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 Earth Day activities.
- Speed Cameras
 Coming to the PCH.

Volume 23 Issue 109

THURSDAY 4/18/24

smdp.com

Remodeled and rebranded Regent Hotel offers first look



Regent Santa Monica Beach

THE SAME BUT DIFFERENT: The new, remodeled and rebranded Regent Santa Monica hotel is set to offer interesting upgrades.

SCOTT SNOWDEN

SMDP Staff Writer

The remodeled and rebranded Regent Hotel that occupies the site formerly known as Loews beachfront hotel has released the first details of what the new venue is going to look like.

As the Daily Press reported back in January of last year, Loews announced it was set to close and become part of the IHG Hotels & Resorts portfolio, which itself is part of the Strategic Hotels & Resorts group in a \$150 million upgrade.

The iconic, Pacific-facing property has been rebranded as the Regent Santa Monica Beach and "will usher in a new era of extraordinary experiences to the California coastline." The site is being remodeled as a "resort" rather

than just a hotel experience and was originally scheduled to open in late 2023. That date has been pushed back a little, with the venue now set to debut mid-2024.

According to the hotel, the resort will offer a total of 34 different suites, including a 2,180 sq-ft, two-story atrium suite offering ocean-facing views. However, the Santa Monica Presidential Suite on the eighth floor will offer the largest space, incorporating a game room, separate living room area and four Juliet balconies.

A total of 143 guest rooms will also be available starting at 720 sq-ft with bathrooms that feature bathtubs, rainfall showers, bidets in the water closet and double vanities. In addition to the spacious rooms and suites, the site will feature a renovated beachfront pool deck and an impressive 10,000-square-

foot wellness spa destination in collaboration with Guerlain, a subsidiary of the giant Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton luxury goods conglomerate.

"The addition of Regent Santa Monica Beach to the Santa Monica communities promises to deliver an unprecedented experience for travelers and locals alike," said Younes Atallah, General Manager of the resort. "With a commitment to distinguished, bespoke service alongside an alluring oceanfront location, we are eager to share this incredibly special property with the world and welcome guests to indulge in a modern evolution of traditional luxury."

Regent already owns an impressive collection of extremely high-end hotels, including Kuala

SEE **REGENT HOTEL** PAGE 11

Cellista soars in upcoming aerial cello experience

THOMAS LEFFLER

SMDP Staff Writer

Imagine two of the most difficult tasks one can think of, things that require years of intense training and repetition. Then, fathom the thought that these two endeavors need to be combined into one painstakingly difficult performance. Finally, add in expert-level storytelling that brings universal meaning to these tasks. This is difficult to even think about, let alone do, which is what makes one upcoming performance even more captivating.

On April 27 at the Highways Performance Space, two topnotch entertainment forms will be merged into one, as Cellista will be performing "Élégie," what she calls a "stage poem" written for Aerial Cello. The phrase is exactly what it means, as Cellista will be hoisted into the air in a static trapeze setting, all while playing her own cello composition. The wholly unique experience combines the Colorado-raised, now Los Angelesbased artist's two loves, a musical journey she's been on her whole



Courtesy Photo AERIAL CELLO: Cellista will be combining cello performance with trapeze during an April 27 show at Highways Performance Space in Santa Monica.

life merged with trapeze training received during the COVID-19 pandemic.

SEE **AERIAL CELLO** PAGE 11

Democrats kill California homeless camp ban, again

MARISA KENDALL

Special to the Daily Press

For the second year in a row, Democrats today voted down a bill that sought to ban homeless encampments near schools, transit stops and other areas throughout California.

Despite the fact that cities up and down the state are grappling with a proliferation of homeless camps, legislators said they oppose penalizing down-and-out residents who sleep on public property. "Just because individuals that are unhoused make people uncomfortable does not mean that it should be criminalized. And this bill does that," said Sen. Aisha Wahab, a Democrat from Fremont and chairperson of the Senate Public Safety Committee. "The penalties will just be added to their already difficult situation of paying for things."

Senate Bill 1011 stumbled in its first committee hearing, stalling in

SEE **HOMELESS** PAGE 3



SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA(310) 395-9922

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Latino icon with local ties immortalized in music history



Courtesy Photo

GABRIEL: Iconic Latin artist Juan Gabriel's song "Amor Eterno" was recently inducted into the National Recording Registry by the Library of Congress.

THOMAS LEFFLER

SMDP Staff Write

After backing from a prominent member of United States Congress, an icon that called Santa Monica home now has a permanent place in music history.

On Tuesday, the Library of Congress announced its selections for the National Recording Registry, a preservation of recordings with "cultural, historic, or aesthetic significance to life in the United States." One of the selections, nominated by Congressman Joaquin Castro (D-TX), is Juan Gabriel's song "Amor Eterno," part of Castro's push to include recognition of Latino musicians in the registry.

Gabriel, a mainstay in the Latino arts community during his distinguished career, passed away in Santa Monica in August 2016 at the age of 66. Over 40 years of songwriting, including the iconic ballad "Amor Eterno," has landed Gabriel into the Latin Songwriters Hall of Fame, the Billboard Latin Music Hall of Fame and the International Latin Music Hall of Fame.

In a Tuesday statement, Castro said that this past fall, his office "received a record-setting number of public suggestions for Latino songs that spanned styles and eras," with "Amor Eterno" playing a heartbreaking yet pivotal role in his home state of Texas. The ballad was played at funerals and memorials following an August 2019 mass shooting at a Walmart store in El Paso, which killed 23 people and injured 22 others. The shooting has been characterized as the deadliest attack

(This) announcement represents the Library of Congress' growing recognition that music by Latino musicians has shaped the soundtrack of American life ... I was proud to nominate titles that represent the diversity of Latino music and sound

- Joaquin Castro

on Latinos in modern United States history.

"(This) announcement represents the Library of Congress' growing recognition that music by Latino musicians has shaped the soundtrack of American life ... I was proud to nominate titles that represent the diversity of Latino music and sound," Castro stated.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Marina del Rey

District Attorney Gascón Announces Charges Against Man Who Fired Multiple Rounds at Marina del Rey Apartment Complex

Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón announced charges against Victoryloc Nguyen for carrying out an unprovoked shooting rampage throughout the grounds of a multi-building apartment complex in Marina del Rey on April 13.

"I am deeply outraged by the senseless shooting rampage carried out by Mr. Nguyen and I am thankful that no one was injured," District Attorney Gascón said. "Innocent civilians and law enforcement officers were callously targeted without provocation. Our Office's Bureau of Victim Services remains readily available to assist anyone who was impacted by this horrific act. I am grateful to the law enforcement officers who responded to this call, helped protect the public, and de-escalated the situation which resulted in Mr. Nguyen's surrender - all without firing a single shot."

"This individual jeopardized many lives and terrorized an apartment community," said Los Angeles County Sheriff's Central Patrol Division Chief Bobby Wyche. "Our deputy personnel, along with other local law enforcement agencies, were able to quickly respond, locate, and arrest the suspect without firing a single shot. We are extremely grateful that nobody was injured during this incident and that he will be held accountable for his reckless actions."

Victoryloc Vinh Nguyen (dob 08/29/82) is charged with two counts of willful, deliberate, attempted murder of a peace officer; one count of attempted murder – willful, deliberate and premediated on a civilian; 10 counts of assault with a machine gun or assault weapon upon a peace officer; four counts of assault with a machine gun or assault weapon upon a civilian; one count of shooting at an inhabited dwelling; and one count of first-degree residential burglary.

Nguyen pleaded not guilty to all charges today. A preliminary hearing setting is scheduled May 13 in Dept. 31 at the Airport Courthouse.

On April 13 at approximately 10:30 p.m., Nguyen allegedly went on a shooting rampage throughout a Marina del Rey apartment complex where he lives. Nguyen was wearing a tactical vest and was armed with two assault weapons and a handgun. He also carried multiple loaded magazines for the various weapons.

Nguyen allegedly fired more than 90 rounds at Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputies and residents, from numerous locations throughout the complex over a three-hour period.

No one was injured during the shootings.

The court has set bail at \$5.275 million. If convicted as charged, Nguyen will face life in prison.

The case is being investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

SUBMITTED BY THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 1

the Public Safety Committee on a 1-3 vote. The measure by Senate GOP leader Brian Jones and Democratic Sen. Catherine Blakespear, both of the San Diego area, would have made camping within 500 feet of a school, open space or major transit stop a misdemeanor or infraction. It also would have banned camping on public sidewalks if beds were available in local homeless shelters.

After today's defeat, Jones will continue speaking with committee members to see if there is any way to negotiate a path forward for his bill, spokesperson Nina Krishel said in

Sen. Nancy Skinner, a Democrat from Oakland, said while she appreciates that Californians don't want to see encampments, she couldn't support the bill.

"It's kind of like trying to make a problem invisible versus addressing the core of the problem," said Skinner, who joined Wahab and Sen. Scott Wiener, a Democrat from San Francisco, in voting "no."

More than three dozen people voiced their opposition to the bill during today's hearing, speaking on behalf of organizations such as the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights and the American Civil Liberties Union California

The bill's supporters, who numbered far fewer, included the mayor of Vista and a representative from the city of Carlsbad.

The lone "yes" vote came from the committee's only Republican, Sen. Kelly Seyarto of Murrieta.

'We had a slew of people that came forward to tell us about what we shouldn't be doing," he said. "But what the hell should we be doing? Because right now we're not doing anything."

Sen. Steven Bradford, a Democrat from Inglewood, abstained.

Wahab granted reconsideration, which

means the committee could hear the bill again later this session. But last year, a nearly identical bill met the same fate. SB 31, also introduced by Jones, died in the Senate Public Safety Committee with one "yes" vote, one "no" vote and three abstentions. It also received reconsideration, but was never revived.

This year's version of the encampment ban had more going for it. Jones found a Democratic co-author and narrowed the bill's scope. Instead of banning people from camping within 1,000 feet of schools and other locations, the new bill would have banned people from camping within 500 feet.

Jones also was leaning heavily on a new camping ban in San Diego, upon which he said he modeled his bill. The San Diego ordinance, which took effect at the end of July 2023, bans camps near schools, shelters and transit hubs, in parks, and — if shelter beds are available - on public sidewalks. Jones called the ordinance a "success," a sentiment echoed by San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria.

But a CalMatters investigation paints a more complicated picture. While encampments have drastically decreased in some areas, such as downtown and around certain schools, they are still just as prevalent — in some cases much more so - along the city's freeways and the banks of its river. Opponents of the ordinance say it displaces people instead of housing them.

And Jones' bill failed to copy a key piece of San Diego's approach. When the city started enforcing its encampment ban, it also opened two massive "safe sleeping" sites where about 500 people camp on vacant lots in tents purchased by the city.

Jones' bill would not have forced cities to set up accommodations for people displaced from encampments, because, he said, there's no state funding for that.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.



Surf report

WATER TEMP: **58.6**

THURSDAY FAIR TO GOOD

SURF: 4-6ft+

Chest to 1ft overhead

Another target day. Peaking SSW swell provides nice size, especially in the morning. A little slower on the high tide first thing, improving midmorning. On S wind watch but it's looking to stay on the light side at this

FRIDAY FAIR TO GOOD **SURF:** 4-5ft

Chest to head

SSW swell down to fun-zone leftovers. Conditions looking decent for the morning window at this point, just mind the deep high tide to start the day. SSW onshores for bumpier afternoon conditions



Thursday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 66.

Thursday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 54. West southwest wind around 5 mph. Friday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 64. East southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

Friday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 54.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Lo
2024/04/18	Thu	01:14 AM	1.99	L
2024/04/18	Thu	06:48 AM	4.22	Н
2024/04/18	Thu	1:32 PM	0.11	L
2024/04/18	Thu	8:07 PM	4.24	Н
2024/04/19	Fri	01:50 AM	1.49	L
2024/04/19	Fri	07:34 AM	4.29	Н
2024/04/19	Fri	1:59 PM	0.25	L
2024/04/19	Fri	8:23 PM	4.50	Н
2024/04/20	Sat	02:22 AM	1.02	L
2024/04/20	Sat	08:13 AM	4.29	Н
2024/04/20	Sat	2:21 PM	0.44	L
2024/04/20	Sat	8:40 PM	4.76	Н
2024/04/21	Sun	02:52 AM	0.58	L
2024/04/21	Sun	08:48 AM	4.21	Н
2024/04/21	Sun	2:41 PM	0.67	L
2024/04/21	Sun	8:57 PM	5.03	Н
2024/04/22	Mon	03:22 AM	0.19	L
2024/04/22	Mon	09:23 AM	4.08	Н

· 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 nation and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery



Draw Date: 4/15 7 16 41 56 61 Jackpot: 78 M



Draw Date: 4/16 21 26 36 44 59 Jackpot: 178 M



Draw Date: 4/13 7 13 22 33 38 Mega#: 3 Jackpot: 27 M





Fantasy 5

Draw Date: 4/16 1st: 01 - Gold Rush 2nd: 05 - California Classic 3rd: 02 - Lucky Star Race Time: 1:44.37

Draw Date: 4/16

Draw Date: 4/16

EVENING: 7 5 2

Draw Date: 4/16 MIDDAY: 1 7 4

PUBLISHER

Ross Furukawa

PARTNER

Todd James

EDITOR IN CHIEF

Matthew Hall matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Charles Andrews Jack Neworth David Pisarra.

CIRCULATION

Guadalupe Navarro ross@smdp.com

> Keith Wyatt ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS

Scott Snowden scott.snowden@smdp.com

> Thomas Leffler thomas@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING

Cindy Moreno

MARKETING MANAGER

Dina Araniva

PRODUCTION

Esteban Inchaustegui

Julio Davalos julio@smdp.com

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



AWARD WINNER



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Santa Monica Daily Press

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Fear Mongering and Name Calling is Not Good Policy or Leadership. It's Time to Return Decorum to City Hall.

You may have seen footage or social media posts of Tuesday's rally at Reed Park sponsored by a group known as "the Santa Monica Coalition," the same folks behind the "Santa Methica" and "Santa Monica is Not Safe" signs on the Promenade that are harming local businesses.

The rally opened with Roxanne Hoge, a registered Republican who ran for LA County Supervisor. Other speakers were Jessica Rogers, a co-founder of the Coalition, and the four "Change Slate" councilmembers Phil Brock, Christine Parra, Oscar de la Torre, and Lana Negrete. They spoke out against the limited clean syringe exchange program conducted by LA County which has saved lives at one of our highest concentration locations of unhoused individuals: Reed Park. Chants called for the firing of David White, our City Manager, and against their Council colleagues.

It's normal in our political discourse to have reasonable policy disputes. It's normal to have political rallies in support of or against a policy or a candidate. We support such rallies and have participated in many ourselves.

What is *not* normal - especially in Santa Monica - is for sitting city councilmembers to publicly support a crowd calling for the firing of their own City Manager. Even worse, none had the courage to call out the protesters carrying signs with cruel messages against their elected colleagues: "Jesse Zwick is a d**k" and "Mean Gleam." Instead, Vice Mayor Negrete called out a regular local news blogger for filming her speech. After she did, a protester came up to the blogger and threatened physical assault against him.

We expect better of our elected leadership in Santa Monica. Our businesses who are trying to recover from the pandemic deserve better than Santa Monica Coalition banners and signs disparaging all of the efforts they are making to return our downtown and Promenade to greatness. Our residents deserve better than the public vitriol and nativism we see from our officials in City Hall. Voters have a choice this November: continued divisiveness or a new generation of positive leadership who are guided by science, compassionate values, and collaboration.

Dan Hall, Ellis Raskin, Barry Snell, Natalya Zernitskaya





OPINION

NOTEWORTHY

Charles Andrews

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Do You Believe In Magic



Courtesy photos

WEEKEND SHOW: LIBRARY GIRL poets MATT SEDILLO, DAN NAVARRO

MAGIC

I've known it for years. Going out for live music is always a gamble. Some artists are reliable — Stevie Wonder, Loudon Wainwright III, Gary Clark Jr., Judy Collins, Dave Alvin/The Blasters, Peter Erskine, The Stones, The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, Tony Gilkyson, Gerald Clayton, Bruce, Mavis, X, LA Opera, Southside Slim, Lady Gaga, and yes, Taylor. Others... you might get a lousy experience, or you might get pure genius, that you will always remember. Van Morrison comes to mind.

But like the wise philosopher Wayne Gretzky once said, you miss 100% of the shots you don't take, and you will never be there for a magic moment if you never take a chance. Choose wisely, of course, to up the odds. That's what this weekly column is all about.

Magic took the stage Sunday at the monthly spoken word performance series, Library Girl. at the Ruskin Group Theatre at the SM Airport. It was one of the best LG performances I've seen, and I've been going nearly every month for more than seven years.

Founder/curator Susan Hayden told me she thought this one would be really special, but when I asked her to write a few sentences explaining why, she had difficulty. Now I know why. She felt the artists involved, and the unusual format she came up with, could lead to something remarkable, but hard to explain.

Matt Sedillo is a mostly political Mexican-American poet, and Dan Navarro a Mexican-American singersongwriter-guitarist-voice over actor. Both have amazing credits, and both are storytellers par excellence. If for one reason or another, that doesn't ring your chimes – you should been there. Each of them had at least one moment on stage that clearly moved the audience, but the two of them interacting spawned moments of creativity that rarely happen, anywhere. Hayden posted afterwards that it "exceeded expectations." Indeed.

You may have missed nearly 15 years of Library Girl, but don't miss the next 15. It's in your own backyard.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

Tonight - MAVIS STAPLES 85th Birthday Celebration — I've been telling you for weeks this will be an amazing show, with an unprecedented gathering of guest stars, including Santa Monica's own drummer extraordinaire, STEVE MUGALIAN. Thurs 7:30 p.m., YouTube Theater, Inglewood, \$29-2,719.

Tonight - "LA TRAVIATA," LA Opera — This is one of the most enduring tragedies, a new production, with star soprano Rachel Willis-Sørensen. What's Violetta to do, when she wants to settle down but her following won't let her, even for True Love? This is one of those operas everyone has heard of, for a reason. Thurs 7:30 p.m., Sun 2 p.m.,Wed 7:30 p.m., Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, LA, \$54-399.

HOT CLUB OF LOS ANGELES — You can go to the Cinema Bar any Monday, 9pm—11:30pm, for more than a decade now, and hear these hot players run through Django Reinhart-style '30s jazz. This amazing ensemble is a treasure, just over the border from SM. Mon 9pm, Cinema Bar, Culver City, no cover.

RECOMMENDED:

ALBERT LEE — He emerged from the '60s London folk scene, playing with the likes of Clapton and The Everly Brothers, to be respected as one of the best to ever pluck a string. He is a masterful picker, on several instruments. Fri 8 p.m., McCabe's, Santa Monica, \$34.

HERBIE HANCOCK – Aren't we fortunate to have such a respected jazz pioneer as Hancock in residence at Disney Hall, and closer to home, Stanley Clarke at The Broad? Take advantage, they won't always be here. Hancock will be on keyboards with a quintet, including two saxophones. Gotta be good. Sat 8 p.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, LA, \$108-174

TOLEDO DIAMOND — Unique, riveting, first class act. There's nothing like it, it is high performance art and great

AROUND TOWN

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Earth Day, Arts and Eats

SMDP's Weekly Guide to Food & Entertainment Goings-On In & Around Town includes an Artists Fair on the beach, Grilled Cheese & Beer Night, Where to Eat or Order Passover Dinner, and much more!



Courtesy image

ART: Sunday's free and open to the public event, The Artist Fair, will showcase a selection of handmade goods.

Pier Locals Night: The Pier will be rolling out the red carpet for Santa Monicans for a curated series for locals, by locals. Gather your friends and family and head down to the Pier for amazing entertainment including youth activities, a car show, local DJs and live music from local bands, art exhibits, and so much more! You really won't want to miss this incredible and unique outdoor setting to unwind, all while celebrating Santa Monica. Thursday, April 18, 3:30 - 9 p.m. https://www.santamonicapier.org/locals-night

National Geographic Live - The Untold Story of Sharks: Dr. Jess Cramp will take audiences on a journey through the National Geographic archives to discover the work of pioneering women in shark science and storytelling before she dives into her work on the frontier of shark research and conservation. Thursday, April 18, 7:30 p.m. @ Broadstage, 1310 11th St. https://broadstage.org/tickets-shows/calendar/nat-geo-live-the-untold-story-of-sharks/

SaMo Salvation Army Hosting Pre-Release Screening/Fundraiser of "Unsung Hero": \$35 donation includes: early access refreshments, raffle entry, and movie screening. All proceeds will support Homeless services as well as Addiction Recovery treatment in Santa Monica. Friday, April 19, at 6:30 p.m. @ LionsGate Studios, 2700 Colorado Ave. https://give-sc.salvationarmy.org/event/the-salvation-army-or-unsung-hero/e574190

Heal The Bay Aquarium Earth Day Celebration: Enjoy educational exhibits and demonstrations for ocean enthusiasts of all ages. Visitors can enjoy family-friendly crafts and face painting, partake in a scavenger hunt, learn all about California's state flower the poppy and even take an Earth Month pledge to show their commitment to sustainability. Saturday, April 20, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. @ Heal the Bay Aquarium 1600 Ocean Front Walk https://healthebay.org/event/celebrate-earth-day-at-heal-the-bay-aquarium/

Poet Laureate Welcome Reception & Poetry Workshop: Anne Carmack was recently appointed as the first Poet Laureate for the City of Santa Monica. Anne is a Santa Monica-based writer and multidisciplinary artist whose work seeks to explore the shape-shifting themes of personal narrative, individual/cultural identity, philosophy, and spirituality by wholly embracing a wide range of media including poetry, painting, photography, filmmaking, storytelling, and screenwriting. Her debut poetry collection "My Own Body Breathing" was an Amazon #1 Best Seller. Saturday, April 20, 2 - 4 p.m. @ Main Library. https://santamonica.gov/press/2024/04/02/santa-monica-public-library-announces-the-inaugural-city-of-santa-monica-poet-laureate

Earth Day Beach Clean-Ups: There is the Nothin' But Sand Beach Clean Up at the Pier (Saturday, April 20, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.) and Project Save Our Surf Beach CleanUp at Tower 26 (Saturday, April 20, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.).

The Luminescence of Memory Show @ RoseGallery: It "consists of a selection of daguerrotypes taken by Danh at various US National Parks, such as Death Valley, Joshua Tree, and Yosemite National Parks. Beyond these beautiful silvered landscapes, Danh uses the National Parks as a way to explore his experience having immigrated to the United States from Vietnam as a child." Runs April 20 to June 15 with an Opening Reception Saturday, April 20, 2 - 5 p.m. @ 2525 Michigan Ave. https://rosegallery.net/

Chess Tournament: 'Rook'ing for something to do? Join us as we partner with the Santa Monica Bay Chess Club to host our annual chess tournament! Players of all levels and ages are welcome to test their skills and compete for a grand prize. Sunday, April 21, 11 a.m. @ 1200 3rd St Promenade. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/chess-tournament-on-third-street-promenade-registration-867983842037

Santa Monica Education Foundation Wine Auction: The Ed Foundation is the only organization that raises funds for all Santa Monica public schools. Since 1982, donors have funded more than \$23 million in arts and academic programs to ensure that all students thrive. This annual event takes place under the Fairmont Fig Tree. Sunday, April 21 @ 101 Wilshire Blvd. https://www.smedfoundation.org

The Artist Fair - An Outdoor Gallery Market in the Park: This space was created "so artists and people that are creating pieces by hand can have a safe space to sell more upscale items without the hassle of having cheap vintage, or cheaper items that dilute the aesthetics and vibe of the event. All vendors are either artists, painters, designers, metal workers doing jewelry, wood workers making amazing house pieces and other items but the important thing is that everything is handmade and sold by the artist itself. This event is for the community to come meet the artists and shop their creations." FREE Sunday, April 21, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. near Tower 25 in Ocean Park (2410 Ocean Front Walk) https://www.instagram.com/theartistfair

Earth Day Tree Hugging Gathering: At Santa Monica's beautiful landmarked Moreton Bay Fig Tree located in the courtyard of the Fairmont Miramar Hotel. Free-to-the-public. All ages welcome. Songs, poems, guest speakers and a highlighted 'Earth Day Group Tree Hug' encircling the tree by all event participants. Monday, April 22, 5 - 6 p.m. @ 101 Wilshire Blvd. facebook.com/TreeHuggingFriends

WHAT TO EAT & DRINK?

Inside the Sugar-Fueled Fantasyland Masterminded by LA's Premier Pastry Chef: This EaterLA write-up details how Thessa Diadem, the former pastry chef at Here's Looking At You and All Day Baby, brings fanciful Italian desserts to the Georgian in Santa Monica.

Fairmont Miramar's Traditional English Tea Service Featured on NBC4: This video story details their California twist on the age-old, cross-the-pond custom. @ 101, Wilshire Blvd. https://www.fairmont-miramar.com/dine/afternoon-tea/

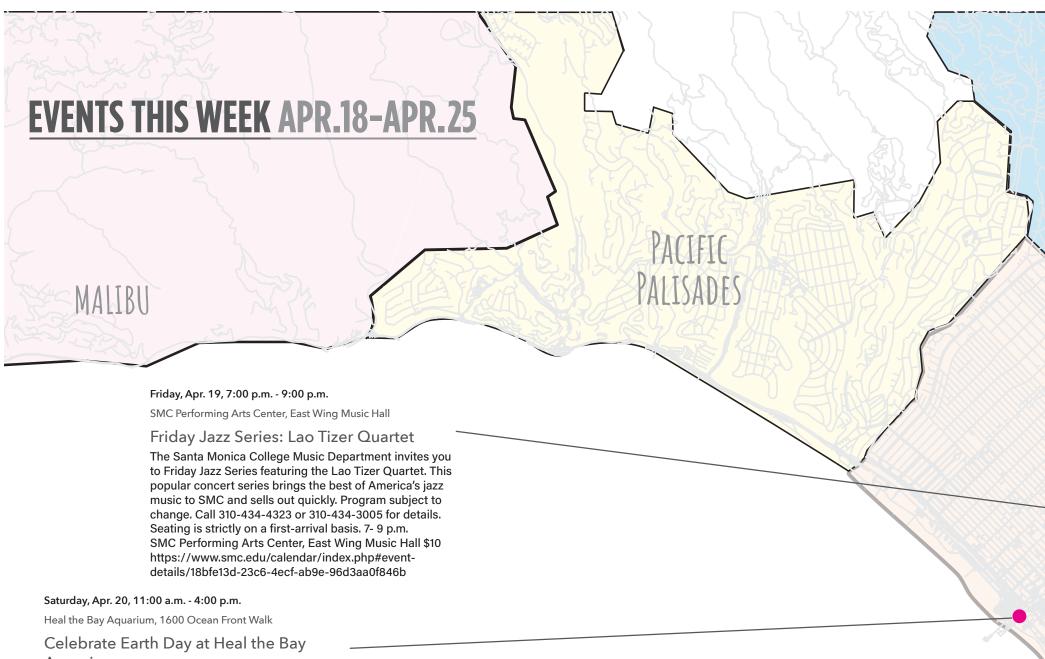
Grilled Cheese & Beer Night @ Andrew's Cheese Shop: Expect a tangy, zippy starter salad, four courses of their famous grilled cheeses paired with four specialty beers, with an Imperial Stout Float with French Vanilla Ice cream for dessert. \$75/person. Friday, April 19, 7:30p.m. @ 728 Montana Ave. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/april-19th-grilled-cheese-beer-night-tickets-877546544337

Where to Eat or Order Passover Dinner: Birdie G's headlines this EaterLA list of where to dine-in or order for seder to-go. Thyme Cafe @ 1630 Ocean Park Blvd. has this Passover menu available. And Cookie Good is offering this Passover Cookie Box.

Further Afield: Coachella Weekend 2: You have another chance to head out to the desert to experience all things Coachella, with Lana Del Rey, Tyler the Creator and Doja Cat headlining again this weekend. https://www.coachella.com/

Looking Ahead Around Town: Movie Fridays on 3rd St. Promenade (5/10, 6/14), CicLAvia West LA (4/21), KCRW's "Good Food" PieFest (4/28), MAINopoly (5/19), Make Music Day (6/21)

If there's something you think is worth highlighting, you can reach out directly to me at sean@smdp.com. Here are my past columns and let me know if you have any feedback on Around Town: Earth Day, Arts and Eats



Aquarium

Dive into Earth Month at Heal the Bay Aquarium! Fun, educational exhibits & live demonstrations await ocean enthusiasts of all ages. Explore the wonders of Santa Monica Bay & meet the fantastic local animals that call it home. Come to Heal the Bay Aquarium under the Santa Monica Pier for a non-stop day of Earth Month fun! Take an Earth Month pledge. Enjoy crafts, chalk art, and face painting. Learn about our state flower with California Poppy Kits. Participate in an Earth Month Scavenger Hunt. Collect limited Edition Earth Month Pins. Take 20% off reusable items in the gift shop. Join the Earth Month Beach Cleanup to get free entry to the Heal the Bay Aquarium Earth Month Celebration! Tickets required (cost up to \$12). 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. https://healthebay.org/ event/celebrate-earth-day-at-heal-the-bay-aquarium/

Sunday, Apr. 21, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Heal the Bay Aquarium, 1600 Ocean Front Walk

CicLAvia

Come experience car-free open streets at CicLAvia's 51st event on Sunday, April 21; between 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. The public is invited to enjoy this unique pop-up park for the day, whether walking, jogging, biking, roller skating, or simply spectating - any people-powered way. CicLAvia - Venice Blvd connects Palms, Mar Vista, and Venice Beach, for all ages and abilities to enjoy the 5.75-mile temporary park. Always free, CicLAvia participants just show up anywhere along the route at any time to enjoy the open streets and to take the time to explore the west side of the Venice Blvd corridor. CicLAvia - Venice Blvd includes four (4) Hubs filled with plenty of activities and programs along the route. Hubs are walking zones (mandatory bike dismounts) and meeting points along the route with the Venice Beach Hub located at Windward Circle; Mar Vista Hub located on Venice Blvd near Beethoven St; Palms Hub located on Venice Blvd near Huron Ave; and the National Hub located on Venice Blvd west of National Blvd. Hubs offer family-friendly activities, restrooms, free water refilling stations, free basic bike repair, bike parking, and first aid. Free pedicab rides are available at each information booth. Use the CicLAvia digital map to plan which businesses, local gems, activities along the route, and Hubs to check out during the event.

Friday, Apr. 19, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Marina del Rey Marriott, 4100 Admiralty Way, Marina del Rey

Marina del Rey Bead & Design

Marina del Rey Marriott, 4100 Admiralty Way, Marina del Rey. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Get ready for a bustling atmosphere of creativity, inspiration and great shopping at Bead & Design happening this April 19-21 at the Marriott Marina del Rey. With over 150 artisans and tradespeople showcasing artisan supplies, jewelry, one-of-a-kind art wear, and antiquities. It's a beautiful, interactive shopping experience that promises not to disappoint!

Starting on Fri April 19, the Marriott will come alive with an array of artisans and enthusiasts eager to showcase their latest creations and share their expertise. Visions of an old world bazaar come to mind as you browse the diverse displays with items such as lampwork beads, hand-cut gemstones, vintage findings & embellishments, hand-dyed silks, pearls, tribal textiles, eco-dyed clothing, and woodblock fabric.

https://www.beadanddesign.com/shows/marinadelrey. php

Check out more events at: smdp.com/events





THURSDAY | APRIL 18

VENICE JAPANESE AMERICAN MEMORIAL MONUMENT COMMEMORATION

The 7th Annual Commemoration of the Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument will take place from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the northwest corner of Venice Blvd. and Lincoln Blvd. The 12th Annual fundraiser for the Memorial Monument Committee takes place at Hama Sushi Restaurant, 213 Windward Ave., Venice, from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tax-deductible donations for the monument can be sent to Venice Arts Council/VJAMM, P.O. Box 993, Venice CA 90294, checks payable to "VCH/VJAMM." For more information, visit venicejamm.org.

LOCALS' NIGHT

Join the Santa Monica Pier for a curated series for locals, by locals. Activities for this month's Locals' Night include a "Books & Cookies" storytime at the Merry Go-Round Building at 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., as well as a Classic Car Show on the Pier Parking Deck and an Art Mart from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Music performances by Par Avion, Dogtown Prophets, Brother T LoveJones, 1969, The Jane Fonda's, U.S. 99 Band, Captain Danger and The Strands.

FRIDAY | APRIL 19

VENICE COMMUNITY CLEANUP

Join the Venice Chamber of Commerce, Venice Community Cleanups, Alcott Center and Fat Sal's in cleaning up the Washington Area of Venice in celebration of Earth Day. Begins at 9 a.m. at Fat Sal's, 37 Washington Blvd., Marina del Rey. There will be a post clean-up demo on how to create Earth Day-themed art. To RSVP, visit: https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/6jrumcj.

MARINA DEL REY BEAD & DESIGN

A bustling atmosphere of creativity, inspiration and great showing at Bead & Design takes place from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Marriott Marina del Rey, 4100 Admiralty Way. With over 150 artisans and tradespeople showcasing artisan supplies, jewelry, one-of-a-kind art wear and antiquities, this is a beautiful and interactive shopping experience. Tickets \$8 online, \$10 at the door. For more information, visit beadanddesign.com.

PROJECT FEAR

Organized by the Santa Monica College Theatre Arts Department, "Project Fear (And all the Feels)" will take place at the Theatre Arts Complex Studio Stage at SMC at 7:30 p.m. The show tells the stories of middle school and high school kids about the fears and challenges they face during this time in history, presented in a doc-play that reflects the results of interviews with more than 50 teens from a range of cultural and socio-economic backgrounds. These teens, prompted to tell stories that were meaningful to them, covered a wide range of topics and concerns. Their words will be delivered onstage by student actors. Talkback with the playwright will take place after the performance. General admission tickets \$20, Senior 62+ \$18, SMC students/faculty/staff \$15. Tickets can be purchased at smc.edu/tickets or by calling 310-434-3005.

SATURDAY | APRIL 20

EVERY DAY IS EARTH DAY

Ishihara Park Learning Garden, 2909 Exposition Blvd., celebrates Earth Month with a gaggle of activities at the monthly Pancakes in the Park Program. Investigate a Worm Bin, play a round of Garden Bingo, dig into an Owl Pellet or create some Leaf Art. Or just grab a cup of coffee and enjoy the company of our cadre of volunteers who have made this garden an example of bio intensive sustainable agriculture in our beautiful city. Open to the public and free for everyone starting at 9 a.m. Bring your own plates, cups and utensils.

BIG BLUE BUS PUBLIC HEARING

Big Blue Bus invites community input at its in-person public hearing about proposed service changes in the Thelma Terry Building at Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave., from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Community members are encouraged to provide feedback on enhancements aimed to make transportation more accessible, convenient and efficient. Written comments may also be submitted by mail to Big Blue Bus, 1660 7th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401, Attn: Alfredo Torales, Transit Planning and Performance. Email comments can be submitted to brighterblue@ santamonica.gov. To attend the public hearing, register at brighterbluebbb.com. Those unable to attend may provide input via an online survey at https://sur-vey.typeform.com/to/N9oGdT41?typeform.

LOOK WHAT FELL OUT DE MANGO TREE

Debra Ehrhardt is back with a new play co-starring Christopher Grossett, directed by Grammy Awardwinning songwriter Paul Williams. "Look What Fell Out De Mango Tree" is a true story about the importance of forgiveness and the power of vulnerability, because running away from something is not free. Starts at 3 p.m. at Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St. General admission tickets \$30, Students/ Teachers/Seniors/Military \$20. Admission includes a wine and dessert reception and post-show Q&A with the artists. To purchase tickets, visit: https://www.showclix.com/event/look-what-fell-out-da-mango-treeyqn1mnnuoaeevrvvjcrqf.

ALEICHEM SHOLOM

Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St., hosts "Aleichem Sholom!: The Wit and Wisdom of Sholom Aleichem," a musical starring Chris DeCarlo and Evelyn Rudie. Part of the Jewish Heritage Series, this joyous and poignant musical follows the life of the beloved Yiddish storyteller as he spins tales of his loves and losses, his fame and failures, his travels, travails and the tremendous optimism that kept him going against all odds. Starts at 7 p.m. Tickets \$35. Discounts for students, teachers, seniors and military. For tickets, visit: https://www.showclix.com/event/aleichem-sholom-01.

DEL REY YACHT CLUB OPEN HOUSE

Join the club for a Spring Open House and get a personalized tour of all the club has to offer. The dining room and bar will be open to spend some time and learn why Del Rey Yacht Club has been recognized as Southern California Yachting Association's "Yacht Club of the Year". RSVP is required to attend. Please select a time for a tour and register at DRYC.org/openhouse. Occurs from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 13900 Palawan Way.

Pacific Coast Highway could get speed cameras following deaths of 4 Pepperdine students

RYAN SABALOW

Special to the Daily Press

Barry Stewart's daughter and her three friends from Pepperdine University died when a young man allegedly driving 104 mph down Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu crashed into them in his mother's BMW.

Six months later, Stewart sat last week beside Malibu's state senator, Ben Allen, and urged lawmakers to approve a bill that would add Malibu to a short list of California cities testing out automated cameras to ticket speeders.

Malibu, Allen said, is one of the nation's deadliest cities for car crashes for one reason. "A primary factor in every one of these incidents was high-vehicle speed," he told the Senate Transportation Committee last week.

At least 60 people have been killed on the picturesque Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu since 2010, most of them on a roughly two-mile residential stretch known as Dead Man's Curve, where Stewart's daughter, Peyton, died along with sorority sisters, Niamh Rolston, Asha Weir and Deslyn Williams.

"This bill is California legislators' opportunity to save lives without harming anyone and without curbing the freedom of any law-abiding Californians," Stewart said.

The committee's members voted 14-1 to advance Senate Bill 1297. Last year, Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a bill, AB 645, that allowed Los Angeles, San Jose, Oakland, Glendale, Long Beach and San Francisco to start similar five-year speed-camera pilot programs.

None of the cities have started fining drivers, since the legislation passed last fall requires the municipalities to first create local policies, hold hearings and then have public information campaigns before speeders get automated tickets.

Cities across the state already deploy automated red-light cameras, which snap photos of the face of a driver and their vehicle. Tickets are typically handled by the traffic department located in the criminal division of the local courthouse.

Under the six cities' pilot programs and the one proposed for Malibu, the cameras will snap pictures of a vehicle's license plate instead of a driver's face. The speeding tickets a municipality would issue wouldn't count toward a driver's traffic record and appeals would be handled in civil court.

Fines start at \$50 for drivers who go at least 11 mph over the speed limit and rise to \$500 for those speeding more than 100 mph — though amounts can be reduced depending on the motorist's income.

Civil liberty groups, such as the Electronic Frontier Foundation, oppose the speed camera programs, citing privacy and government surveillance concerns. California's police officers' union also opposes the programs.

"Law enforcement officers often use

discretion and provide drivers an opportunity to mitigate the violation," Brian Marvel, Peace Officers Research Association of California president, wrote in a letter opposing the bill. "Verbal and written warnings are often given in place of a ticket. They assess the situation, and after a conversation with the driver, they decide if a verbal or written warning is a better course of action. This discretion saves many low-income individuals and senior citizens their hard-earned dollars. Law enforcement

This bill is
California
legislators'
opportunity
to save lives
without harming
anyone and
without curbing
the freedom of
any law-abiding
Californians
- Barry Stewart

exercises discretion; cameras do not."

Assemblywoman Laura Friedman, a Democrat from Burbank who authored last year's speed-camera bill, told the Los Angeles Daily News last year that the union has concerns the cameras will eventually replace officers' jobs.

Sen. Roger Niello, a Republican representing the Roseville area, cast the lone "no" vote last week, saying the bill didn't go far enough.

"I'm just very doubtful that that's going to be effective," Niello said. "In areas like that, we need overwhelming enforcement on the road. ... They speed, they get a picture sent to them and they get a ticket and no points (on their driving record). And I don't think that's enough of a consequence."

But Stewart told the committee that cameras would give understaffed local law enforcement more flexibility, and reduce the number of deadly collisions like the one that killed his daughter and her friends.

"Electronic enforcement would free scarce



Photo by Richard Vogel, AP Photo **CAMERAS:** Flowers are placed along the Pacific Coast Highway, after a crash that killed four

personnel to handle other offenses, the ones that require actual live deputies," he testified.

college students and injured two others, in Malibu, on Oct. 19, 2023.

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Allen, the bill's author, told the committee that data from the Federal Highway Administration shows that speed cameras reduce crashes on urban streets by 54%. The hope, he said, is the cameras would keep Malibu from another tragedy like the one "where these four wonderful, young women were mowed down."

Sheriff's investigators said Fraser Michael Bohm was traveling at 104 mph when he veered into three parked cars that collided with the four women who were standing near the parked vehicles.

Bohm, 22, was released from jail after posting \$4 million bond. He has pleaded not guilty to four counts of gross vehicular manslaughter and four counts of murder. His attorney told reporters that Bohm wasn't going as fast as law enforcement officials allege and another car was involved in a possible road rage scenario. According to the Los Angeles Times, a local sheriff's official told reporters there was "no evidence" that the crash stemmed from an alleged road rage incident.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

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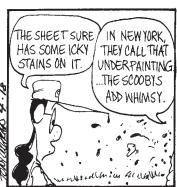
Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737 Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN

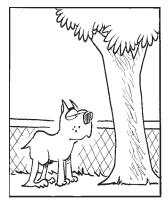


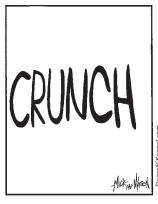




Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART

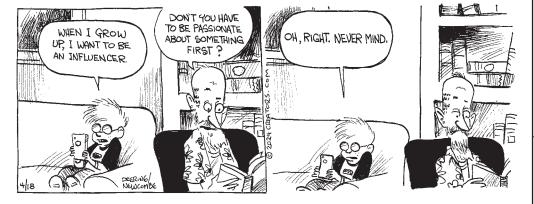






Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 6184

Our red centre

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

Argyle	Drum	Hotels	Parks
Arid	Emerald	Immarna	Pub
Batlow	Emmet	Isolated	Risk
Bearded	Emus	Ivanhoe	Robe
dragon	Eulo	Lake Eyre	Rodeo
Bedourie	Fisher	Lead	Roma
Bell	Goanna	Lonely	Sand
Big dry	Grass	Mt Olga	Soil
Brown	Grim	Ochre	Tara
Bush	Gums	Ooldea	Vast
Cook	Heat	Opals	Weipa
Dam	Hills	Orange	Wind

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

It's the greatest feeling

Covering the city by the bay since 2001.







TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 18)

You're now at the threshold of transformation, becoming the leader your people need. Even as you live your truth, take charge and demonstrate courage, you still retain an attractive openness and warmth. Tender relationships are the beating heart of the year. More highlights: a promotion, a blank check and 10 sacred meetings. Scorpio and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 33, 1, 18 and 40.



HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Keeping a secret can feel lonely, even if the secret is something good. As energizing as the anticipation may be, that doesn't change an overwhelming want to share so you're not the only one suspended in the quiet tension.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You've earned awards, worked for badges, triumphed for trophies, and yet you're still so humble. You can now put those prizes to work for you. They'll make your path a little easier if you dare to showcase them.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The mere whisper of festivity sets you in motion, celebrating the special aspects of whatever is before you. You give yourself over to enthusiasm and your unabashed celebration of life will be a source of joy for others.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Of all the things to risk, rejection is among the best things to put on the line. Sure, it stings for a second, but it's over before you know it and you're moving on with good information to more promising prospects. And anyway, most people say "yes" to you today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're ready to advance, yet your pace must allow others to follow. Leading from too far ahead isn't leading at all. In the best-case scenario, it breeds stragglers; in the worst-case, it's straight-up

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Self-reflection aimed at the big picture will bring you good fortune. If you could hire the best coach in the world to lead your life, what do you think the first thing they would change would be?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're a competent leader with a tough group to manage. Many won't have the bandwidth to pay attention and follow along until you give them a reason to. Consider turning it into a game by introducing consequences and prizes.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're working for the cause, not the credit. This is very lucky for you now because your cause will be well-served, but the credit may never come, at least not from the direction you think it will.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Restraint is dignified. What people say and do isn't always readily comprehensible, so it is prudent not to respond immediately. But do respond at some point. Prolonged suppression will lead to eventual eruption.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Good decisions can lead to responsibilities and limits. You can't always go where you want to go or do what you want to do whenever you want, but you can plan for unstructured days and make sure nothing stops you from taking them.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The good news and the bad news are the same: people aren't paying attention today. This makes it an ideal time to practice new behaviors, styles, presentations and the like without worrying what people will think.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Balance finds itself, often awkwardly, through the series of adjustments you make when you feel you're about to topple. In a sense, imbalance is the very thing that teaches you just how to live in grace.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

Α	S	K	Ε	W		C	U	R	Ε		R	Α	P	S
S	P	I	T	E		Α	T	0	М		Α	U	R	Α
S	E	W	0	N		P	Α	L	M		S	T	0	W
	W	Т	N	T	Н	E	Н	E	Α	R	T	0	F	
				Т	R	S				0	Α	R		
Α	T	Н	E	N	S		S	T	E	W		Α	М	C
P		E	S			S	Н	0	R	Е		C	Α	L
P	L	Α	C	E	Y	0	U	R	Α	D	Н	E	R	E
L	E	D		L	E	Α	N	N			Α	R	Т	Α
E	S	T		В	Α	R	T		Α	D	D	S	0	N
		0	Н	0				E	R	R				
	S	Н	0	W	G	0	0	D	F	Α	I	T	Н	
T		E	R		Ε	Α	٧	E		I	D		0	М
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R	0	D	Ε		S	U	N	S		S	L	Ε	Ε	T

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 MLB semifinal
- 5 Be a braggart
- 9 None too pleased
- 14 Isle seen by Captain Cook
- 15 Panther cousin
- 16 India's Washington
- 17 With 64-Across, "For all!"
- **19** Evince annoyance
- 20 Breakfast beverage
- 21 Hot mess
- 23 Wield
- 24 Org. with many volunteer attorneys
- 26 Sounded none too pleased
- 28 "For all!"
- 32 Kitchen cleaner brand
- 33 Be none too pleased with
- 34 Critic's voice in Ratatouille
- 38 Abound
- 40 Patron of the arts
- 42 Dart about
- 43 Take into military service
- 45 mater
- 47 ATM input
- 48 "For all!"
- 51 Franc fraction
- 54 Play to (have no
- 55 Mimicking
- 56 Premature disclosures
- 58 Loan details
- 62 Orion's brightest star
- 64 See 17-Across
- 66 Japanese-born maestro

67 Encouraging words

68 "Fiery" saint

woods

- 69 Rubbery material
- 70 What Frost calls his
- 71 What Frost calls his woods

DOWN

- 1 Tinsel season song
- 2 Hot rock
- 3 President Arthur nickname
- 4 Extra charge of a
- 5 Certain three-striper
- 6 Approaches in haste
- 7 Symbolic warning
- 8 Sushi bar flavoring
- 9 Soothing substance
- - 35 Avon alternative 36 Wedding wheels
 - - 37 Rebuke from the
 - Bard

10 By order of

11 Loud call

12 Rub away

13 Ignored, with "out"

18 None-too-pleased

interjection

25 Span before

28 Polite denial

31 Traditional break

29 Farm team

30 Gazed at

27 Starting

completion

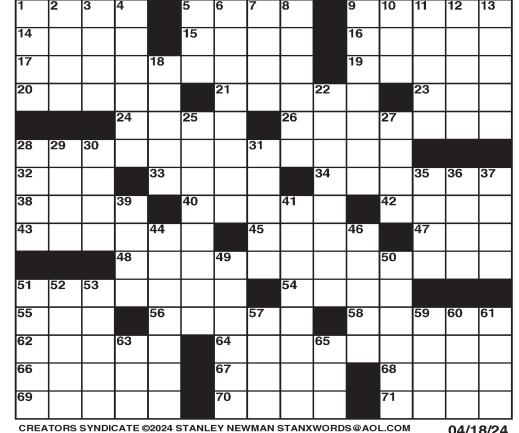
22 Auto accessory

39 Designer dog, to the

- AKC
- 41 Shrub with olivelike fruit

THREE-FOR-ALL by S.N. Edited by Stanley Newman www.stanxwords.com

- 44 "Simmer down" portmanteau
- 46 Name related to Hannah
- 49 Neptune, e.a.
- 50 What some rolls are
- 51 Tinsel season song
- 52 Diction student of fiction
- 53 Bedevil
- 57 Nut with caffeine
- 59 Play persona
- 60 Play charades
- 61 Remote button
- 63 Candidate for fleecina
- 65 No-vowel "Naughty!"



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

AERIAL CELLO

FROM PAGE 1

"I feel like this is my first step into doing more work like this, and I'm so excited, Cellista said. "It's a chance to develop an idea in a way that feels really challenging and exciting and really rewarding as well.

Feeling like the cello "picked" her during adolescence, Cellista had been classically trained with the instrument, but didn't consider composition until a friend gifted her a loop station where she did "live scoring" of her own performances. After what she called "messing around" with composition, she didn't consider herself a true composer until being listed as such during a 2021 performance at the Lincoln Center in New York City.

Since that time, she has been a soughtafter collaborator, working with the likes of Grammy-nominated artist Tanya Donelly. "American Pie" songwriter Don McLean and R&B legends Tony! Toni! Toné!. Recently, her compositions aided the true-crime reality show "The Real Murders of Orange County."

Despite a thriving career, however, the pandemic was a trying time for Cellista and her peers, saying she lost not only her stable gigs, but also lost a part of herself.

"It was very hard to see myself as a cellist, because up until that point, I very proudly proclaimed myself as a working musician ... this isn't a story unique to me, but we lost a lot, and I think in that loss of work, we lost identity, and that was tough," she said. "But what I think it did at some point for me is it enabled me to try out new things."

Instead of figuring out how to bake sourdough bread or other popular pandemic actions, Cellista brought her newfound love of fitness to a new level, beginning to soar with static trapeze classes. Taking to the air was something she had admired accompanying circus performers during various festivals, enjoying the aerial art's ability to be a "very

malleable object" when it came to storytelling.

"It feels like it (was) almost kind of similar to when the cello found me, I (think) static trapeze found me, and it was just for myself as a kind of multi-disciplinary artist, it was another way to express stories," she added.

Becoming confident in her aerial abilities, Cellista began incorporating trapeze into the story of "Élégie," which conveys themes of otherness and exile through a shapeshifting bird character. During the show, the audience will see her playing her cello 15 feet in the air while a live film accompaniment plays alongside her.

The physical training has been "pretty intense," she noted, putting in between 15-20 hours a week of workouts and trapeze practice, including at least 100 push-ups each day to build strength. Alongside building her physical form, she has been biding her time developing a "vocabulary" of melding trapeze with cello performance.

"It was a matter of figuring out the logistics of getting a 20-pound instrument up to the top of the trapeze and then being able to find positions that are comfortable enough to play (in)," Cellista said. "It was a lot of work."

Despite all the tribulations that come with combining two incredibly difficult forms of art, she feels accomplished with bringing the unique show experience to Santa Monica.

'It's been challenging in terms of storytelling, it's been challenging in terms of the physical aspect, it's been challenging in terms of the musical aspect, (but) I feel really nourished with this project on all ends," she added. "I'm having to work real hard, but I just (feel) the fruits of all that labor."

Prologue performances in the show will be seen from Christos Tejada, Hilary Whitmore, Ron Athey and The Zero Collective. For more information and to purchase tickets for the April 27 show, visit highwaysperformance.

thomas@smdp.com

REGENT HOTEL

FROM PAGE 1

Lumpur in Malaysia, Canggu in Bali, Jakarta in Indonesia, Hong Kong and the Carlton Cannes on the French Riviera.

The resort will provide epicurean experiences through its signature restaurant, Orla, a new Mediterranean-themed concept in partnership with James Beard Award-winning chef Michael Mina.

"Orla is an incredibly personal concept for me, taking inspiration from my childhood," Mina said. "The earthiness of za'atar, the tang of citrus, and the intricate layers of a perfectly cooked piece of fish or charcoal-grilled meat all take me back to the captivating flavors I grew up with and enjoyed around the table with my family. With oceanfront views and the vibrant energy of the restaurant, guests will instantly be transported to the Mediterranean."

The resort is also partnering with Ayesha Curry, CEO & Founder of Sweet July, which has its flagship location in Oakland, offering an all-new menu inspired by Curry's Jamaican roots, including café staples like signature coffee, tea, pastries and desserts.

"I am so excited to expand our Sweet July experience to the beaches of Santa Monica with Regent," said Curry. "We've curated a very special menu celebrating my Jamaican roots, and I look forward to bringing it to Santa Monica and the iconic Regent brand."

scott.snowden@smdp.com

NOTEWORTHY

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decadent fun. Degeneracy is rarely so well disciplined. And the band is smokin'! Don't. Miss. Toledo Diamond. Sun 9:30pm, Harvelle's, Santa Monica, \$12.

Next Thurs - RHIANNON GIDDENS – Even though you never know what to expect from her because her interests and talents are so far-ranging, and I have been a little disappointed a time or two, she is one of those always worth the gamble. Wonderful vocalist and accomplished fiddler and banjo picker, when Ken Burns was introduced to her partway through the making of his terrific country music doc, he later said, I'm not sure we could have made it without her. She is an encyclopedia of American music, but hardly dry reading. Thurs 8

p.m., The United Theatre on Broadway, LA, \$86-631.

COMING **ATTRACTIONS** Recommended): Toledo Diamond, Harvelle's, 4/21, 28; Hot Club of Los Angeles, Cinema Bar, 4/22, 29; "La Traviata," LA Opera, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, 4/27; Jacky Terrasson Trio, Jazz Bakery, 5/5; Library Girl, Ruskin Theatre, 5/12; 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 hate mail to: therealmrmusic@amail.com

GABRIEL

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National Recording Preservation Board Program Coordinator Steve Leggett added that the 2024 registry selections, also including Héctor Lavoe's classic "El Cantante," help highlight "the richness of America's cultural diversity.'

"We make a special effort each year to locate and recognize seminal works by women and persons of color, as they have too often been ignored," Leggett told the Daily Press. "This year's quest for such treasures produced ("Amor Eterno"), an unforgettable song from a key Latino artist with a message all Americans instantly recognize: the bond between mother and son."

Gabriel wrote the song about the loss of his mother, something Library of Congress spokesperson Maria Peña said is "a pain that a lot of people can relate to."

'This heartrending ballad has become a staple in Mexico, throughout Latin America and among many Latino families in our country," Peña told the Daily Press.

The Latin music mainstay's son, Ivan Gabriel Aguilera, told the Library of Congress that his father would be "thrilled" with the induction, saying that the selection "immortalized" Gabriel's work.

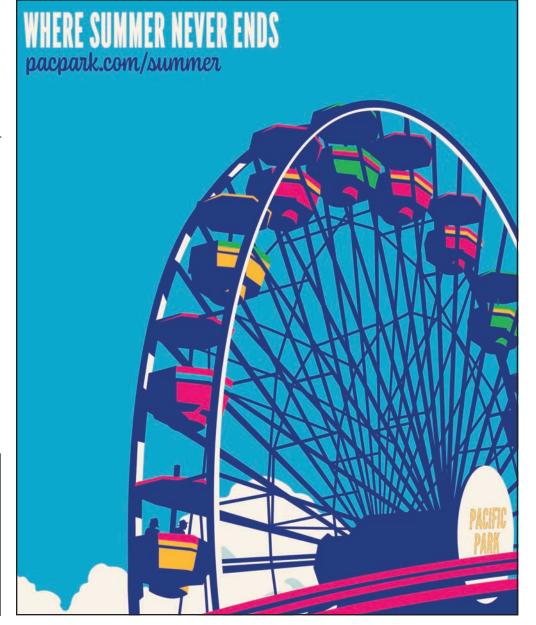
"I believe that future generations - that's what he always wanted - that they see his music and make it relatable to their lives as well," Aguilera said in translation from Spanish. "He would always say that 'as long as the public, people, keep singing my music, Juan Gabriel will never die, and it's nice to see that happening here."

Other selections for the 2024 National Recording Registry include the Bill Withers classic "Ain't No Sunshine," Green Day's 1994 album "Dookie" and The Notorious B.I.G.'s hip-hop altering album "Ready to Die." For more information about the selections, visit

thomas@smdp.com

CETIT DAILY...







ARTIST: Henry W. 7th grader in Ms. Perkins' class at Saint Anne School

Come join our Fair Housing Symposium

at the Santa Monica Main Library on

Wednesday, April 24th from 2:30-5:00pm.

Register Here:





Celebrate April as Fair Housing Month

