



# TAXES

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**2 Just a joke?**  
Did comedy elect Trump?

**3 Monopoly fight**  
Google in trouble.



**5 Restaurant review**  
Manchego.

**6 Political Clout**  
Fades as population declines.

Volume 24 Issue 7

THE WEEKENDER 11/22-11/24

smdp.com

## Police release video of fatal officer-involved shooting

**SCOTT SNOWDEN**  
SMPD Staff Writer

The Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) has released the body camera footage from the officer who was stabbed in an unprovoked attack on October 5, 2024, right outside the police station at 4th Street and Olympic Blvd.

In a statement, the SMPD said, "The use of force by law enforcement personnel is a matter of critical concern, both to the public and to the law enforcement community. Every day, officers are involved in rapidly evolving interactions with members of the public and, when warranted, use reasonable force in carrying out their duties.

"This is especially true with respect to officers safeguarding the community and themselves from attacks and overcoming resistance while engaged in the performance of law enforcement duties. Officers and their supervisors are responsible for understanding their authority and its limitations and appreciating the serious consequences of every use of force," the statement said.

Current California law requires police departments to release video and audio recordings of a critical incident within 45 days of the

SEE SHOOTING PAGE 11

## Ghirardelli Chocolate, Outlandish add to Downtown business portfolio



Photo by Thomas Leffler

**BUSINESS:** Ghirardelli Chocolate's Lacey Zane joined Mayor Phil Brock and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce for a grand opening ceremony on Wednesday.

**THOMAS LEFFLER**  
SMDP Staff Writer

Downtown's business scene got sweeter and more tech-savvy this week with two business grand opening events.

On Wednesday, renowned chocolatier brand Ghirardelli Chocolate & Ice Cream Shop brought its square candies to the Santa Monica public at its 1541 Ocean Ave. location. The next morning, live shopping experience

outlet Outlandish opened its flagship store at 1228 Third Street Promenade.

Offering the first 100 guests a free try of its World Famous Hot Fudge Sundae, Ghirardelli attracted that sized crowd and more, with a line arching around the block across from the iconic Santa Monica Pier. The brand first operated in San Francisco in 1852, calling California its home with 13 of its 18 locations in the state, now including Santa Monica.

"California knows our brand (and) understands that we're famous for hot fudge sundaes, and we found success being in California communities, beach towns specifically," Ghirardelli Vice President of Restaurant and Retail Lacey Zane said. "We think that the warm weather of Santa Monica, the hustle and bustle of the Pier and the beach are going to be a great fit for enjoying a hot fudge sundae."

SEE BUSINESS PAGE 10

## Bestselling author helps craft conversations around foster care



Courtesy Photo

**BOOK:** "The Child Catcher" tells of the remarkable work done by the Los Angeles native and children's rights advocate.

**THOMAS LEFFLER**  
SMDP Staff Writer

A New York Times bestselling author has been instrumental in shaping the conversations around foster child services in Los Angeles.

On Nov. 12 in Brentwood, educational nonprofit Ready To Succeed (RTS) hosted a launch event for Andrew Bridge's new

SEE BOOK PAGE 11



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# How stand-up comedy helped reelect Trump

JOSEPH KRAUSS

Associated Press

Did stand-up comedians help reelect Donald Trump?

Not a joke, as outgoing President Joe Biden might say.

Trump has been the butt of countless late-night monologues and “Saturday Night Live” sketches for the better part of a decade, as much of Hollywood tracked the highs and lows of his political career with revulsion and ridicule.

But in the weeks leading up to Election Day, he sat for interviews with podcasting comedians who occupy an increasingly popular space where political discourse is mediated through roast-style insults, right-leaning conspiracy theories and mockery of the left.

“They’re all sort of simultaneously entertainers and influencers and pundits and — I’ve argued, propagandists — who have massive, loyal fanbases,” said Seth Simons, a journalist who writes a newsletter about the comedy industry’s darker side.

The Trump era has coincided with the rise of the hourlong Netflix special and comedy podcast. And while the world of stand-up is as diverse as the nation itself, some of its hottest acts have punched left.

Dave Chappelle has repeatedly courted controversy by mocking transgender activists. Bill Burr has roasted feminists with relish, most recently in his post-election “SNL” monologue (“All right, ladies, you’re 0-2 against this guy”). Even Michelle Wolf, who famously roasted Trump at the 2018 White House Correspondents Dinner, has an extended riff in her 2022 special critiquing #MeToo, calling it “the worst-run movement I’ve ever seen.”

None of these comics publicly supported Trump, but nonetheless trained their fire on the so-called woke left, a bogeyman of Trump’s campaign.

### TRUMP GOT A WARM WELCOME — BUT NOT EVERYONE WAS AMUSED

That’s what seems to have brought Trump, a veteran TV entertainer himself, into the studios of Joe Rogan, the nation’s most listened-to podcaster, and other comedians.

He discussed addiction and the opioid crisis with Theo Von, who told the past and future president that “cocaine will turn you into a damn owl, homie.” On another podcast, Andrew Schulz and Akaash Singh laughed out loud as Trump went through his nicknames for political rivals — like “Comrade Kamala” Harris — and recounted his near-assassination.

Politicians have long sought to reach voters on alternative platforms. Former President Barack Obama slow jammed the news with Jimmy Fallon, who ruffled Trump’s hair in 2016. Both Obama and Hillary Clinton appeared on Zach Galifianakis’ web series “Between Two Ferns.” Harris appeared on “SNL” days before the election and sat with an array of more earnest podcasters, with less evident success.

For Trump, the podcasts were part of a larger effort to reach young male voters — a tactic he says his son Barron, 18, suggested. More than half of male voters ages 18-44 supported Trump, and 45% supported Harris, although Biden won this group in 2020, according to AP VoteCast, a survey of more than 120,000 voters.

While politicians’ late-night appearances tend to be carefully scripted affairs, Rogan

interviewed Trump for a whopping three hours in a conversation that veered from false claims about the 2020 election to speculation about UFOs and John F. Kennedy’s assassination. Rogan, who supported Bernie Sanders in 2020, subsequently endorsed Trump this cycle.

Trump’s interviewers aren’t political comedians; they’re just as likely to chat about internet curiosities, mixed martial arts or weightlifting. Their views seem primarily rooted in suspicion of the establishment, devotion to free speech and openness to alternative — and often unfounded — theories about things like vaccines and immigration.

That may have led them to see Trump as a kindred spirit.

“The rebels are Republicans now. You want to be a rebel, you want to be punk rock, you want to like buck the system, you’re a conservative now,” Rogan said during the interview, which has nearly 50 million views on YouTube.

Simons says Rogan and his acolytes, consciously or not, have shifted what’s acceptable in comedy rightward.

“The relationship that people have with these roast comics, these comics who tell racist jokes or sexist jokes, is that they don’t mean what they say, it’s just funny,” Simons said.

Marc Maron, whose podcast “WTF” helped birth the genre, called out his fellow comics in a blog post after the Rogan interview.

“The anti-woke flank of the new fascism is being driven almost exclusively by comics, my peers,” Maron wrote. “When comedians with podcasts have shameless, self-proclaimed white supremacists and fascists on their show to joke around like they are just entertainers or even just politicians, all it does is humanize and normalize fascism.”

### A FRACTURED MEDIA LANDSCAPE

It wasn’t always like this.

Johnny Carson, the king of late night for three decades until his 1992 retirement, steered clear of political controversies to cultivate a mass audience. This was also when most Americans got their news from the “Big Three” television networks.

Fast forward to today: Left-leaning hosts of comedy shows across many channels deliver nightly polemics interspersed with news clips. To their critics, comedians like Jon Stewart, Stephen Colbert and John Oliver are indistinguishable from MSNBC commentators.

Comedian Wayne Federman, the author of a history of stand-up, says these hosts can only draw a fraction of Carson’s viewers, removing the economic incentive to appeal widely.

“As most late-night hosts seemed openly aligned with (the Democratic National Committee), a market niche opened in the podcast space. Enter Joe Rogan,” he said.

Rogan’s show, for which he landed an estimated \$250 million deal with Spotify, has become a springboard for up-and-coming comics.

“For a lot of comedians right now, following in Joe Rogan’s footsteps and trying to be in his world and emulate him is a smart career move,” Simons said. “I think that’s partly why there are so many Andrew Schulzes and Theo Vons.”

### PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE OR INSULT COMIC?

Beyond his podcast appearances, Trump

# US regulators seek to break up Google, forcing Chrome sale as part of monopoly punishment

**MICHAEL LIEDTKE**  
AP Technology Writer

U.S. regulators want a federal judge to break up Google to prevent the company from continuing to squash competition through its dominant search engine after a court found it had maintained an abusive monopoly over the past decade.

The proposed breakup floated in a 23-page document filed late Wednesday by the U.S. Department of Justice calls for sweeping punishments that would include a sale of Google's industry-leading Chrome web browser and impose restrictions to prevent Android from favoring its own search engine.

A sale of Chrome "will permanently stop Google's control of this critical search access point and allow rival search engines the ability to access the browser that for many users is a gateway to the internet," Justice Department lawyers argued in their filing.

Although regulators stopped short of demanding Google sell Android too, they asserted the judge should make it clear the company could still be required to divest its smartphone operating system if its oversight committee continues to see evidence of misconduct.

The broad scope of the recommended penalties underscores how severely regulators operating under President Joe Biden's administration believe Google should be punished following an August ruling by U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta that branded the company as a monopolist.

The Justice Department decision-makers who will inherit the case after President-elect Donald Trump takes office next year might not be as strident. The Washington, D.C. court hearings on Google's punishment are scheduled to begin in April and Mehta is aiming to issue his final decision before Labor Day.

If Mehta embraces the government's recommendations, Google would be forced to sell its 16-year-old Chrome browser within six months of the final ruling. But the company certainly would appeal any punishment, potentially prolonging a legal tussle that has dragged on for more than four years.

Besides seeking a Chrome spinoff and a corralling of the Android software, the Justice Department wants the judge to ban Google from forging multibillion-dollar deals to lock in its dominant search engine as the default option on Apple's iPhone and other devices. It would also ban Google from favoring its own services, such as YouTube or its recently-launched artificial intelligence platform, Gemini.

Regulators also want Google to license the search index data it collects from people's queries to its rivals, giving them a better chance at competing with the tech giant. On the commercial side of its search engine, Google would be required to provide more transparency into how it sets the prices that advertisers pay to be listed near the top of some targeted search results.

Kent Walker, Google's chief legal officer, lashed out at the Justice Department for pursuing "a radical interventionist agenda that would harm Americans and America's global technology." In a blog post, Walker warned the "overly broad proposal" would threaten personal privacy while undermining

Google's early leadership in artificial intelligence, "perhaps the most important innovation of our time."

Wary of Google's increasing use of artificial intelligence in its search results, regulators also advised Mehta to ensure websites will be able to shield their content from Google's AI training techniques.

The measures, if they are ordered, threaten to upend a business expected to generate more than \$300 billion in revenue this year.

"The playing field is not level because of Google's conduct, and Google's quality reflects the ill-gotten gains of an advantage illegally acquired," the Justice Department asserted in its recommendations. "The remedy must close this gap and deprive Google of these advantages."

It's still possible that the Justice Department could ease off attempts to break up Google, especially if Trump takes the widely expected step of replacing Assistant Attorney General Jonathan Kanter, who was appointed by Biden to oversee the agency's antitrust division.

Although the case targeting Google was originally filed during the final months of Trump's first term in office, Kanter oversaw the high-profile trial that culminated in Mehta's ruling against Google. Working in tandem with Federal Trade Commission Chair Lina Khan, Kanter took a get-tough stance against Big Tech that triggered other attempted crackdowns on industry powerhouses such as Apple and discouraged many business deals from getting done during the past four years.

Trump recently expressed concerns that a breakup might destroy Google but didn't elaborate on alternative penalties he might have in mind. "What you can do without breaking it up is make sure it's more fair," Trump said last month.

This latest filing gave Kanter and his team a final chance to spell out measures that they believe are needed to restore competition in search. It comes six weeks after Justice first floated the idea of a breakup in a preliminary outline of potential penalties.

But Kanter's proposal is already raising questions about whether regulators seek to impose controls that extend beyond the issues covered in last year's trial, and — by extension — Mehta's ruling.

Banning the default search deals that Google now pays more than \$26 billion annually to maintain was one of the main practices that troubled Mehta in his ruling.

It's less clear whether the judge will embrace the Justice Department's contention that Chrome needs to be spun out of Google, and the recommendation that Android should be completely walled off from the company's own search engine.

"It is probably going a little beyond," Syracuse University law professor Shubha Ghosh said of the Chrome breakup. "The remedies should match the harm, it should match the transgression. This does seem a little beyond that pale."

Google rival DuckDuckGo, whose executives testified during last year's trial, asserted the Justice Department is simply doing what needs to be done to rein in a brazen monopolist.

"Undoing Google's overlapping and



## Surf report WATER TEMP: 64.4

**FRIDAY**  
**FAIR** | **SURF:** 2-3ft+  
Thigh to stomach

Small-ish but potentially kinda fun as a new SSW swell fills in & slowly becomes dominant source of surf. Likely lully, but could be some pretty crisp little lines at the points and maybe still just enough NW running for peaks at beachbreak

**SATURDAY**  
**FAIR TO GOOD** | **SURF:** 3-4ft+  
Waist to shoulder

A bit more SSW and less NW than Friday is likely - so potential for fun little lines at the points with more walled up shape at the beachbreaks. Stay tuned.

## Weather

**Friday:** Partly sunny, with a high near 71. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

**Friday Night:** Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 60.

**Saturday:** Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 72.

**Saturday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 59.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted	(ft)High/Low
2023/10/13	Fri	02:57 AM	0.77	L
2023/10/13	Fri	09:11 AM	5.35	H
2023/10/13	Fri	3:24 PM	0.75	L
2023/10/13	Fri	9:24 PM	4.87	H
2023/10/14	Sat	03:17 AM	1.02	L
2023/10/14	Sat	09:30 AM	5.58	H
2023/10/14	Sat	3:56 PM	0.46	L
2023/10/14	Sat	9:59 PM	4.62	H
2023/10/15	Sun	03:37 AM	1.32	L
2023/10/15	Sun	09:50 AM	5.75	H
2023/10/15	Sun	4:32 PM	0.25	L
2023/10/15	Sun	10:37 PM	4.29	H
2023/10/16	Mon	03:58 AM	1.66	L
2023/10/16	Mon	10:13 AM	5.85	H
2023/10/16	Mon	5:11 PM	0.15	L
2023/10/16	Mon	11:21 PM	3.92	H
2023/10/17	Tue	04:18 AM	2.02	L
2023/10/17	Tue	10:40 AM	5.86	H

## Daily Lottery

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

<p>Draw Date: 10/11 22 24 40 52 64 Power#: 10 Jackpot: 20 M</p>	<p>Draw Date: 10/11 20 23 26 31 33</p>
<p>Draw Date: 10/10 3 8 17 46 63 Mega#: 7 Jackpot: 48 M</p>	<p>Draw Date: 10/12 MIDDAY: 4 9 2 Draw Date: 10/11 EVENING: 3 1 3</p>
<p>Draw Date: 10/11 17 30 36 38 39 Mega#: 2 Jackpot: 17 M</p>	<p>Draw Date: 10/11 1st: 05 - California Classic 2nd: 08 - Gorgeous George 3rd: 09 - Winning Spirit Race Time: 1:40.30</p>

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Santa Monica Daily Press



## INVITATION FOR SUBCONTRACTOR BIDS

Pursuant to California Education Code 17406, notice is hereby given that subcontractor bids will be received by Blach Construction – 3090 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa 92626. Bids must be received in accordance with Blach Construction's instructions by Thursday, December 19th, 2024 at 2PM. It is the bidder's responsibility to ensure timely delivery via Building Connected.

### **SMASH-Muir ES Exterior Site Project** **Bids Due: Thursday, December 19th, 2024 at 2PM**

#### **Project Scope:**

Site Concrete, Earthwork and Paving, Fencing, Landscaping, Irrigation, Ornamental Metal, Site Utilities, Site furnishings, Striping

#### **Subcontractors Required:**

C-8 Concrete, C-12 Earthwork and Paving, C-13 Fencing, C-27 Landscaping, C-23 Ornamental Metal, C-42 Sanitation Systems

**Job Walk (Non-Mandatory):** Tentatively scheduled Thursday, December 5th. The job walk to be held at John Muir Elementary School located at 2526 6th St. Santa Monica, CA 90405. Requests for Information (RFI's): Pre-bid requests for information for this project due date is TBD. Information to be provided through Building Connected. Bidders are required to indicate the project name in the title of your request submission. Submit all requests for information to Justin Gilbert at justin.gilbert@blach.com

**Contract Bid Documents:** Copies of the bid & contract documents including drawings and specifications are available through Building Connected. Contractors are required to submit Blach Construction prequalification questionnaire in order to be selected for the project. Please reach out to Justin Gilbert with Blach Construction at (209) 505- 2551 or justin.gilbert@blach.com for access as needed.

**Prevailing Wage and Skilled & Trained Workforce Requirements:** Per Public Contract Code 2601 and 2602 as well as Senate Bill 693, all subcontractors at every tier must adhere to Skilled & Trained Workforce Requirements. Additionally, prevailing wage is required on this project. Additional information is provided in Blach Construction's Bid Documents.

The Contractor and all Subcontractors under the Contractor shall pay all workers on all work performed pursuant to this Contract not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages and the general prevailing rate for holiday and overtime work as determined by the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations, State of California, for the type of work performed and the locality in which the work is to be performed within the boundaries of the District, pursuant to sections 1770 et seq. Of the California Labor Code. Prevailing wage rates are also available from the District or on the Internet at: <<http://www.dir.ca.gov>>.

The successful bidder will be required to have the appropriate State of California Contractor's License to perform the work current at the time of submission to bid.

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# Trump chooses Pam Bondi for attorney general pick after Gaetz withdraws

ERIC TUCKER AND ALANNA DURKIN RICHER

Associated Press

President-elect Donald Trump on Thursday named Pam Bondi, the former attorney general of Florida, to be U.S. attorney general just hours after his other choice, Matt Gaetz, withdrew his name from consideration.

Bondi is a longtime Trump ally and was one of his lawyers during his first impeachment trial, when he was accused — but not convicted — of abusing his power as he tried to condition U.S. military assistance to Ukraine on that country investigating then-former Vice President Joe Biden.

Bondi was among a group of Republicans who showed up to support Trump at his hush money criminal trial in New York that ended in May with a conviction on 34 felony counts. She's been a chair at the America First Policy Institute, a think tank set up by former Trump administration staffers.

"For too long, the partisan Department of Justice has been weaponized against me and other Republicans - Not anymore," Trump said in a social media post. "Pam will refocus the DOJ to its intended purpose of fighting Crime, and Making America Safe Again."

Trump's son Donald Trump Jr. told Fox Business on Sunday that the transition team had backups in mind for his controversial nominees should they fail to get confirmed. The swift selection of Bondi came about six hours after Gaetz withdrew.

Gaetz stepped aside amid continued fallout over a federal sex trafficking investigation that cast doubt on his ability to be confirmed as the nation's chief federal law enforcement officer.

That announcement capped a turbulent eight-day period in which Trump sought to capitalize on his decisive election win to force Senate Republicans to accept provocative selections like Gaetz, who had been investigated by the Justice Department before being tapped last week to lead it. The decision could heighten scrutiny on other controversial Trump nominees, including Pentagon pick Pete Hegseth, who faces sexual assault allegations that he denies.

"While the momentum was strong, it is clear that my confirmation was unfairly becoming a distraction to the critical work of the Trump/Vance Transition," Gaetz, a Florida Republican who one day earlier met with senators in an effort to win their support, said in a statement.

"There is no time to waste on a needlessly protracted Washington scuffle, thus I'll be withdrawing my name from consideration to serve as Attorney General. Trump's DOJ must be in place and ready on Day 1," he added. Hours later, Gaetz posted on social media that he looks "forward to continuing the fight to save our country," adding, "Just maybe from a different post."

Trump, in a social media post, said: "I greatly appreciate the recent efforts of Matt

Gaetz in seeking approval to be Attorney General. He was doing very well but, at the same time, did not want to be a distraction for the Administration, for which he has much respect. Matt has a wonderful future, and I look forward to watching all of the great things he will do!"

Last week, Trump named personal lawyers Todd Blanche, Emil Bove and D. John Sauer to senior roles in the department. Another possible attorney general contender, Matt Whitaker, was announced Wednesday as the U.S. ambassador to NATO.

Bondi, too, is a longtime loyalist. She has been a vocal critic of the criminal cases against Trump as well as Jack Smith, the special counsel who charged Trump in two federal cases. In one radio appearance, she blasted Smith and other prosecutors who have charged Trump as "horrible" people she said were trying to make names for themselves by "going after Donald Trump and weaponizing our legal system."

If confirmed by the Republican-led Senate, Bondi would instantly become one of the most closely watched members of Trump's Cabinet given the Republican's threat to pursue retribution against perceived adversaries and concern among Democrats that he will look to bend the Justice Department to his will. A recent Supreme Court opinion not only conferred broad immunity on former presidents but also affirmed a president's exclusive authority over the Justice Department's investigative functions.

Bondi would inherit a Justice Department expected to pivot sharply on civil rights, corporate enforcement and the prosecutions of hundreds of Trump supporters charged in the Jan. 6, 2021, riot at the U.S. Capitol — defendants whom Trump has pledged to pardon.

It's unlikely that Bondi would be confirmed in time to overlap with Smith, who brought two federal indictments against Trump that are both expected to wind down before the incoming president takes office. Special counsels are expected to produce reports on their work that historically are made public, but it remains unclear when such a document might be released.

In 2013, while serving as Florida attorney general, Bondi publicly apologized for asking that the execution of a man convicted of murder be delayed because it conflicted with a campaign fundraiser.

Bondi said she was wrong and sorry for requesting then-Gov. Rick Scott push back the execution of Marshall Lee Gore by three weeks.

Before she ran for state attorney general in 2010, Bondi worked for the Hillsborough County state attorney.

Associated Press writers Zeke Miller, Michelle L. Price, Lisa Mascaró, Mary Clare Jalonick and Adriana Gomez Licon contributed to this report.

## LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press

editor@smdp.com



## FRIDAY | NOVEMBER 22

### HOLIDAY SPECIAL: LAUGH IT OFF COMEDY SHOW

Immerse yourself in an enchanting evening filled with belly laughs and holiday cheer as our talented comedians bring joy and humor to the stage during our Holiday Special: Laugh It Off comedy show. Gather your friends and family for a night of unforgettable entertainment, comedic surprises, and a warm, festive atmosphere. Let's make this holiday season one to remember—come laugh with us! Viceroy Santa Monica, 1819 Ocean Ave. \$12.50. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/holiday-special-laugh-it-off-comedy-show-tickets-1062874980679>

### DEMOLITION

Doug, a blue-collar worker at a family owned construction company, is charged with training Paul, the boss's gentle, secretive, college bound son, during the course of a summer renovation project. Their exchanges begin with Doug's bawdy advice that is comically at odds with Paul's shy nature. But soon it becomes apparent that Paul is struggling with something far beyond Doug's purview and experience. This new play is about identity, truth, and the courage it takes to break things apart in order to become your own kind of hero. Pacific Resident Theatre, 703 Venice Blvd. \$35.00 to \$45.00—Age 55+ Discount \$10; Student Rush at door \$12. 8 p.m. <https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?ticketing=prtve>

## SATURDAY | NOVEMBER 23

### MARINE PARK CG 2 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Yes, it's really been two years since Marine Park CG was opened. Come get (re)acquainted with this beautiful habitat that is tucked in a corner near the Tennis Courts. Never Visited? Well this is your opportunity to learn more about it and perhaps we'll even talk you into becoming a volunteer or member of our Compost Co-Operative. We will have lots of Children's Activities including painting pots, seeds to start and making Seed Packets with Origami Paper. Cooking demonstrations using some freshly picked produce from our Community Gardens. It's a great time to Get Dirty. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Marine Park Community Garden, 1406 Marine St

### CREATIVE WRITING GROUP

Please RSVP by emailing [fiction@lapl.org](mailto:fiction@lapl.org). Calling all writers of fiction, screenplays, poetry, etc. Get feedback on your writing in a fun, supportive environment. Meetings include a writing prompt/exercise, snacks, and a rollicking good time! Whether you are just starting out or well on your way to glory, join us and banish (at least temporarily) those Lonely Writer Blues! Donald Bruce Kaufman - Brentwood Branch Library, 11820 San Vicente Boulevard, Los Angeles. <https://www.lapl.org/whats-on/events/writers-group-0>

### L.A. GROWN: A SHOWCASE OF SHORT THESIS FILMS

Join the Los Angeles International Children's Film Festival for an afternoon of cinematic creativity. Witness the culmination of hard work and passion as emerging filmmakers who grew up in LA and/or attended film school in LA showcase their recent short thesis films. Live-action and animation—all ages welcome. Get ready to be entertained, moved, and inspired by these up-and-coming talents. Panel discussion on the thesis film process, from story to production to sharing the film with the world. An opportunity for young future filmmakers in the audience to learn, and to support the next generation of filmmakers. Films: "Hymns of A Tiny World: The Birds of New Zealand" (Izabella Anguiano Jacobs; CalArts), "Purple and Green" (Charlotte Oxley; UCLA), "Desert Eyes" (Jordan LeBlanc and Rika Mikoguchi; USC), "Land Lover" (Courtney Chapman; UCLA), and the Los Angeles premiere of "La Bibliotheque" (Dana Kooops; LA native/Paris College of Art/Emerson College). Santa Monica Public Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 1 - 3 p.m. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/la-grown-a-showcase-of-short-thesis-films-tickets-1025531120187>

### BOOK CLUB FOR MIDDLE GRADE READERS: "MASCOT" BY CHARLES WATERS

Please e-mail: [akagan@lapl.org](mailto:akagan@lapl.org) or [gkim@lapl.org](mailto:gkim@lapl.org) for the Zoom login information. Middle grade readers are invited to participate in our fun monthly book discussions. This month we will be reading: Mascot by Charles Waters and Traci Sorell. For ADA accommodations, call (213) 228-7430 at least 72 hours prior to the event. Para ajustes razonables según la ley de ADA, llama al (213) 228-7430 al menos 72 horas antes del evento. Palisades Branch Library 861 Alma Real Drive, Pacific Palisades. 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

### CRITIQUE WORKSHOP WITH DORIANNE LAUX AND KIM ADDONIZIO

Bring a draft of a poem-in-progress (under 2 pages), with copies for all (14 total) for close reading from Kim and Dorianne. We'll discuss elements like clarity, structure, line, image, and other aspects of craft, talk about what we value in poems, and give you specific ideas about revising your work. \$190. <https://eventbrite.com/e/critique-workshop-with-dorianne-laux-and-kim-addonizio-tickets-993976720127>. Beyond Baroque Literary Arts Center, 681 Venice Blvd Venice Beach, Los Angeles.

### VENICE OCEANARIUM: MOBY DICK READING

Join Venice Oceanarium for a shared complete reading of the book, Moby Dick, by the Breakwater Rocks on Venice Beach. A Whale of a Tale on Venice Beach! Fall is upon us and soon it'll be time to get cozy in a comfy sweater and bundle up in your favorite beach blanket for an annual Venice Beach tradition! Join us for this FREE family friendly event that's been running for 29 years straight. The reading

takes place between Nov. 23 - Nov. 24 from sunrise to sunset. We like to consider this a "Do It Your Way" interactive gathering. Arrive when you please, stay as long as you like and listen to or read from Herman Melville's masterpiece, Moby Dick. If you have a favorite chapter you'd like to read to our guests, please email and let us know which one. We'll do our best to coordinate with you but please understand we won't be able to pause the reading for your arrival. 1 Windward Ave, Venice

## SUNDAY | NOVEMBER 24

### SUNDAY TASTING AT ESTER'S WINE SHOP & BAR

Sunday Tastings are 12-9 p.m., with new themes every week, curated by Sommelier Randall Middleton. Enjoy a flight for \$25/person, which includes a mini cheese pairing and link to a video of our team telling stories about the lineup. 1314 Seventh Street.

### SMC WIND ENSEMBLE "POPS" CONCERT

1 - 2:30 p.m. Santa Monica College Performing Arts Center, 1310 11th St. Annual "Pops" concert will highlight popular music from the Broadway Stage to Hollywood movie scores. \$10; free with any student I.D. SMC Performing Arts Center, The Eli & Edythe Broad Stage <https://www.smc.edu/community/events/tickets.php>

### SANTA MONICA HIGH JAZZ BAND AT 1212

6 - 8 p.m. 1212 Santa Monica, 1212 Third St Promenade Join organizers every Wednesday at 1212 Santa Monica for an evening of smooth jazz and great vibes! Starting at 6 PM, enjoy All Night Happy Hour with delicious bites and refreshing drinks while supporting the talented Santa Monica High Jazz Band. Don't miss out on a fantastic midweek experience!

### VENICE OCEANARIUM: MOBY DICK READING

1 Windward Ave Join Venice Oceanarium for a shared complete reading of the book, Moby Dick, by the Breakwater Rocks on Venice Beach. A Whale of a Tale on Venice Beach! Fall is upon us and soon it'll be time to get cozy in a comfy sweater and bundle up in your favorite beach blanket for an annual Venice Beach tradition! Join organizers for this FREE family friendly event that's been running for 29 years straight. The reading takes place between Nov. 23 - Nov. 24 from sunrise to sunset. They like to consider this a "Do It Your Way" interactive gathering. Arrive when you please, stay as long as you like and listen to or read from Herman Melville's masterpiece, Moby Dick. <https://www.veniceoceanarium.org/>

## MONDAY | NOVEMBER 25

### PIZZA PARTY AT BODEGA WINE BAR

6 - 10 p.m. Every Monday Night at Bodega, every bottle of wine you purchase gets you a pizza half off! 6pm-Close. 814 Broadway.

### AIRPORT COMMISSION

7 p.m. Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street. The Commission acts in an advisory capacity to the City Council in matters pertaining to the administration of Santa Monica Municipal Airport and other aviation matters affecting the City. The Airport Commission meets on the 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

### PIZZA PARTY! A COMEDY SHOW

7:30 - 9 p.m. The Crow, 2525 Michigan Ave Unit F4. \$15. What do you get when you have LA's sauciest comedians and three boxes of hot pizza? A Pizza party! Join us the fourth Monday of the every month for a comedy show with the funniest pepperonies in town... when it when it comes to comedy we deliver! <https://jetbook.co/e/pizza-party-a-comedy-showxg7o>

## TUESDAY | NOVEMBER 26

### SOCIAL SERVICE ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY PROVIDENCE ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM

9:30 - 5 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave Virginia Avenue Park in Partnership with Providence St. John's Community Health Program to resume Social Service Assistance. Help with family nutrition and health care access is resuming at Virginia Avenue Park thanks to Providence St. John's Community Health Program. Trained community health workers will be available to meet in person with community members at the Park Center Building in Virginia Avenue Park. The first Tuesday of the month 11:30 am to 7 pm and 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Tuesdays from 9:30 am to 5 pm. The trained Providence St. John's staff can assist with enrollment in CalFresh, the state of California's food subsidy program created to improve the nutrition of families through access to healthy foods. Staff can also help navigate enrollment or questions for MediCal and Medicare. If you have questions about whether you qualify for benefits or if you need help completing enrollment forms, you can make an appointment by calling 310.458.8688. Drop-ins are also welcome.

### TUESDAY TALES: A TRAVELING STORYTIME

10:30 - 11 a.m. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. This fun and engaging weekly series, featuring stories, songs and rhymes, travels to a different library location each week. Free tickets are available at 10:15 a.m. For ages 2-5.

### REFLECTIONS: A ONE-MAN PLAY BY PIERCE WALLACE

7 - 8:30 p.m. Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th St. A one-man play written and performed by Pierce Wallace on the 36th President of the United States: Lyndon Johnson. \$25 <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/reflections-a-one-man-play-by-pierce-wallace-tickets-1068151342419>

## RESTAURANT RE-VIEW

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# Manchego



Photo by Jason Trott

**PAELLA:** Manchego on Main Street is a great spot for an authentic Spanish dish.

After tiring of the usual Italian, Thai, Mexican, and Japanese options, I decided to host a family gathering at a Spanish restaurant for a change. I tried to book a table for seven at Manchego at 6:00 p.m., but the online system required a credit card up front—only to inform me they couldn't seat all seven together. We ended up reserving two tables, one for four and one for three.

When we arrived, however, the manager kindly seated us together in a "back room" at a comfortable table for seven. The room featured a waterfall, and the occasional cool droplet added a refreshing touch—a perk you miss with online reservations.

Manchego offers a well-curated menu with a range of authentic Spanish dishes and a reasonably priced wine list that includes various Spanish wines. I appreciated the selection of grapes from different regions, including several Tempranillos, a Grenache, and more. I didn't sample any since I'd brought an Oregon Pinot Noir, but we tried a variety of dishes.

The Serrano ham was as good as any I've had in Spain, and the crispy croquettes were excellent. Our main courses included a tender beef rib on creamy polenta, which came with a delicious sauce but was a bit salty for our taste. The beet salad was a favorite, and the Brussels sprouts were easily the best we've ever had.

The main event for me was the paella. While it was nicely presented, with a few shrimp peeking through the saffron-colored rice, it didn't quite hit the mark. I was hoping for fluffier rice and a broader variety of proteins, such as shrimp, chicken, duck, octopus, or scallops. Though we enjoyed the flavors, I wouldn't return for the paella alone.

For dessert, we indulged in the flan, flourless chocolate cake, and, of course, churros with melted chocolate. I thought churros were Mexican, but my daughter, who lived in Spain, assured me they originated in Spain—they were delicious.

Manchego is owned by a Jewish Persian gentleman who lived in Spain, and he's done a great job capturing the essence of Spanish cuisine. The menu is authentic and varied, the waitstaff are friendly and attentive, and the wine list is both interesting and affordable. I'd hoped to meet the owner in person, though he wasn't there during our visit. Hopefully, next time!

2518 Main St, Santa Monica, <https://www.manchegosm.com/>

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

## GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

## California's political clout will fade as long as population growth remains slow



CalMatters

**DEMOGRAPHICS:** California's population growth may stunt its political role within the nation.**BY DAN WALTERS**

Kamala Harris could count on winning California's 54 electoral college votes as she campaigned for president, and the state's voters delivered. In fact, California's electoral votes were almost a quarter of the 226 she won nationwide, 44 short of what she needed to defeat Donald Trump.

Simultaneously, however, Harris's party fell short of regaining control of the House of Representatives, thanks in part to failing to flip as many seats in California as party leaders, such as Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi, had hoped.

Those outcomes illustrate the powerful role that the nation's most populous state plays in determining who controls the federal government.

Looking ahead, however, California's clout in both presidential and congressional elections — and therefore in the rooms where post-election policy decisions are made — is shrinking. It's a stark reminder of the old adage that demography drives destiny.

California experienced strong population growth for the first 150 years of the state's existence, largely due to migration from other states and nations and a high birthrate. The state's decades-long expansion reached a high point in the 1980s when its population exploded by more than 25%, from 23.8 million to 30 million, due to strong foreign immigration and a new baby boom.

There was a newborn every minute.

The decade's population growth granted it seven new congressional seats after the 1990 census, increasing from 45 to 52. In 1992, Bill Clinton claimed the state's 54 electoral votes, becoming only the fourth Democrat to win the state in the 20th century.

Democratic nominees have continued to win California's electoral votes in every presidential election since, but they could no longer count on a new harvest every decade.

Population growth began to slow in the late 1990s, thanks largely to out-migration of Southern California aerospace workers and their families as defense spending dried up after the breakup of the Soviet Union.

It gained one seat after the 2000 census, but population growth stagnated during the 2010 decade, with a net increase of 2.4 million, just 10% of what occurred in the 1980s.

The state lost a congressional seat after the 2020 census, so California now has 52 districts. The COVID-19 pandemic and other factors, such as a declining birthrate and increasing death rate, have led to population stagnation since then.

"California lost 433,000 people between July 2020 and July 2023," the Public Policy Institute of California calculated. "Most of the loss occurred during the first year of the pandemic and was driven by a sharp rise in residents moving to other states. But fewer births, higher deaths and lower international migration also played a role."

That's where we are now: roughly 39 million, a bit under the 2020 census number. But the future looks like slow growth at best, which means the state will likely lose four or more congressional seats, and therefore electoral votes, after the 2030 census.

A 2023 analysis by the liberal Brennan Center estimated that California will lose four seats, while the conservative American Redistricting Project pegged the likely loss at five seats.

It's a major chunk of a wider shift of population, congressional seats and electoral votes from blue states — New York will also be a big loser — to red states such as Texas and Florida, whose economies are growing smartly and where housing is affordable.

By either 2030 projection, were the 2032 Democratic nominee for president to carry the same states that Harris did this year, he or she would win 12 fewer electoral votes. Demography is destiny.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

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# HOA HOMEFRONT

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

## Reader Questions – Required Reserve Funding – Is there a Standard? Can We Fund With Transfer Fees? Can We Spend Reserve Funds on Insurance?

BY KELLY G. RICHARDSON, ESQ. CCAL

Mr. Richardson – Our HOA reserves for replacement are severely underfunded. The board recognizes this deficit and is working to catch up but it will take time to achieve a suitable reserves funding level. Does California law require that HOAs undertake a third-party analysis of future replacement costs, and, if so, at what intervals? Is there a standard in California law or practice for a minimum percentage of projected reserves? Thank you – C.F., Corona Del Mar

Dear C.F.: California laws regarding reserves require extensive disclosures to members and prospective buyers regarding the HOA's set-aside of funds to offset deterioration, but do not require any particular percentage or fraction of funding. Under Civil Code Section 5550, HOAs must obtain a reserve study every three years, review it annually, and develop a long-term funding plan to meet the HOA's reserve fund accumulation needs. The reserve study should estimate the remaining useful life of the components included in the study. FannieMae and FHA require that condominium associations set aside 10% of their budget in reserves annually to have a condo project approved for loans. I am increasingly hearing stories from homeowners and managers about HOA homebuyers being denied mortgage loans by lenders due to inadequate set-aside of money in the reserve fund. Sincerely, Kelly

Question: My HOA wants to charge \$2000 to sellers of homes to fund reserves. Can they just make a rule change, or do they need to change the CC&Rs? J.M., Palm Desert.

J.M., Civil Code 4575 says that HOAs cannot charge a transfer fee except to defray actual costs to change its records and provide disclosure documents. I have heard recently of some HOAs charging transfer fees, but I am quite doubtful that

they would withstand legal challenge. The HOA's counsel should be asked about such a fee before the board pursues the idea. Thanks, Kelly

Dear Kelly: Last year after insurance skyrocketed, the HOA board borrowed from the reserves and then paid back the reserves with an assessment. We then learned that the board borrows from the reserves every year to pay the insurance and then pays it back over time, without notice to the residents. My understanding is that annual insurance payments should be part of the operating budget. Is it legal for the board to borrow every year from the reserves to pay the annual insurance payment? I understood that borrowing from reserves to pay for items in the operating budget should be reserved for emergencies. J.R., Santa Monica

Dear J.R.: Civil Code Section 5510(b) prohibits HOA boards from spending reserve money except for repair, restoration, replacement, or maintenance of the components included in the reserve account is intended to fund. At the same time, Civil Code 5515 allows short-term borrowing so long as the board approves the borrowing in an open meeting with agenda notice. So, your homeowners should know when the board is borrowing from reserves. Many of my HOA clients have recently borrowed from reserves or passed emergency assessments to handle the huge increases in property insurance. However, if this happens every year, maybe the budget is too thin because the board is trying too hard to keep assessments low. Best Regards, Kelly

Kelly G. Richardson CCAL is a Fellow of the College of Community Association Lawyers and Partner of Richardson Ober LLP, a California law firm known for community association advice. Send column questions to Kelly@roattorneys.com. Past columns at www.HOAHomefront.com. All rights reserved®.

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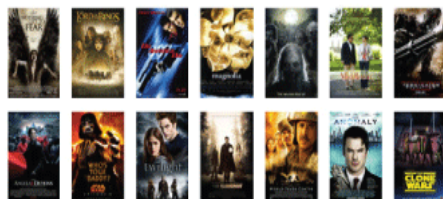


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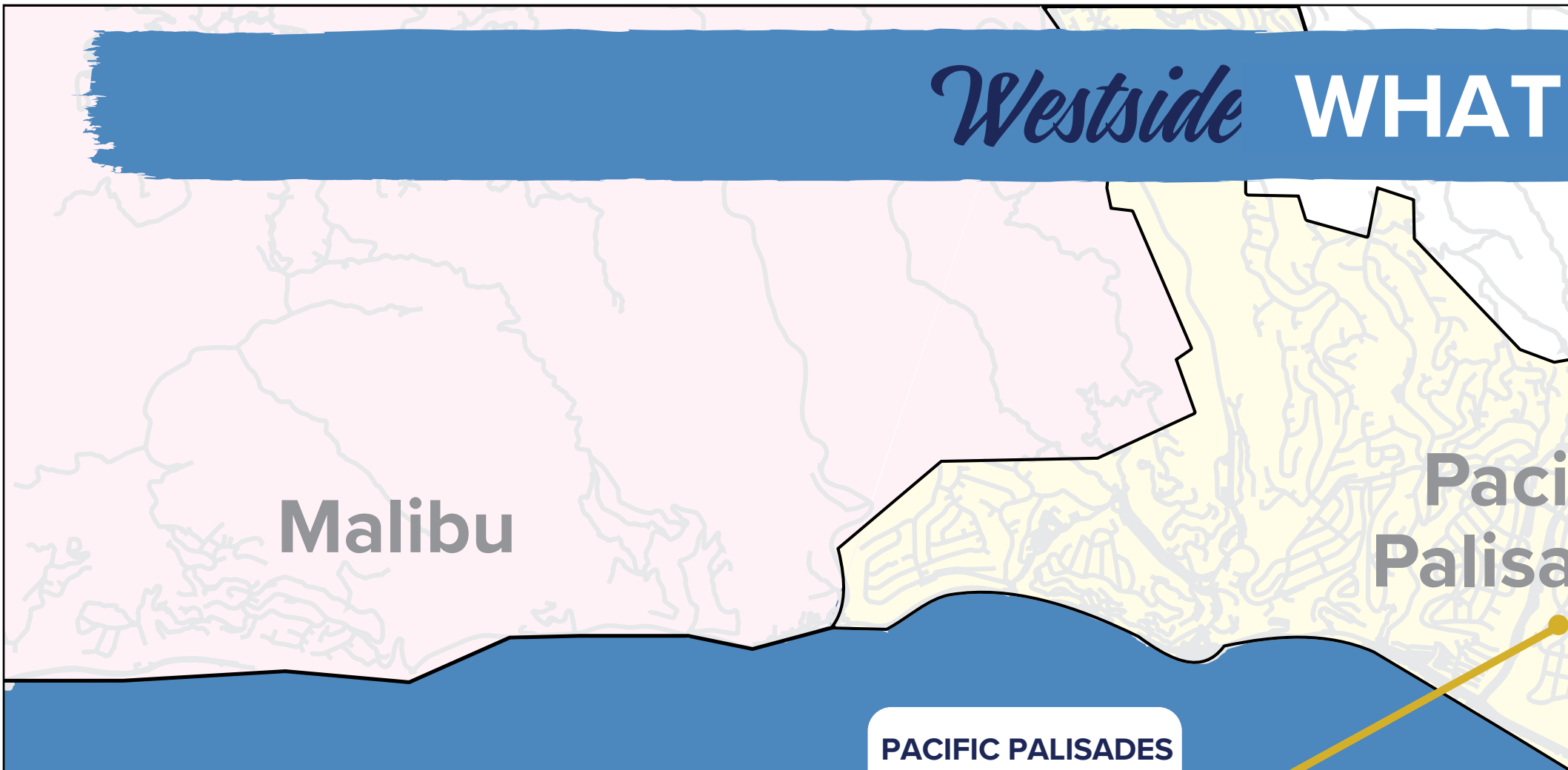


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& Anna Solomon, DRE #00850601  
• Douglas Elliman of California, Inc.

### SANTA MONICA

# \$7,495,000

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Listed by Veronica Klein,  
• DRE #01218557  
• Compass

### SANTA MONICA

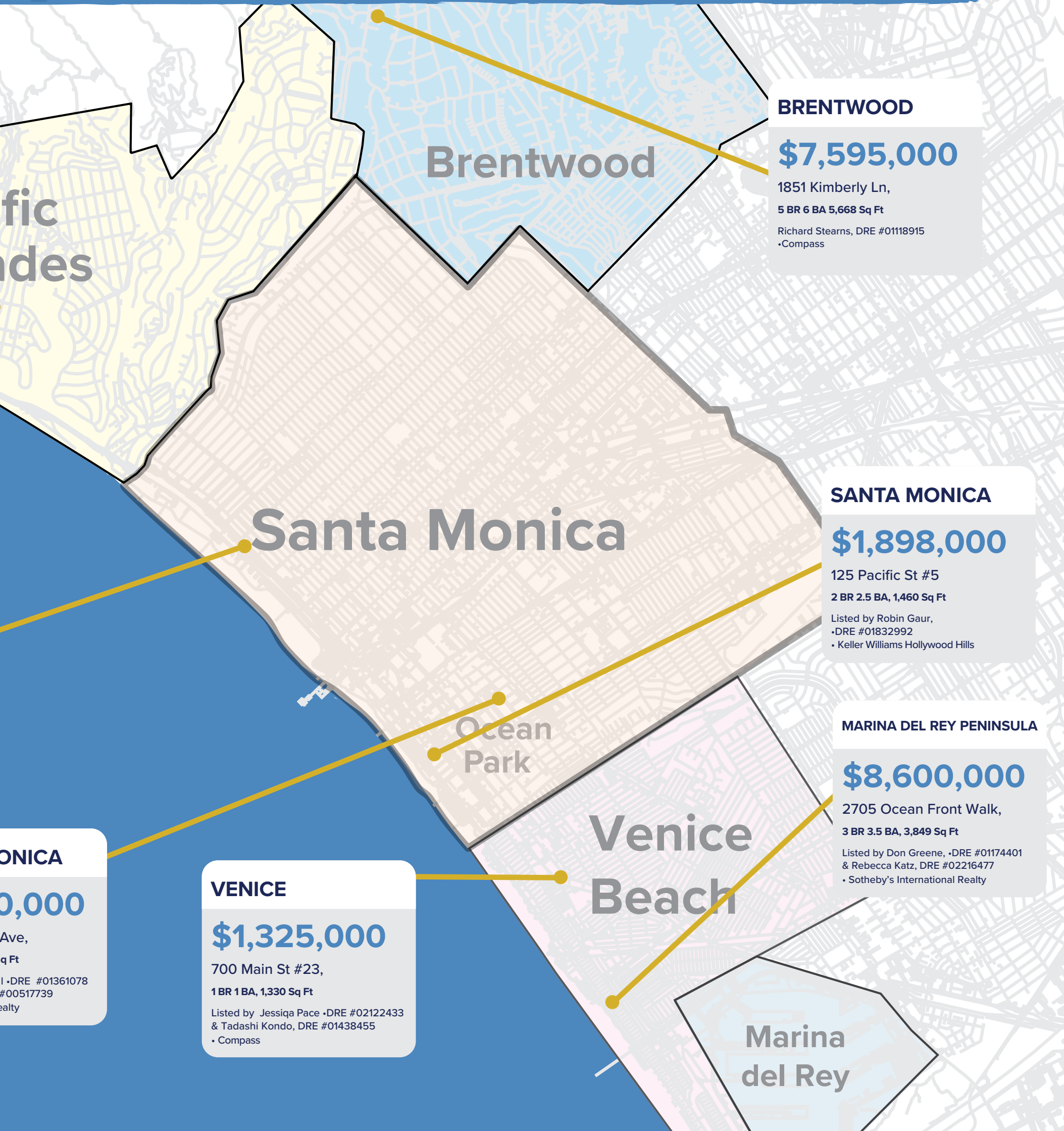
# \$6,250,000

2419 Beverley Ave,

6 BR 6.5 BA, 7,203 Sq Ft

Listed by Brian Strahm,  
& Michele Hall, DRE #01218557  
• Coldwell Banker Realty

# A VIEW!



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## Brentwood

### BRENTWOOD

**\$7,595,000**

1851 Kimberly Ln,  
5 BR 6 BA 5,668 Sq Ft

Richard Stearns, DRE #01118915  
•Compass

## Santa Monica

### SANTA MONICA

**\$1,898,000**

125 Pacific St #5  
2 BR 2.5 BA, 1,460 Sq Ft

Listed by Robin Gaur,  
•DRE #01832992  
• Keller Williams Hollywood Hills

## Ocean Park

### MARINA DEL REY PENINSULA

**\$8,600,000**

2705 Ocean Front Walk,  
3 BR 3.5 BA, 3,849 Sq Ft

Listed by Don Greene, •DRE #01174401  
& Rebecca Katz, DRE #02216477  
• Sotheby's International Realty

## Venice Beach

### VENICE

**\$1,325,000**

700 Main St #23,  
1 BR 1 BA, 1,330 Sq Ft

Listed by Jessiqa Pace •DRE #02122433  
& Tadashi Kondo, DRE #01438455  
• Compass

## Marina del Rey

### SANTA MONICA

**\$1,000,000**

Ave,  
Sq Ft  
•DRE #01361078  
#00517739  
ealty

**BUSINESS**

FROM PAGE 1

At the opening, Mayor Phil Brock noted he's made a stop "or two" to Ghirardelli's Chocolate Experience in San Francisco, and added that the store will become one of the Instagram hotspots of the city.

"We're going to see people walking down the streets eating those Ghirardelli bites, those great sundaes (and) that scrumptious hot chocolate," Brock said.

The square bites come in styles like Intense Dark and White Chocolate Caramel, available for purchase in individual pieces or 80-piece gift bags. The in-store specialty is the collection of sundaes, ranging from Caramel Almond and Mint Bliss to Strawberry Passion and Chocolate Lover's. A limited-edition Peppermint Bark sundae is also available in time for the holiday season.

Zane added that the brand owns its chocolate making process "from bean to bar" and offers "something really different and really special." The storefront was made with the same motivations, perfecting the design to match the Santa Monica scene.

"You'll see some similar tonality to what you see in (San Francisco), but we wanted to bring a little bit more



**OPEN:** The Third Street Promenade welcomed retail hybrid location Outlandish on Thursday with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Photo by Thomas Leffler

of a Santa Monica beach feel, since we're right off of the water," Zane said. "What you'll see is white light and (a) bright kind of a space, something where somebody's very comfortable to rest and relax and enjoy a treat."

Outlandish, a blend of the online and offline consumer experience, gave a guided walkthrough to media and guests before opening its doors. The location hosts businesses and online content creators in livestreaming booths where they sell products to a global audience, also keeping stock in-store for customers to grab in-person.

The space is the brainchild of Outlandish CEO and Creative Director William August, who took part in the opening ceremony alongside Santa Monica officials and business partners.

"Right now, we essentially not only offer the space, but also the operational services for brands, if they're a local brand, (to) sell to a global audience through live stream," August told the Daily Press in October. "Or if they're a global brand, sell in-person experiences, retail experiences in person."

For more information on Ghirardelli Chocolate, visit [ghirardelli.com](http://ghirardelli.com). For more information on Outlandish, visit [outlandishdigital.us](http://outlandishdigital.us).

[thomas@smdp.com](mailto:thomas@smdp.com)

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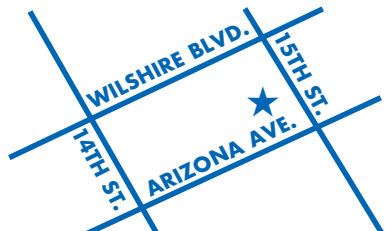
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**BOOK**

FROM PAGE 1

book "The Child Catcher," a follow-up to his bestselling memoir "Hope's Boy." The new work chronicles Bridge's role in the longest-running mental health lawsuit in American history, helping to represent the children of the institution Eufaula Adolescent Center against the State of Alabama.

Bridge's credentials besides author are remarkable, having spent 11 years in Los Angeles County foster care before earning a scholarship to Wesleyan University and graduating from Harvard Law School. Aside from his work in Alabama, he turned his attention to Los Angeles once again as CEO of The Alliance for Children's Rights, successfully suing Los Angeles County over its practice of not allowing foster children to see and speak with a social worker.

In his position with the Alliance, he was on the ground floor of conversations regarding RTS, a Santa Monica-based career and personal development program that provides youth impacted by foster care (as well as low-income first-generation college students) with resources and opportunities to thrive professionally and personally.

"(They were) kind enough to ask to sit down with me before they even started and asked, what do you think about this idea?" Bridge said. "And the moment I heard it, (I thought) it's a brilliant idea, (because) you need to have successful outcomes for kids ... a kid that normally graduates from college, graduates from high school, they still got a family, and they still got lots of ways and lots of supports (if) they stumble, and a foster child doesn't have that. Ready To Succeed allows that to happen and catches them."

His feedback to the RTS team was making sure the organization understood "the unique needs of children in foster care," particularly the demands on children who may have mental health issues coming out of foster care, as well as honing in on job opportunities that foster children may not be privy to otherwise.

"If you need a job, you have no employment experience at all, because growing up in the foster system, very few kids have things like a summer job," Bridge said. "There are reasons why parents say to (their) kid, you gotta have a summer job, because you'll learn a lot of things during that time period. They're things that we just really take for granted."

Another facet of RTS is the ability to cover expenses during schooling. One of these

prime expenses is rent, in which a California Cities, Counties and School Partnership study in 2007 stated that 29% of foster youth would be unable to pay coming out of the system.

Aside from rent, emergency expenses and unexpected bills are other hurdles children in the system may not be able to handle, with Bridge using a simple \$150 car expense as an example.

"That's not really a problem (for non-foster youth) ... it just gets taken care of," Bridge said. "For a young adult who's left foster care, that is a big problem, that money isn't there, and when you need 150 bucks and you don't have it, that's a big problem. That's the sort of thing that Ready To Succeed looks out for and protects and provides, and so they're just side-by-side, recognizing the vulnerability of these kids and that they need the same supports that every other kid needs."

RTS Founder Romi Lassally was part of the book celebration event, stating that the organization "felt it was vital to share his journey."

"His experience underscores a need to reimagine our approach, where families are supported and empowered rather than divided, and where children, especially those institutionalized, receive the resources and understanding to truly heal," Lassally stated. "At RTS, we're committed to helping youth overcome trauma and prepare for a future filled with possibility, and Andrew's story reminds us of the urgency of this work."

"The Child Catcher" is already a bestseller six weeks after release, something that Bridge calls "pretty cool," wanting the message of protecting foster children from unjust harm to turn into action locally. Stating that while Los Angeles has "done some things quite well" in improving its foster system, the county still over-reports, over-investigates and over-detains children of color, something he needs parents and advocates area-wide to call attention to.

"As a child travels through foster care at every single major point, a child of color ... is likely to do worse than his or her white peer," Bridge added. "A black child is less likely to receive mental health services than a white child. A black child is less likely to be adopted. A black child is less likely to ever go home."

For more information on "The Child Catcher," visit [andrewbridgeauthor.com](http://andrewbridgeauthor.com). For more information on Ready To Succeed, visit [readytosucceedla.org](http://readytosucceedla.org).

[thomas@smdp.com](mailto:thomas@smdp.com)



Courtesy Photo

**BOOK:** Andrew Bridge recently celebrated the release of his new book "The Child Catcher" with nonprofit Ready to Succeed.

**SHOOTING**

FROM PAGE 1

occurrence.

In the same statement, SMPD said it understands that building and maintaining trust between the police department and the community requires openness and transparency in all matters, especially the use of deadly force by a police officer.

"On October 5, 2024, a Santa Monica police officer was involved in a fatal Officer Involved Shooting (OIS) with an armed subject in front of the police station. To abide by state law and, most importantly, to ensure our community is engaged, the SMPD has created a Critical Incident Community Debriefing Video to provide insight into and context for the OIS," the statement said.

The video combines footage from several sources including security cameras and officer body cameras. It shows Deyaa Abdelhadi Halaibeh entering the Target store in Downtown Santa Monica and assaulting an employee to steal a knife set. It then shows Halaibeh approach the police station and use the call button to request an officer.

When an officer exits the building on an unrelated call, Halaibeh stops him to

talk. During the brief conversation, Halaibeh keeps one hand inside his jacket pocket and when the officer says he feels nervous about the situation, Halaibeh draws the knife and lunges at the officer.

The officer flees around the corner and footage shows Halaibeh give chase before attacking again in an attempt to wrest control of the officer's now drawn gun. The gun discharges and as the officer backs away, Halaibeh retrieves the knife and advances on the officer who fires several more times hitting Halaibeh.

Several officers can be seen rendering medical aid but Halaibeh died from his wounds.

According to the video, the incident is the subject of two investigations, one by the County District Attorney's office and the other from SMPD's internal affairs unit.

The police department said Halaibeh, 28, is originally from New York State and had been in the area for about a week. SMPD said his housing status is currently unknown but he has no criminal history in California and no prior contacts with the Santa Monica Police Department.

[scott.snowden@smdp.com](mailto:scott.snowden@smdp.com)

**CORRECTION:** In the November 20 story, "Local progressive candidates deemed 'bright spot' despite defeats elsewhere," it was incorrectly reported that Councilmember-elect Dan Hall said Barry Snell was the first Black Councilmember in decades. Hall said Snell is the second Black man elected, the first in decades. Also in the article, Hall was noted as the first openly homosexual person on Council. Hall is the first openly gay man to serve on Council, as Judy Abdo was the first open lesbian on Council.

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Santa Monica Daily Press



## A tale of two retailers: Target reports sluggish spending while Walmart has a stellar quarter

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO

AP Retail Writer

Target has reported sluggish sales and slumping profits in the fiscal third quarter as inflation-weary customers curtailed their spending on apparel and other non-essentials.

The Minneapolis retailer fell short of Wall Street expectations for the quarter, and its profit and sales outlook for the final three months of the year also disappointed industry analysts. Costs related to a U.S. dockworkers' strike in October also dragged on Target's results at a time when Americans are spending more selectively, the company said.

"We encountered some unique challenges and cost pressures that impacted our bottom-line performance," Target Chairman and CEO Brian Cornell said.

The weak August through October period at Target stood in stark contrast to the third quarter of low-price rival Walmart, which reported another quarter of stellar sales Tuesday and released optimistic projections for the holiday season.

Target's outlook was particularly concerning because the discount merchandiser reduced prices on more than 2,000 products for the holidays and rolled out a Thanksgiving dinner deal that put the cost of the holiday meal below last year's total.

Target's shares plummeted more than 21% in afternoon trading Wednesday, while Walmart's share rose nearly 3%, closing at \$86.60 on Tuesday.

The disappointing quarter at Target may have reflected the financial circumstances and mood of U.S. consumers in the months before Election Day. Even as the overall inflation rate came down, voters told pollsters they were unhappy with the state of the economy when the costs of housing, food and other essentials remained so high compared to before the coronavirus pandemic.

Customers are "being very patient, shopping for promos, looking for great value on those essential items that they need for their pantry," Cornell told reporters on Tuesday. "And they're shopping very conservatively and have been in discretionary categories throughout the year."

That consumer sentiment wasn't aligned in Target's favor. Groceries account for about 60% of Walmart's U.S. business, according to the Arkansas-based company's most recent annual report. Target is more reliant on discretionary items like clothing and accessories because less than a quarter of its sales come from food and beverages.

"All these things undermine the Target model, which partly relies on a robust consumer who is comfortable loading their cart with things that they want but do not absolutely need," Neil Saunders, managing director of research firm GlobalData, said.

Walmart's size also makes it difficult for its competitor to prevail on price. Walmart operates nearly 5,000 stores in the U.S. and generated annual sales of \$611.3 billion in the year ended Jan. 31, 2024. In contrast, Target operates 1,900 stores and generated sales of \$107.4 billion in the latest fiscal year.

And even if Target has prices that are lower than or equal to Walmart's on some items, it has always battled a perception of being more expensive, Saunders said.

Their marketing slogans reinforce that perception: Target's is "Expect More. Pay

Less." Walmart's is "Every Day Low Prices."

Target recorded its lackluster quarterly sales even as it has moved aggressively to cut prices. For the summer, it lowered prices on thousands of necessities ranging from diapers to milk. By the end of December, the company said it will have reduced the prices of over 10,000 items during the year.

Analysts also say that Target has faced stiffer competition from Walmart when it comes to discretionary items like home goods and apparel. Over the past few years, Walmart has added mannequins in its fashion departments and spruced up its fashion selection with more stylish items.

While Target has refreshed its food offerings, Walmart recently launched Bettergoods, its biggest store-label food brand in 20 years in terms of the breadth of items, seeking to appeal to younger customers who are not loyal to grocery brands and want chef-inspired foods that are more affordably priced. The colorfully packaged products include pistachio nut butter and smokey vanilla ground coffee.

Walmart said it's been gaining market share, especially among households with incomes over \$100,000. Walmart's online shopping services, which included curbside order pickups, and its paid membership shipping program, Walmart+, also have helped attract wealthier customers.

In response, Target has tried to step up its game. In April, it unveiled a paid membership program called Target Circle 360, which comes with unlimited free same-day delivery for orders over \$35 and free two-day shipping for all orders.

Saunders noted that Target has also struggled with operational issues.

Target, like other retailers, had to reroute merchandise when 45,000 dockworkers went on strike. For Walmart, the walkout seemed to cause a hiccup. But the strike took a toll on Target's profits as it struggled with inventory buildup in its warehouses.

Target posted net income of \$854 million, or \$1.85 per share, in the quarter, far short of the \$2.30 analysts were looking for, according to FactSet, and down from \$971 million, or \$2.10 per share, in the year-ago period.

Sales rose to \$25.67 billion, up from \$25.4 billion last year, but fell shy of expectations.

Target said that it now expects its earnings per share to be in the range of \$1.85 to \$2.45 for its fiscal fourth quarter. That's below the \$2.65 per share expected by analysts.

The retailer reported that its comparable sales — those from stores and digital channels operating for at least 12 months — rose 0.3% during the third quarter. That's below the 2% gain posted in the second quarter. The increase in the April-June period reversed months of declines, including a 3.7% drop in the first quarter and a 4.4% decline during the company's final quarter of 2023.

There were some bright spots. Target said quarterly customer traffic increased 2.4%. Target executives said that translates to 10 million more sales transactions from a year ago. Digital comparable sales also increased 10.8%, reflecting a 20% increase in same-day delivery.

President-elect Donald Trump's campaign promises to impose sweeping tariffs on imports from other countries will create challenges for Target and other retailers. Retailers have warned they would be forced to pass the costs of higher tariffs on to shoppers.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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## PETITION TO ADMIN ESTATE

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: Nicholas Rockefeller CASE NUMBER: 24STPB12473 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of Nicholas Rockefeller A Petition for Probate has been filed by Steven A. Blum the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles-Stanley Mosk Courthouse. The Petition for Probate requests Steven A. Blum appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. The Petition requests the decedent's will codicils, if any be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal

representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows: Date: Dec 10th, 2024 Time: 8:30 a.m Dept. 79 Room - Address of Court: Stanley Mosk Courthouse 111 N. Hill St Los Angeles, CA 90012 If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by

the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Steven A Blum (133208) Blum Collins & Ho, LLP 707 Wilshire Blvd Suite 4880 Los Angeles, CA 90017 Tel (213) 572-0400 Email: [blum@blumcollins10/14/24](mailto:blum@blumcollins10/14/24), 10/21/24, 10/28/24

## NAME CHANGE

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Case No. 24VECP00500 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles Petition of Nasim Khonsari for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Nasim Khonsari a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Nasim Khonsari to Nasim Khonsari Neshat

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 12/05/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: T Room: 600 The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA - COUNTY

OF LOS ANGELES 6230 Sylmar Ave Van Nuys, CA 91401 . A 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. 24SMCP00552 Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles Petition of Daniel Allan Hillier for Change of Name TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner or Attorney: Daniel Allan Hillier filed a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Daniel Allan Hillier to Danilo

Felice Hillier-Ciccione 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 12/13/2024 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K , Room: The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF Los Angeles 1725 Main Street Santa Monica, CA 90401. A 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.

## AUCTION SALE NOTICE

Notice of Auction of Title This is notice of sale of a title. Any inquiries can be made to phone # 702-530-9812 or to email at [yoshiyah1969@gmail.com](mailto:yoshiyah1969@gmail.com). Auction to be held on December 2, 2024 at 8:00am at the steps of the county public library located at 601 W Lancaster Blvd, Lancaster, CA

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Santa Monica Daily Press

**Agnes**

By TONY COCHRAN



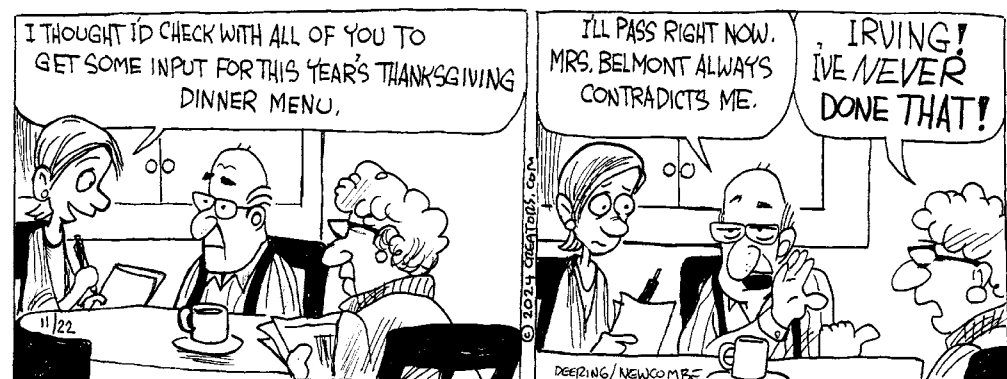
**Dogs of C-Kennel**

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



**Zack Hill**

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



**Heathcliff**

By PETER GALLAGHER



"WE FINALLY BOUGHT OUR DREAM HOUSE."

**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 21 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

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**The pursuit of happiness**

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

- |            |             |           |
|------------|-------------|-----------|
| Adore      | Glad        | Open      |
| Aglow      | Great       | Opportune |
| Amiable    | Grin        | Peace     |
| Bliss      | Heaven      | Perky     |
| Carefree   | High        | Play      |
| Chat       | In awe      | Please    |
| Comedy     | Invigorated | Relaxed   |
| Content    | Joy         | Savor     |
| Droll      | Laugh       | Smiling   |
| Euphoria   | Lovely      | Sweet     |
| Exultation | Lucky       | Thrilled  |
| Fine       | Nice        | Triumph   |
| Funny      | Nirvana     | Vivacity  |

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

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**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 22)**

You're already an incredibly special and unique force in the world. Knowing you have nothing to prove only makes you bolder in your pursuit of the aims that make your heart sing. Remarkable breakthroughs start small, but by your next birthday, your scene is completely transformed. More highlights: business expansion, lucky encounters with strangers and a dream vacation. Leo and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 1, 17, 13 and 28.

**HOROSCOPES**

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). People are very much in the moment with you today, and this highlights the importance of creating good work, fun and help right now. Your past work won't matter, which is a blessing that keeps you moving forward. You'll get what you put in.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). Important work goes unacknowledged, while flashier feats garner attention and praise. This allows the important work to be done with great integrity, not to please anyone, but to get it right.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Curiosity and the spirit of inclusivity will take you to unexpected places. As you extend trust and make known your willingness to learn, life gets increasingly interesting. This is just the beginning of the fun.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Prize connection before popularity. Trying to please will only water down your voice. Speak from your unique perspective, knowing that not everyone will resonate with it, and that's how it's supposed to be.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You overthink things because you care and because you sense that getting the details right will win the endeavor. You're right. But once you hit that point where you start looping back on things you've already considered, it's time to change the channel and move on.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Time is the canvas where relationships are painted. Don't rush the brushstrokes. This is the fun part — filling in the space with shared experiences that create something beautiful for you both.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The adjustments you make to help another person feel comfortable and supported will prove immensely rewarding. While this journey requires time and effort, the love you cultivate will be worth every step.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Ask for inspiration, and it will ask for your attention in return. Inspiration and attention are like two dancers moving in sync. The more you notice, the more you'll be moved.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You might be doing a job better than you ever have, but it's still taking the same amount of time. This is part of mastery — devoting yourself to the process no matter how long it takes.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Just because you love someone with a true and complete kind of love doesn't mean the relationship will be easy. In fact, love tends to ramp up the complexity, raise the stakes and thicken the plot. Good thing it's worth it.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When you don't know what to say, that's a good sign. It means you recognize the complexity of the situation and you respect the other person's needs enough to listen carefully to understand them. When your ears are satisfied, the right words will come.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). You're keen to adapt, evolve and reflect the world around you. You'll stay relevant to shifting landscapes, but more importantly, you'll walk with a sense of connection to all you share with others.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

**Newsday Crossword**

**BOOKENDS** by Kevin Christian  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

**ACROSS**

- 1 Trail
- 4 Already, in Arles
- 8 Hit the ceiling
- 13 Trail of a sort
- 15 Take in a newspaper
- 16 High Court name
- 17 "Wait one minute!"
- 18 Do garden work
- 19 Exploits
- 20 Reason for rookie rake-ins
- 23 Oddly unexpected
- 24 Subject to strain
- 25 Oral outburst
- 28 St. with just three counties
- 29 Lone Star linebacker
- 32 Typical Bahraini
- 33 Name that's an "Alice" anagram
- 34 Film
- 35 Key constituent
- 39 Loathsome
- 40 Lose firmness
- 41 Carry out
- 42 Stopped dreaming
- 44 Administrative division
- 47 So says
- 48 Consume slowly
- 49 Much-honored novelist Allende
- 51 Swimmer's propulsion aid
- 55 Where it's at
- 57 Help for skatepark tricks
- 58 Put a name to
- 59 Seating option
- 60 Tuscan river

**DOWN**

- 1 Winning estimate, often
- 2 Remain loyal
- 3 More than a decillion cubed
- 4 Known inside-out
- 5 One-on-one sport
- 6 Sound that some fans make
- 7 Enlarges
- 8 Back again
- 9 Name like Xander
- 10 Nerdy fashion trend
- 11 Quit
- 12 *CSI* franchise regulars
- 14 Water fall
- 21 With elegance
- 22 Nonclerical
- 26 Last *Casablanca* speaker
- 27 Go on too long
- 30 Game system that sounds tiny
- 31 Two-letter theme of the puzzle
- 32 Overflow (over)
- 33 Charlotte or Sydney
- 34 Kid-lit sister of Peter
- 35 Innocent person
- 36 Tech support callers
- 37 Common MBA

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- 34 Kid-lit sister of Peter
- 35 Innocent person
- 36 Tech support callers
- 37 Common MBA

- prerequisite
- 38 Stock holder
- 39 Alphabetical trio
- 42 Mental agility
- 43 Shows often with subtitles
- 44 Withstands
- 45 Not long past
- 46 1/20, in '25
- 48 One home on the range
- 50 Closely related
- 52 It's a half-hr. drive from the Rose Bowl
- 53 Thinly distributed
- 54 "Whatever"
- 55 Letters associated with 52-Down
- 56 Shortened "short"

**Sudoku**

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12
13			14		15				16				
17					18				19				
20				21					22				
23							24				25	26	27
28				29		30	31			32			
				33						34			
		35	36					37	38				
39							40						
41					42	43					44	45	46
47					48				49		50		
				51	52				53	54			
55	56						57				58		
59							60				61		
62							63					64	

GOOGLE

FROM PAGE 3

widespread illegal conduct over more than a decade requires more than contract restrictions: it requires a range of remedies to create enduring competition," Karyl Bazbaz, DuckDuckGo's senior vice president of public affairs, said in a statement.

Trying to break up Google harks back to a similar punishment initially imposed on

Microsoft a quarter century ago following another major antitrust trial that culminated in a federal judge deciding the software maker had illegally used his Windows operating system for PCs to stifle competition.

However, an appeals court overturned an order that would have broken up Microsoft, a precedent many experts believe will make Mehta reluctant to go down a similar road with the Google case.

COMEDY

FROM PAGE 2

may have benefited more subtly from stand-up's proliferation.

Much was made of Trump's extemporaneous speaking style — what he referred to as "the weave" — in which his hourlong speeches meandered through stories, digressions, movie references and obscenities.

As political speech, it was unconventional, but it bore many of stand-up's hallmarks: deliberate provocations, trademark punchlines and callbacks eventually wrapping it all together.

"Because some of the things he says seem like they're so off-center, people take it as a joke," said Shilpa Davé, a University of Virginia professor of media studies. "The kind of comedy that he's doing doesn't come off as threatening, it comes off as acceptable."

It also posed problems for journalists covering his speeches: When he said he would be a dictator for a day, or inveighed against "enemies from within," or promised to round

up and deport millions of immigrants in the U.S. without authorization, was he laying out policies or joking around?

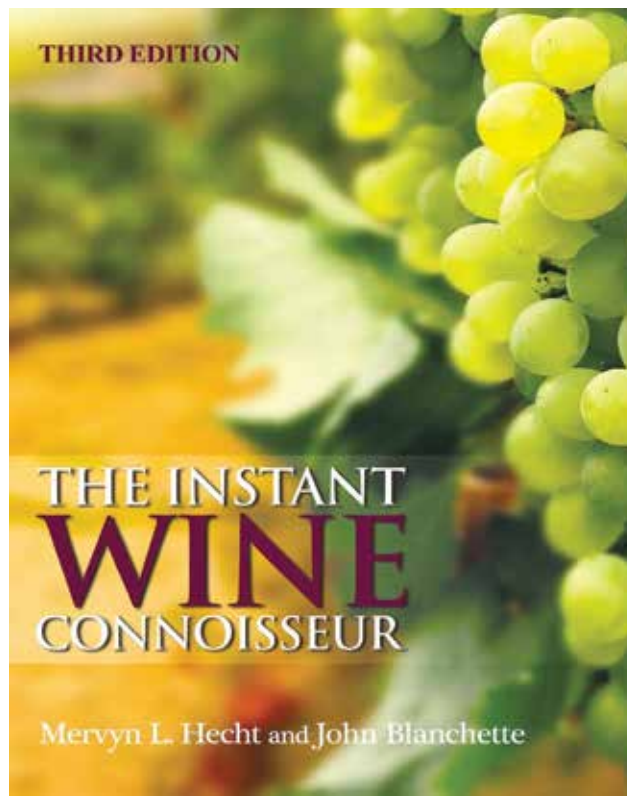
"You can first denounce what journalists do by having called everything they say 'fake news,' and then you can denounce what they expose by saying they just don't get it — the stand-up comedy defense," said Robert Thompson, a professor of television and popular culture at Syracuse University.

There were times when the jokes didn't land — but they weren't his. Trump faced outrage after Tony Hinchcliffe, another comedian with a roast-style podcast, referred to Puerto Rico as a "floating island of garbage" and made other racist jokes at a rally. The campaign distanced itself from Hinchcliffe as Puerto Rican celebrities backed Harris and commentators wondered if it would turn off Latino voters.

"Imagine bombing so hard you save america from fascism," comedian Zack Bornstein posted on X.

But barely a week later, it was Trump who brought the house down.

★★★★★ A light-hearted fun read.  
★★★★★ Well written, particularly useful, instantly accessible.  
★★★★★ ...Hecht has a joyful eye and fabulous taste



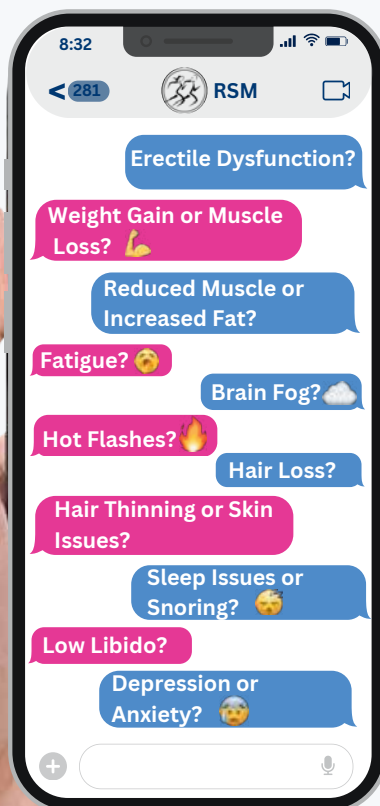
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Monday-Friday  
5pm to 6:30pm



## Menu

### FOOD

**Crocchette di pollo 12**  
Chicken croquettes, mozzarella, San Marzano tomato purée

**Arancini di carne e mozzarella 13**  
Crispy rice balls, mozzarella, beef ragout San Marzano tomato purée

**Calamari fritti 9**  
The classic, Calabrian chili aioli

**Truffle fries 8**  
Truffle fries, grated Parmigiano, truffle zest (vegetarian)

**Bruschetta 9**  
Toasted ciabatta bread cherry tomatoes, basil balsamic glaze (vegan)

### COCKTAIL

**Spicy Margarita 9**  
House tequila, agave, organic lime

**Old fashioned 10**  
House bourbon, maraschino cherry, organic sugar

**Classic Martini 11**  
House vodka or gin, twist or olives

### WINE

**Classic Spritz 9**  
Aperol, prosecco

**Pinot Grigio Valdadige 8**  
Dry and crisp white wine

**Chardonnay Maddalena 10**  
Oakly and aromatic white wine

**Montepulciano d' Abruzzo Marramiero 9**  
Dry and medium body red wine

**Cabernet Sauvignon Scotto 10**  
Aromatic and full body red wine

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