Santa Monica’s first cannabis dispensary opens, six years after the original application

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

Last week saw the first cannabis dispensary open in the city of Santa Monica, more than a year and a half after the permit was granted in October 2021, six years after the application was requested in December 2017 and over 26 years since medical marijuana was made legal in the state of California.

The dispensary is a branch of the Local Cannabis Company, which is owned by Massachusetts-based Calyx Peak and marks the first time the organization has opened an outlet west of Kansas City. Per the Santa Monica municipal code, the dispensary will be limited to medical use only, which means that customers will be required to have a doctor’s recommendation to purchase products.

The request for applications ran from December 2017 through to February 2018 and saw over 21 different requests. A second dispensary, Harvest of Santa Monica, which was set to be situated at 1416 Wilshire Blvd was also approved, in January 2022, but that hasn’t materialized yet.

According to Erin Carachilo, CEO of Calyx Peak, since it opened a week or so ago, over three-quarters of the number of customers who come into the store, upon hearing they have to fill in an application for a medical card, then simply leave without purchasing anything.

“It’s six years on from when they decided to do this and look where the market for cannabis is right now,” said Carachilo.

At food banks.

Letters to the Editor
Opinions from readers.
A catastrophic hunger crisis? California food banks are being flooded by families seeking help

RYA JETHA
Special to the Daily Press

Every two weeks, cars line up at The Hill Church in Vallejo for a drive-thru food distribution. While Whitney Houston songs play over a speaker, volunteers load 39 pounds of food into each trunk — canned tuna, eggs, potatoes and other staples.

Elvira Santiago, a retired medical assistant living in senior housing, is particularly excited about the bag of apples.

“We eat them every afternoon. And I’ll cook chicken adobo with the chicken and vegetables,” said Santiago, who visited the distribution Wednesday for the first time this month and expects to return again. “When you go to Savers or the Filipino grocery, $50 is hardly enough.”

Santiago is one of the thousands of Californians visiting food banks this year, some for the very first time. The Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano, which organizes the Vallejo distribution, is serving 350,000 people every month across the two counties — double the 175,000 people it served per month before the pandemic.

“With inflation going up and CalFresh food assistance going down, I see people in their 20s to people of retirement age all coming out for help,” said Geo Dinoso, who manages distributions for the food bank. “I’m requesting more food every month at my distributions.”

“With inflation going up and CalFresh food assistance going down, I see people in their 20s to people of retirement age all coming out for help,” said Geo Dinoso.

California food banks, which saw more families seeking help during the pandemic,

“Food: Volunteers and staff with the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano load groceries into cars in Vallejo on June 7, 2023.

SEE FOOD PAGE 7

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR
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Safety must be Priority Number One!

WHAT WILL IT TAKE?
In Friday’s SM Daily Press Letter to the Editor the owner of Blue Plate restaurant on Ocean Avenue and a 30-year business owner in Santa Monica cites the horror and heartache of operating a business in Santa Monica today. Her shrinking number of customers and threatened employees are causing her and other small business owners to consider doing the unthinkable - Closing down and moving out.

WHAT WILL IT TAKE?
Diversity, Equality, Inclusiveness don’t pay the bills. Sustainability and climate change don’t bring in tourists. Instead, stories in the national, international media and the internet show “Santa Monica Is Not Safe” backed up by images of homeless people defecating on the 3rd Street Promenade, while visitors eating at an outdoor restaurant on Wilshire or walking on the Pier are attacked and stabbed.

WHAT WILL IT TAKE?
Everyone knows the internet severely impacted brick-and-mortar retail stores. Everyone knows Santa Monica was severely impacted by the riots and vandalism three years ago. Everyone knows we all suffered during the Pandemic. What we citizens and business owners in Santa Monica cannot understand is how Century City Mall and Rodeo Drive – both of which were impacted by the Internet, May 2020 riots, and the Pandemic – are not only recovering but thriving. What are they doing that Santa Monica is not? Are customers and employees there being attacked and threatened? Is there a strong, everyday presence of police and private security? Can Santa Monica do the same? Why not?

WHAT WILL IT TAKE?
On Tuesday, 13 June 2023 the Santa Monica City Council is holding its regular meeting. Perhaps in the words of Santa Monica Daily Press columnist Jack Neworth, “the people mad as hell who won’t take it anymore” will show up to voice their concern to the City Council. SAFETY must be Priority Number One!

John Medlin, Santa Monica

Foot Traffic

Thank you for publishing the perspective of Jen Rush, Blue Plate Santa Monica on 6/8/23. She needs more paying customers on Ocean Ave. In other words, she needs more foot-traffic and she needs people to want to walk around Santa Monica. I do not run a retail operation in the city of Santa Monica, and as a mother of currently little kids I’m not out in the evenings as much as I would like. But I have commuted from home to work between NoMA and DTSM every day for 4+ years without a car, walking past the Blue Plate restaurant locations hundreds of times. I also get to social events, shopping, and appointments without a car. I frequent the Expo Line, BBB routes 1, 9, 18, ride my bike, or walk.

If we’re wondering why there isn’t more foot-traffic in Santa Monica, I can tell you why I’ve found it harder and harder to be a pedestrian here. I can tell you it’s very frustrating: Santa Monica with its weather and public transit should be a dream to be a pedestrian! But it’s simply not. Why? The proportion of negative experiences on the street to positive experiences is way too high. We’ve got streets and alleys clearly meant to keep car traffic flowing fast (way too fast), contact with the mentally ill or extremely poor is crushing, and dodging sidewalk scooter riders is exhausting (with the miles I cover and the time I spend walking, I personally have up to three incidents with a sidewalk scooter rider a day!).

Jen is probably right that the politicians and the policy makers are behind a desk and don’t see what’s really going on. I’d also like to add that these folks PLUS their implementers and deliverers of these policies are spending too much time behind the wheel of a car and therefore don’t understand what it’s like to be a pedestrian, beyond the walk from the parking garage or parking spot to a Santa Monica destination! I want to see Santa Monica thriving, too. I want to have far, far, far more positive experiences on the streets of Santa Monica than negative. For that, we need a lot more productive people walking the streets. Yes, productive people take the train! And we need more productive people out of their cars and onto the buses, trains, and sidewalks (at walking/running-speed please). This is going to come from continuing the great public transit we have here in Santa Monica, enforcing (whether through technology or personnel) the law against motorized scooters being ridden on the sidewalk, designing streets to be safer for humans not in a vehicle, and getting more housing right here in Santa Monica!

Blue Plate’s customers will come in their own personal vehicles (it’s post-streetcar greater Los Angeles, after all), but a lot will come from the nearby neighborhood, walk over from their workplace, as yes take the train! Let’s not forget about making the experience of those people who will bring the all-so-important foot-traffic less miserable.

Lauren Almaviva, Santa Monica

The Cost of Internet-Based Landlines Are Hurting California Seniors

I strongly oppose the shutdown of landline phone service in Santa Monica, and encourage our local leaders to look out for our vulnerable senior population and stand up to the big telecom companies.

My father relies on his landline to communicate. Though cell phones and internet-based phone services have replaced landlines, he still needs his old-fashioned landline as much as he ever has.

That’s why I was shocked to learn that the FCC deregulated the telecom industry last August and now allows phone companies to shut down copper wire landline service completely, replacing it with internet-based alternatives.

While the rise of mobile and internet-based communication technologies offers undeniable advantages, we cannot disregard the unique benefits landline systems provide to 2.5 million seniors in California like him.

These time-tested systems have been lifelines during emergencies or power outages when cell networks falter. Their familiarity and ease of operation help folks like my father, who may feel uncomfortable using smartphones or internet-based phone services to stay connected.

The FCC may not look out for seniors in California, but our local officials should. If there’s anything that can be done to require phone companies operating in Santa Monica to provide good old-fashioned landline phone service, our legislators should do it.

I’m not a stick in the mud - I understand that landlines are going the way of the dodo. But there must be a way to find balance in progress. By embracing balance, we can ensure that the unique benefits of these systems are not lost, fostering an inclusive, resilient, and connected society.

Kaleb Baker, Santa Monica
The SAM Initiative Completes Annual Giving Cycle with $500,000 in Grants to Local Nonprofits and Microlenders

The SAM Initiative recently completed its annual giving cycle, donating a total of $500,000 to seven grantees. SAM is a giving circle, started by Los Angeles philanthropist and non-profit strategist Mindy Freedman. SAM’s mission is to passionately pool charitable dollars to fund and support programs committed to driving social change and promoting nonprofit sustainability. SAM is fueled by Freedman’s personal motto: “We can do far more together than we can alone.” Since its first giving cycle in 2013, SAM has granted $3 million to local nonprofits.

With a continued focus on nonprofit organizations that work to improve the lives of women, children, and families in Los Angeles, this Fall SAM awarded grants totaling $300,000 to the following organizations:

- **Alexandria House** Provides safe and supportive housing for women and children in the process of moving from emergency shelter to economic stability and permanent housing.
- **East LA Women’s Center** Ensures that all women, girls and their families can live in a safe and healthy place, free from domestic and sexual violence.
- **Ready to Succeed** Empowers foster youth and first generation college students to graduate college, launch successful careers, and reach their full potential.
- **Village for Vets** Fills critical gaps in key services for homeless and at-risk veterans in greater Los Angeles.

SAM also looks to invest in the movement toward sustainable solutions for large-scale societal problems. As such, this Spring SAM focused its efforts on supporting organizations that provide access to capital, recognizing the significant role this plays in alleviating poverty. SAM granted $200,000 to three outstanding local organizations that provide microloans and support services to underserved women entrepreneurs to help them move toward economic independence:

- **AccessAbility**
- **Inclusive Action for the City**
- **TMC Community Capital**

With respect to SAM’s focus on mission driven financial institutions, TMC Community Capital CEO Daniel Fernandez remarks, “It feels like we’re building something together. After my very first conversation with the SAM team I remember thinking to myself, ‘they get it.’ Their refreshing approach is rooted in a genuine focus on the needs of the community and, truthfully, the needs of the organizations they choose to support.”

SAM takes pride in educating and including the perspective of our youth. For the fourth consecutive year, SAM included students from Wildwood High School, and for the first time, SAM also welcomed Buckley Fernandez remarks, “It feels like we’re building something together. After my very first conversation with

*Sam: Giving Circle reaches $3 million in grants as it celebrates 10 years of collective giving.*

**COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Citywide**

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Many thanks to those who voted for me!
I very much appreciate your support!

"I highly recommend that you enlist Ted to represent you when selling or buying real estate! His professional expertise, coupled with his humanity and attention to detail, made this experience easier, and more profitable, than I ever imagined."

- Abby, recent client

COMMUNITY NEWS

Citywide
Santa Monica Department of Transportation Director Ed King to Retire in August 2023

The City of Santa Monica’s Department of Transportation Director Ed King announced that he will retire in August 2023. King retires with more than 46 years of service in public transportation, spending the last 12 years as director for the City of Santa Monica’s Big Blue Bus, and most recently the Department of Transportation. His tenure at the City is preceded by leadership roles at Long Beach Transit and the San Luis Obispo Regional Transit Authority.

“I started my career in transportation as a traffic checker, then bus operator at the Regional Transportation Authority in Chicago, and am grateful to have worked alongside many remarkable, innovative, and resilient colleagues along the way,” said King. “I have been driven by the meaningful work of keeping communities connected to essential services and opportunities that improve social and economic well-being, and expanding access to safe, sustainable, affordable, and equitable integrated transportation options.”

During his time with the City, King has led teams whose accomplishments include:
- Partnering with rideshare company Lyft to launch Santa Monica’s Mobility On-Demand Every Day (MODE) Program, which has provided nearly 200,000 sedan and wheelchair van rides to eligible residents since its inception in 2018.
- Introducing Big Blue Bus’s first battery-electric bus in 2019, and establishing a Fleet Electrification Master Plan, which outlines the agency’s transition to a 100 percent zero-emissions fleet by 2030.
- Expanding Santa Monica’s bikeway network to over 120 miles and implementing pedestrian access and safety improvements along high-traffic corridors in Santa Monica, including Olympic Boulevard, Ocean Avenue, and Wilshire Boulevard, and at Vision Zero Priority Intersections.
- Maintaining and operating 5,600 on-street parking meters and 46 parking facilities in Santa Monica.

“In his distinguished tenure, Ed has made tremendous improvements to Santa Monica’s transportation network,” said City Manager David White. “He adopted sustainable solutions for our transit fleet, restored services through our economic recovery efforts, and led the Department of Transportation through the challenges of COVID-19. I thank Ed for his steadfast leadership and years of service to our community.”

King’s last day will be August 9, 2023.

SUBMITTED BY ROBERT MCCALL

Courtesy photo

RETIRE: Ed King will retire in August of this year.

Ted Winterer
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GET IT DAILY...
are now serving more people every month as extra benefits started during the pandemic come to an end. That is reducing benefits to 5.3 million Californians — and prompting the statewide food banks association to warn of a “catastrophic hunger crisis” this year.

Instead of functioning as sources of emergency aid, food banks say they are becoming long-term supermarkets for Californians facing food insecurity.

Recipients of CalFresh, California’s version of the federal food stamp program, were given the maximum benefits available for their household size during the pandemic, or at least $95 more a month if they were already at the maximum. However, those emergency allotments ended March 26, meaning that for some single-person households, CalFresh benefits dropped from $281 to as little as $23 a month.

Also, a federal program that gives eligible households food benefits to replace in-person school meals will conclude at the end of this school year. While a summer program will replace it, the benefit will be $40 per month for each child, a substantial drop from the $125 per month for each child families received last summer.

Now, food banks are also worried about the federal debt ceiling agreement, which imposes more work requirements on food aid recipients.

“Even when people receive less CalFresh benefits or are kicked off the program more permanently, they turn to food banks to make up the difference. So we’re concerned about what the debt ceiling agreement will mean for food banks,” said Lauren Lathan Reid, director of communications at the California Association of Food Banks.

That surge in demand is already happening at Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services, which in 2023, has already had two of its five busiest months ever. In March and April, it served 305,000 and 280,000 people, respectively. Before the pandemic, the food bank served around 150,000 people per month.

“We don’t see an end in sight for this sustained hunger,” said Kevin Buffalino, the food bank’s communications director. “And if this is sustained, it is going to be very difficult for us to keep up.”

Other food banks in Northern California have seen similar spikes in demand. Berkeley Food Pantry, which serves families in Berkeley and Albany, has seen a 56% increase in demand in the first five months of 2023 compared to 2019.

Dharma Galang, director of the Berkeley Food Pantry, traces this increase in demand to a letter CalFresh recipients received in January informing them that emergency benefits would be scaled back in March.

Since then, the pantry has been running out of fresh vegetables, meat, eggs and dairy products — nutritious foods that are often more expensive at groceries.

Across the Bay, the San Francisco-Marin Food Bank is serving 56,000 households per week compared to 32,000 households before the pandemic. The programs it offers, including neighborhood pantries and home-delivered groceries, are at or over capacity, with long waiting lists.

“To deal with this, we’ve had to scale back and simplify our menus,” said Meg Davidson, the food bank’s policy and advocacy director. The food bank also works with a multilingual outreach team that helps people sign up for CalFresh benefits. Since March, many people have stopped applying for CalFresh because the benefits have reduced so drastically.

“To go from $281 to $23 a month is devastating, you cannot come back from that,” Davidson said. “In a place like the Bay Area, the benefit allotments are completely out of touch with reality.”

Even with the extra benefits during the pandemic, 20% of Californians still faced food insecurity in 2021. This year, the number is expected to rapidly rise.

From experiences during the 2008 Great Recession and recent survey results from food banks, Reid of the state association anticipates an increase in demand for food for many years to come.

SOLUTIONS AT THE CAPITOL?

There are efforts underway at the Legislature to increase the minimum CalFresh benefit. Senate Bill 600, authored by state Sen. Caroline Menjivar, raises the amount from $23 to $50 per month.

“I know $50 isn’t enough. New Jersey has $95, and their cost of living is nowhere near ours,” said Menjivar, a Van Nuys Democrat.

The bill, however, is estimated to cost $95 million a year, a steep price tag amid California’s $31.5 billion budget deficit.

Food banks across California are in favor of this bill, in addition to SB 348, which would ensure access to summer food and school meals programs, and SB 245 and Assembly Bill 311, which would provide state-funded nutrition benefits to all Californians regardless of their immigration status.

“We’re heartened to see that lawmakers at the state level have been acknowledging that this hunger crisis is still going on,” said Davidson of the San Francisco-Marin Food Bank. “We’ve been seeing the exact opposite at the federal level with Congress holding the debt ceiling hostage over SNAP restrictions, and unfortunately we’re seeing it from our local government.”

All four bills have passed their first house, but could face hurdles to become law as the Legislative Analyst’s Office warns that the state cannot afford costly new programs.

Gov. Gavin Newsom’s May budget plan includes $60 million for CalFood, which enables food banks to distribute California-grown produce; more than $300 million for School Meals for All; and a total of $2.7 billion in combined state and federal funding for anti-hunger programs.

The budget does not include any money for Market Match, California’s largest nutrition incentive program that allows CalFresh shoppers to double their benefits on fruits and vegetables at farmers’ markets across the state. This has sparked concern from farmers, food banks, and CalFresh recipients who obtained 38 million servings of fruits and veggies through the program.

Newsom’s plan also does not include money to increase the monthly minimum CalFresh allotment, and Menjivar said it will be a challenge to get it included.

Food banks are continuing to advocate for the bill to be in the final budget, which is now being negotiated, with a June 15 deadline for the Legislature to pass at least its version.

“Levels of hunger during the pandemic did not significantly spike, and that was only because we had public programs and food banks that stepped up. If we don’t continue to have investments from the state and federal governments, then all the weight is going to be put on food banks,” said Reid.

For now, people from all walks of life will continue to line up in their cars at the Valencia food bank. Alvin Angeles, a 32-year-old caretaker in Vallejo who just had a baby, will wait in his car alongside Dave Terry, a 64-year-old on disability.

“It’s a sad thing to see in our United States of America,” said Terry. “I don’t see an end in sight. We need a lot of policy changes.”

This article was originally published by CalMatters.
CANNABIS
FROM PAGE 1
now,” Carachilo says. “And not a lot of people have medical cards, because they don’t need them anymore. Since we’ve opened, we’ve only had about a 20 percent conversion rate. I think it’s closer to 10 percent, but you can see how far off that is, it’s people just not wanting to wait.”
Coincidentally, the issue of non-medical cannabis retail business — or “adult use” — in Santa Monica is on the agenda for Tuesday’s Council meeting. During the Item 7 study session, staff will recommend that, upon viewing the presentation on key policy considerations, the Council discuss options for allowing adult-use cannabis sales and associated regulatory restrictions as may be appropriate. In addition, staff will also recommend that Council provide direction on whether to bring back changes to the Municipal Code to allow for adult-use cannabis retail businesses and non-retail cannabis business types within the City.
“We’ve got the doors open, so that’s a start, then we’ll look at how to change this thing. We should be able to do both medical and regular sales. Medical customers should have access to medicine and shouldn’t have to pay the same taxes, I 100 percent believe that,” Carachilo says.
“Many stores should be doing five to nine million a year, that’s normal. This area should easily make 10 million, especially given how many visitors come to Santa Monica,” Carachilo says, adding, “And that’s the other thing because a medical card is needed, it’s restricted to only residents in California. I can’t shop here, right, because I don’t have a California license or ID.”
“Santa Monica is still working off the antiquated medical only rules … This is something new, so they’re going to tread slowly and carefully. I believe the residents would prefer to see a change and the reason is that you don’t have to file your name in a system, you don’t have to go through the cost of applying for a card and you don’t have to go through all that time,” Howard Keum, Chief Corporate Development Officer, Calyx Peak says. “It’s quite time consuming when most adults in California can already self-dose and manage.”
The Local Cannabis Company is at 925 Wilshire Blvd and is open every day from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and the official grand opening will be held on Saturday, June 24.

Santamonica Daily Press

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FOR QUOTES PLEASE CALL 310-573-8074 or email cindy@smdp.com

Classifieds

CANNABIS FOR SALE

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2023112128 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 05/23/23. The following person(s) is/are CPC Compassion, Inc. 1626 Crovers Lane Carpenteria, CA 93013 if doing business as Legal By Nature Lega; By Nature X 925 Wilshire Blvd Unit B Santa Monica, CA 90401. The notice of hearing is to be published in the following newspaper of circulation, printed in four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 23SMCP00102Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles

Petitioner: Nicole Rose Lewis

Attorney: Rogger Anthony Blannon

The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 07/14/2023 Time: 8:30 a.m., Dept: W Room: 610 The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 6239 Sylmar Avenue Van Nuys, CA 91410A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 23SMCP00205 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles

Petitioner: Roger Anthony Montes

Attorney: Roger Anthony Montes

The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 07/14/2023 Time: 8:30 a.m., Dept: K Room: - The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA – COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1725 Main St Santa Monica, CA 90401A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Case No. 23SMCP00265 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles

Petitioner: Jon Lewis

Attorney: Jon Lewis

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SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY’S SUDOKU

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Success doesn’t automatically lead to happiness, and happiness doesn’t necessarily bring success. It will be lucky to focus on something else entirely, like doing what you’re interested in long enough to learn a deeper level of it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). To place limits and boundaries in certain areas will allow you to make progress in other areas. Recognize which tasks cause you to live in a reactive state, like checking your email or being readily available to those who need you very much.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). To place limits and boundaries in certain areas will allow you to make progress in other areas. Recognize which tasks cause you to live in a reactive state, like checking your email or being readily available to those who need you very much.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22). People float subtle messages your way. They may think you’re not receiving them, but you’re ahead of the game, choosing to ignore anything that doesn’t contribute to what you want to accomplish with your day.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21). The responsibilities of ownership are something you take seriously, which is why you’ll be entrusted with more. Take your time to think over a deal and reckon with what you could potentially be encumbered by.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When you accidentally let things get hectic, it could be a sign. Is there something you’re avoiding? It’s probably nothing big, just something you don’t want to do. Life improves once this is handled.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You’ll collect data, determined to learn from every experience, noting what worked to get a desired result and what didn’t. Because you’re a keen and open-minded observer, you’ll be delighted by unintended results today as well.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). One of the hardest kinds of learning there is: learning to unlearn. Amazingly, you’ll do this wherever necessary now. You’ll see the sticking point and you’ll chip away at it until it’s no longer hanging up your progress.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There are instances in life where you need permission to go forward, and many more cases in which asking would be a hindrance for all. You have pure intentions. Make your bold move.

TODAY’S BIRTHDAY (June 12)

Your style will vary brilliantly. Whether you work from rational thought and compassionate feeling, or from passion and intuition, you are destined for greatness. More highlights: Mentors and supporters who keep you on track, a debt paid or conflict resolved, and work that brings you friendship, love, joy and laughter. Libra and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 1, 14, 36, 12 and 7.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Even though you’re part of a group, feel free to express yourself and act independently. When you satisfy your curiosity and try to understand things better, it helps everyone. Your clarity will bring clarity to the others.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It really doesn’t matter who gives and who receives because as a giver you always feel lifted, and as a receiver you feel supported. The only thing not to be is someone who stands by.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Frustration is a teacher. If you ignore the lesson and get a bad grade, you’ll have to retake the class. Instead, let frustration show precisely what’s not working. Likely, it has to do with an expectation that is clashing with the reality of the situation.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Success doesn’t automatically lead to happiness, and happiness doesn’t necessarily bring success. It will be lucky to focus on something else entirely, like doing what you’re interested in long enough to learn a deeper level of it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). To place limits and boundaries in certain areas will allow you to make progress in other areas. Recognize which tasks cause you to live in a reactive state, like checking your email or being readily available to those who need you very much.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When you accidentally let things get hectic, it could be a sign. Is there something you’re avoiding? It’s probably nothing big, just something you don’t want to do. Life improves once this is handled.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22). People float subtle messages your way. They may think you’re not receiving them, but you’re ahead of the game, choosing to ignore anything that doesn’t contribute to what you want to accomplish with your day.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21). The responsibilities of ownership are something you take seriously, which is why you’ll be entrusted with more. Take your time to think over a deal and reckon with what you could potentially be encumbered by.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When you accidentally let things get hectic, it could be a sign. Is there something you’re avoiding? It’s probably nothing big, just something you don’t want to do. Life improves once this is handled.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You’ll collect data, determined to learn from every experience, noting what worked to get a desired result and what didn’t. Because you’re a keen and open-minded observer, you’ll be delighted by unintended results today as well.

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**Agnes**

By TONY COCHRAN

---

**Dogs of C-Kennel**

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART

---

**Zack Hill**

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE

---

**Heathcliff**

By PETER GALLAGHER

---

**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 5873

**On the river**

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

Solutions to yesterday's words puzzle.
On a spending spree

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**To advertise, email cindy@smdp.com or call 310.458.7737**
**MONDAY | JUNE 12**

**LANDMARKS COMMISSION**
Established in 1975, the mission of the Landmarks Commission is “To protect improvements and areas which represent the City’s cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history, safeguard the City’s historic, aesthetic and cultural heritage; and promote the use of landmarks and historic districts for the education, pleasure and welfare of the people.”

[SMCC Chapter 9.56 | City Council Chambers Santa Monica, CA]

**TUESDAY | JUNE 13**

**393RD COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY**
Join SMC for a momentous occasion as they celebrate the achievements of over 5,000 graduating students! The traditional Commencement ceremony will be on-ground once again. Commencement Speaker: Christopher P. Lu, U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations for Management and Reform. Eligible graduating students will receive RSVP details. Families/Guests: RSVPs are not required.

**WEDNESDAY | JUNE 14**

**TRIVIA NIGHT AT THE BUNGALOW**
Meet at The Bungalow at Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows every Wednesday for Trivia Night. Test your knowledge, enjoy the food and fare and win over $500 worth of prizes every week. Bring friends and family for an epic showdown. See you there! The Bungalow, 101 Wilshire Blvd Santa Monica, CA 90401 https://thebungalow.com/santa-monica/#calendar

**THURSDAY | JUNE 15**

**CHILDREN’S BUREAU OFFERING VIRTUAL ORIENTATIONS**
Children’s Bureau is seeking foster families and now offers two virtual ways for individuals and/ or couples to learn how to help children in foster care while reuniting with birth families or how to provide legal permanency by adoption. If you or someone you know may be interested in learning more about foster care and adoption, a live English Zoom Orientation is scheduled for June 15 from 4 to 5 p.m. hosted by a Children’s Bureau team member and a foster parent. For those who want to learn at their own pace about becoming a foster and/or foster-adopt parent, a PowerPoint orientation is also available. To R.S.V.P. for the live orientation or to request the PowerPoint orientation, please email RRRecruitment@all4kids.org or call 800-730-3933, or visit https://www.all4kids.org/foster-care-and-adoption-inquiry-form/ to complete a quick inquiry form. A link to the meeting will be emailed to you.

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

**FRIDAY | JUNE 16**

**SAMO PRIDE DRAG QUEEN STORYTIME**
Celebrate Pride Month with Drag Queen Storytime! Our guest of honor, Pickle, will lead an interactive storyline designed to challenge restrictive gender stereotypes, encourage self-expression, and promote diversity and inclusion. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Hwy, Santa Monica, CA 90402

**SATURDAY | JUNE 17**

**SUMMER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION**
Ishihara Park Learning Garden, 2909 Exposition Blvd, Santa Monica 90404 Join us at the Ishihara Park Learning Garden as we celebrate the impending Summer Solstice by focusing our energy on the sun!! by building a SOLAR OVEN. What is a Solar Oven you may ask? Come and find out.

**CARDBOARD YACHT REGATTA**
Have you ever dreamed of setting sail across the waters in your very own yacht? Now you can build your own cardboard yacht and test its seaworthiness in a race across the Beach House Pool. Build a yacht using just corrugated cardboard and duct tape, decorate it, cross your fingers and hope you can make it to the other side. $20 to participate. Register online at https://anc.apm.activecommunities.com/santamonica/recreation. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**UC MASTER GARDENERS AT PICO FARMERS MARKET**
Visit with the UC Master Gardeners at the Saturday Pico Farmers Market. The booth is filled with free advice on how to care for plants, how to troubleshoot a gardening problem, and much more. Free seeds and seedlings are available on a limited basis. Market attendance is subject to change based on weather and holidays. 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**31ST ANNUAL JUNETEETH CELEBRATION**
Join the City of Santa Monica and the Juneteenth Celebration Committee, Inc. for an afternoon of music, unique food and craft vendors, and local resources to celebrate the 31st annual Juneteenth on Saturday, June 17th, from 1 to 7 pm in Virginia Avenue Park under the theme of Coming Together in Appreciation, Reconciliation, and Commemoration! Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. 1 - 7 p.m.

**WEATHER**

Monday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 65.
Monday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 58.
Tuesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 67.
Tuesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 59.

**DAILY LOTTERY**

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prior claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery website at http://www.calottery.com

**SURF REPORT**

**MONDAY | FAIR**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time (LST/LDT)</th>
<th>Predicted (ft)</th>
<th>High/Low</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>1.46</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:36 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:44 AM</td>
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**TUESDAY | FAIR**

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<td>7:00 AM</td>
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**DAILY PRIZE**

- **Jackpot:** $240 M
- **Draw Date:** 6/7
- **Powerball:** 6 12 23 29 57
- **Megaball:** 4
- **Jackpot:** $200 M
- **Draw Date:** 6/7
- **Powerball:** 6 14 16 23 27
- **Megaball:** 4
- **Jackpot:** $160 M
- **Draw Date:** 6/8
- **Powerball:** 1st: 08 - Gorgeous George
- **Draw Date:** 6/8
- **Powerball:** 2
- **Draw Date:** 6/8
- **Powerball:** 3
- **Draw Date:** 6/8
- **Powerball:** 4
- **Draw Date:** 6/8
- **Powerball:** 5
- **Draw Date:** 6/8
- **Powerball:** 6
- **Draw Date:** 6/8
- **Powerball:** 7
- **Draw Date:** 6/8
- **Powerball:** 8
- **Draw Date:** 6/8
- **Powerball:** 9
- **Draw Date:** 6/8
- **Powerball:** 10
- **Draw Date:** 6/8
- **Powerball:** 11
On April 24, 2023 windows of the Santa Monica Baha’i Center located on Colorado Avenue were shattered by large rocks that were thrown through the windows by unidentified individuals. This incident was recorded as vandalism.

The Santa Monica Area Interfaith Council vehemently condemns the deliberate destruction of this and all sacred houses of worship. Acts of violence directed at religious communities are particularly devastating because they are so widely felt. The Santa Monica Area Interfaith Council represents a variety of religions, races, and nationalities. We come together as an expression of unity; we know any spiritual practice based in love leads to caring for all. Our mission is to bring that love to the greater community.

If you’d like to support the Santa Monica Baha’i community, please join in weekly Interfaith and Community Prayers for World Peace.

T H I S  W E E K ’ S  T O P I C:

Racial Justice and World Peace

S A N D A Y

J U N E  1 8 , 2 0 2 3

A T

7:00 PM

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82103309510?pwd=eXh5dFkFPQmR1d2hmS21oaFhNMUlOQT09
Meeting ID: 821 0330 9510 Pass code: 663444

We encourage you to bring a prayer, poem, or video to enhance your participation in the event. We empower and support each other through community prayer. Your presence will be appreciated.

Sponsored by the Santa Monica area Interfaith Council