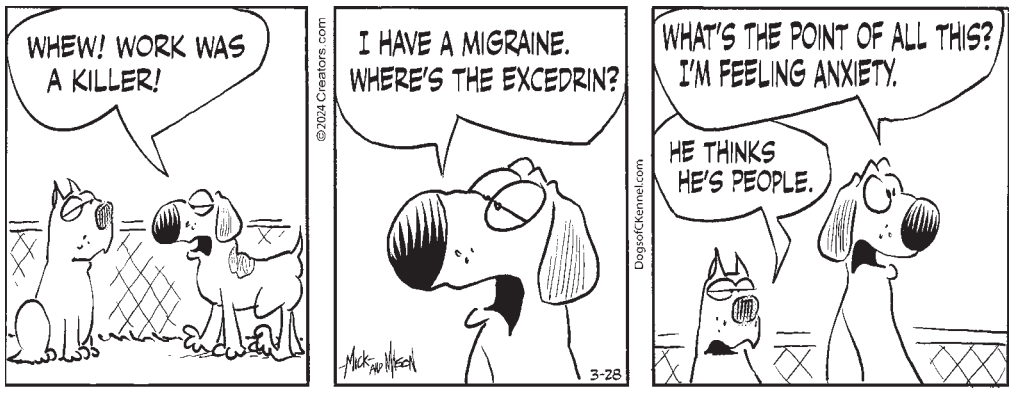
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART

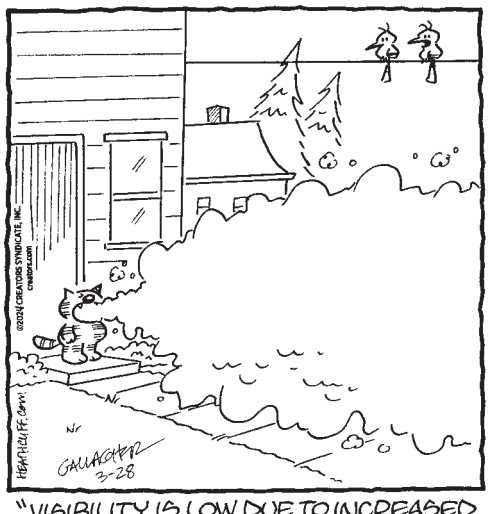


Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE

Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"VISIBILITY IS LOW DUE TO INCREASED CAT BREATH."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING

FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 18 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 6163

On the catwalk

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

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Ksubi
Latest
Manufacture
Mini
Music
Paris
Pins
Pleat
Pose
Pout
Rayon
Saba
Sales
Seam
Sell
Show
Silk
Skirt
Sleeves
Stars
Stores
Tack
Tailor
Tops
Trim
Wear
White

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Local farmer's market

Covering the city by the bay since 2001.
To advertise, email cindy@smdp.com or call 310.458.7737
smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 28)

You're not a stranger to the constant craving that animates even the most fulfilling lives. This year you befriend it and it will drive your quest for love and adventure. More highlights: You'll make money with family, spend days on end in two stunning destinations and you'll take part in high-energy projects that teach you valuable skills you'll end up teaching to others. Libra and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 17, 41, 11 and 6.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Don't imagine that those who went before you were any more gifted than you. You never know how or why anyone lands where they do. The important thing is to apply yourself where you stand. A brilliant success will be yours.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The reason you feel somewhat entangled with someone is that you are. It's impossible for two people to interact without getting their energy wrapped around one another. Maybe it's something to accept, or even welcome.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Everything around you exists in an underlying reality, interconnected and interdependent. Recognizing this unity should help with road rage, conversation fatigue and other annoyances. If it doesn't, a funny friend will.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Usually "yes" is a beginning, and "no" is an ending. Today flips it. "Yes" leads to waiting. It's a non-starter. "No" gives you new direction and you move without knowing where the path leads, only knowing where it doesn't.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You are so lighthearted that people sometimes misunderstand the level of effort and intelligence you invest in your work. But the bright people who completely "get" you will make it all worthwhile, so don't change.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Splurge on yourself. There won't be consequences. Your enjoyment will be worth the expense. None will judge you. Sidenote: there's a good chance that what you're calling a splurge is actually a basic need.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your creativity makes you less susceptible to influence. Because you are capable of coming up with your own entertainment and solutions, you are not easily swayed by shiny, pretty lures set by those with an agenda.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Two people getting their needs met is always a set-up for unpredictable outcomes. Even one party selflessly serving the needs of the other is still unpredictable because people are complicated. Reduce expectation. Lean into complexity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Math is universal. Logic is born of unique experience and truth. You'll try your best to follow and understand, all the while knowing that people have different systems of reasoning.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You can't be alert to your environment while also being hypnotized by your own inner monologue. Hear yourself out and determine what's actionable. Once the "inside you" feels heard, it will pipe down.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You will accomplish an amazing feat in the days to come: you will undo a thought process. This is among the trickiest of human achievements and it will start with one small thought you demystify today.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It seems that some people are born with augmented compassion, though more get there through heart-expanding experiences such as disappointment and injustice. It's the reason you know how to help someone today.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

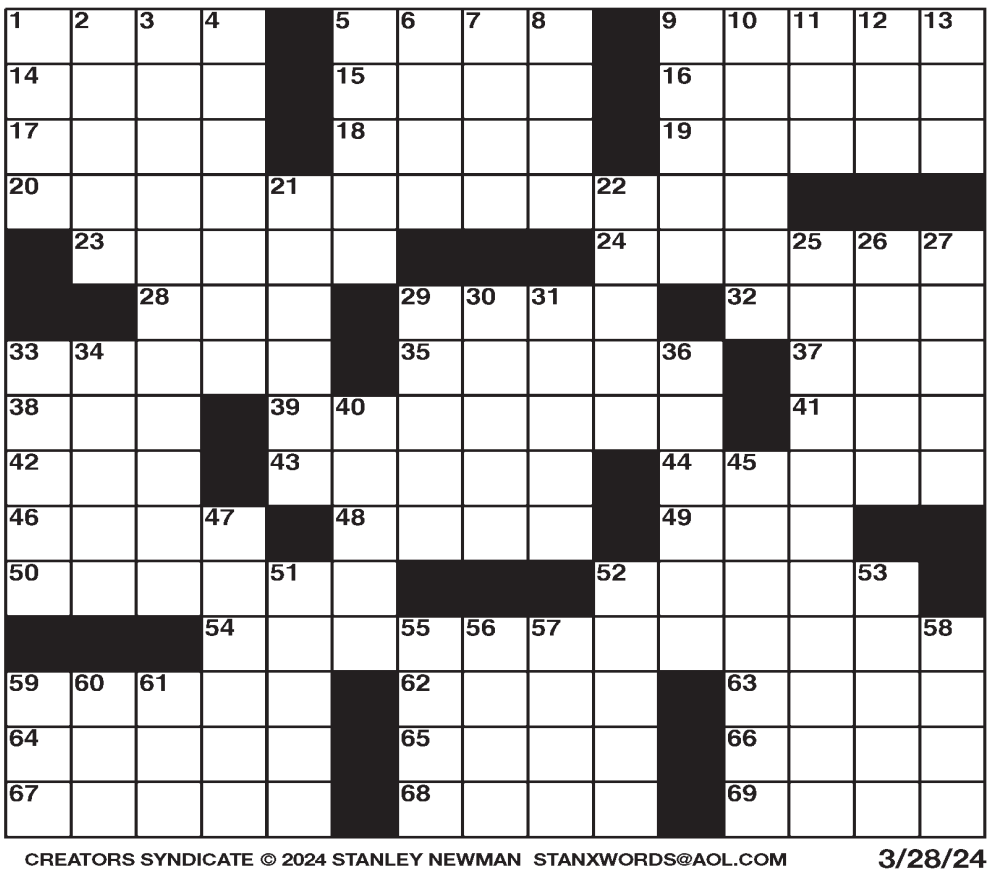
HOT POTATOES by Marshal Herrmann
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 The Taj Mahal, e.g.
5 Sax range
9 Scout assemblage
14 Surroundings
15 Person who might come clean
16 "Holy cow!"
17 Extended for a while
18 Concierge's offering
19 Variety of the violet
20 Hot potato serving
23 Jazz genre
24 Souped-up clunker
28 Luau presentation
29 Operatic offerings
32 None too pleased
33 Bamboo lover
35 None too pleased
37 Lace product
38 In the past
39 Hot potato serving
41 Snacked on
42 Storage tank
43 Marine's cry
44 Certain cosmetic
46 At any time
48 Make an admission, with "up"
49 Be obliged to
50 Hankering
52 Smiles big
54 Hot potato serving
59 Baghdadi, for instance
62 Prefix for motion
63 Bit of help
64 Encore performance
65 Atop
66 Olympian aggressor
67 Be a host
68 Boomers' offspring
69 __-eyed (gullible)

DOWN

1 Soft rock
2 Tiered sweets
3 What you keep in mind
4 Fought
5 Granada gal pal
6 Pool partition
7 Squabble
8 Telltale sign
9 Highly assertive
10 Gigs for a 67 Across
11 Have
12 Milk bottle abbr.
13 Settle obligations
21 Hard cheese
22 March marchers
25 Ancient monarchy
26 Speak from a soapbox
27 Dissuade
29 Movie music
30 Maritime apex predators
31 Scottish topography
33 Word in an "intentional" metaphor
34 Tequila source
36 Isolated from others
40 Free of charge
45 "They tricked me!"
47 Close to indelicacy
51 Düsseldorf is on it
52 The Yankees' home
53 Physical strength
55 Stop up
56 Optimistic outlook
57 B-school subject
58 Outlet for crafters
59 Steamed state
60 Overnight acronym
61 Smile shape



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

NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 4

Ma's longtime collaborator, recognized as one of Britain's most versatile and imaginative pianists, and was praised by The Washington Post as "every bit Ma's equal, playing with striking individuality." Wed 8 p.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, LA, $196-342.

SPRINGSTEEN – If you are making the wise move to see Bruce, you should also see Yo-Yo Ma. Oh sure, Ma doesn't play nearly as loud or electrically as The Boss, but Bruce can't caress a cello to make you cry. Both are transcendent musician-philosopher-world ambassadors who have deservedly risen to the top of their genres after decades, using music to convey something more than just melody. Both have global platforms they use to promote a worldview that we all are really the same, and that music can show that. They have both boldly crossed genres and demolished barriers to demonstrate that human truth. If there is a global language, it is music. There is good reason why would-be autocrats (like the Blue Meanies) often try to eliminate or control music. Neither of these giants will be with us forever. This is a rare opportunity to see them on successive nights. I highly recommend that. Although the E Street Band has had the losses you would expect after half a century, most of the original bangers are there and they are essential to the sound and the experience. Does he still do three to four hour shows? Gawd I hope not. We want him to stay with us, don't we? Thurs 7:30 p.m., Kia Forum, Inglewood, $111-1,399.

RECOMMENDED:

TOLEDO DIAMOND – Unique, riveting, first class act. There's nothing like it, it is high performance art and great decadent fun. Degeneracy is rarely so well disciplined. And the band is smokin'! Don't. Miss. Toledo Diamond. Sun 9:30 p.m., Harvelle's, Santa Monica, $12.

COMING ATTRACTIONS (all recommended): TOLEDO DIAMOND, Harvelle's, 3/31, 4/7, 14, 21, 28; HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES, Cinema Bar, 4/1, 8, 15, 22, 29; ETHAN IVERSON TRIO with PETER ERSKINE, DAREK OLES, Sam First, 4/5; "LA TRAVIATA," LA Opera, 4/6, 14, 18, 21, 24, 27; DONALD HARRISON, Jazz Bakery, 4/7; SPRINGSTEEN, Kia Forum, 4/7; SAINT-SAENS, ORGAN SYMPHONY, LA PHIL, Disney Hall, 4/12, 13, 14; LIBRARY GIRL, Ruskin Theatre, 4/14; MAVIS STAPLES 85TH BD, YouTube Theater, 4/18; ALBERT LEE, McCabe's, 4/19; HERBIE HANCOCK, Disney Hall, 4/20; ACADEMY OF ST. MARTIN IN THE FIELDS, The Soraya, 4/21; RHIANNON GIDDENS, Theatre at Ace Hotel, 4/25; JACKY TERRASSON TRIO, Jazz Bakery, 5/5; KRAFTWERK, Disney Hall, 5/21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30; JOHN MCEUEN, McCabe's, 5/24; CHRIS STAPLETON, Hollywood Bowl, 6/26, 27; ROLLING STONES, SoFi Stadium, 7/10, 13.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 3,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 38 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

AROUND TOWN

FROM PAGE 5

Easter Brunch at Fig: Hop on over to FIG Restaurant for a brunch experience unlike any other, featuring mouthwatering specialties such as Slow-Cooked Eggs, Wood-Fire Roasted Whole Branzino, and playful Fruity Pebble Pancakes that'll make even the grown-ups feel like kids again. Sunday, March 31, 11a.m. - 3p.m. https://www.fairmont-miramar.com/easter-weekend-at-the-miramar/

LouLou Easter Brunch: Easter specials include: "Le Gigot D'agneau," a 7-hour roast leg of lamb, dauphine potato, flageolet beans, Deviled Eggs, and Easter-themed cocktails. DJs and live performances Sunday, March 31, 11:30a.m. - 4:30p.m. with a special brunch buffet at $69/person @ 395 Santa Monica Place #300 https://www.loulousantamonica.com/events

Sweet Rose Creamery's Easter Egg Bon Bons: Hop into the Brentwood Country Mart and Main Street shops for these cute treats featuring Cookies & Cream ice cream dipped in pastel-colored white chocolate. They're available for purchase individually or in boxes of 4. Available March 27 - 31. https://www.sweetrosecreamery.com

Chile Crisp Queen Jing Gao of Fly By Jing Lists Crudo e Nudo among her favorite LA restaurants: Describing the Main St. favorite, she said "I quite like Crudo e Nudo. I don't know how consistent they are but the crudo has been outstanding."

Restaurant Opening - Oasis: The former Wokcano space is now home to "a sophisticated, 7,000 sq.-foot restaurant and lounge opening in the heart of Santa Monica with a menu highlighting pristine seafood accompanied by local produce. This split-level location features two bars and a massive outdoor patio perfect for events. Keep your eye out for the official grand opening in April!" 1413 5th St.

Further Afield - Parks After Dark: PAD is back for the spring season, offering free activities across 34 LA County Parks. Families and friends are welcome to enjoy outdoor movie nights every Thursday and live music performances by local bands every Saturday, alongside a range of complimentary activities for all ages. The series runs from March 21 to April 13, with all movie screenings and concerts starting at dusk.

Looking Ahead Around Town: The Other Art Fair (4/4-7), CicLAvia West LA (4/21), MAINopoly (5/19)

If there's something you think is worth highlighting, you can reach out directly to me at sean@smdp.com. Let me know if you have any feedback on Around Town: Easter Weekend Events & Meals.

OLYMPIA

FROM PAGE 1

also attended by his friend and legendary actor Dolph Lundgren. "Everybody else was always (asking), tell us about what it's like to be the champ, tell us about the protein (and) training. I'm like, yeah, that's cool, but what about me? I'm not gonna always be that guy, and I also went through my levels of hardship (in) how I grew up … they were willing to capture that and really willing to offer me an opportunity to peel back those layers."

Working alongside Harvey on the documentary was producer Adam Scorgie, and the crew was able to win over both Heath and wife Shurie by wanting to get "behind the human" who produced inhuman feats on stage.

"I had met Lou Ferrigno as a kid, me and my dad shared some moments (going) through these magazines, (and) you're like, 'oh my God … is that even real? How do you get your back that big?' So when Phil gave me this opportunity, and obviously seeing the great career he had established … I (said) 'yeah, let's do it,'" Scorgie added.

Before his all-time career in bodybuilding, there was Phil Heath the basketball player, who excelled in his native Seattle area at Rainier Beach High School, playing alongside future NBA star Jamal Crawford. Heath said that basketball in Seattle is "everything," attracted to the sport because of the access to practice individually.

"I was always a stickler for self-improvement, and being able to finally get your shot right and hear a swish, you don't get to hear that with football … with basketball, you can visually see the ball go through that net and hear it," Heath said. "You can hear it go off the glass, you can hear it go around the rim … basketball really was just everything for me."

The sport was Heath's life, until it wasn't. He saw his playing time diminish while attending the University of Denver, eventually coming to the conclusion that he needed a new endeavor. Heath noted that he understands what young athletes in team sports are going through, and that even if their dreams of big-time contracts and endorsements are cut short, they should focus on gratitude for the opportunity of getting a quality education and should ask questions about their future to coaches and peers.

"For all those athletes that are going through it, you got to remind yourself that you have s spark, you have light … you got to continue to work hard, no matter where you go, because you're gonna get in the real world (and) be dealing with similar challenges," he said. "And if you can … manage your emotions and your ability to communicate at 20 years old, or 18, once you get (to) 25-30, you're going to be a great employee or entrepreneur … you're going to be an asset, because (employers) need people that are highly aware of themselves."

Growth of awareness and emotional intelligence came even while Heath was racking up consecutive Mr. Olympia crowns, the highest honor in bodybuilding. In "Breaking Olympia," Heath speaks his raw emotions about losing his father to illness as well as various injuries that took him away from the number-one spot. He said that the documentary is a chance to speak out for other athletes who have to deal with emotions of depression, anger and frustration.

"There's way too much of our love in there," Scorgie added. "I'm crying on premiere days. We care about the subject, we care about the film, and I think that just resonates with the people we're working with … they share themselves (because we're) in the trenches with (them)."

In the trenches with the filmmakers were fellow icons of bodybuilding, such as Cutler and Ronnie Coleman, as well as box office breaker Johnson. Heath said that his peers were "open" to the project and he appreciated that they "actually cared enough" to pour themselves into a film despite not knowing the final outcome.

Another peer that cares for Heath is Schwarzenegger, with the superstar recognizing Heath's accomplishments and building a bond. Heath's seventh Mr. Olympia title in 2017 tied the Austrian Oak on the all-time champions list, and Heath spoke glowingly of the former California governor at the Gold's Gym he still frequents in his 70s.

"I definitely realize who I'm tied with," Heath said. "It's just inspirational to be able to look at Arnold at his events and him know my name, but then also we can train together, we can hang out. He's my muse … being around people like that, when you're around greatness, it rubs off, and it's rubbed off on me in many different ways. Watching his trajectory, it just lets you know that there are no limitations, just the ones in your mind."

"Breaking Olympia" can be purchased through services like Prime Video, Fandango at Home and ROW8. For more, visit sevenbucks.com.

thomas@smdp.com

Photo by Thomas Leffler

OLYMPIA: Producer Adam Scorgie and bodybuilding legend Phil Heath came together at Gold's Gym in Venice to promote the documentary "Breaking Olympia."

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

Campus Events 2024

SPRING & SUMMER

Photo by Ed Gandara

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