



Christian Sanders, from left, with dad Chuck Sanders, and grandfather Stephen White at a baseball game.



Stephen Freedman is with daughter, Olivia. Almost five, she loves art, animals, puzzles, sports, and her dog.

Celebrating Fathers and Families



Czarina and Maykayla join their dad, Ceazar Cailipan, for a fun lunch in the South Bay.



Finnley, left, and Grace, right, with their dad, Craig Clark, on the way to see his art at a Burbank gallery.



Richard Lombardi with granddaughter, Aurora, two, at the carousel.



Victoria and her dad, Fred Scotti, love to horseback ride together in the desert. **(More on Page 12)**

Dads and Daughters

By Julia Abbott

Many kids have the idea that their Dads are superheroes. It's intrinsic. Then, the teenage stage enters and the relationship grows a little more real. Dads stop being all-powerful, perfect beings, and suddenly become real humans.

It took going to college for me to realize how special my dad is. When I tell my friends stories about him, facets of his life and personality I always took for granted, their mouths always open in awe. The funny dinner table stories that have littered my childhood aren't funny to others; they're amazing. When I saw how people look at him from the outside, I realized that my dad was more special than I ever imagined.

I began to reevaluate all the things I took for granted about my



Julia and her father, Bruce.

dad. His endless humor, his steadfastness, his reliability, his intelligence, and his gentle, unflappable nature were qualities I assumed all fathers possessed. Instead, a

(Continued on Page 8)

Santa Monica Family YMCA Welcomes New CEO Hodge Patterson

By Eduardo Lowe

We at the Y are happy to introduce the new CEO of the Santa Monica Family YMCA, Hodge Patterson. He brings a wealth of experience and a fresh perspective to our community. Hodge previously served as the Executive Director at the North Rutherford Family YMCA in Middle Tennessee, where he demonstrated exceptional leadership in overseeing facility operations, philanthropy, and community engagement. He also actively participated in various organizations, such as the Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Rutherford, and Rotary, while he sponsored the Rotary Interact Club at a local high school to nurture young minds.

Before joining the YMCA, Hodge honed his coaching, administration, and marketing skills within the sports industry. He established successful corporate partnerships and executed memorable



Hodge Patterson is the new CEO at the Santa Monica Family YMCA on Sixth Street.

events through his work with college athletic departments. Hodge's commitment to excellence and innovation will undoubtedly bring new opportunities to the Santa

(Continued on Page 9)

Sharing History With a Contemporary Audience

By Kathy Lo

This April I attended the Society of California Archivists Annual General Meeting in Sacramento. The theme was "History By the People." (calarchivists.org/session-descriptions-2023.)

I joined Carolyn Edwards (Quinn Research Center) and Sara Crown (formerly of the Santa Monica History Museum) to present a session titled *Collaborating To Share 'Hidden' History*.

Our goal was to demonstrate a real-world instance of how three different kinds of organizations (QRC – a private archive, SMHM – a history museum, and SMPL – a public library) utilized archival materials to reveal the hidden history of the ethnically diverse Broadway neighborhood and share that history with a contemporary audience. Last year QRC partnered with the SMHM to mount the *Broadway to Freeway: Life and Times of a Vibrant Community* exhibition (<https://santamonica.org>)

(Continued on Page 3)



Carolyn Edwards, Sara Crown, and Kathy Lo

Do You Recognize These Neighborhood Celebrities?

(Answer on Page 4)



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Discover What's Happening on the Westside

By Pamela Lawrence

• **Ongoing Daily to October - Santa Monica Splash Pad** - The Splash Pad is a water feature that shoots water out of the ground and is very popular with small children. Open daily, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Annenberg Community Beach House at Santa Monica State Beach.

• **The month-long celebration SaMo PRIDE returns in June** with activities and experiences that honor the LGBTQ+ community. Made with PRIDE Marketplace, a unique retail pop-up, will be hosted every Friday through Sunday in June at Santa Monica Place on Level One. The Marketplace showcases over a dozen LGBTQ+ business owners, featuring local goods and services made, conceived, and curated in Southern California. For more events, go to smpride.com.

• **Saturday, June 3 - Upcoming Reframe: City Hall Mural Project Event - Other Histories of Santa Monica** - In this part-lecture and part-workshop, delve into the histories of the communities and locales that are not represented in the mural, and discuss decolonial approaches to recording history and transmitting stories of place, belonging, and connectedness. 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., Santa Monica History Museum, 1350 7th St.

• **Saturday, June 3 - Soundwaves New Music Concert** - Soundwaves celebrates L.A.'s diverse history of innovative underground music. 3:30 p.m.- 4:30 p.m., Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. The Smudges, violinist Jeff Gauthier, and cellist Maggie Parkins

perform original music incorporating improvisation and electronics.

• **Ongoing until the end of July, first and third Saturdays in June (3, 17) - Santa Monica Conservancy Downtown Walking Tour** - Discover downtown Santa Monica's architecture, history, and culture with a team of highly-rated docents. From Art Deco to Victorian and Romanesque Revival, you'll explore the various styles that fill the streets of our city. 10 a.m., Hostelling International, 1436 Second Street. For tickets, email: info@smconservancy.org.

• **Sunday, June 4 - Goat Yoga by Hello Critter** - Enjoy communing with gentle goats while engaging in a fun, lighthearted practice taught by a certified yoga instructor. Connect with your "inner kid" while moving through a sequence suitable for all levels. The Nigerian Dwarf kids will open your heart, widen your smile, deepen your stretch, and strengthen your core while they weave thru class, interacting with each participant; nimbly jumping on, rebounding off, trotting under and crawling through various postures of the human playground created by attendees. 9 a.m.-10:30 a.m., Marine Park (next to tennis courts), 1406 Marine St. Visit: <https://laughingfroggyoga.com/> to purchase tickets, or call 210-448-4848 for details.

• **Monday, June 5 - World Environment Day**

• **Tuesday, June 6 - Rainbow Family Storytime** - Celebrate LGBTQIA+ Pride Month with an inclusive storytime for LGBTQIA+ and ally families. 10:30 a.m. -

11 a.m., S.M. Main Library, Youth Activity Room. For ages three and up.

• **Saturday, June 10 and Sunday, June 11 - American Indian Arts Marketplace** - You are welcome to celebrate contemporary and traditional Native art forms. View and purchase one-of-a-kind artwork, jewelry, and fashion. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. both days. The Autry Museum in Griffith Park, 4700 Western Heritage Way, L.A. For details, call 323-667-2000.

• **Sunday, June 11 - National Children's Day**

• **Wednesday, June 14 - Flag Day**

• **Saturday, June 17 - Guided Spiritual Practice: Santa Monica** - Experience a guided spiritual practice based on the teachings of Paramhansa Yogananda, including Energization Exercises, Ananda Yoga Postures with affirmations, and Devotional Chanting. 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m., Colorado Center, Community Room, 2500 Broadway. Bring your yoga mat and meditation cushion. Chairs are provided.

Suggested \$10 donation. Walk-ins welcome.

• **June 17 - Open House for new Quinn Gallery** - Santa Monica History Museum. 11 a.m. Details: 310-395-2290.

• **Sunday, June 18 - Father's Day**

• **Monday, June 19 - Juneteenth**

• **Wednesday, June 21 - Summer Solstice**

• **Saturday and Sunday, June 24 and 25 - Summerfest 2023** - Outdoor music festival presented by New West Symphony, in partnership with Moorpark College. This will be a family-friendly weekend of high-caliber, multi-genre entertainment ranging from classic rock, country, and jazz, culminating with a screening of the 1981 original *Raiders of the Lost Ark* film, performed live with the full 50-piece symphony. Location is Moorpark College. For tickets, visit newwestsymphony.org/summerfest, or call 866.776.8400.

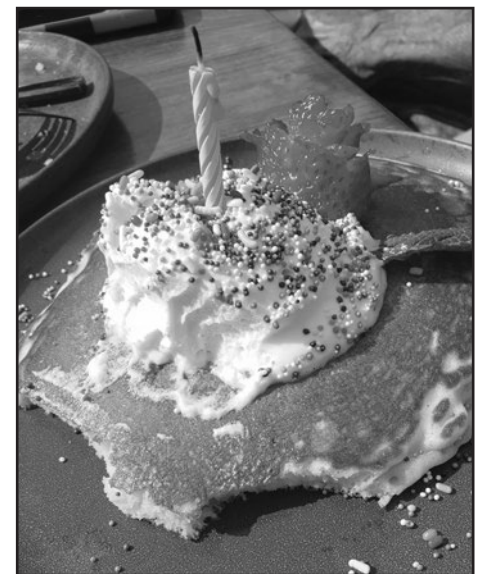


Brentwood Resident Scott Cohen Awarded \$30,000 Grant to Benefit Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times

Celebrating the philanthropic work of its financial advisors, Northwestern Mutual has recognized those who have shown outstanding volunteerism and leadership through its 2023 Community Service Awards. Now in its 28th year, the awards program is distributing \$270,000 to non-profits nationwide.

Brentwood resident Scott Cohen, a wealth management advisor at Northwestern Mutual - Los Angeles, has been named a 2023 Most Exceptional Community Service Award winner, receiving a \$25,000 grant for Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times. Scott has also received an additional \$5,000 grant for supporting an organization with a connection to the company's Childhood Cancer Program - a decade-long initiative that benefits children with cancer by funding research and supporting families affected by the disease.

(Continued on Page 9)



Celebrate your birthday with a delicious pancake at Flapjax on Wilshire. As you see, we couldn't wait to take a bite.

Happy June Birthdays to:

David Trachtenberg, Michael Margolin, Frances McDormand, Wendy Navin, Sharon Gavin, David Rosenfeld, Rick Mateus, Thelma Daar, Rose Mann, Chris Baca, Brandon Murray, John Dravillas, Pat Johnston, Eric Jorgensborg, Steve Rosell, Bernadette Lucier, Clara Wright, Rufus Baker, Julia Abbott, Jeff Jarow, Charles Haskell, Elise Martin, Matt Lehman, Skip Rimer, Ruth Sperber, Toby Fulp, Maurice Jordan, Johanna Jenkins, Jane Franz, Kevin Erhart, Charles Haskell, and Andy Gavin.

The Santa Monica Star
1112 Montana Ave. #525
Santa Monica, CA 90403
424-581-6005

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Website:

www.thesantamonica.com
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Distribution: Paper Pushers LA

Special thanks to Rufus Baker and Bernadette Lucier

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The Real Estate Advisor

The Mansion Tax Update



By Richard Lombardi

In the world of politics, labels are crucial to a measure's success at the polls, even if they aren't accurate. As we ap-

proached the last election, the label "mansion tax" was tossed about on a measure to increase the transfer tax on properties sold above a certain price.

The inaccuracy of the label is that all properties, both residential and commercial, above a sold price threshold would be taxed at this new rate. The intent of the tax increase is to aid in the fight against homelessness.

Both the City of Los Angeles and the City of Santa Monica had transfer fee increases on the ballot for higher-end properties. Both measures passed. And, they were quite substantial. Santa Monica's tiered approach keeps property sales under \$5M to transfer tax rate of .3% of the sales price, .6% over \$5M up to \$8M, but bumps the rate to 5.6% on all sales over \$8M.

Santa Monica's new measure came into effect on March 1, while Los Angeles' was implemented on April 1.

In Santa Monica and from the

residential side, nine homes over \$8M closed in February, just days before the new tax was implemented, compared to zero homes over \$8M that had closed the previous February. March and April had one and three homes close over the threshold, respectively.

What does all this mean? There was an uptick in home closings prior to the Santa Monica transfer tax kicking in. These closings likely would have occurred sometime in the following quarter. For several months we'll probably see fewer than normal closings at this price point with normal sales numbers to follow.

Both Los Angeles and Santa Monica have been hit with lawsuits claiming that the tax is in violation of the California Constitution due to having a targeted purpose, which likely would be remedied if the funds were placed into the general fund. It seems more likely that the tax, after some adjustments, is more likely to remain in place than being successfully repealed.

Richard Lombardi has been in real estate sales for over three decades. Richard is an author, speaker, coach, and trainer. To learn more about Richard visit <https://lombarirealestatewealthadvisors.com/about>, email Richard@TheLombardiGroup.com, or call 310-903-6509.

From Me to You...



By Diane Margolin

Let's hear more about the good news in our community. All too often we keep hearing and reading about bad

news that makes us upset and frustrated. But, there are many people around us who are doing good deeds for their friends, families, and neighbors.

Do you know someone who is helping those around them by doing shopping, perhaps cutting someone's lawn, taking them to a doctor's appointment, or helping at the local food bank?

Let's celebrate the kindness and caring of these people who are making differences in our community.

Read about Scott Cohen, a Brentwood resident, who was recognized by his company for his work at Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times, on Page 2.

Please send us the names of people you know of who should be recognized in our new Good News section.

Another new feature this month is Pets 'n' People. Our pets are such a special part of our lives. Please send a high-resolution photo of you and your pet to smstarnewspaper@gmail.com. Be sure to include your name and phone number (to call if we have questions) with a brief description about your pet.

Have a wonderful summer.



- Joe Analco

From the Santa Monica History Museum

Sharing History (Continued from Page 1)

tory.org/exhibitions/broadway-to-free way/); concurrently, the Library began to digitize print materials from that exhibition, and the QRC collection was published in October 2022 (<https://digital.smpl.org/digital/collection/QRC>).

Carolyn, Sara, and I discussed our individual roles in the collaborative process. Approximately 100 people attended the 75-minute session, which was followed by a robust Q&A. Many asked about funding sources and the type of skills requisite for executing such a project. Some questions were related to the nuts and bolts of archival work (accessioning/deaccessioning, descriptive metadata and standards, performance analytic, etc.)

One attendee asked, "What's the secret to your successful partnership?" Good question! We agreed there was no magic bullet. What we shared is the result of hard work, a bit of luck, and a sincere



Calvary Baptist Church, 20th and Broadway, 1964. Outlook Collection (1998.1.591) This photo was part of the Broadway to Freeway: Life and Times of a Vibrant Community exhibition at the Santa Monica History Museum.

desire to preserve as well as share legacy work.

For more details, call Kathy Lo at 310-458-8687.

Byte by Byte

Moving Abroad with Technology



By Dr. Miceala Shocklee

In preparing for another move overseas, technology has played a surprisingly varied role. From the start,

my visa application has been an entirely digital process. In the past, paperwork for tasks like visa applications has often needed to be printed, signed, and then either faxed or photocopied back into a PDF for return.

This time around, I've e-signed all my documents using online signature and review software. Additionally, there's been the possibility of an entirely digital photo experience as well. Where I've previously had to visit passport photo agencies and government biometric facilities for tasks like obtaining a visa application ID photo,

this time around, I've had the option to accomplish it all digitally.

There are a multitude of websites available that will transform a high-quality photo obtained on a digital camera or a smartphone and submitted as a jpg (no need to worry about converting from raw!) into a downloadable photo with background elements removed, and dimensions scaled according to the future home country's specifications.

Pursuing a career abroad has been a process made of equal parts nerves and excitement, but it has been comforting to be able to navigate so much of the worldwide process through the screen at my fingertips.

Dr. Miceala Shocklee is a full-time aquatics veterinarian and part-time science writer and freelance editor.



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Reflections From The East

A Literary Newborn's First Steps in the World



By Qin Sun Stubis

Since the proud birth announcement last month of *Once Our Lives*, my first literary child, my family is embracing a flurry

of inquiries, interest, and hearty congratulations. With a grateful heart, I am pleased to say that my baby is doing well and growing stronger by the day.

Even before her official public debut on June 1, hosted by my publisher Guernica Editions in

Toronto, I carried her for 3,000 miles on the plane from Bethesda, Maryland to El Segundo, California, and proudly presented my precious to the members of the California Independent Booksellers Alliance, where she received a warm welcome.

To celebrate afterwards, I sank my toes into the sand of nearby Manhattan Beach and feasted my eyes on the emerald Pacific with its majestic waves and daredevil surfers. It was in that same seemingly boundless body of water that my grandfather lost his life during

World War II, beyond which lies the city where I was born . . . Shanghai.

I grew up in a wooden shack in a Shanghai shantytown. My first toys were sticks and pebbles. My first companions were chickens wandering through the rubble outside my home. My family was dirt-poor, but we were rich in two things: love – and stories. Each night, when my mother put me and my sisters to bed, she regaled us with fantastic but real tales of our family's rich past – stories of eerie prophecies that seemed to

come true, pirates, babies sold in opium dens, lost fortunes and found jewels, glorious lives and gruesome deaths – stories I wove together into my writing so that they would not disappear with the crumbling bones of those who lived them.

My work now is to keep these stories – and the memories of those who lived through them – alive. To do this, I'm taking my tender newborn on an international book tour, holding events and giving readings from *Once Our*
(Continued on Page 5)

God Bless Our Fathers!



By Cheryl Thode

First off, let me say a big Happy Father's Day to all the dads, grandpas, and father figures out there. It's no secret that your involvement in your children's lives has exponential effects on them. If you are a dad, you know your impact can be profound! Your presence not only has the potential to promote a child's physical well-being, but it also plays a huge role in their self-confidence, ability to succeed, and self-motivation. You are so important to your child's development!

Children need relationships with their fathers, or some father figure in their lives. Unfortunately, not every child is granted that necessity. If you were lucky enough to have a good father or father figure in your life, count your blessings and celebrate your "dad" on Father's Day, June 18.

As I have shared in my past columns, I love my children be-

yond belief, and I do everything I can to ensure they are happy, healthy, and secure.

However, I am only one part of the puzzle. I cannot do or be everything for them. Thankfully, my husband (their father Christopher) fills the positions I am unable to fill. I am so grateful for his presence in my sons' lives, and I happily celebrate him this June.

We use this month to honor the fathers in our lives. As parents, we can help our kids celebrate and thank their own father figures. Why is this important? As I hope this article conveys, good male role models are critical for our children's development. Honoring these men and helping our kids celebrate them too, single-handedly promotes good men and helps make the world a more gracious place.

So, how can we honor the father figures in our lives? Well, one great way is to spend time reflecting on the ways your father has impacted your life. Write these thoughts down and either write a

letter of thanks to your dad or verbally share your thoughts with him. It will have a bigger impact than you think.

Leading by example, you could then have your children reflect on their own father and help them draft a letter or card to share with their dad. Another fun idea is to learn what your dad loves to do. Spend the day with him sharing his passion and end it by making him his favorite meal. Does Dad like to golf, fish, hike, bird watch, or surf? Plan a fun outing with him and follow it with a steak.

Along the same lines, depending on your children's ages, you could help them spend a day with their dad or help them make a special meal for him.

Lastly, for those of us whose father is no longer with us, celebrate him with a "remembrance ceremony." Invite friends and family to share in his favorite foods and have the guests bring pictures and share their favorite stories of him.

Happy Father's Day! God Bless!

Do You Recognize These Neighborhood Celebrities?

(Continued from Page 1)



Check out Lincoln Car Wash and Detailing at 1624 Lincoln Blvd. for the best customer service. Owner Aryn Jivani has been managing the business for 38 years, along with Haydee who has greeted customers for 20 years.

Mini Message Bulletin Board

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Clergy Corner

June is Known as Pride Month



By James Boline

“What have you done today to make you feel proud?”

The lyrics of Heather Small’s debut single in

2000 became the official song of the 2012 Olympics in London.

Imagine: a dozen years later, a song rising up from the soul of one lone songwriter became the inspiration for so many young athletes who made it to the Olympics that year, and in the years to follow.

What have you done today to make you feel proud? The song asks a question of us all.

The month of June is known as “Pride Month” to many, namely, the month in which many who identify as LGBTQIA (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, and allies) celebrate their unique identity as human beings.

Harkening back to the Stonewall riots in New York City’s Greenwich Village in June 1969, Pride events now occupy the calendars of every major city and that’s just Pride’s “macro” expression. There are all kinds of “micro” expressions of Pride, too, from the act of “coming out” to simply living a life that proclaims the message of diversity, equality, and inclusion.

The congregation I serve sits on the corner of a very busy intersec-

tion. You have probably passed it hundreds of times if you live here. Something we have done to make us feel proud is to let the community know we are a place of intentional welcome for LGBTQIA people.

The way we have proclaimed that embrace is to display a large rainbow flag on the front of our church, something you don’t see every day on most church buildings. The flag we currently are displaying has the words “You Are Loved” superimposed onto the multicolored rainbow. It sends a powerful message to everyone who passes by that they are beloved by our church and by the One in whose image they were created.

The rainbow is a powerful scriptural symbol from the story of Noah and the flood. God placed the “bow” in the sky as a promise that never again would such a flood destroy the earth and all its creatures. You might say the bow was a matter of great pride for God.

In this Pride Month, I invite you to ask yourself, “What have you done today to make you feel proud?” Then, like God once did of old, display a rainbow of your own for all to see.

James Boline is Pastor at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church of Santa Monica.

Each month, we ask a member of the clergy to write a column for our readers.

A Literary Newborn (Continued from Page 4)

Lives about four generations of women who struggled to survive war, revolution, and the seemingly unshakeable power of an ancient Chinese superstition.

The journey is starting out in a most meaningful way, beginning with a book signing at the Eastern Bookstore in New York’s bustling Chinatown, just around the corner from the Pell Street restaurant owned by my uncle, Jack Ho, and where I stayed when I first arrived in America.

Next, I’ll be moving on to Washington, D.C., where friends and family will join me for an event at Politics & Prose, the capital’s leading independent bookstore (and my favorite). As we travel from town to town, city to city across the country, I will be moving inexorably West, toward the Pacific once again and to the readers who hold such a special place in my heart here in California.

On Sunday, July 23, I will be coming back to my “second hometown” and holding a special book event for all my readers of *The*

Santa Monica Star at Barnes & Noble at 2 p.m. at the Grove.

After all, it was through 15 years of penning my column, “Reflections From The East,” that I was able to refine and hone my craft and I owe each and every one of you, as well as my dear friend and publisher Diane Margolin, many thanks for helping me to become the writer I am today.

Having a chance to meet and talk to you in person and allowing my first literary child to take some of her first steps with you not too far from the shores of my beloved Santa Monica, is something I am so looking forward to and will long remember. Please be sure to mark July 23 on your calendar. My eager young book, so filled with stories she wants to share – and I – both hope to see you then!

You can always reach me at qstubis@gmail.com, or please visit me at www.qinstubis.com.



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Passing Through the Pico Neighborhood

Gearing Up for Father’s Day and Juneteenth Celebrations

By Clara Wright

Exciting things are happening in the Pico Neighborhood as we prepare to celebrate our fathers this Father’s Day on June 18.

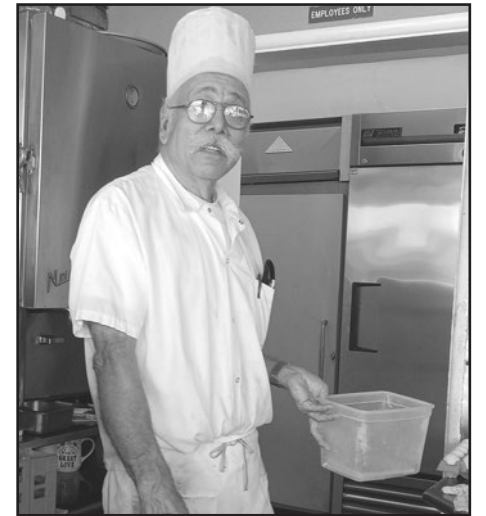
Our famous Rae’s Restaurant, located at 28th and Pico Boulevard has been home to chef Pablo Silva for 40 years. Pablo, a father of two, has been employed since 1983 cooking breakfast, lunch, and dinner for years, pre-COVID.

Post-COVID, the restaurant is currently open for breakfast and lunch only, and closes at 2 p.m. In an interview with Pablo, he asks that we extend an invitation to you to stop in to taste his creations that he assures me are “made with love,” for his customers. We salute Pablo Silva.

The Pico Neighborhood is gearing up to celebrate Juneteenth. Kimberly at Virginia Park tells us that Juneteenth is an annual celebration commemorating the end of slavery after the Civil War. This year marks the 31st anniversary of when LaVerne Ross approached the City to commemorate a holiday that her family celebrated in Texas. Juneteenth is known as America’s second Independence Day. The first Juneteenth in Santa Monica was held in 1992 as a small observance. Over the years, thanks to LaVerne’s dedication and leadership, the event has grown into an important annual tribute that brings together Santa Monica’s Black community.

In March 2022, the Santa Monica City Council designated Juneteenth as an official City holiday, one year after President Biden acknowledged Juneteenth nationally.

The event at Virginia Park will feature celebrated musicians, including the band Klymaxx. There will be activities for children, various food vendors, and vendors selling original arts and crafts items, community information



Chef Pablo Silva

booths, and more. This year’s event is taking place on Saturday, June 17 from 1 p.m. - 7 p.m. The theme is *Coming Together in Appreciation, Reconciliation, and Commemoration!*

Start your celebration at Calvary Baptist Church from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., where members will be commemorating African American freedom, achievement, continuous self-development, and respect for all cultures. Delicious food, original arts and crafts for sale, a Kids Corner, hometown artists, community organizations, African dancers, and a blood drive are planned.

Make a difference in the life of someone else. You can donate blood in the Fellowship Hall at 1502 20th St. from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. They are especially seeking African Americans to help those with sickle cell anemia. Please sign up to schedule a time for your blood donation by calling 310-951-9754 or emailing sharon.bennett@calvarysantamonica.org.

Special thanks to Clara Wright for being our guest columnist and photographer this month.

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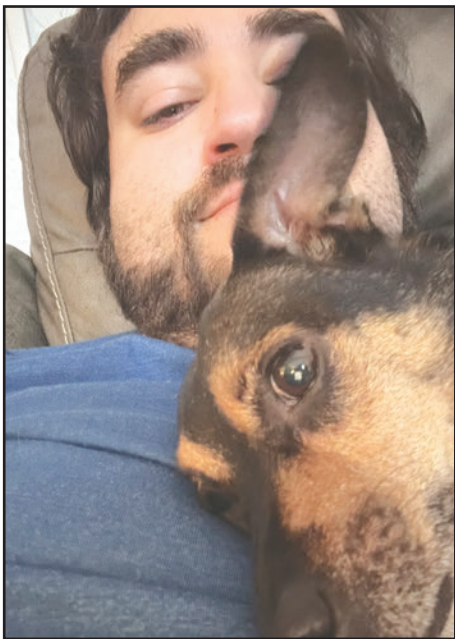
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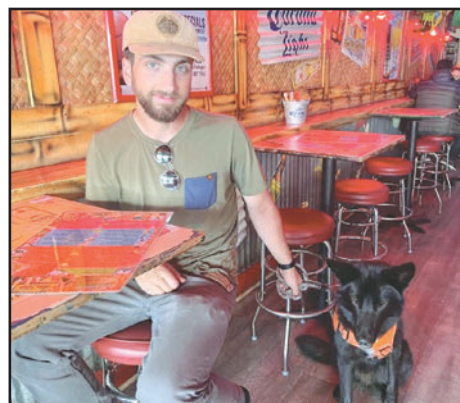


Max Margolin relaxes with Rufus, his rescue dog of five years.

People 'n' Pets



Evelyn Lauchenauer with Rhett, her sweet rescue pet of five years.



Boston resident Justin is out with his dog Angus, originally from Alaska.



Banjo, Halley's rescue dog of 11 years, recently took her for a walk around the Gold Mine Loop Trail in Potomac, Maryland.



Joan Kaczorowski likes to walk her dogs, Bailey and Duffy, every day.

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Turning the Page

Be Sure Your Kids Get a Good College Education

Local trust lawyer Timur Berberoglu recalls what his parents did for him and his three siblings when they were growing up in Chevy Chase, Maryland. His mother came from Italy and his dad from Turkey. They had met in Washington, D.C. and after they married, each worked two jobs to be sure their children would get good educations. They wanted their children to have better opportunities than they did. As a parent of two teenagers, Timur recommends parents today consider making sure their children get a good college education.



Timur, center, with Candan, left, and daughter Deren, right.

Ironically, Timur's dad worked for World Bank which at the time, gave employees the opportunity to travel to their home countries with their families every other year. Timur was able to return to Italy to connect with his cousins on his mother's side who he is still close to today. The family was also able to go to Turkey to visit his father's family during other summers.

Another of his dad's jobs was working for a catering service. He had established a close relationship with the head of the Supreme Court who requested that Timur's parents handle the catering for their special events. When Timur was 17, his dad asked his friend if he could get Timur a job and he became a messenger at the U.S. Supreme Court.

Timur went to UCSB for undergraduate work in political science. He then spent four years at a small technical company that

invented the prepaid cell phone. He moved to Santa Monica where he determined that this was where he wanted to live and work. And, with determination he has been able to fulfill that goal.

Timur attended law school and after two years, he decided he wanted to do trusts and wills. He liked the feeling of helping people at a difficult time in their lives. Timur also liked the way the other attorneys in the field were more cordial and polite to each other than some attorneys in other areas of the law.

Timur also has a sensitivity and compassion for potential clients who are experiencing hardships and will help them out when his schedule permits.

Married to Melissa, also a lawyer, they have two children, Deren, 18, a college student, and Candan, a high school student who is eagerly anticipating being

(Continued on Page 10)

Thoughts From a Second-Time Father

Reflecting on Blessings of Fatherhood



By Michael Margolin

I have been writing this article since 2013, and have probably mentioned how fast time goes by at least a couple of times a year.

Words spoken to me when I was younger told me that the older you get, the faster time goes. Not many phrases are more accurate than that one.

Our family celebrated Jake's seventh birthday last month by going to the Los Angeles Zoo, and we all had a very nice day.

Alexa was almost three years old when Jake was born. Now, at almost ten, we feel like we have seen most of the pictures or videos of her that our family has.

My wife Enjoli's dad shared with us a short video clip of him walking with Alexa in the hospital on the way to meet Jake. We have hours of videos of the kids, and for some reason seeing one I had not seen before was like being taken back in time. And, immediately I begin to reflect.

I thought about when Alexa was born and how the world changed in the instant I became a father. I also thought about Jake being born with the cord around his neck, and how that moment of utter concern made my heart skip a beat. That image of him is burned into my memory possibly more clearly than any other one I have up there.

Thankfully, he was and is fine. And, I will be forever thankful for that. I am not sure why watching that video was almost overwhelming in a way.

I think a big part of it was that those were the two biggest days of my life and they turned out as well as they could have – save for Jake scaring me half to death with his cord business.

I tried to explain to Alexa how my life centers around her health and happiness as well as that of her brother, and her mother. If my kids and my wife are happy and healthy, I have a lot to appreciate.

We get to celebrate Father's Day this month too. To me, nothing is quite like Father's Day. Because I feel like I have earned it. I love being a father to these two totally different young people who amaze and baffle me on a regular basis.

I also realize how fortunate I am to be with their mother who still has the ability to take my breath away.

Sometimes I wonder how I ended up in this position, and how I will never take any of it for granted. What I do know is that the next ten years will go faster than the last ten. And, somehow I will have to prepare myself for that.

Happy Father's Day to my father, Don. He is my father and one of my best friends, and continues to do a fantastic job at both.

Mike Margolin has been writing for us since Alexa was born ten years ago. He is an avid sports fan. Mike is also a coach for both of his children's soccer teams.

Dads and Daughters

(Continued from Page 1)

rare few do. Out of all the fathers I've heard about, all their accomplishments and all their best traits, I know I wouldn't trade a million of them for my dad.

It sounds a little corny, but I've come to realize that my father is the perfect dad for me. I've known it all along, but he's a great person – and an even better dad.

When I talk about the kind of mom I want to be, all the qualities (family as the top priority, lots of fun, constantly there for my family) are qualities I associate with my dad. Someday, I want to be half the parent he is.

Of course, missing him from across the country hasn't hurt much either.

At some point, my dad stopped being perfect. He became a real, flawed person in my eyes, the fallible human he'd been all along. However, this transition has made our connection much deeper.

My dad is a person, a person with his own imperfections and flaws. I can't treat his mistakes as some unforgivable offense; in fact, the rarity of his mistakes has made it all the more difficult when they really happen. Seeing him in actuality only increases my love and admiration for him.

Julia has been writing for our paper since she was ten years old. She is now a college student on the East Coast adapting well to the seasonal differences.

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Community Service on the Westside

Planting for the Future



By Linda Levee
We had an exhilarating experience on National Arbor Day, at the end of April, when we were planting trees at Hotch-

kiss Park. This is a beautiful urban park in southern Santa Monica close to where Lions PDG Carol Ann and Lion Carole live. It has many large gorgeous trees, benches, walkways, and a very nice restroom facility.

The project was led and managed by the Santa Monica City Forestry Department with Matt Wells, City Public Landscape Manager and his staff. There were five service clubs who participated: Lions, Rotary, Kiwanis, the Santa Monica Breakfast Club, and Elks. We had a nice turnout from our Club: Lions Kathy and Phil, Linda and Larry, King and Joanne, Yoriko and Salvation Army Cap-

tain James Fleming. The ceremony began with opening remarks by Matt Wells, enlightening thoughts from City Councilman Phil Brock, and a presentation of the Proclamation of Appreciation to each group from the City.

We then separated into our individual groups, each of us planting a New Zealand Christmas Tree. These become very large trees with huge trunks and limbs and a beautiful mantle providing a wide area of shade.

Everyone had a wonderfully invigorating time and left feeling good that we helped in the global effort to keep our planet healthy.

If you're interested in learning more about Lionism, meeting new friends, and helping those in need in our community, please contact Yoriko Fisher at yorikofisher@gmail.com, or Dr. Kingsley Fife at 310-454-2960.

Donating to the Community



By Susan Barry
The Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club (SMBWC) joined the Marina District of the General Federation of Woman's Clubs in a month-long food drive.

Our Club supported the work of the Westside Food Bank by collecting more than 120 boxes of cereal, one of the items most requested.

This month, the SMBWC will provide three \$4,000 scholarships to graduating seniors from Santa Monica High School who demonstrated their commitment to community in their future endeavors through an essay. The recipients were announced at the recent Samohi scholarship banquet. The Elmira T. Stephens endowment providing the scholarships is a meaningful part of our history as a nationally recognized Woman's Club, and as part of the history

of the City of Santa Monica. Congratulations and best wishes for continued success to the well-deserving recipients!

The SMBWC Book Group meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. The June discussion will be *The Boys: A Memoir of Hollywood and Family* by Ron Howard. Craft and Conversation meets each Tuesday at 10 a.m., and Bridge and Canasta players meet on Mondays, beginning at 11 a.m.

The SMBWC is at 1210 4th St. just below Wilshire Boulevard. Look for our beautiful two-story historic building. Please consider us when planning your next event, especially for non-profit groups planning fundraising activities.

For further information, visit our website, www.smbwc.org, or call 310-395-1308 weekdays between 9 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.



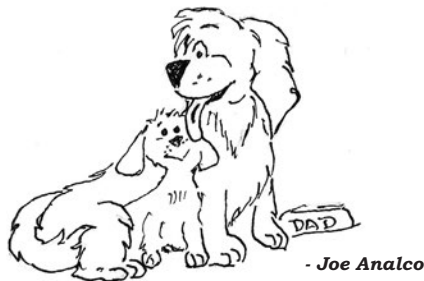
Brentwood Resident Scott Cohen

(Continued from Page 2)

Northwestern Mutual is a company built on helping people, and it is inspiring to see the impact that these financial advisors are making on their communities through selfless contributions," said Steve Radke, president of the Northwestern Mutual Foundation. "I'm honored to work alongside these dedicated advisors who embody our company's values and commitment to the communities we serve."

Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times was founded with a mission to create a positive, long-lasting impact on children with cancer and their families by providing fun-filled, medically supervised, no-cost, year-round camp programs. Scott has volunteered with the camp for over 15 years, with efforts ranging from board member and president, to camp counselor.

"In a metaphoric way, camp is a cocoon, wrapping each camper in an invisible supportive net that helps transform cancer patients back into children," described Scott. "During my time as both a cabin counselor and adventure counselor, I've witnessed countless kids gain self-confidence through the programs offered by the camp. This grant allows us to provide more than a dozen kids impacted by childhood cancer with an opportunity to experience the camp and all it has to offer."



Santa Monica Family YMCA (Continued from Page 1)

Monica Family YMCA.

Hodge is a graduate of Huntingdon College who embodies the values of the YMCA. In his free time, he enjoys engaging in outdoor activities such as golfing, surfing, snow skiing, and spending time with his family.

With Hodge's track record of community involvement, innovative thinking, and dedication to the YMCA's mission, we anticipate

an exciting future under his guidance. We are confident that the Santa Monica Family YMCA will continue to be a thriving center for our community's well-being. Please join us in warmly welcoming Hodge as our new CEO.

Eduardo Lowe is the Member Engagement Director of the Santa Monica Family YMCA.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Diane:

Thank you so much. I am so honored to be a neighborhood celebrity in *The Santa Monica Star*! I am in awe of your talent, dedication, energy, and truly do good spirit which enriches our precious city every month.

We really need you and *The Santa Monica Star* to bolster us up with Good News!"

—Jeannie Kusserow



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Connect to Nature in June

By Julie Rensink Hanson

We celebrate all fathers this month, but the bird Father-of-the-Year Award goes to the Downy Woodpecker. Though they share daytime nest duties with their mate, only the fathers incubate the brood at night and they roost in the nest until their offspring fledge. Also a true family man, Mourning Dove dads love to raise families. They may have up to six clutches per year, the most of any North American bird.

As bird families are forming, they become a part of your family's world, too. The next generation of youngsters are making their first appearances everywhere around your yard! Watch for birds feeding their young. Baby birds are seen relentlessly begging for food as parents introduce them to food sources and feed them until they are ready to stick it out on their own. Look up to see young raptors starting to fly. They will return to the nest every day for food and grab anything their parents bring in. Check out local cams, such as those on explore.org for up-close views of bird families.

Phainopeplas, with a name that comes from the Greek for "shining robe," move into coastal areas from the desert for a second nesting. With shiny black feathers and a showy crest, they live up to their name. They specialize in eating berries, but will swoop from high



Mourning Dove with nestlings.

trees to catch bugs.

A bright-orange beak and black head cap announce the Caspian's Tern, the largest tern in the area. They nest in locations where they can be left alone, such as islands (Catalina) and estuaries (Bolsa Chica). Anyone bold enough to disturb a nest may be greeted by a diving, sharp-beaked parent, employing the same weapon they use to spear fish. Also seen along the coast, Least Terns are fledging their young.

June is National Rivers Month. Take a moment to think about your favorite river and how it helps sustain important wildlife and our communities. If you would like to discover our local urban river, visit Friends of Los Angeles River at <https://folar.org>.

Call the Wild Bird Unlimited Nature Shop at 424-272-9000, or go online to www.wbu.com/santamonica for more information.

Be Sure Your Kids Get a Good College Education (Continued from Page 8)

in a Rotary Japanese exchange program this coming year while Melissa and Timur host a Japanese student in their home.

Timur loves to play golf and watch football. He is outgoing and has a wonderful singing voice. He likes to cook and entertain people.

He also believes that people should not give up too early on pursuing their dreams that may take work, but are attainable. He was determined to live and work in Santa Monica and he says, "It has been the best experience."

If you need assistance preparing your will or trust, call Timur at 310-401-3111 to make an appointment to see him. —D.M.



- Joe Analco

An Update From ERBA Markets

Coping With Uncomfortable Situations



By Stephen Freedman

With the ever-expanding variety of cannabis products and methods of consumption, it is becoming difficult for some to gauge

the correct dosage. Coupled with the increased potency of cannabis over the years, many may find themselves in a situation where they are too high, or "greened out."

When this does happen, it can be an uncomfortable experience. The first thing to remember is that cannabis is not a lethal drug, and its effects will dissipate over time. The following are some tips we recommend to cope with such situations:

- **Do not panic.** Determining how long it takes to sober up from cannabis depends on a variety of factors: method of consumption, dosage, as well as individual variables, such as age and metabolic rate, but most highs last a few hours at most. Just keep calm, relax, breathe, and give it time to pass.

- **Have some water and a snack.** Water will help hydrate you and combat any dry mouth, and some research suggests that the ter-

penes in food (which are abundant in cannabis) may help lessen the high. Some even swear by chewing black peppercorns for their terpenes in order to become more grounded.

- **Distract yourself.** Go for a walk. Sometimes fresh air and moderate exercise will help invigorate you. Watch some TV, listen to music, play a game, or talk to some friends. Keeping your mind occupied will give your body time to come down.

- **Take some CBD.** Consuming CBD will help lessen the effects of the THC as it has strong anti-anxiety properties and can help balance and take the edge off from the intensity of the high.

Keep in mind that these recommendations are subjective, so what may work for one person may not work for another. But whichever way you choose to consume, it's best to start slow and prepare before any session if your tolerance is unknown. This will help avoid any troublesome situations and guarantee you have an enjoyable cannabis experience.

Stephen Freedman is the General Manager at ERBA Markets. Locations include the Woods, Los Angeles, Venice, South Bay, and WeHo.

Remembering My Husband, Roger Goodman

By Monika White

You probably knew Roger best as half of "Roger and Monika" or "Monika and Roger." We were almost always together because, while he was just as happy hanging out at home, he seemed to want to come along with me to whatever I was doing.

Those who knew him remember a number of things about him, but what few know is that he believed (and often said) that his purpose in life was to make up for the unusually difficult childhood I had. And, that's what he did for the 45 years we spent together!

That was the foundation of our love story – enjoying our common interests, supporting our differences. In our relationship, no day passed by that we didn't express our luck at finding each other, and recognizing that we belonged together. And then, suddenly, after a month-long battle with metastatic cancer that began in mid-March, he was gone.

You might remember him as the laidback guy with the quick wit, just the right comeback, the pun that made you groan, the joke that interrupted conversation with laughter, the incredibly clever and quick remark that somehow was the right fit for the current situation.

Or, maybe, you remember him as the musician who played the fiddle, who inserted his favorite tunes into the jam, who added so much with his harmonica playing, who energized the music with his incredible guitar backup, or insisted on not just instrumentals, but singing old songs we all knew. On the serious side of music, he taught music theory workshops



Roger Goodman

showing students that with a little bit of understanding of basic knowledge, one can learn to play anything.


Roger was also the guy who seemed to know something about, well, anything. His interests varied widely. Besides his love of music, he had a curiosity about how things worked. His abiding curiosity attracted people to him, especially children, though he never had any of his own. For example, he rarely passed a child on the street, in the grocery store, or wherever, without pulling a small vial of liquid out of his pocket and blowing bubbles to the delight of the children and the adults with them.

Roger loved science, math, history, and the cycles that occur in life. He was a magician as a teenager and a computer professional as an adult. He used to say it was the same thing. He was well read, but only nonfiction, especially biographies of people who were compelled to solve impossible challenges. When left to himself,


(Continued on Page 11)

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Planning Ahead

Plan to Protect



By Lisa Alexander, Esq.

According to a 2021 Gallup poll, only 53% of people ages 50 to 64 have a Will. The number is higher for those 65 and over,

but even in that group, 24% still do not have a Will.

For a married couple who have children together and own all their assets as community property, the laws that dictate how their estate would be distributed probably match what they would want anyway. But, not always. And, things can get complicated with non-married relationships and friends who are considered family. They are not protected unless you have a Will.

Consider Gerald and Susan who lived together for 12 years in a home owned by Gerald. Gerald has a son and daughter from a prior marriage. Susan has no children of her own, but has maintained a close relationship with a foster child she has mentored. He is now a junior in college with help from Gerald paying tuition. Gerald, Susan, and Gerald's two children have been a close family unit over all the past years.

Gerald died suddenly, with no Will. Under the laws of intestate succession, the home Susan has lived in for 12-plus years will go to Gerald's children. Susan is not an heir. There is no "common law marriage" in California. Susan is

not entitled to anything from Gerald's estate.

If this were another family, Susan may have already received a notice telling her she had to move and that people would be going through her home to inventory assets and claim the artwork on the walls. The young man Gerald and Susan have been supporting would be faced with dropping out of college with no money to pay for next year's tuition.

Happily, this family is bonded by love and is determined to "do the right thing." Gerald's children want Susan to continue to live in the home for as long as possible. And, they are all pooling their resources to support the foster child through his final year of college.

Gerald could have made a Will leaving college money to Susan's foster child and making sure Susan could stay in their home. It's natural to put off estate planning – no one thinks that something will ever really happen. But, it can and does. The moral of the story is the importance of planning to protect the people you love and who rely on you.

**Lisa C. Alexander, Esq.
Jakle, Alexander, and Patton, LLP
1250 Sixth Street, Suite 300
Santa Monica, CA 90401
Direct Line: 310-656-4310**



Paws and Claws

My Mini Pig is Itchy and So Am I!



By Dr. Frank Lavac, MS, DVM

Q: I recently adopted a mini pig. He is very itchy and now, I am itchy, too.

What could be the cause of the scratching?

A: There can be multiple causes for the itching, including poor quality diet, external parasites and fungal infection. The most likely possibility is Sarcopic mange, which is a mite. This parasite, even in small numbers, can cause very intense itching. The typical symptoms include itching, hair loss, flaky skin,

and weight loss.

The mites can be diagnosed by getting a sample of the skin surface and looking for the mites under the microscope. It is readily treated with a drug called Ivermectin.

In some cases cases, a poor quality diet, deficient in fatty acids, can mimic this disease. Mazuri pellets provide good nutrition for pet pigs.

Mites are potentially contagious to people. You should talk to your physician and/or a dermatologist about this zoonotic disease.

Dr. Frank Lavac can be reached by calling 310-828-4587.

Remembering My Husband (Continued from Page 10)

he watched only programs that taught him something.

Because of my involvement in community boards and committees, Roger was a regular at many activities including FolkWorks, Santa Monica Sister City, Santa Monica History Museum, Rotary, Music Mends Minds, USC, and Santa Monica College events among others.

Because of these involvements and our travels, we made many friends around the world and have hosted countless international vis-

itors as well as touring musicians.

However you may remember Roger, know that he was a genuinely nice, caring person, intelligent, talented, very funny, and loved by family, friends, colleagues, and most everyone who spent any time with him.

If he sounds too perfect to you, I can tell you he probably wasn't, but for me, he was.



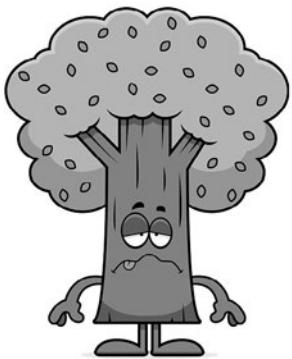
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Celebrating Fathers and Families

(Continued from Page 1)



Robert Powers, Jr. is with Robert Powers, III, age five, and daughter, Juno, two. They both love to go camping with their parents. Raul Gomez, far right, is enjoying a holiday dinner with his family.



Robert Powers, Jr. is with Robert Powers, III, age five, and daughter, Juno, two. They both love to go camping with their parents.



Miguel Perez with his son, Zach. They like to watch movies, play soccer, and practice boxing together.



Bill, a long time East Coast fan of the paper, is with his children at a family barbecue. From left, Deborah, Bill, Suzanne, and Brian.



Columnist Mike Margolin with his dad, Don, and children, Alexa and Jake, get ready for Father's Day.




Enjoying a delicious Litvack family meal were, from left, Steve, Josh, Mike, Gail, and front row, Rosalyn and Jackson.



Chase gives his grandfather, Lloyd Allen, a morning shave.

Happy Father's Day to Our Readers



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