Police want new laws targeting catalytic converter theft

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) is asking for a new law specifically targeting catalytic converter theft as officials said the lack of specific prohibitions targeting the thefts are preventing officers from deterring, let alone solving, the vast majority of thefts in the city.

Police Chief Ramon Batista wrote to the council saying that 99% of catalytic converter theft cases in Santa Monica remain unsolved due to a lack of specific penalties targeting the crime.

According to Batista, there is no legislation at the city, state, or federal level specifically addressing catalytic converter thefts or the recycling and sale of unlawfully obtained converters. In addition, there is no requirement for individuals to provide proof of how they obtained catalytic converters. The lack of rules limits law enforcement’s ability to prevent thefts and seize suspected stolen converters should they find them in the absence of a victim or witness.

Batista said the theft of catalytic converters has been a growing issue in Santa Monica and across the country in recent years. In 2020, SM Police Dept data, SMPD forecast

Catalytic Converter thefts are up sharply in 2023.

Based on YTD trends we forecast 475-575 if current laws remain in place.

2020 2021 2022 Apr-23 2023e

312 151

SM Police Dept data, SMPD forecast

Coytous photo

Supreme Court sets date for voting rights showdown

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

If the legal rollercoaster that is Santa Monica’s California Voting Rights Act case were a literal theme park ride, this would be the point where the cars make a final ascent before the big drop.

The California Supreme Court set a second oral argument session this week scheduling the local case for arguments on June 27. The court usually sets a single summer session and while the case has been anticipated to reach the bench this year, it wasn’t part of the first session, and the announcement of a second session is unusual but not unprecedented.

The case, officially titled Pico Neighborhood Association et al. v. City of Santa Monica, was filed by the Pico Neighborhood Association and Maria Loya (wife of current Councilman Oscar de la Torre), alleging that the City’s at-large voting system discriminates against Latino voters and requesting a switch to district voting.

Under the CVRA, plaintiffs must demonstrate that a group of people, known as a protected class, are unable to influence an election. If the legal rollercoaster that is Santa Monica’s California Voting Rights Act case were a literal theme park ride, this would be the point where the cars make a final ascent before the big drop.

The Los Angeles Superior Court ruled against the City in 2018 but an appeal’s court overturned that decision in 2020 prompting the Plaintiffs to take the case to the California Supreme Court.

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On Tuesday morning, on the steps of City Hall, under the gray skies and drizzle, Mayor Gleam Davis delivered a City proclamation to the Coast Guard Auxiliary declaring May 20-26 as Safe Boating Week.

Proposed by the members of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, Los Angeles Flotilla 12-04, the proclamation acts as a reminder to all members of the boating public to use safe maritime practices, operate with due care and consideration, become better educated, care for their passengers and the environment.

Proclamation declaring Safe Boating Week delivered by Santa Monica Mayor

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

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California taxpayers on the hook to save two unhealthy western rivers

DAN WALTERS
Special to the Daily Press

The Klamath River begins in Oregon, draining the eastern slope of the Cascade Mountains, and slices through the northwestern corner of California before flowing into the Pacific Ocean.

The Colorado River begins in Colorado, draining the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains, before meandering southwesterly and emptying into Mexico’s Sea of Cortez – if there’s any water left after California and other states have tapped the river for irrigation and municipal supplies.

Although hundreds of miles apart, the two rivers share a common malady: So much of their waters were impounded or diverted that they became unhealthy.

The two rivers also share something else: Taxpayers, rather than those who manipulated the rivers for profit, are footing the bill for restoring their flows.

After decades of debate and negotiation, work has just begun to dismantle the first of four hydropower dams that plug the Klamath and block migration of salmon, steelhead and other species. One of the dams is more than a century old.

The dams’ owner, PacificCorp, initially said it would seek relicensing of the four dams. But amid fierce opposition from environmentalists, fishermen (and women) and Native American tribes, and after billionaire Warren Buffett acquired the company, it agreed to remove them.

It’s unlikely that the dams could have been relicensed, given their age and the opposition, so the company’s posture was probably a bluff, but one that worked. After Buffett bought PacificCorp in 2005, his close friend, then-Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, persuaded the Legislature to set aside $250 million in state bond funds ($500 million with interest) to underwrite removal.

PacificCorp is providing about $215 million while Oregon, the primary user of the dams’ hydropower, is providing just a few million dollars. Why California taxpayers should provide such a huge share of removal costs remains an unanswered question.

On Monday, once again after protracted and often acrid negotiations, the federal Bureau of Reclamation announced a multi-state deal to reduce water diversions from the Colorado River by some 3 million acre-feet over the next three years, thereby staving off a crisis that threatens the viability of two immense upstream reservoirs, Lake Mead and Lake Powell.

Three-fourths of the reduction would be underwritten by more than $1 billion in federal payments to diverters in Arizona, Nevada and California, while the remainder would be uncompensated voluntary cuts.

The Imperial Irrigation District, in California’s southeastern corner, is the largest diverter, with a legal right to more than 3 million acre-feet of water a year, and thus will receive a large chunk of the federal money. Not surprisingly, the district praised the new agreement.

The deal was reached after the Bureau of Reclamation threatened to impose cuts on Imperial and other diverters to prevent the two reservoirs from becoming inoperable due to years of drought.

“California has stepped up to make significant cuts to water usage and now, this historic partnership between California and other Lower Basin states will help maintain critical water supply for millions of Americans as we work together to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Colorado River System for decades to come,” Gov. Gavin Newsom said in a statement.

While the agreement addresses the immediate crisis on the Colorado, the many stakeholders will also be negotiating a supposedly permanent pact on how its water will be divvied up and Imperial and other California diverters will be seeking even more federal money to offset their losses.

Both Klamath and Colorado situations could, and probably should, have been resolved without taxpayers on the hook to compensate those whose actions had caused their problems in the first place. But, as the old saying goes, money talks while bull—- walks.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.
LeBron questions retirement after Lakers are eliminated from playoffs

GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

LeBron James questioned retirement after his Lakers were swept by the Denver Nuggets despite the highest-scoring postseason half of James’ matchless NBA career.

James set a personal record with 31 points in the first half of Game 4 of the Western Conference finals on Monday night, but he missed two potential tying shots in the final minute as the Nuggets ended the Lakers’ season with a 113-111 victory.

The 38-year-old James finished with 40 points, 10 rebounds, nine assists and immense frustration after Los Angeles’ remarkable late-season surge ended with four consecutive defeats. Although the top scorer in NBA history spoke about himself as part of the Lakers next season, James also said he hasn’t made up his mind on retiring.

“We’ll see what happens going forward,” James said in the final answer of his postgame news conference. “I don’t know. I don’t know. I’ve got a lot to think about, to be honest. Just for me personally going forward with my mind sharp, my body clean, keeping me and keeping my mind sharp, and things of that nature. - LeBron James

James is under contract for $46.9 million next season with the Lakers, but he is in charge of his future after surpassing Kareem Abdul-Jabbar’s career scoring record earlier this year. He hasn’t previously suggested much personal conflict about finishing his next season with the Lakers, but he returned with a series of stellar playoff performances while the Lakers knocked off second-seeded Memphis and eliminated defending champion Golden State. That didn’t matter much to James, whose frustration broke through at several points after Game 4.

“I don’t like to say it’s a successful year, because I don’t play for anything besides winning championships at this point in my career,” James said. “You know, I don’t get a kick out of making a conference (finals) appearance. I’ve done it a lot, and it’s not fun to me to not be able to be a part of getting to the (NBA) Finals.”

In his NBA-record 282nd career playoff game, James dropped 21 points in a dynamic first quarter in Game 4. He added 10 more in the second while playing nearly the entire half of a do-or-die game against the top-seeded Nuggets.

But James had only nine points on 4-of-12 shooting in the second half, and he missed two chances to score in the final minute. He took a strange fallaway jumper that missed badly with 26 seconds left, and his final drive to the hoop was thwarted by Denver’s Jamal Murray and Aaron Gordon at the buzzer.

But the first half was vintage LeBron: He made 11 of his 13 shots and hit four 3-pointers without a miss in the highest-scoring playoff half of his career, which began in 2003 and has included four NBA championships, James added four rebounds and four assists, and he also got a technical foul after a physical exchange with Gordon when the two got locked up on the Lakers’ end of the court.

James had struggled from distance previously in the series, going 3 for 19 in the first three games. He fixed his shot in Game 4 — and he even got credit for a 3-pointer in the first quarter when his lob pass to Rui Hachimura accidentally went in the basket.

James already had the highest scoring average in NBA history in elimination games (33.5 points per game) among all players with at least 10 such appearances.

After failing to win a title this year, James is clearly thinking about whether he wants to do it all again. One major obstacle to any retirement thoughts is his long-stated desire to play an NBA season alongside his son, Bronny, who will be a freshman at USC this fall and couldn’t join the league until the fall of 2024 at the earliest.

“I guess I’ll reflect on my career when I’m done, but I don’t know,” James said when asked to assess his 20th season. “The only thing I concern myself with is being available to my teammates, and I don’t like the fact that I didn’t play as many games as I would have liked because of injury. That’s the only thing I care about, is being available to my teammates.”


COMMUNITY NEWS

Citywide
Santa Monica Police Department Holding Motorcycle Safety Enforcement Operations May 25 and May 26

The Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) will have extra officers on patrol May 25th and 26th looking specifically for violations made by drivers and motorcycle riders. The top primary crash factors for motorcycle crashes are unsafe speed, improper turning, right-of-way violations, driving under the influence and unsafe lane changes. Speeding is the most common, accounting for nearly a third of all crashes in the state.

To help protect you and your family, keep the following tips in mind while driving or riding:

Drivers
- Always check twice for motorcycles in your mirrors and blind spots.
- Use your signal when changing lanes.
- Never follow a motorcycle too closely. Always keep a safe distance.
- When at an intersection, allow enough space before turning.

Motorcyclists
- Always wear a DOT compliant helmet and protective gear.
- Consider adding reflective tape to make it easier for other drivers to see you.
- Always keep your lights on, even during the day.
- Don’t assume drivers see you: signal well in advance before changing lanes and watch for turning vehicles.

Although lane splitting is legal, the practice is not encouraged at high speeds in free-flowing traffic. Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

SUBMITTED BY MYESHA MORRISON, PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATOR

Main Street

Mainopoly Returns

Experience all the new restaurants Main Street has to offer at MAINopoly: Taste of Main, this Saturday, Celebrate Memorial Day Weekend with Main Street’s finest restaurants, bars, and eateries at the “8th Annual MAINopoly: A Taste of Main Street.”

Saturday, May 27 from 1 - 5 p.m.

This all-ages event is an interactive take on the classic board game, where every participating location you visit allows you to use “MAINopoly dollars” for tastings, and earns you credit to fill your game board map for a chance to win a Taste of Main Street Prize Package. Throw on your top hats and monocles, get your “dice” ready, and make your way down Main Street for a culinary walking tour of Main Street’s finest eateries! A portion of all proceeds benefits the Main Street Business Improvement District to help fund community programming.

SOME PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES:

Ashland Hill, Holly Grill Donuts, Alitaifa, JuneShine, Library Alehouse, Stella Barra Pizzeria & Wine Bar, Jameson’s Pub, Tavern on Main, The Victorian, Papille Gustative, Pasjoli, Ubabuta Acai, Holy Guacamole, Samosa House, Augie’s on Main, Urban Skillet, Mud&Wtr, and more!

Register online at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/8th-annual-mainopoly-taste-of-main-street-tickets-60952659152.

SUBMITTED BY SPIN PR

SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

Santa Monica Daily Press

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The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 8,000 on weekdays and 8,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publishers Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you’re reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based.

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SUBMITTED BY MYESHA MORRISON, PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATOR
**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**Poor design**

Accommodating bicyclists is necessary as we transition away from cars, but current installations reveal poor design, unnecessary construction, and ongoing maintenance. A better approach: South Barrington Avenue between National and Gateway/Ocean Park has a wider than normal right lane. Because of this, cyclists, motorists, and street parking co-exist comfortably, with normal merging at intersections. Maintenance costs: zero.

I was using the Venice Blvd dedicated bike lane today. At some locations, food trucks use the street parking spaces, and customers fill the bike lane - not safe for anyone.

Ed Salisbury, Santa Monica

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**Nothing Fishy About the 17th Street Bike Lane**

In response to the May 20, 2023, SMDP article titled, “New 17th street bike lanes spark community debate,” I am sure if we review European newspapers from May 1994, travel would find a wide array of articles highlighting how disrupted the sea life in the English Channel was about the newly opened Channel Tunnel that linked England to France via train. The fish probably didn’t like the train noise and the barnacles probably didn’t appreciate how the Chunnel blocked their view of the ocean floor. But, I also bet the people who actually used the new train line to get from England to mainland Europe would say how much the train positively impacted their lives. In fact, the Chunnel was a revolution in European travel. And the fish and barnacles learned to deal with it.

I live on 17th Street and the revolutionary new bike lane has positively impacted my life. Honestly, I love it.

I bike at least three times as much because of the new bike lane. And, I biked pretty often before the new lane opened up. It feels safer to bike between Wilshire and SMC in the daytime and—a major point SMDP’s article left out—the new bike lane’s street lights certainly make it safer to bike on the same stretch during nighttime. Specifically, in response to Mr. Darr who said the new bike lane creates a problem when “cars cross the bike lane to turn into driveways or alleys and cannot tell if a bike is coming or vice versa” in the article: the same problem existed for cars coming out of driveways and alleys when 17th Street had a traditional bike lane. One must always pay attention to the road when on a bike, but the overall impact of the new bike lane is a safer ride. And, if Mr. Darr does not like the new bike lane, he can take the traditional bike lane that still exists a few blocks away on 14th Street when riding north or south.

I understand change is hard. I also understand many longtime 17th Street residents developed expectations based on the way things once were. I am especially sympathetic to the many elderly people and individuals with health conditions or impairments who have been impacted by the new bike lane. It sounds like the City is working to address these issues and, if the City fails to address them, I will be happy to use my voice to help my 17th Street neighbors and friends get results. This being working to address these issues and, if the City fails to address them, I will be happy to use my voice to help my 17th Street neighbors and friends get results.

I live on 17th Street and the revolutionary new bike lane has positively impacted my life. Honestly, I love it.

Whitney Bain, Santa Monica

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**Car seats and baby formula are regulated. Is social media next?**

**Barbara Ortutay**

AP Technology Writer

The U.S. surgeon general is warning there is not enough evidence to show that social media is safe for children and teens — and is calling on tech companies, parents and caregivers to take “immediate action to protect kids now.”

“With young people’s social media use near ‘universal’ but its true impact on mental health not fully understood, Dr. Vivek Murthy is asking tech companies to share data and increase transparency with researchers and the public and prioritize users’ health and safety when designing their products.

“I recognize technology companies have taken steps to try to make their platforms healthier and safer, but it’s simply not enough,” Murthy told The Associated Press in an interview. “You can just look at the age requirements, where platforms have said 13 is the age at which people can start using their platforms. Yet 40% of kids 8 through 12 are on social media. How does that happen if they’re simply not fair.”

“We’re asking parents to manage a technology that’s rapidly evolving that fundamentally changes how their kids think about themselves, how they build friendships, how they experience the world — and technology, by the way, that prior generations never had to manage,” Murthy said. “And we’re putting all of that on the shoulders of parents, which is just simply not fair.”

While Murthy is calling for more research, he says there is ample evidence now that social media can have a “profound risk of harm” on the mental health and well-being of children and teenagers.

One critical factor is children’s brain development. Adults can suffer from the harmful effects of social media. But children and adolescents are at a “fundamentally different stage of brain development, where the pathways in their brains, their social relationships, their self-esteem and identity are all under development,” Murthy said.

In fact, frequent social media use may be associated with “distinct changes” in the developing brain, and could increase sensitivity to social rewards and punishments, according to a study cited in the surgeon general’s report.

How and how often they use social media, as well as extreme, inappropriate and harmful content they might be exposed to, could have profound effects on kids’ and teens’ mental health.

And research shows they are using it a lot. Up to 95% of youth ages 13 to 17 report using a social media platform, with more
A HORRIBLE, TERRIBLE

Incident from my past weekend, I shall now share with you. But, uplifting at the end.

Well, not cancer or Russian missiles coming at you, we reminded ourselves, but pretty stressful when in the middle of it.

My wife Dian and I were at our trailer in our magical meadow near Idyllwild, watching Alex put the finishing touches on a redwood deck, and roof over new acquisition, a second trailer on the adjacent pitch to our first one. At some point in the day’s busy activities the key to the Prius dropped out of a pocket. Small piece of plastic, black, and we’re in the mountains, roaming all over. Needle in a haystack.

You know the feeling. If you can’t locate some vital object and you can’t stop until you find it, but you have now checked every possible place three or more times. Total frustration and upset. We’re stuck in the mountains until we can get the spare key from our home in Santa Monica and then somehow get back up here. But how?

Then up rides (by text) a white knight named Matthew Hausle, who lives happy in Idyllwild for some years but maintains, with wife Laura, their longtime apartment in SM. Matt is in SM! And will go get the key and bring it up Monday late afternoon! Halle-friggin’-lullah!

BUT WAIT!

After six scorching hours it appears, almost miraculously, in an unexpected place. This is much better all around than having to hang out until late Monday, and we yell Let’s get the truck out of here, and hit the highway.

So here’s where the great comedian, writer, producer, activist, songwriter (many don’t know he wrote the touching song, “Smile”) Charlie Chaplin comes in. Dian has his autobiography on streaming audiobook and we listen to it on the way home. She’s at a part fascinating to me because it deals with the politics of early WWII and his superb but controversial film, “The Great Dictator.” After sound and color came in, Chaplin continued to work without either, but made one exception at the end for this one.

The Little Tramp plays a timid Jewish barber trying to escape the Gestapo, who winds up impersonating his doppleganger, the German Fuhrer, “Adolph Hynkel.” At the climax he is thrust onto a stage to make a speech by radio, to millions across the world, and for the first time Chaplin speaks in a film. That speech is famous, and still sometimes moves me to tears.

I forgot how he and others had to fight to get the U.S. to fight Nazi Germany. At a time when the concentration camp atrocities were not known, and there were many Nazi sympathizers here. British-born Chaplin warned that evils like fascism don’t ever go away, and he was so right.

I certainly recommend you watch “The Great Dictator,” but here is the transcript of that speech.

FROM “THE GREAT DICTATOR” –

“I’m sorry, but I don’t want to be an emperor. That’s not my business. I don’t want to rule or conquer anyone. I should

Daily Press Food & Wine Columnist Merv Hecht takes you on a delightful tour of the world of wine. A fun way to increase your appreciation and knowledge of wine.
than a third saying they use social media “almost constantly,” according to the Pew Research Center.

A systematic review of 42 studies found a “consistent relationship between social media use and poor sleep quality, reduced sleep duration, sleep difficulties, and depression among youth.” On a typical weekday, nearly one in three adolescents report using screen media until midnight or later.

What they see on social media also matters. From being bombarded unrealistic body images to a culture of “hyper-comparison” to bullying, hate and abuse, Murthy said he’s worried that its effects on young people’s mental health are showing up in the “disturbing mental health statistics that we are seeing in our country, which are telling us that depression, anxiety, suicide, loneliness are all going up.”

Murthy’s report doesn’t tell young people to stop using social media altogether. There are benefits, too. It’s where teens can find a community and have a space for self-expression. LGBTQ+ youth, in particular, have been shown to benefit from social media through connecting with peers, developing an identity and finding social support.

“For every family, it may not be feasible to stop your child from using social media or there may be benefit,” Murthy said. “But drawing boundaries around the use of social media or there may be benefit.” Murthy said. “But drawing boundaries around the use of social media is a way that parents can or cannot do. They have tremendous belief and confidence in their own strength and their own ability.”

“for every family, it may not be feasible to stop your child from using social media or there may be benefit,” Murthy said. “But drawing boundaries around the use of social media is a way that parents can or cannot do. They have tremendous belief and confidence in their own strength and their own ability.”

“we are planning to delay the use of social media for our kids until after middle school,” he said. “And you know, that’s not going to be easy. But we’re hoping to find other parents and families that we can partner with to make this a little easier, because we know there’s strength in numbers and sometimes making changes on your own is hard.”

California’s Newsom faces tough question: Who would replace Feinstein?

Michael R. Blood
AP Political Writer

U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein’s ongoing medical struggles have raised a sensitive political question with no easy answer: Who would California Gov. Gavin Newsom pick to replace her if the seat becomes vacant?

Despite calls from within her own party to resign, Feinstein, who turns 90 next month and is the oldest member of Congress, has given no indication that she is considering stepping down. Her frail appearance, confused interactions with reporters in Washington and the growing list of health challenges disclosed by her office continue to raise questions about her fitness for the job — now and into the future.

Should a vacancy occur, a range of names, from obscure to famous — including Oprah Winfrey — have been floated in California circles as possible replacements. Newsom, who is mentioned as a possible future presidential contender, would also have to deal with political complexities, some of his own making: In 2021 he promised to appoint a Black woman should Feinstein’s seat become open. Meanwhile, a 2024 Senate campaign is underway to fill the seat when the senator’s term ends in January 2023.

The situation has created a sad, public coda for the groundbreaking career of a Democratic leader who shattered gender barriers in California and Washington. Here’s a look at what could happen:

WHAT IS THE STATUS OF FEINSTEIN’S HEALTH?
In short, much is unknown. Feinstein returned to the Senate on May 16 — about 10 weeks after being diagnosed, then briefly hospitalized, with shingles in San Francisco. On her return to the Capitol, she was markedly thinner and one side of her face was drooping, apparently from Ramsay Hunt syndrome, which can occur when the shingles virus reaches a facial nerve near the ears. It also can cause hearing loss.

On the advice of doctors, Feinstein’s staff say she is working a lighter schedule as she deals with side effects from the virus, including vision and balance problems. She has been using a wheelchair to get to her office and committee meetings.

Questions have been raised in recent years about Feinstein’s memory and mental acuity, though she has defended her effectiveness. Since her return to Washington, she has at times appeared confused during brief discussions with reporters. Her office also disclosed she suffered a bout of encephalitis, or inflammation of the brain, which can also be caused by shingles.

Feinstein’s biographer Jerry Roberts told the Los Angeles Times in an interview published Sunday that the senator has “a belief in herself to the point of stubbornness, where nobody is going to tell her what she can or cannot do. She has tremendous belief and confidence in her own strength and her own ability.”

NEWSON’S PROMISE: ELEVATING A BLACK WOMAN TO SENATE

When California Sen. Kamala Harris resigned to become vice president, Newsom faced pressure from both Black, Latino and other groups over a replacement pick. Some felt that he should replace Harris, the only Black woman in the U.S. Senate, with another Black woman. But others thought it was past time for California to have its first Latino senator, and Newsom chose then-Secretary of State Alex Padilla for the job.

But he later promised that if Feinstein’s seat became vacant, he would choose a Black woman to replace her. Should Feinstein step aside, he’ll be expected to make good on the promise.

The last thing you want to do if you are thinking about running for president is alienating the nominating wing of the Democratic Party

Jack Pitney

“He made the commitment and I do not believe there is any wiggle room for the governor not to honor his commitment,” said Kerman Maddox, a Los Angeles-based Democratic strategist and fundraiser who is Black.

“Newsom must honor his promise to appoint a Black woman” if Feinstein resigns, said Democratic Assemblymember Lori Wilson, who holds the Legislative Black Caucus in Sacramento. “I trust him at his word. We currently have zero Black women in the Senate, so if the opportunity becomes available the governor must act to help remedy this lack of representation.”

Claremont McKenna College political scientist Jack Pitney pointed out that any presidential ambitions that Newsom might harbor would be damaged if he backed away from his promise to name a Black woman, noting that the candidate favored by Black voters has won the Democratic Party’s presidential nomination for every cycle since 1992.

“The last thing you want to do if you are thinking about running for president is alienating the nominating wing of the Democratic Party,” Pitney said.
UPS strike looms in a world grown reliant on everything delivered everywhere all the time

MATT OTT AND HALELUYA HADERO
AP Business Writers

Living in New York City, working full time and without a car, Jessica Ray and her husband have come to rely on deliveries of food and just about everything else for their home. It has meant more free time on weekends with their young son, rather than standing in line for toilet paper or dragging heavy bags of dog food back to their apartment.

“I don’t even know where to buy dog food,” said Jessica Ray of the specialty food she buys for the family’s aging dog.

There are millions of families like the Rays who have swapped store visits for doorstep deliveries in recent years, meaning that deliveries for the basic may have to rethink parts. Automakers held vehicles just off the assembly line because they didn’t have all the parts.

Some of those problems still linger and are striking at UPS threats to extend the suffering. Those who have come to rely on doorstep deliveries for the basic may have to rethink weekly schedules.

“We finally reached a point where we finally feel pretty good about it,” Ray said. “We can take a Saturday afternoon and do a run family activity and not feel the burden of making everything work for the day-to-day functioning of our household.”

UPS workers feel they have played a part in the transformation of how Americans shop. In the past two years, as UPS puts it, the equivalent of about 6% of nation’s gross domestic product.

Higher prices and long wait times are all but certain if there is an impasse.

“Something’s got to give,” said Thomas Goldsby, logistics chairman in the Supply Chain Management Department at the University of Tennessee. “The python can’t swallow the alligator, and that’s going to be felt by all of us.”

In other words, brace yourself for Supply Chain Breakdown: The Sequel.

In the second half of 2021, the phrase “global supply chain” began to enter casual conversations as the world emerged from the COVID-19 pandemic. Businesses struggled to get what they needed, raising prices and wait times. Automakers held vehicles just off the assembly line because they didn’t have all the parts.

In addition to addressing part-time pay, the union wants to eliminate a contract provision that created two separate hierarchies. Driver safety, particularly the lack of air conditioning in delivery trucks, is also in the mix.

A win at UPS could have implications for the organized labor outside the company.

Teamsters are attempting to organize Amazon workers and dozens of company delivery drivers and dispatchers in California joined the union last month. There are also prominent labor organization campaigns at Apple, Starbucks, Trader Joe’s, Apple, even strippers at a dance club in Los Angeles.

“This has just huge implications for the entire labor movement in the United States,” said John Logan, the director of labor and employment studies at San Francisco State University. “It’s going to be a really big deal for the organized labor outside the company.”

When dozens of UPS locals met with Teamsters leadership early this year, O’Brien delivered a message of urgency.

“We’re going into these negotiations with a clear message to UPS that we’re not going past August 1,” O’Brien told the gathering.

It would be the first work stoppage since a walkout by 185,000 workers crippled the company a quarter century ago.

UPS CEO Ursula Burns has remained optimistic publicly, telling investors recently that the company and the Teamsters were not far apart on major issues.

READ MORE

SEE UPS PAGE 8

ALL BIKES ON SALE

E Bikes was
$1899
Now only
$1399 !!!

Bike Tuneups
only $59

310.581.8014 BikeShopSantaMonica.com 10am-5pm
2400 Main Street. Santa Monica, CA 90405 - Across from Urth Cafe
like to help everyone if possible. Jew, Gentile, Black Man, White, we all want to help one another, human beings are like that. We want to live by each other’s happiness, not by each other’s misery. We don’t want to hate and despise one another.

And this world has room for everyone, and the good Earth is rich and can provide for everyone. The way of life can be free and beautiful, but we have lost the way. Greed has poisoned men’s souls, has barricaded the world with hate, has goose-stepped us into misery and bloodshed. We have developed speed, but we have shut ourselves in. Machinery that gives abundance has left us in want. Our knowledge has made us cynical, our cleverness hard and unkind. We think too much and feel too little. More than machinery, we need humanity. More than cleverness, we need kindness and gentleness. Without these qualities life will be violent, and all will be lost. The aeroplane and the radio have brought us closer together. The very nature of these inventions cries out for the goodness in men, for the universal brotherhood, for the unity of us all.

Even now, my voice is reaching millions throughout the world, millions of despairing men, women, and little children, victims of a system that makes men torture and imprison innocent people. To those who can hear me, I say do not despair. The misery that is now upon us is but the passing of greed, the bitterness of men, the hate of men will pass, and dictators die, and the security of men rises. We must trust our Governments to do right, but alternatively, we the people, our very selves must become the guardians of our fate.

When you see men9saghan and the power they took from the people must be sworn away. The world will not be made safe for democracy from external forces alone. The第三节 of the people we have must fight to make it safe for democracy. The world is made safe for democracy by domestic justice and by the right to life of all its inhabitants.

A new splendor waits for us, and this new splendor is destined to be free and beautiful, but we have shut ourselves up. Machinery has goose-stepped us into misery and poverty, over the very things that can give us abundance. We are richer than we are, but we have shut ourselves up. Machinery has made us cynical, our cleverness hard and unkind. We think too much and feel too little. More than machinery, we need humanity. More than cleverness, we need kindness and gentleness. Without these qualities life will be violent, and all will be lost. The aeroplane and the radio have brought us closer together. The very nature of these inventions cries out for the goodness in men, for the universal brotherhood, for the unity of us all.

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A big win comes as a result of your heart’s desire being in fine alignment with the wants and needs of others. Your personal and professional life will become fulfilling and fun all at the same time with an immersive and challenging project. More highlights: a club of kindred spirits, a new favorite hangout and something crossed off your travel bucket list. Virgo and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 6, 40, 13 and 21.

**Solutions to Yesterday’s Sudoku**

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

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

**Today’s Birthday (May 24)**

**Aries** (March 21-April 19). Marketers impose pressures, deadlines and unnecessary signals of alarm to get people to “act fast and buy now while supplies last.” Don’t worry, the opportunity at hand is more available than they’ve have you believe.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20). There are a variety of reasons people insist on making simple things more complicated: boredom, procrastination, a need for attention and more. Try to address people’s underlying needs and surface problems will magically dissolve.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 21). You’ll employ many mystical senses to pick up on what’s going on in a relationship. You’ll use your sixth sense, third eye and a listening and feeling ability that picks up not only sound but soul resonance.

**Cancer** (June 22-July 22). Remember that fear is a response happening inside you, not a dictate or definition of how things really are. Fear is only what you think, not what is. Write or talk your fear out and you’ll diffuse it.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22). Relationships get better because you make efforts to make them better. Forget about life’s petty details and focus on creating a bubble of “together time” that duréest the rest of the world.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your best idea will be off the cuff, a side note or a joke. As you let playfulness and creativity run rampant in your mind, you’ll bring joy and levity to many.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your work is an extension of you. It can serve as a mirror to help you see parts of yourself that would be invisible were they to stay tucked inside your psyche without a means of expression. What you make will help you grow.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Frustration, untended, could turn to anger. One way to defuse it is to take away the time frame. Without the limitations and urgency that time imposes, a sense of relief and ease will settle in.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Be the first person to arrive on the scene if you can because there will be many advantages for the early birds. Your options will be better and you’ll wind up in a position of leadership too. If you don’t know what your advantage over the competition is yet, now is a good time to figure it out.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Even though you don’t think you know more than anyone else about what it means to be human, there are those who seek your council and will follow every bit of advice you offer.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When you feel yourself taking things in too serious a direction, you can lighten up the whole mental screen with music, entertainment, a treat, a walk or a stretch. Being good to yourself isn’t always fun, but some of the time it should be!

**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20). The way you approach the day’s tasks will defy conventional wisdom. You have no problem capturing and holding people’s attention. Success depends on knowing what to do with it after that.

**Today’s Crossword**

```
ACROSS
1 Baseball great Ty
5 Bloom holder
9 Airport boarding area
14 Farmhand measure
15 Home for honeybees
16 Adjust to something new
17 Car’s __-view mirror
18 “Beware the __ of March”
19 At present
20 Backup power source
23 Carry— (some airline bags)
24 Crosses out
25 Ultimatum ending
29 Knight’s title
30 Begins a sea voyage
32 Birthday party desserts
35 “__ and the Forty Thieves”
36 Vitamin dose standard: Abbr.
37 Plugged-in bed cover
41 Feminine sibling, for short
42 Large antlered animals
43 Bob who directed Cabaret
44 Golfers’ reservations
47 Middle: Abbr.
48 Whichever person
49 “Steady as __ goes”
50 Vitality
53 Power source in a dam
7 In any way

DOWN
1 Freightier’s load
2 Salty expanse
3 Metal used for tubas
4 Arctic ice mass
5 Black eye, informally
6 Sea’s highs and lows
8 Trench around a castle
9 Curtain holders
10 Arcade game pioneer
11 Drake, bull, or dorm
12 Feeling edgy
13 Boats like Noah’s
14 Candlelike in feel
15 Flat-topped elevation
16 Likes very much
17 Tiny amount
18 Air quality agcy.
19 Pigpen
21 Live and breathe
22 Add up to
26 Songbirds said to be happy competing teams
27 Make very happy
28 Min. fraction
29 Bags for potatoes
31 Repocodes like 6 Down
32 Jai alai basket
33 Visitor from another planet
34 Ken who wrote __ Cuckoo’s Nest
35 Liver secretion
38 Held a follow-up session
39 In pursuit of
40 Neither here __ there
42 Tall buildings
45 All even, as a score
46 Ducts for laundry
47 Cellar portion
48 Cello’s smaller relative
49 End-of-book section
50 Needing tidying
51 Actress Stone or Watson
52 Sound from a tiger
53 Forehead
54 Scratching post user
55 Gobbled up
58 Went jogging
```

**Puzzles**

**Newsday Crossword**

**Power-Full** by Fred Piscop

```
1 Trench around a castle
2 Curtain holders
3 Arcade game pioneer
4 Drake, bull, or dorm
5 Feeling edgy
6 Boats like Noah’s
7 Make very happy
8 Flat-topped elevation
9 Crocs’ cousins
10 Likes very much
11 Tiny amount
12 Air quality agcy.
13 Pigpen
14 Add up to
15 Bags for potatoes
16 Repocodes like 6 Down
17 Min. fraction
18 Jai alai basket
19 Visitor from another planet
20 Ken who wrote __ Cuckoo’s Nest
```

**Beginner’s Crossword**

```
ACROSS
1 Baseball great
5 Bloom holder
9 Airport boarding area
14 Farmhand measure
15 Home for honeybees
16 Adjust to something new
17 Car’s __-view mirror
18 “Beware the __ of March”
19 At present
20 Backup power source
23 Carry— (some airline bags)
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25 Ultimatum ending
29 Knight’s title
30 Begins a sea voyage
32 Birthday party desserts
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29 Bags for potatoes
31 Repocodes like 6 Down
32 Jai alai basket
33 Visitor from another planet
34 Ken who wrote __ Cuckoo’s Nest
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**Puzzles**

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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
SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY’S WORDS PUZZLE.
They say it’s your birthday
WEDNESDAY | MAY 24

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
The City Council is made up of seven members elected at-large for staggered four-year terms. Every two years, after each election, the City Council selects one of its members to serve as Mayor and another to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore. The City Council also sits as the following bodies for the City of Santa Monica: Housing Authority, Parking Authority, Public Financing, Redevelopment Successor Agency, Audit Subcommittee-Santa Monica City Hall 1685 Main St. Santa Monica, CA 90401 Council Room 250

THURSDAY | MAY 25

EXHIBITION: JIM JENKINS, “CURRENTS”
Kinetic sculptor, Jim Jenkins’ most recent works are inspired by the state of the world, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the destabilization of the economy. He sculpts inanimate objects from metal, wood, and plastics and brings them to life with motors and counter-weights, carefully orchestrating the movement of each object. Los Lambert Gallery 2525 Michigan Ave, #E3 Santa Monica, CA 90404

FRIDAY | MAY 26

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) CONVERSATION, LOW
Santa Monica Public Library hosts an ongoing series of English as a Second Language (ESL) classes taught by Adult Education Center instructors. Classes are free and students must be 18 years or older to attend. Pico Branch Library 2201 Pico Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90405

SATURDAY | MAY 27

MAINPOP!: A TASTE OF MAIN STREET
Celebrate Memorial Day weekend and experience the best restaurants, coffee shops, ice cream shops, and more by joining us for the 8th Annual “MAINpop!: A Taste of Main Street” in Santa Monica on Saturday, May 27th, 2023 from 12-5pm. This all ages event is a fun take on the classic board game, giving you access to tastings at over 20 participating locations. Stop at every location for a chance to win free prizes. Dressing up is encouraged! A portion of all proceeds will go towards funding The Main Street Business Improvement Association (MSBIA) community event programs. The Victorian 2640 Main St. Santa Monica, CA 90405

SUNDAY | MAY 28

BILLY T & NADAV PELED DUO!
Santa Monica’s favorite and infamous Billy T returns to the west side with his partner in good for the hood, guitarist Nadav Peled. Don’t miss the morning music they’ll be making and

remind you of good times gone by. The Venice West 1777 Lincoln Blvd, Venice, CA https://www.bandstintown.com/et/104124011

MONDAY | MAY 29

LIGHTING OF HISTORIC CITY HALL
City Hall will be illuminated in red, gold, blue, and green lights representing colors common in themes across Asian and Pacific Islander cultures to celebrate AAPI Heritage Month. Santa Monica City Hall 1685 Main Street Santa Monica, CA, California 90401

TUESDAY | MAY 30

ACTIVE AGING TRANSIT OUTING - BALLONA DISCOVERY PARK
Learn more about using transit and walking in Santa Monica by joining us for the Active Aging Transit Outing to the Ballona Discovery Park. Start Location: 4th Street / Santa Monica Station Event Location: Ballona Discovery Park (13110 Bluff Creek Dr, Los Angeles, CA 90094) https://www.eventbrite.com/e/active-aging-transit-outing-ballona-discovery-park-tickets-622184419347

WEDNESDAY | MAY 31

FREE COMMUNITY RUN CLUB IN SANTA MONICA
Run Club Every Wednesday Night Starting at Road Runner Sports in Santa Monica. Check in at 5:30pm, run from 6pm-7pm. Walkers also welcome! Come log your mid week miles and make some new friends.

THURSDAY | JUNE 1

COMING OUT WEST: LGBTQ+ ELDERS SHARE THEIR STORIES
Santa Monica History Museum and The Outwords Archive present an exhibition of oral histories, ephemera and historical objects from LGBTQ+ elders with ties to Los Angeles and the Santa Monica Bay area. 2 pm-5 pm Santa Monica History Museum 1350 7th Street Santa Monica, CA 90401 https://santamonicahistory.org/
Check out SMDP's NEW event calendar

A complete list of all the happenings in the City of Santa Monica and surrounding areas!

Visit smdp.com/event or scan the code

FIND ALL EVENTS INCLUDING

• MUSIC EVENTS          • LIBRARY EVENTS          • HAPPY HOURS
• CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS • AND MORE!