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RANDOM LENGTHS NEWS

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
THE LOS ANGELES HARBOR



Pete Settlemyer, CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Los Angeles Harbor Area, champions flexible pathways to success that give young people the tools, mentorship and opportunities to pursue college, trades or other careers. Photo by Terelle Jerricks

Opening Doors at the Boys and Girls Club

Rethinking the Road to Success

By Devonte Barr, Columnist

“Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another.” G.K. Chesterton wrote that, and it swims laps in my head whenever I speak with educators like Pete Settlemyer, CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Los Angeles Harbor Area (BGCLAH).

Before stepping into leadership in 2024, Settlemyer had already spent decades in education across At-

lanta, the Bay Area and Los Angeles. The irony he gifted me right off the bat was that he, like me, struggled in school.

As soon as he said that, I crossed out my next six questions, thinking, okay, Pete, you are a terrestrial like me.

I can always spot an act. Having had an Individualized Education Program (IEP) straight through college, I know a fake educator. But for the nearly two hours I spent with Pete and his team, there wasn’t an ego in sight. If humility came packaged as an ointment, Pete would have cases of it tucked away like a pandemic hoarder.

One of the first things I asked him was, “As someone who’s been in edu-

cation for decades, when exactly did we decide that success and college were synonyms?”

It was an overture I’d bought into myself. I watched friends skip the university route altogether, learn a trade, and start making real money while I was still arguing with financial aid.

Pete didn’t hesitate. “Everybody goes to college,” he said. “Everybody goes to college. We sold this dream that was never the case.”

Not for everyone. But somewhere along the line, that assumption calcified into conventional wisdom. “We pulled the trades out of schools,” Pete said. “There’s no more shop, no more carpentry.”

The friends I knew who learned to build and fix things hadn’t rejected education; they’d simply chosen a practical route that didn’t demand four years of mounting tuition to prove its worth. The real mistake was forcing 16-year-olds into a single, predetermined identity.

“With the job market changing this quickly,” I asked, “what worries you most about preparing kids for the next generation? Is there a danger we’re training them for skills that won’t be enough in five or ten years?”

Pete reached for his phone. “Things change so quickly, right? Look at your iPhone right now. It doesn’t bend. It

[See **Open Doors**, p. 4]

‘Cheat Like Hell!’ Trump Cries

He’s Been At It Ever Since Retaking Office

By Paul Rosenberg, Senior Editor

Trump’s efforts to steal the 2026 midterms entered a new phase at his poorly-attended convention on Sept. 10, as he led his supporters in a pledge to “cheat like hell,” based on the false premise that Democrats already do so. Fittingly, it came in a mockery of the Pledge of Allegiance, “to the greatest president in the history of the United States that loves us so much he can’t even breathe.”

In reality, historians have repeatedly ranked Trump dead last among presidents, and the GOP’s cheating — most vividly with a wave of racist gerrymandering across eight states — is already without precedent in modern American history. Trump’s public approval has fallen to 33% in the latest polls from Reuters/Ipsos and the *Financial Times*, raising the need to cheat even further to 11 on a scale of one to 10.

That same day saw a dire warning of how hard Trump allies might cheat even after the election, as well as the kick-off of a mass movement effort to fight back, as the No Kings coalition held its kick-off organizing call for its Oct. 17 event to boost early voting to historic highs and counter GOP election subversion.

“We are all familiar with the dirty tricks designed to disenfranchise voters,” Indivisible co-founder Leah Greenberg said on the call. “Early voting en masse disrupts those strategies.”

Thousands of local events are anticipated nationwide. “If you have hosted a barbecue, if you have hosted a gathering of your neighbors, you can host a No Kings event,” Greenberg said.

Meanwhile, in a *New Republic* article titled “The Final Battle for America’s Democracy,” retired conservative judge J. Michael Luttig — whose advice helped

Mike Pence refuse to play his key role in Trump’s Jan. 6 coup attempt — outlined how Republicans could pull off a similar post-election power grab this time around, by simply refusing to seat duly elected Democrats in the House, to maintain a GOP majority there.

The seating decision is made by the clerk of the House, and in Luttig’s scenario, Speaker Mike Johnson would remove the current clerk and replace him with a MAGA loyalist to do the job. Court challenges would take weeks, if not months, paralyzing the country, leaving it “helplessly vulnerable to all the world’s evil,” with the ultimate outcome in the hands of an irresponsible Supreme Court.

“Today,” Luttig warned, “Donald Trump and his Republican congressional allies are even more determined to prosecute the president’s war against American de-

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Community Announcements: Harbor Area

Business & Home Financing Webinar

You and the business leaders in your network are invited to join Assemblymember Mike Gipson for a webinar with California State Treasurer Fiona Ma, CPA.

Treasurer Ma will share special remarks before the webinar dives into practical ways to save money while making your home or business more energy efficient. The webinar will cover opportunities to replace old or inefficient equipment, invest in solar and battery storage, access California Capital Access Programs (CalCAP), and more.

Registration is required. Zoom link will be sent upon confirmation of registration.

Time: 4 p.m., Sept. 21

Details: Register, https://tinyurl.com/Webinar-with-State-Treasurer

Venue: Zoom

Relief Grants for Food and Beverage Workers

If you're a food and beverage worker in California and going through an unexpected illness, injury, death in the immediate family, natural disaster, or housing disaster, apply below. All grant applications must be submitted online. The application is in English and Spanish.

Restaurants Care provides hope and stability to food and beverage workers and their families in California who are in crisis.

Details: To apply, visit www.restaurantscare.org

Shoemaker Bridge Ramps Demolition Begins

The first of three temporary weekend closures to demolish the ramps connecting the Shoemaker Bridge to the north Harbor Area begins on Sept. 18.

Work will occur over the next three weekends from 10 p.m. Friday to 5 a.m. Monday:

- Sept. 11 to 14: Northbound Long Beach

[See Announcements, p. 4]



Committed to Independent Journalism in the Greater LA/LB Harbor Area for More Than 45 Years

In the Harbor Area, Raman Makes the Case for a City that Works

Nithya Raman brings her critique of City Hall to the Harbor Area, promising a city government focused on basic services, housing and accountability

By Terelle Jerricks, Managing Editor

The Los Angeles/Long Beach Harbor Labor Coalition Labor Day parade is one of the biggest stages for anyone seeking union support, even if candidates aren't allowed on the stage. It's a place where candidates can display their progressive bona fides and community ties. It's also a place where an absence can be as noticeable as a presence.

Mayor Karen Bass and Councilwoman Nithya Raman were both present, while deftly avoiding each other.

In the June primary, Bass performed substantially better in Wilmington than her citywide results might suggest. Wilmington's heavily Latino electorate was part of a broader pattern in which Bass carried numerous Latino-majority neighborhoods citywide, compared with seven for Raman and one for Spencer Pratt.

Bass also won San Pedro, although Pratt performed strongly in parts of the port town. It is in this context that Raman has been making the most of an opportunity to introduce herself to the

Harbor Area — and, perhaps more importantly, to help Los Angeles get to know her.

Raman has spent five years at City Hall representing the 4th Council District, stretching from Silver Lake through the San Fernando Valley.

"I've been privileged to serve for the past five years," Raman said. "I started with a strong focus on serving my constituents, addressing everything from streetlights to preventing evictions and responding to homelessness."

But under Bass' leadership, Raman said she believes the city's ability to respond to residents has deteriorated.



Mayoral candidate Nithya Raman spoke with publisher James Preston Allen at the Labor Day picnic in Banning Park in Wilmington. Photo by Arturo Garcia-Ayala

"I think there are a lot of people out there who are frustrated, too, who want the city to work for them. This city is not working for them."

Raman characterized Bass' leadership as prioritizing monied interests over Los Angeles residents, citing businesses such as Airbnb as examples.

"I don't think it has to be that way. I think we can have a city that works for everyone," Raman said.

Historically, the measure of a well-run city has often been mundane: trash pickup, sanitation, functioning streetlights, potholes and passable roads. Yet nearly every mayoral candidate eventually confronts the same larger question: How do you change a city government that has become difficult to manage?

Raman said the city's structure has changed, particularly since charter reforms expanded the mayor's executive authority.

"The last charter reform process gives the mayor more executive authority. The mayor can hire and fire department heads; the mayor has the ability to set her priorities and make sure they deliver to the residents of L.A.," Raman said.

"I was there at the tail end of the Garcetti administration, and I was there for the Bass administration. The length of time it takes for a broken streetlight to get fixed went from one month to one year. The number of potholes being filled has declined from two years ago to last year."

The sidewalk question

Los Angeles' massive sidewalk-repair pro-

gram grew out of Willits v. City of Los Angeles, a class-action lawsuit brought by people with mobility disabilities who argued that deteriorating sidewalks and inaccessible curb ramps violated federal disability-rights laws.

The settlement, finalized in 2016, requires the city to spend approximately \$1.37 billion over 30 years on accessibility improvements. For 2025-26, the city's obligation was approximately \$35.7 million.

"We have a settlement to fix our sidewalks, but we are spending the absolute minimum doing that," Raman said. "Meanwhile, there are mil-

lions of dollars — the same amount of money — for liability losses. You have to be able to budget for the people instead of budgeting for your political priorities."

The city's sidewalk problems have also produced their own liability costs. The city controller previously reported more than 1,700 claims and 1,020 lawsuits related to sidewalk injuries over a five-year

period, resulting in more than \$35 million in settlements.

The issue led to a broader discussion of the city's liability exposure, particularly claims involving the LAPD.

Raman acknowledged that police-related liabilities represent a substantial portion of the city's exposure, although she stopped short of saying they account for half.

"The LAPD is the biggest piece of the budget, and it is the largest diverse staff that we have," she said.

The political difficulty of reducing police spending is obvious. Yet Raman argued that rising police expenditures have not produced the results promised by proponents of increased spending.

"What we've done in Los Angeles is make the worst of all possible decisions; we've poured money into raising salaries to retain and attract police officers, and neither of those things has happened," she said.

Raman also argued that the city's liability problems extend beyond the Police Department.

"We haven't fixed the Personnel Department that slows down hiring, not just in our police department but in every city job," she said.

"Retention has not increased, and we are paying half a billion dollars more per year for fewer officers, and that's all under this mayor's leadership."

Raman said city employees deserve wages that allow them to live in Los Angeles, but argued

(continued on following page)

(from previous page)

that compensation decisions must be balanced against the city's fiscal capacity.

Another round of contract negotiations with LAPD employees and other city unions is approaching, she said, but little can be done until those negotiations begin.

"What we can do is think about what we can do with our existing monies and manage our current liabilities properly," Raman said. "We have \$300 million in liabilities, yet there is no one in the city in charge of managing those liabilities."

She offered an example: If a broken sidewalk produces a settlement after someone is injured, the city should make sure the underlying hazard is actually repaired.

When asked whether Los Angeles could restructure its finances so the LAPD bears more of the cost of liabilities generated by the department, Raman said she had heard similar proposals.

"We have to figure out what makes sense," she said. "But because public safety costs are considered to be the center of the budget, it will just pull more money out from other parts of the budget."

Instead, Raman said, the city needs an incentive structure that encourages departments to reduce liabilities.

"I want to make sure we've got something that works in reality and not just on paper," she said.

Homelessness and urgency

Raman argued that addressing crises such as homelessness requires both political courage and an emphasis on cost-effective interventions.

She cited a renovated hotel in Encino that provides housing and services for transition-age

youth, including young people aging out of foster care. Raman has also introduced a motion aimed at reducing homelessness among 18- to 24-year-olds, a population that includes many young people aging out of foster care.

"There's a huge pipeline that goes directly from the foster care system to the streets," she said. "These units help people who are aging out of that system and make sure they get the support they need to stay housed and off the streets."

Harbor Area activists have long argued that homelessness should be treated as a public health crisis alongside the city's housing-first approach.

Raman said her district has responded with urgency, pointing to pop-up shelters, tiny homes and shelter conversions.

"We've seen a 49% reduction from last year in homelessness," Raman said. "And I know we can move with urgency citywide. If I'm elected mayor, I'd make sure we're moving with urgency."

The 49% figure refers specifically to street homelessness in Council District 4, according to the 2026 homeless count; citywide street homelessness increased by nearly 8%. Raman has cited the district result as evidence that her approach could be expanded citywide.

Bass' campaign has disputed Raman's characterization, arguing that the mayor's Inside Safe program contributed to the reduction in Raman's district.

Raman said she loves Los Angeles and cannot imagine leaving the city in a state of reduced services and degraded open spaces.

For her, the moment is ripe for change.

Labor Day Parade Speakers Take Aim at Starbucks, Prop. 45

At the LA/LB Labor Coalition Labor Day Parade, Los Angeles County Federation of Labor President Yvonne Wheeler (right) introduced two labor activists who addressed workplace conditions and California's Proposition 45.

Khaliya Jackson (below), a Long Beach Starbucks barista and California State University, Long Beach senior, said she has worked for Starbucks for three years, opened five stores and become a shift supervisor. A member of Starbucks Workers United, Jackson called for a boycott of the coffee chain, citing understaffing, wages and scheduling.

"Baristas are the face of the company every day," Jackson said, arguing that some workers cannot afford to live in the communities where they work. She also said insufficient hours can jeopardize workers' benefits and that understaffing can make it difficult to take required breaks.

Jackson said Starbucks Workers United has won nearly 700 union elections, representing more than 12,000 baristas. Alisa Goldstein, representing the California State Building and Construction Trades Council, urged the crowd to oppose Proposition 45, which will appear on the Nov. 3 statewide ballot.

The State Building and Construction Trades Council of California is opposing Proposition 45 primarily because it argues the measure would weaken California's environmental-review protections under CEQA rather than simply streamline permit-



ting. Goldstein characterized the measure as a threat to labor and community interests and urged the crowd to vote against it. Photos and story by Terelle Jerricks



HAS YOUR CHILD BEEN HARMED BY SOCIAL MEDIA?



RECENT VERDICTS AGAINST SOCIAL MEDIA GIANTS PAVE THE WAY FOR FUTURE RECOVERIES

\$6 MILLION awarded by a Los Angeles jury on March 25, 2026, against Meta/Instagram and Google/YouTube for addictive platform design that caused psychological harm to a young female user (Snapchat and TikTok also sued and agreed to pre-trial settlements).

\$375 MILLION awarded by a New Mexico jury on March 24, 2026, against Meta/Facebook/Instagram for platform design that endangered children and violated consumer protection laws.

These juries were the first to examine how social media companies maximize profits by designing platforms to addict users, without regard for the harm they cause.

Their verdicts send an unmistakable message: *these companies can be held accountable—and families affected now have a clear path to pursue justice.*

LAWSUITS ARE NOW BEING FILED NATIONWIDE AGAINST:

- Facebook & Instagram (Meta)
- YouTube (Google)
- TikTok
- Snapchat
- Roblox

The cases allege that intentionally addictive platforms contribute to:

- Depression & anxiety
- Eating disorders & body-image harm
- Self-harm or suicidal ideation
- Compulsive social-media use

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Community Announcements: Harbor Area

[Announcements, from p. 2]
(710) Freeway, Ocean Boulevard to Anaheim Street
• Sept. 18 to 21: Shoemaker Bridge
• Sept. 25 to 28: Southbound 710, Anaheim Street to Pico Avenue
View a video about the demolition work: (https://tinyurl.com/Pier-B-Temp-Traffic-closures)
Except during the Sept. 18 to 21 closure, motorists may still access the Shoemaker Bridge from West Seventh Street, West Third Street, West Ocean Boulevard and West Shoreline Drive, east of the Los Angeles River.
Details: polb.com/shoemaker.View a fact sheet regarding the closures: https://tinyurl.com/Car-go-movement-fact-sheet
For detour information read more at: https://wp.me/p3AltZ-k8z

Learn How to Make Your Business More Accessible
As a Long Beach business owner, small accessibility improvements can make a big difference for your customers and help you avoid costly lawsuits. Join a workshop in September.
BONUS: Attendance fulfills a requirement for the upcoming access inspection grant program.
To request interpretation services or another reasonable accommodation, please email lbcd@longbeach.gov.
Time: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Sept. 17
Details: https://tinyurl.com/Accessibility-made-easy
Venue: LBWIN Adult Career Services Center, Rosie Room, 4811 Airport Drive, Long Beach

Expunge Your Record
A free expungement clinic will be held Sept. 19. Residents can get help clearing eligible records and connect with legal assistance, career and educational opportunities, and other community resources.
Time: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sept. 19
Details: RSVP, https://www.mobilize.us/timedone/event/1023260/
Venue: Harbor City–Harbor Gateway Branch Library, 24000 S Western Ave., Harbor City

Neighborhood Beautification Party
Join to team up with Keep California Beautiful, One Alley at a Time, San Pedro C.P.R., the LA Conservation Corps, local neighbors, and Athens Services to clean up and beautify the neighborhood surrounding the Old Fire House at Mesa and Oliver St. Meet in the cul-de-sac at Mesa and Amar St. Lay mulch in barren parkway spaces, plant succulents in tree wells, remove weeds, pick up litter and more. Lunch will be provided
Time: 9 a.m., Sept.19
Details: 310-732-4515; Drew.Leach@lacity.org
Venue: Mesa and Oliver streets, San Pedro

Looking for Groundwater Guardians: Submissions Open for 2027 Water Awareness Calendar
The Water Replenishment District needs your creativity to spread the word on the importance of water and water conservation in the 12th Annual Student Art Contest.
If you are a K-6 grade student from the WRD service area, you have a chance to win a \$75 Amazon Gift Card, a Certificate of Achievement, other school-related prizes, and have your artwork published in the 2027 Water Awareness Calendar. Deadline: Nov. 1 at 11:59 p.m.
See a step by step list of how to participate in the Full Contest Rules section and check out the Student Art Contest Flyer and Parental Approval Form. (En español aquí)
All prizes provided by sponsors
2027 SAC Fillable Flyer_SPANISH.pdf - https://tinyurl.com/Spanish-Fillable-flyer
2027 SAC Fillable Flyer_ENGLISH.pdf - https://tinyurl.com/Enlish-Fillable-flyer
NEW: Free Art Lessons
Sign up for a FREE art lesson to support your students' participation in the 2026 student art contest. A limited number of art lessons are available. Reservations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.
Details: JAncayan@WRD.org and https://www.wrd.org/student-art-contest

Fight for Dignity: Security Officers Challenge the Poverty-Wage Economy

By Terelle Jerricks, Managing Editor

Last week, a day before the solemn commemoration of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor building near downtown Los Angeles became the setting for a multiracial movement confronting poverty, economic inequality, militarism and concentrated political power — the kind of movement Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. envisioned toward the end of his life.
That vision has particular resonance for communities that experienced the post-9/11 crack-down, when Muslim Americans, Sikhs, and Arab and Persian Americans were rounded up, detained, interrogated and subjected to surveillance. Today, immigrant communities — documented and undocumented — say they are again living under heightened fear as federal immigration enforcement detains people on the streets and removes them from the country.
Against that backdrop, SEIU United Service Workers West (SEIU-USWW) security officers are engaged in contract negotiations with Allied Universal Security, Securitas and other security companies. The union says employers initially offered a 25-cent increase in 2027, with no additional increases for the following three years. With the cost of housing, food, healthcare and other necessities rising, union leaders and supporters say the negotiations could set a precedent for other workers facing similar pressures.



Pastor William Smart at the Sept. 10 SEIU-USWW press conference at the offices of the LA County Federation of Labor. Photo courtesy of the SEIU-USWW. Photo by Terelle Jerricks

Anton Farmer, secretary-treasurer of SEIU-USWW, who emceed the press conference, emphasized the role security officers have played as first responders, particularly following the Sept. 11 attacks.
Security officers are often the people who know a building best — its layout, protocols and emergency procedures — making them among the first people law enforcement and firefighters encounter during a crisis. Farmer said the sacri-

fices of security officers demonstrated the need to recognize them as first responders and provide the training, equipment and compensation necessary to respond when lives are at risk.
He connected that history to the current contract fight, arguing that security officers increasingly confront emergencies, protect the public and assist other first responders while putting their own safety at risk.

[See Dignity, p. 8]

Open Doors

doesn't fold. It's really hard to predict the next five to ten years."
That unpredictability is precisely why he moved from public education to BGCLAH. "We don't have to run this up a flagpole to get policy change," he said. "We can do this if we can find the right funders. We have to be nimble enough to make sure that we are not navel-gazing, but saying: what do these young folks need to make sure that they have everything to be successful, whatever success looks like in the next ten years?"
The real lesson isn't guessing which technology wins next; it's building the muscle to adapt when the ground shifts beneath you.

That agility is the bedrock of CareerBound. Launched in 2022, the program begins with light career exposure in middle school before ramping up in high school with individualized case management. Rather than herding teens through one-size-fits-all workshops, Dominique, CareerBound's director, pairs students with case managers who help map concrete, achievable steps toward their goals.
Alongside support in financial literacy, driver's education, soft skills and paid internships, CareerBound offers certified trade training in welding, plumbing, carpentry and electrical work. Students train with professionals, earn real credentials, receive stipends while learning and get job-placement support afterward. When they graduate high school, they can transition into BGCLAH's Workforce Development Center for ages 18 to 24 — a continuum of career support Pete calls "aftercare."
CareerBound's counterpart is CollegeBound, a pillar of the club for more than 20 years. Its manager, Mark, currently guides roughly 80 seniors through applications, financial aid and dual



BGCLAH CEO Pete Settlemayor. Photo by Terelle Jerricks

enrollment at Los Angeles Harbor College.
Dominique describes the two programs as "sisters or like cousins," designed to flex around the student rather than forcing the student into a box. The clearest proof is Miley, a College Bound alum now attending UC Riverside who also earned a welding certification through CareerBound after realizing financial aid wouldn't cover the full cost of college. College and a trade pursued simultaneously. Apparently nobody told her she was supposed to pick a side.
Yet programs alone don't carry kids through uncertainty; people do.
When I asked Pete what message anchors students against self-doubt when the future feels precarious, he pointed straight to his staff.
"It's nothing that we teach or say," Pete told me. "It's what we do."
He recalled watching students in a plumbing class quietly drift over to help one another troubleshoot without any prompt from the instructor. "You have to have a heart for this," he said.

Congress Aims to Repeal Harbor Clean Air Rules

By Paul Rosenberg, Senior Editor

The House of Representatives is poised to vote to repeal two vital environmental regulations protecting California's port communities, just days after a federal judge ordered the EPA to reverse its decision that made the vote possible.
"Obviously, Congress isn't waiting on the courts for a ruling," said Teresa Bui, Senior Climate Campaign Director at Pacific Environment. "The House plans to vote this week – Tuesday and Thursday — on the waivers and likely to the Senate next week."

Specifically, the House voted 216-211 to repeal California's Ocean-Going Vessels At Berth waiver on Sept. 15 and will vote on its Commercial Harbor Craft waiver on Sept. 17. But on Sept. 12, Judge Beryl Howell ruled that the Environmental Protection Agency must reverse its reclassification of the two waivers as rules instead of orders, which is the basis on which they were submitted for vote by Congress under the rarely-used Congressional Review Act.
For 50 years Clean Air Act waivers that allow California to enact its own regulations have been recognized as adjudicatory orders, not rules, which makes them ineligible for Congressional review and possible repeal under the CRA. After the Trump EPA arbitrarily reversed this practice, both the Government Accountability Office and the Senate parliamentarian reaffirmed the traditional understanding, concluding that waivers were not CRA eligible for Congressional review.
Congress went ahead anyway with the first set of waivers, which are now subject to a lawsuit in federal court. A second set of waivers were challenged immediately by California, and on Sept. 2, Judge Howell issued an injunction ordering the EPA to reverse its decision. California then asked Howell to extend the injunction to the two harbor waivers and on Sept 15 she did so.
The House, however, having received stolen goods, is going ahead using them anyway.
Rep. James Gallagher (R-Calif.), the sponsor the Harbor Craft waiver repeal resolution told Bloomberg Law via email, "a ruling from an activist judge won't stop us from exercising our powers to roll back costly regulations," adding that he was "moving forward with my resolution."
And Rep. Vince Fong (R-Calif.), the sponsor of the Ocean Going Vessel waiver repeal resolution, falsely claimed that "Congress has the authority — and the responsibility — to debate and shape policy that impacts our nation's supply chain."
During a House Rules Committee debate on Sept 14, Rep. Frank Pallone Jr. (D-N.J.), the House

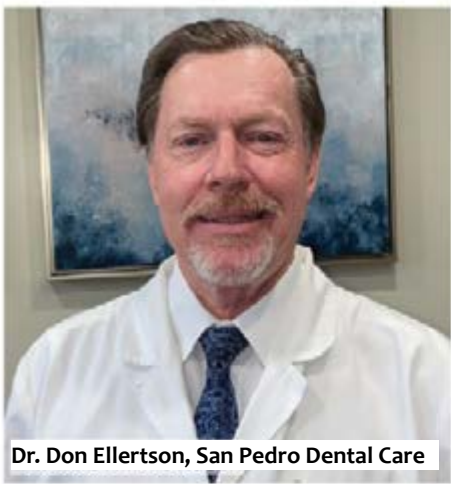
Energy and Commerce Committee's top Democrat, accused House Republicans of "wasting their last week of session on CRAs that don't actually comply with the requirements of the CRA."
But rules, regulations and laws do not apply to Republicans, apparently. So they're proceeding with the votes.
It's worth recall that in Howell's first order in favor of California, she accused the EPA asking the "Court to engage in Orwellian doublethink."

Post 9/11 Another World was Possible Putting Terrorists on Trial Could Have Brought Healing And Justice

By Paul Rosenberg, Senior Editor

After the 9/11 attacks, we had a world-altering choice that was rarely even hinted at in the corporate media. Yes, 9/11 changed the world. But the three thousand people who died that day would be multiplied countless times over by the choice made almost immediately after—a choice that brought neither justice, nor safety, nor closure, but only helped create a more lawless, chaotic world, exactly as the terrorists had wanted.
We could have responded by putting the terrorists on trial—as the overwhelming majority of our NATO allies' population (and the rest of the world) wanted—rather than invading Afghanistan in what turned out to be a fruitless attempt to capture bin Laden.
Responding with war made the terrorists warriors, not criminals—exactly as they wanted

and something they could never do on their own. Warriors fight other warriors. Terrorists kill civilians, which makes them just criminals. Their hope, of course, is that their crimes will provoke a government response that in turn will result in war—and then, only then, will they become warriors, retroactively claiming that their crimes were all justified.
That is exactly what we did after 9/11. Exactly what the terrorists wanted. And we did it for no good reason.
We invaded Afghanistan less than a month after 9/11 even though its government had offered to turn over bin Laden for trial—in an Islamic court. Both the prime minister and foreign minister made statements to this effect, but "the U.S. showed no interest in it," Foreign Minister
Wakil Ahmed Muttawakil said at the time.
Contrary to public ignorance at the time, bin Laden would surely have been convicted in such a court, as Islamic clerics almost universally condemned the 9/11 attacks. And once in an Islamic court, a Western trial could have followed—focused victims of all faiths, including Muslims.
This is another key fact that's been buried: More than 60 Muslims died on 9/11. All their relatives could have testified against bin Laden. If that path had been taken, it's likely no child would be named "Osama" for at least two generations, so great would be the disgust and horror with what he'd done. All the families of different faiths who'd lost relatives that day could have found justice together—and with it, the opportunity for healing and justice.
[See Post 9/11, p. 8]



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Endless wars and trillions in debt

By James Preston Allen, Publisher

This week, it was reported that Trump approved a \$2.8 billion arms “sale” to Israel, presumably to continue their war on Gaza and Lebanon. The package includes 40,000 one-ton bombs and would be among the largest deliveries of U.S. munitions to Israel. This was reported by the New York Times. This is simply a continuation of military spending that began with the Korean War. Since then, major U.S. military conflicts have cost the United States well over \$14 trillion in combined direct and indirect, inflation-adjusted spending. Yes, that is trillions of dollars.

And I have yet to find one combat veteran from any of those wars who actually did the fighting and felt that they had fought a just war. The cost is not only calculated in dollars, either; the human toll of the dead, wounded, and PTSD injured will cost billions more when factored into the equation.

Yet we continue every Veterans Day and Memorial Day to raise the flags and salute our men and women who served in uniform. Never asking what it was all for — what was the cost?

In my studies of American history, there have been only three wars that needed to be fought—the Revolution (and by extension the War of 1812), the American Civil War, and World War II.

All of these wars were fought on the moral grounds of freedom and liberty—against tyranny or fascism of one form or another. Yet we as a nation have spent more blood and treasure pursuing the empire and not defending democracy. Hell, I don’t even know if people truly understand democracy anymore.

In my seven decades, I have been opposed to all the undeclared wars since WWII. One could say that I am an anti-war veteran of all these wars. I don’t need any ribbons or decorations to be this kind of veteran because this is the role of being a citizen patriot. The marches that I attend don’t have marching bands and cadets in uniform, but proudly protest NO KINGS or ICE OUT and are extensions of every antiwar demonstration since Vietnam.

The question I have to ask every single conscious voting American is this: how is it that in the wealthiest country in the history of the world that we have so much poverty, homelessness, and people without health care? There’s a direct correlation between

the \$14 trillion in war debt, the trillions in tax breaks for the wealthy over the last 40 years and why our public institutions are underfunded, and there is a growing number of nonprofit organizations doing charity work—begging to do the things an enlightened democracy should do.

So, when you decry the home-less crisis, complain about the public school, or stare in wonder at the growing lines outside the food banks, just remember that this is the cost of endless wars. And remember, when you go to fill up your tank at the gas station, that this war on Iran was a war of choice by Trump and Netanyahu that is not only inflating the price of oil but everything else in our economy connected to oil.

And suddenly, looking at an economy based on alternative energy looks a whole lot better and more affordable.

Just remember the next time somebody wants to praise our veterans that we are all veterans of the wars and the economics of war. Another world can only be imagined once this current regime is thrown out of office and the scoundrels impeached and convicted.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower’s final warning was against the growing power of the

Why Ro Khanna and AOC Should Run for President in 2028

By Jeff Cohen and Norman Solomon

Fifteen years ago, during President Obama’s first term, we co-founded RootsAction as an on-line progressive group challenging not only Republicans but also the corporatism and militarism of the Democratic Party. RootsAction supported Bernie Sanders for president in 2016 and 2020. Two years before the 2024 election disaster that returned Donald Trump to the White House, Root-sAction launched the Don’t Run Joe campaign, with the warning that the renomination of Joe Biden by Democrats “would be a tragic mistake.”

Despite polls showing as early as 2022 that strong majorities of Democrats wanted a 2024 nominee other than Biden, the “Don’t Run Joe” message went unheeded until Biden’s debate debacle in June 2024. By then, it was too late for the open primary process needed to pro-

duce a ticket that could inspire activists – and defeat the fascistic faux-populism of Trump. Like the 2024 victory of the twice-impeached, repeatedly indicted Trump, his 2016 win was avoidable. Tad Devine makes the case in his new book, “How the Democrats Screwed Bernie.” Devine had been a top strategist for mainstream Democrats for decades before he joined Bernie’s first presidential campaign.

One lesson we’ve learned over the last 15 years is that it’s a big mistake for activists to sit back and expect the Democratic Party establishment to serve up candidates who can mobilize voters and win elections. That establishment failed us in winnable presidential elections in 2000, 2004, 2016 and 2024. Devine, who knows the mechanisms inside and out, says the dollar-

dominated process is often rigged against outsiders – “candidates who connect with voters, who understand voter anxieties” – and these genuinely populist candidates “are more likely to succeed in general elections than those who rely primarily on insider muscle.”

This week, RootsAction teamed up with Progressive Democrats of America to announce that we will jointly launch, just after the November midterm elections, a campaign urging Reps. Ro Khanna and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez to run for the 2028 Democratic presidential nomination. “The voices of Khanna and/or AOC are needed in the presidential campaign to ensure that voters hear serious solutions,” the campaign’s petition says. “Without a progressive populist ad-

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RANDOM Letters

RE: The Déjà vu of American Politics and Empire

Sept. 3 edition of RLN

James Preston Allen compares the internment of Japanese Americans with the ICE raids arresting and deport illegal aliens.

That is deeply offensive. The vast, vast majority of Japanese Americans in this country during World War II were in the United States legally. Most of them were natural-born citizens! Furthermore, they committed no crime, yet they were interned by “Progressive” President Franklin Delano Roosevelt via Executive Order 9066.

Conservatives like US Senator Robert Taft of Ohio vociferously opposed this vile abuse of power, but they had no power in Washington in those days.

Is Allen suggesting that the interned Japanese Americans were all criminals, then? Is he inadvertently justifying the violation of the rights of American citizens?

(from previous page)

vocate atop the ticket, the Democratic response would be woefully underwhelming – enabling right-wing demagoguery to push voter unrest in dangerous and divisive directions.”

The petition statement adds that the presence of Khanna and/or AOC in the presidential race “is crucial to foster debate on healthcare, jobs, AI, militarism and the U.S. relationship with Israel, along with many other issues important to a wide range of voters.”

Congressman Khanna – whose name recognition has grown recently because of his legislative battles to release the Epstein files and to end the Iran War, and his detention in the occupied West Bank by Israeli settlers – represents our country’s wealthiest district and much of Silicon Valley. He wants to increase taxes on the rich. He calls himself “a progressive capitalist.”

Congresswoman Ocasio-Cortez entered the House with great fanfare after a 2018 Democratic primary victory over one of the party’s top leaders on Capitol Hill (Joe Crowley, now a corporate lobbyist) representing a working-class, Latino-majority district in New York City. She led the effort to bring the jobs-creating Green New Deal proposal to Congress. She calls herself “a democratic socialist.”

While there is a difference in how these two politicians label themselves, most voters will be much more interested in whether each will address the needs of the working class and fight the greed of the billionaires. Both are direct political descendants of Bernie Sanders – AOC was active in the 2016 Bernie campaign, which inspired her to run for Congress, and she regularly joined Bernie last year at Fighting Oligarchy rallies; Khanna was a surrogate and national co-chair in Bernie’s 2020 presidential campaign.

RootsAction’s coalition partner in this initiative, Progressive Democrats of America, has a history of major success in candidate recruitment. In late 2013, PDA launched the “Run, Bernie, Run” movement, which drafted Sen. Sanders to seek the Democratic nomination in 2016 – a campaign that elevated the national conversation and helped spark today’s progressive upsurge.

The RunRoRunAOC.org petition argues that either Khanna or Ocasio-Cortez – or both of them

Mr. Schaper,

Once again you have managed to mangle history for your own political purposes. Yes, many Japanese Americans were indeed citizens whose only crime was being of Japanese descent. This is not unlike and very similar to the thousands of immigrants now in the new Trump concentration camps, the majority of whom have committed no crimes, have not been given a hearing or trial, and are accused of nothing other than being without papers.

What I do find offensive and, in fact, illegal is arresting any person without a warrant, searching any property without a judge-ordered warrant, and detaining anyone without formally being charged in a court of law. These happen to fall under the provisions of the 4th and 5th Amendments of the Bill of Rights. The law that you blithely overlook to support your racist and xenophobic political agenda.

James Preston Allen
Publisher

– need to be in the presidential race. If both enter it, the organizations behind this recruitment initiative are not worried that the two will somehow “split the progressive vote.” As shown by the historic wave of insurgent victories in this year’s Democratic primaries, the party’s electoral base is largely and increasingly progressive. It’s not a small sliver of voters. And a progressive bloc of delegates at the party’s national convention in August 2028 would be all to the good, pushing for popular policies such as taxing the rich, resisting Big Tech’s AI data centers, abolishing ICE, green jobs initiatives, enhanced Medicare for All, cutting the military budget and stopping the weapons flow to Israel.

During last year’s New York City mayoral campaign – which, thankfully, employed ranked-choice voting – two progressive candidates actually ran as a duo in the Democratic primary: Zohran Mamdani and Brad Lander. Mamdani became mayor thanks significantly to Lander, and now Lander is heading to Congress thanks in part to Mamdani’s endorsement and support. In other races, progressives have run in tandem in crowded fields, maintaining a non-aggression strategy while bolstering each other’s positions.

We should remember that in the early months of the 2019-2020 Democratic presidential race – before a fraught personal split between Sen. Elizabeth Warren and Bernie – the presence of the two previously friendly candidates raising similar issues of inequality and corporate greed had actually moved the whole Democratic debate in a notably more progressive direction.

Despite millions of dollars flooding into the campaign coffers of corporatist Democratic candidates from special interests representing AI, crypto and Israel, and despite assists to those candidates from corporate media, the 2026 Democratic primaries have produced an unprecedented wave of victories by underfunded progressive candidates. These insurgent successes have occurred at local and statewide levels.

It will soon be time for progressives to focus on the national level.

Leaving the 2028 presidential nominating process to the money-drenched party elites – with their record of electoral defeats, governance failures and betrayals – would be a recipe for disaster.

War on Iran, a Historical Perspective

Recently I was watching Lawrence O’Donnell on MS NOW (formerly MSNBC) and he made some comments comparing Mr. Trump’s actions regarding Iran to some of America’s other military adventures, and what he had to say put America’s current excursion, or war, or action, or whatever it is, with Iran, into historical perspective.

First, Iran is one of the largest countries in the world, in terms of both population and land area. It’s far larger and more populous than either (undivided) Vietnam in the 1960s or (undivided) Germany in the late 1940s.

Consider that, at the height of American involvement in Vietnam, we had over 500,000 military personnel committed to that undeclared war. During World War II, D-Day was the largest naval, air, and land operation in history. — about 160,000 troops — and not only Americans, we needed help from our allies, especially Great Britain, to even begin to defeat Nazi Germany.

That means our current level

of military involvement in Iran isn’t going to be another D-Day. It’s not even going to be another Vietnam.

Lyn Jensen
Anaheim
Editor’s note: The following letter is regarding a recent LA Superior Court ruling that called Former Long Beach Councilmember Al Austin II’s proposed ballot designation for his candidacy for the Water Replenishment District, misleading.

Court Rejects Al Austin’s “Long Beach Water Commissioner” Ballot Designation

Quoting from the court ruling: “Although real party might be free to select a designation that reflects his work on water issues, his chosen designation of “Long Beach Water Commissioner” signals to voters that he holds a title and position on a non-existent agency dedicated exclusively to water issues, which is particularly misleading as he seeks to hold office as a Director for the Water Replenishment District. (See Andal v. Miller (1994) 28 Cal.App.4th 358,

Accordingly, the petitioner’s request is GRANTED. A writ shall issue commanding respondent to disallow real party in interest Al Austin from using the designation “Long Beach Water Commissioner.” The Petition for Writ of Mandate filed by Tonia Reyes Uranga on 08/18/2026 is Granted.

To be clear, the Long Beach Water Dept and Water Commission was dissolved in 2022 by a charter reform item and a vote of the people to create a Public Utilities Commission. Al never was appointed to the Water Commission however in 2025 the Mayor did appoint him to the Public Utilities Commission. His title was misleading, false and untrue.

He was never a Long Beach Water Commissioner when it existed and now that it does not exist he is not a LB Water Commissioner.

Tonia Reyes Uranga
Water Replenishment District candidate, Long Beach

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[Dignity, from p. 4]

Fight for Dignity

Pastor William Smart, president and CEO of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference of Southern California, connected the officers’ struggle to the broader fight for economic and racial justice. Reflecting on his involvement in the union’s organizing efforts dating to 2006, Smart said workers deserve the wages they have earned.

Framing the campaign as a moral issue, Smart called on employers to act with justice toward their workers. Drawing on biblical teachings, he argued that faith must be accompanied by action, particularly when workers struggle to afford basic necessities. He pledged the support of the faith community in the fight for a fair contract.

Khalil Hudson, advocacy manager for the Council on American-Islamic Relations Los Ange-

les, said his organization supports security officers because they routinely confront dangerous situations while others move away from them.

Hudson cited the May 18 killing of security officer Amin Abdullah at the Islamic Center of San Diego. Police credited Abdullah with delaying the attackers, initiating lockdown procedures and helping protect children inside the center before he was killed.

Hudson said the incident underscored the risks security officers face and argued that their value cannot be separated from their compensation. He cited an annual wage of about \$42,000 and contrasted it with the rising cost of living in Los Angeles. Drawing on his grandfather’s experience as a Teamsters member, Hudson said union wages once enabled a worker with only a third-grade education to buy a home and support his family.

Yvonne Wheeler, president of the Los Ange-

les County Federation of Labor, said the federation stands behind the 14,000 SEIU-USWW security officers seeking a fair contract. She described them as essential workers who protect workplaces, hospitals, technology campuses, entertainment facilities and transit systems.

Wheeler criticized the proposed 25-cent increase, saying it fails to account for rising housing, food and healthcare costs. She said officers deserve fair wages, quality healthcare, meaningful benefits, proper training and adequate equipment. She also said the federation had unanimously sanctioned a strike in support of the workers.

State Sen. Lola Smallwood-Cuevas, D-Los Angeles, credited SEIU-USWW members with helping secure passage of SB 1203, which establishes additional state-mandated training standards for security officers. She said workers organized, contacted lawmakers and pressed their demands despite opposition during the legislative process.

Smallwood-Cuevas said officers routinely encounter mental health and substance-use crises and other dangerous situations, making comprehensive training essential. She described the workforce as predominantly Black and Latino and said officers deserve training that protects themselves, their families and the public.

David Huerta, president of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, said the broader labor movement stands with the 14,000 security officers. He pointed to the risks officers face while protecting technology and biotech campuses, commercial buildings, hospitals, entertainment studios and transit hubs.

Huerta characterized the employers’ reported 25-cent offer as inadequate and said workers should not be expected to accept poverty wages, insufficient healthcare and retirement benefits, or inadequate training and workplace protections simply for having a job.

For Huerta and the other speakers, the contract

fight is about more than wages. It is about recognizing security officers as essential workers and addressing the racial and economic inequalities that shape their working lives. The union says it is prepared to escalate the campaign, including through a strike, if negotiations fail.

[Post 9/11, from p. 5]

Post 9/11

nity for shared healing, along with the rest of the world.

Most people wanted just that.

We know this because immediately after 9/11, Gallup International polled people in 34 countries around the world. In all but three countries, super-majorities (2-1, 3-1, up to 10-1 and more) said the US should seek to extradite the terrorists and put them on trial, rather than attack the countries they were based in.

In Western Europe, NATO’s traditional heart, France (favoring trial over invasion 67-29, better than 2-1) was the least anti-war, while our other main allies Italy (71-21), Britain (75-18), Germany (77-17) opposed war 3 or 4-1. In Spain (86-12) it was over 7-1.

Only two countries people overwhelmingly favored war: India (72-28) and Israel (77-19), both of which had been at war with Muslim neighbors off-and-on for generations. The fact that they wanted us to follow their failed path should have been a huge red flag, telling us that going to war was not the way to go.

In America, a bare majority of 54% favored war, 30% favored trial and 16% were undecided. This slight majority for war

[See 9/11, p. 15]

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FROM BACKSTAGE TO THE SPOTLIGHT:

ARVIN THE BAND KEEPS WINNING CROWDS

By Melina Paris, Assistant Editor

In June, San Pedro’s Collage held its fifth anniversary celebration. Wrapping up a video presentation highlighting the year’s performances, Richard Foss, Collage executive director, announced that they had surprise guests. There was a pause. It continued for a few more seconds. Suddenly, a young woman (Abby) jumped out from the back room, looking surprised herself, but smiling and energetic...

Arvin the Band - Aubrey (left) and Abby (right) Katlen performs at Collage: A Place For Art and Culture, June, 2026. Photo courtesy of Abby Katlen

Arvin the Band - Aubrey (left) and Abby (right) Katlen performs at Collage: A Place For Art and Culture, June, 2026. Photo courtesy of Abby Katlen

‘Oh, sorry! We’re ready ...we’re coming in one second!’ (or something like that) she said. The crowd laughed.

Two sisters emerged from the back, walking quickly but confidently to the stage. They jumped right into a short set, and if the room wasn’t initially charmed by Abby’s saving face with grace, they clearly were as soon she and younger sister Aubrey began singing.

Abby (19) and Aubrey (16) Katlen, make up Arvin The Band. The name Arvin is after their grandfather. The duo formed about four years ago but the sisters have been writing music together for fun since they were 5 and 7 years old. By adolescence, they knew they wanted to take music more seriously and write “real songs” together.

Abby started writing songs on her own and playing guitar at 12 years old. Aubrey, inspired to write with her sister, started too. Their inspirations range from Steve Lacey, who produces his own music, which inspires Aubrey. They both like Noah Kahan and his writing style. Abby is inspired lyrically by the band Big Thief. She also listens to many solo artists but when it comes to Arvin, Abby likes to diversify her music. Arvin covers many Fleetwood Mac songs “of course” like *Dreams* and *Silver Springs*. Joni Mitchell is also an inspiration.

Arvin’s recent EP, *Any Lightning*, is available to stream on Spotify. They’re trying to find a new producer, which they will pay for themselves, so they are saving their money. Being indie folk kids, the girls said their school classes are geared towards classical and jazz music. (Abby attends Long Beach City College.) They agree, it would “be awesome” to have a songwriting class at school but Long Beach’s Milliken High School isn’t slacking in fostering arts activities. It offers a club called Visions for creative students, which holds open mic nights. The sisters said it’s a good learning experience; “students can find other creative peers.” They also participated in the choir program, which featured “Backstage Bistro,” a showcase for students to perform songs, where Arvin performed.

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

“We once did a concert at our house,” Abby said. “It was a small neighborhood event, an art crawl where there’s vendors and neighborhood bands.”

Music promoter and owner of Jacaranda Entertainment, John Antich, was at that art crawl but he wasn’t scouting. He came to shop for Christmas gifts at what he thought was a neighborhood boutique. He stopped to listen to Arvin play and really liked their sound. Afterwards, he spoke to them with their parents to explain what he does.

Antich was responsible for Arvin playing at Collage, initially on June 14, when they opened for Nashville-based Americana artist Alice Wallace, who is on a national tour.

Antich told *RLN* that he saw Arvin setting up to play in a driveway. When they began playing, he liked their opening number. He stayed for a second song and enjoyed that too.

“Then, the third song really knocked me out,” he said. “So now I stayed for the entire set and I didn’t recognize the tunes. I thought, these can’t all be original tunes. They must be covering some artists. After the show, I asked them about it, [and] no, they are all original tunes.”

Antich talked to the girls and their parents. He made note of the commitment the parents had to their daughters’ music, which got him thinking about the band. He discussed his work with musicians and shows he’s produced, with photos, for the family. He holds shows at his home too, usually with bigger name touring musicians, he explained, including Grammy winners, members of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. He also books shows at Collage and other venues. So, he started thinking about finding a

[See Arvin, p. 11]

Handel's and La Michoacana Bring New Flavors to San Pedro

By Gretchen Williams, *Columnist*

Frozen treats are just the remedy for summer heat, and San Pedro is now home to two ice cream parlors. Handel's Homemade Ice Cream has opened its newest location on Western Avenue in Park Plaza. Popular from the beginning, Handel's offers an amazing selection of ice cream, with each variety made fresh daily. One Hawaiian visitor declared Handel's flavors "10 out of 10!" and returned three times during his San Pedro vacation.

Handel's Homemade has used the same homemade method since its inception in Youngstown, Ohio, in 1945. Open from noon to 10 p.m., Handel's offers traditional flavors such as its smooth, flavorful vanilla, which is used in sundaes. The chocolate brownie sundae is an iconic bestseller.

Unusual flavors such as taro, horchata, Graham Central Station and Birthday Cake are among Handel's signature offerings. Orange Dream Cream recalls the flavors of childhood 50-50 bars. Black Cherry is packed with whole frozen cherries, while Chocolate Peanut Butter Brownie and French Silk Pie deliver rich, indulgent flavors.

Sour Green Apple Ice takes a different approach to frozen delights. It's tart, sweet and intensely cold — seriously refreshing on a warm September afternoon.

Handel's Homemade in San Pedro offers pickup and delivery options, making it an easy choice for summer celebrations.



Chocolate-dipped waffle cone piled high from Handel's Homemade Ice Cream on Western Avenue.

Handel's Homemade Ice Cream
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310-307-8143

La Michoacana is colorful, delicious and lots of fun. The Mexican-inspired line of frozen treats traces its roots to 1930 in Tocombo, Michoacán, Mexico. There are an estimated 8,000 to 15,000 locations throughout Mexico, and La Michoacana can now be found throughout

the United States, Central America and South America.

La Michoacana is a spectacular addition to San Pedro's cuisine scene. Beyond its remarkable selection of paletas and popsicles, La Michoacana offers more than 100 flavors of ice

cream and sorbet.

Many of the sorbet flavors feature scrumptious tropical fruits, from watermelon to guava to passion fruit. They stay faithful to their source fruit without being overly sweet, while retaining beautiful natural colors.

Go to La Michoacana just to marvel at the wonderful possibilities.

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Bright and colorful interior of La Michoacana on 9th Street in San Pedro

CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF COLTRANE AS A LIVING SOURCE OF IMAGINATION

By Melina Paris, *Assistant Editor*

John Coltrane changed more than the possibilities of the saxophone. He expanded the vocabulary of modern music, challenged conventional ideas about improvisation and composition, and pursued a spiritual and artistic language whose influence continues to cross cultures and generations.

On Sept. 27, *Trane At 100: A Centennial Celebration of John Coltrane* will bring musicians, historians, jazz devotees and cultural voices together at Roscoe's Jazz Lounge in Long Beach, for a live celebration conceived and produced by playwright, musician, jazz historian and founder of The Red Cantaloupe Experience, Robert J. Carmack, M.F.A.

The event lineup includes: James Love vocals, Pablo Calagero bass clarinet/flute, Teodross Avery tenor/soprano sax, Robert Turner piano, Robert Miller drums, Kevin O'Neal music director/bass, Robert J Carmack producer/host /poet.

Born Sept. 23, 1926, Coltrane is being celebrated throughout 2026 as audiences, institutions and musicians around the world reconsider the magnitude of an artist whose work permanently altered the direction of jazz and whose spiritual and creative influence continues well beyond it.

"John Coltrane did not leave us a finished conversation," said Carmack. "He left us questions about sound, spirit, discipline, courage and possibility. Trane At 100 gives us an opportunity to celebrate the man and the music."

Coltrane's own history demonstrates the reach of such musical inheritance. His classic

quartet with McCoy Tyner, Jimmy Garrison and Elvin Jones produced some of the defining recordings of modern jazz, while his continuing exploration took his music through expansive compositional, improvisational and spiritual territory.

Trane At 100 considers what becomes possible when history is treated not as an artifact, but as a living source of imagination.

5-0 Studios London uplifts legacy driven storytelling and the preservation of significant cultural voices. The organization's previous jazz recognition has encompassed a community of artists whose contributions helped define multiple eras of the music. This undertaking has also continued through the 5-0 Studios London Ambassadors Legends of Legendary Awards, recognizing individuals whose careers represent meaningful contributions to music, culture and the performing arts.

Recent honorees include performing artist Windy Barnes, recipient of the International Lifetime Achievement Award, and founder of The Red Cantaloupe Experience Robert J. Carmack, recipient of the International Iconic Legacy Award, and the International Lifetime Achievement Award. The company has also honored acclaimed guitarist Ray Bailey and saxophonist and composer Dale Fielder with the Legends of Legendary Award. In 2025, 5-0 London and Red Cantaloupe honored the legacy of poet ("griot") Father Amde Hamilton, bestowing him with the Cultural Icon Award in poetry, music and community service in recognition of

[continued on following page]

[Arvin, from p. 9]

ARVIN THE BAND

venue for Arvin.

Antich sent their mom, Wendy — or "Momager" as the girls call her — a video of Alice Wallace playing at his house, noting that she is a top-notch Nashville musician. Wendy played it for the girls who loved it and were blown away by her voice. When he heard that, he asked, "how would you girls like to open for her?" He had already got this okayed by Wallace.

"They said, 'oh my god, yes,' and screamed." Antich said. "They were scheduled for the June show."

PLAYFUL REELS

Arvin's Instagram reels highlight that their talent has been nurtured, to the point that performing seems effortless to them. The sisters have fun, instigating laughter, before seamlessly performing their beautiful harmonies.

At first Abby felt like they had to focus and "lock in" she said. "Then I realized, we just have to go with it. That's just how it's gonna be. Because it's part of us and it's authentic. When we're doing gigs, I feel like I definitely am the one who speaks more ... on stage people love a show. Being able to show your personality onstage, I think, makes the audience comfortable and that's a big thing with performing, making the audience feel super at ease when watching you."

BUILDING THAT FOLK SOUND

In terms of lyrics, the sisters say they often come from their own experiences. Abby uses writing, on her own, as a vessel for her experiences and her emotions. When Aubrey writes her own songs, it's also personal. But when writing together, Aubrey said they make up stories which they end up relating to afterwards, by taking experiences from their own lives and tweaking them a little while sticking to one idea.

They recently wrote a song with the lyrics, Now I only write songs about you. Aubrey connected to it as a love song: "now I only write songs about you because you're in my life." While Abby's take was, "now I only write songs about you because I'm so hurt and you're all that I think about."

"It's cool, because we interpret the lyrics in different ways," Abby said.

"But we could still write it in a way that you could resonate with the entire piece," Aubrey added.

"When I play guitar, I lean towards more folk sounding instrumental work like finger-picking and chords that are more remnant of that genre," Abby said.

"Then with lyrics, we just started telling stories with our songs," Aubrey said. "When it comes to producing we take it in a more folk direction. [At] the beginning of a song when she's picking in the cords or we're trying to agree on a chord progression, sometimes we'll take that [time] to decide if it's leaning more towards an indie song or folk."

Arvin has played nearly a half-dozen shows in the last two months. They report their EP, Any Lightning, is doing well and it's hot.

"It's challenging ..." Abby said. "So, it's figuring out what as an artist makes you stand out and pushing that to the forefront."

"Our mom said, there's room for everyone. And if you build it they will come. We try to keep that in mind because if you work hard enough you create a good foundation for yourself by playing gigs, posting on social media and stuff."

[from previous page]

legacy and outstanding accomplishment in the performing arts. This event provides an opportunity for audiences to experience the philosophy behind that larger mission. It is more than an evening of remembrance. It is an invitation to listen again. To hear the architecture inside the improvisation, to recognize the spiritual search within the sound. Also to understand that one hundred years after John Coltrane entered the world, musicians still respond to questions his music dared to ask.

Trane At 100, A Centennial Celebration of John Coltrane
Time: 4 to 7 p.m., Sept. 27
Cost: \$45
Details: <https://tinyurl.com/Trane-centennial-celebration>
Venue: Roscoe's Jazz Lounge, 730 East Broadway, Long Beach

For audiences beyond Long Beach, ViewStub will provide global access to the program: <https://tinyurl.com/Trane-100>



Abby (Abigail Byrdie), left, will play a set at the "Under the Orange Tree Sessions" on Oct. 3 at 7:30 p.m., at 17528 Balfern Ave., Bellflower.

"Treat your sister like they are a friend," Aubrey said their mom told them. "Which I think also makes us stronger musicians and songwriters."

PRELUDE

Antich normally has a stage show at the South Pasadena Eclectic, in April, with 12 stages and about 60 musicians playing throughout the day. Antich works with Brad Colerick, who has a show called 'Wine and Song.' They planned to share a stage but the City of South Pasadena pulled the plug on all the funding.

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Leaving No.3, 2022. Mixed media on wood panel, 16 x 13 in.

Societal Fingerprints examines a deep human impulse: the need to gather, to preserve, to leave a record of ordinary objects once part of our daily use. Michael Stearns carefully arranges and paints in a harmonized symphony. Wall reliefs and freestanding sculptures give discarded things a second life, new compositions that mark a memorable past

Time: Open First Thursday, Oct. 1, 6 to 9 p.m. and Saturdays, 1 to 5 p.m. and by appointment
Cost: Free
Details: 562-400-0544; www.michaelstearnsstudio.com
Venue: Los Angeles Harbor Arts, 401 S. Mesa St., San Pedro



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Some of the participants decided to have a festival anyway. So, Antich set Arvin up to play at his friends' store, which was participating in the DIY show.

"They did a five-song set and "were fantastic," he said. "Everybody there was blown away by how good they were. That was the prelude to the show with Alice Wallace.

"When they had their fifth anniversary at Collage, I wasn't planning on going, but Richard suggested I would and he'd have a big surprise for me," Antich said. "I went and sure enough, [Arvin was] there and Richard asked them if they'd play a couple songs. I was very surprised.

"I really like the girls," he said. "They've got a lot of talent, [and] ability. They already have very sophisticated harmony for young girls that haven't been out in the wild. So, I knew I was onto something."

For Arvin's part, Abby said, "We're going to keep working and keep turning out videos for the socials. That definitely helps, not even in the way that we get recognized from a video, but in the sense of creating a communal fan base."

In October, Arvin will perform a show at Project Barley in Redondo Beach at 7 p.m., Oct. 6.

Details: <https://tinyurl.com/arvin-the-band>

PALOS VERDES ART CENTER
95TH ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE



Join us to celebrate our 95th birthday with free art activities for kids and adults
Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Oct. 3 and 4
Cost: Free
Details: 310-541-2479; www.pvartcenter.org
Venue: Palos Verdes Art Center / Beverly G. Alpay Center for Arts Education, 5504 Crestridge Road, Rancho Palos Verdes

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MUSIC

Music at the Sardine
Check out the most cutting-edge punk bands in San Pedro.
Details: https://www.thesardinedepedro.com
Venue: The Sardine, 1101 S. Pacific Ave., San Pedro

Sept. 17 - Casa Sueño, free, 8 p.m.

Sept. 18 - ILL Will / 40oz Folklore / Lady Hump / Sin Direccion, \$5, 8 p.m.

Sept. 19 - Super Session / Hivolta / Black Market Heart / Mosquita Muerta, \$5, 7 p.m.

Sept. 20 - J Mau & The Kiss Off w/ Clorox Girls, free, 2 p.m.

Sept. 21 - Karaoke, free, 8 p.m.

Sept. 23 - The Starlite Wranglers / Screamin' Rebel Angels, \$20, 8 p.m.

Sept. 24 - Tyler berd, free, 8 p.m.

Sept. 26 - The Burners / Date Street / Sub Tidal \$10, 8 p.m.

Sept. 27 - J Mau & The Kiss Off w/ The Reflectors, free, 2 p.m.

Sept. 28 - Karaoke, free, 8 p.m.

Sept. 29 - Eraser (Philadelphia) / Feral M, free, 8 p.m.

Collage
Collage builds relationships with artistic and cultural communities and provides a space where they may come together to teach, learn and entertain.
Details: https://www.collageart-culture.org

Venue: Collage, 731 S. Pacific Ave., San Pedro
Sept. 19 - Jack Curtis Dubowsky Ensemble, \$2 to \$30, 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 20 - Sunday Ukulele Jam with Taeri & Katie, RSVP required, free, 2 p.m.

Sept. 25 - New Gypsy Jazz with Ali Tolga Demirtas & Luanne Homzy, \$25, 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 26 - Music for the Ageless with The Eldermen, \$20, 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 27 - Music for the Ageless with The Eldermen, \$30, 4 p.m.

Oct. 3 - Album release with guitarist Lautaro Tissera Favaloro, \$15 - \$20, 7:30 p.m.

Alvas Showroom Lineup
You won't find a greater music listening experience than Alvas Showroom.
Details: alvasshowroom.com

Venue: Alvas Showroom, 1417 W. 8th St., San Pedro
Sept. 19 - Tom Scott joins Steely Jam, \$45, 8 p.m.
Sept. 27 - South Bay New Orleans Jazz Club, 1p.m., \$15
Oct. 3 - Orquesta Ritmo Alegre featuring Candi Sosa & Lazaro Galarraga, 8 p.m., \$25

Sept. 19

Alice Howe & Freebo
Rock bass legend Freebo and International Acoustic Music Awards winner Alice Howe deliver sparkling and soulful Americana.
Time: 8 p.m., Sept. 19
Cost: \$31.54
Details: https://tinyurl.com/Alice-Howe-and-Freebo
Venue: Grand Annex, 434 W. 6th St., San Pedro

Sept. 20

Langley Ukulele Ensemble
The Langley Ukulele Ensemble's dynamic program spans classical masterworks, orchestral transcriptions, jazz and swing, global folk traditions and contemporary favorites — blending multiple ukulele voices with bass, percus-

sion and vocals.

Time: 2 p.m., Sept. 20

Cost: \$25 to \$35

Details: www.torrancearts.org/shows/langley-ukulele-ensemble
Venue: Cultural Arts Center, Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive, Torrance

Sept. 26

Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra MOVEMENTS!

LACO's 2026/27 season kicks off with MOVEMENT(S)! followed by the world premiere of Grammy-nominated composer Carlos Simon's *The After Party!*
Time: 7:30 p.m., Sept. 26 and 4 p.m., Sept. 27

Cost: \$55 and up at Zipper Hall and \$49 and up at The Wallis

Details: www.laco.org/events/movements

Venue: Zipper Hall, 200 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles, Sept. 26, The Wallis, 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills, Sept. 27

Sept. 27

Honey Whiskey Trio

Honey Whiskey Trio invites you to experience a spellbinding blend of a cappella vocals, classic folk ballads and Americana tunes backed by body percussion, guitar, banjo and mandolin.

Time: 4 p.m., Sept. 27

Cost: \$33.61 and up

Details: https://tinyurl.com/Honey-Whiskey-Grand-Annex
Venue: Grand Annex, 434 W. 6th St., San Pedro

Oct. 1

Live with Zulu Ali Group

An early Halloween-season session of jazz, Latin fusion, soul, vinyl and nighttime vibes. Doors open at 7 p.m., come early to hang out.

Time: 8 to 10 p.m., Oct. 1

Cost: Free

Details: https://tinyurl.com/PM-Sounds-Live-Zulu-Ali
Venue: P.M. Sounds, 421 W. 6th St., San Pedro

THEATER

Sept. 18

Martin McDonagh's The Hangmen

In *Hangmen*, a corrosively funny black comedy filled with dramatic tension, opens with a 1963 prologue showing British executioner Harry Wade at work, hanging a man who dies proclaiming his innocence and cursing Harry.

Time: 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, to Sept. 26
Cost: \$20 to \$32
Details: www.lbplplayhouse.org.

Venue: Long Beach Playhouse, 5021 E. Anaheim St., Long Beach

Sept. 19

Night of the Living Dead

The dead will walk the boards this fall as The Long Beach Playhouse presents an immersive stage adaptation of the groundbreaking masterpiece, *Night of the Living Dead*.

Time: 8 p.m. Friday, and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 19 to Oct. 17

Cost: \$22 to \$28

Details: www.lbplplayhouse.org
Venue: The Long Beach Playhouse, 5021 E. Anaheim St., Long Beach

ART

Sept. 17

Positive Fragmentation

This group show includes more than 180 prints by contemporary artists who use fragmentation both stylistically and conceptually to challenge the status quo and suggest alternative perspectives. The show runs to Sept. 27.

Time: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday to Sunday



Cost: \$0 to \$15
Details: https://lbma.org
Venue: Long Beach Museum of Art, 2300 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach

Arts Unites Annual Artists Mixer
Meet and greet with fellow local artists, reconnect with familiar faces, discover potential collaborators and let the community know what you have going on.

Time: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Sept. 17

Cost: Free

Details: RSVP https://tinyurl.com/Artists-Mixer

Venue: Angels Gate Cultural Center, 3601 S. Gaffey St., San Pedro

Beautiful Instability: The Art of Portuguese Bend
Artists' creative practices have been influenced or inspired by the cultural geography, natural environment and distinctive character of Portuguese Bend and its surrounding areas.

Time: 3 to 6 p.m., Sept. 17 to 27, gallery hours: 1 to 3 p.m., Friday, Saturday and by appointment

Cost: Free

Details: https://tinyurl.com/Range-Projects-Gallery

Venue: Range Projects Gallery, 3718 W. Slauson Ave., Los Angeles

Peter Carr: This Is How We Will All Be Saved

Carr's poetry, art books, political posters and paintings advanced his urgency to collectively organize for survival in the face of capitalist and militarist destruction. The show runs to Dec. 10.

Time: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday

Cost: Free

Details: https://tinyurl.com/How-We-Will-All-Be-Saved

Venue: Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum, 1250 Bellflower Blvd., Long Beach

Sept. 19

OPaf (Other Places art fair) 8

Operating outside traditional art systems, Other Places art fair provides a platform for artists of all backgrounds and socioeconomic statuses, creating an inclusive, entirely outdoor space for artistic projects united by the intention to exist in alternative settings free of commercial boundaries.

Time: 11 to 7 p.m., Sept. 19

Cost: Free admission or \$5 suggested donation

Details: http://OPaf.info

Venue: Angels Gate Cultural Center, Battery Leary-Merriam, 3601 S. Gaffey St., San Pedro

Excavations: Traces Beneath Surface by Nida Amin

This solo exhibition by Nida Amin of charcoal and pencil drawings explores memory, change and the traces left behind through making and unmaking.

Time: 1 to 4 p.m., opening reception Sept. 19

Cost: Free

Details: https://tinyurl.com/nida-amin-art-show-reception

Venue: Collage, 731 S. Pacific Ave., San Pedro
Oct. 1

NWS 106th International Open Exhibition

Don't miss the 106th International Open Exhibition of the National Watercolor Society, one of the stops on this month's FirstThursday Guided Tour.

Time: 5 to 9 p.m., Oct. 1

Cost: Free

Details: https://tinyurl.com/NWS-Open-Exhibition

Venue: National Watercolor Society, 915 S. Pacific Ave., San Pedro

Why Do I Care?

Gallery Azul's new exhibition recognizes the intersection of culture, queerness and care.

Time: 6 to 9 p.m., Oct. 1

Cost: Free

Details: https://tinyurl.com/Why-Do-I-Care

Venue: Gallery Azul, 520 W. 8th St., San Pedro

FILM

Sept. 17

The 33rd Annual Long Beach QFilm Festival

QFilm Festival kicks things off Sept. 17, at the Aquarium of the Pacific with an opening night reception and the Long Beach premiere of *Give Me the Ball!*, featuring Long Beach's own Billie Jean King. The festival continues through the weekend at the Art Theatre Long Beach with feature films, documentaries and short film programs.

Time: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Sept. 19
Cost: Free

Details: https://tinyurl.com/Coastal-Cleanup-Day

Venue: Cabrillo Beach, 3720 Stephen M. White Dr., San Pedro

Cost: \$10 and up

Details: Tickets, qfilmsonbeach.com or at The LGBTQ Center Long Beach during the festival

Venue: The Art Theatre, 2025 E. 4th St., Long Beach

LITERATURE

Sept. 19

Page Against The Machine

Page Against The Machine will be joined by an award-winning journalist, Gabriel San Román, who will be presenting his latest book, *Days of Dissent: Revolts, Strikes, and Rebel Histories*, in conversation with fellow journalist Anthony Pignataro.

Time: 6 p.m., Sept. 19

Cost: Free

Details: https://tinyurl.com/Days-of-Dissent

Venue: Page Against The Machine, 2714 E. 4th St., Long Beach

Sept. 26

Los Angeles Libros Festival
Los Angeles Libros Festival will offer a full day of entertainment featuring Spanish-language and bilingual storytelling, musical performances, authors, workshops, books and community. Free and open to the general public.

Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sept. 26

Cost: Free

Details: https://www.lapl.org/li-

bro

Venue: Los Angeles Public Library, 630 W. 5th St., Los Angeles

ENTERTAINMENT

Harvelle's at Long Beach

The best live shows south of the 405 — comedy, burlesque, music and pre-show drinks.

Details: https://longbeach.harvelles.com

Venue: Harvelle's Long Beach, 201 E. Broadway, Long Beach

Sept. 17 - Celso Salim & Jon Geiger, \$10.99, 7 p.m.

Sept. 18 - Velzy Indie Night Live, 9 p.m., \$11

Sept. 18 - Rocky Horror Burlesque Experience, \$22 and up, 8 p.m.

Sept. 20 - Groove Ya Booty, \$11, 2 p.m.

Sept. 21 - Crimson: a Darker Standard Goth Night, \$14.30, 9 p.m.

Sept. 24 - Jay White's Dark Roast Comedy Show, \$22, 8 p.m.

Sept. 26 - Tears & Tease: The Ultimate EMO Live Band Burlesque Show, \$22 and up, 8 p.m.

Sept. 23

Laugh & Carafe at The Majestic

By popular demand, every Wednesday \$15 carafes of hand-picked wine and hand-picked comics hosted by Ash Morgan. Come early for dinner then 'Laugh & Carafe' through the night.

Time: 6:30 p.m., Sept. 23

Cost: \$15 a carafe

Details: Reservations at: http://themajesticla

Venue: The Majestic, 921 S. Beacon St., San Pedro

NATURE

Sept. 19

Coastal Cleanup Day

Make a difference and part this year in the annual coastal cleanup day event at Cabrillo Beach. Join volunteers worldwide in cleaning up local beaches, coastlines and watersheds.

Open to all ages; waivers are required: https://tinyurl.com/coastal-cleanup-waiver

Reservations requested for groups of 15 or more.

Time: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Sept. 19

Cost: Free

Details: https://tinyurl.com/Coastal-Cleanup-Day

Venue: Cabrillo Beach, 3720 Stephen M. White Dr., San Pedro

Ocean Views & Native Wildlife Adventure

Naturalists will guide you along a trail to discover unique wildlife in their coastal sage scrub habitat with views across to the ocean.

Preserve parking is available at the end of the street in a gravel lot.

Time: 10:30 a.m., Sept. 19

Cost: Free

Details: pvplc.org/calendar

Venue: White Point Nature Preserve, 1600 W. Paseo del Mar, San Pedro

Sept. 22

Seeds of Resilience Community Activation Day

Rancho Los Cerritos is bringing an interactive pop-up version of Seeds of Resilience: Barrio Americano to this event, connecting the exhibition's focus on Mexican American history with stories being shared from across the city.

Time: 2 to 7 p.m., Sept. 22

Cost: Free

Details: https://artslb.org/seeds-of-resilience/

Venue: Civic Center Plaza, 411 W. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach

Sept. 26

Public Lands, Community Pride on National Public Lands Day

Celebrate Palos Verdes' public

lands by helping to care for the White Point Nature Preserve native plant demonstration garden. This will include weeding, seed preparation, watering activities and children's activities.

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Sept. 26

Cost: Free

Details: pvplc.volunteerhub.com

Venue: White Point Nature Preserve, 1600 W. Paseo del Mar, San Pedro

Welcome Wildlife Home: Native Plant Sale

Shop beautiful California native plants and get expert tips on creating a wildlife-friendly garden that supports butterflies, birds, bees and other local species.

Time: 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Sept. 26

Cost: Free

Details: pvplc.org/calendar

Venue: White Point Nature Education Center, 1600 W. Paseo del Mar, San Pedro

Sept. 30

Inspire Young Nature Explorers

Join a hands-on training to prepare for supporting 3rd grade nature field trips at the White Point Nature Preserve in San Pedro (LA). No experience is needed. Registration is required. 18 years and older.

Time: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Sept. 30

Cost: Free

Details: https://tinyurl.com/Docent-Training-field-trips

Venue: White Point Nature Center, 1600 W. Paseo del Mar, San Pedro

COMMUNITY

Sept. 18

Warehouse 9 Oktoberfest

Join the first traditional Oktoberfest celebration. Enjoy authentic German beer, fresh Bavarian pretzels and delicious grilled sausages.

Time: 4 to 10 p.m. Sept. 18, 12 to 10 p.m. Sept. 19, 20

Cost: Free

Details: https://tinyurl.com/Warehouse-9-Oktoberfest

Venue: Warehouse 9, 110 East 22nd St., San Pedro

Westside Night Market

Join an evening of local vendors, delicious food and drinks, handmade goods, local services, small businesses and live music.

Time: 5 to 8 p.m., Sept. 18

Cost: Free

Details: https://tinyurl.com/LB-westside-night-market

Venue: Admiral Kidd Park, 2125 Santa Fe Ave., Long Beach

Los Angeles International Ukulele Festival

Join the 2026 Los Angeles International Ukulele Festival for three days of performances, workshops, play-alongs and community with live performances by popular ukulele players.

Time: 7 p.m., Sept. 18 and 10 a.m., Sept. 19, 20

Cost: \$29 to \$65

Details: https://www.tix.com/ticket-sales/kalakoa/1723

Venue: Torrance Cultural Arts Center 3330 Civic Center Dr, Torrance, CA 90503

Sept. 26

End-of-Summer Free Harbor Boat Tours

Enjoy 50-minute narrated tours with up-close views of the nation's busiest port, featuring cargo terminals, active vessels and port landmarks. Boarding is first-come, first-served.

Time: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sept. 26

Cost: Free

Details: portofila.org/tours26

Venue: Los Angeles Maritime Museum, 600 S. Harbor Blvd., San Pedro

[Cheat, from p. 1]

Trump: ‘Cheat Like Hell’

mocracy to its catastrophic end.”

And as if to prove Luttig’s point, that same day Johnson told GOP convention attendees “We cannot and will not allow them [Democrats] to take the majority in the Congress. We’re not gonna do it.”

Three

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File No. 2026169905
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CA 90731. County of LOS
ANGELES. Registered
owner(s): PADRINO HOLD-
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CRENSHAW COFFEE CO.,
975 W. 5th St., San Pedro,
CA 90731. This business
is conducted by a JOINT
VENTURE. The registrant(s)
started doing business
7/2026. I declare that all in-
formation in this statement
is true and correct. (A reg-
istrant who declares as true
any material matter pursuant
to Section 17913 of the Busi-
ness and Professions Code
that the registrant knows to
be false is guilty of a misde-
meanor punishable by a fine
not to exceed one thousand
dollars (\$1,000). S/ ADRIAN
VELIZ, GENERAL PART-
NER, EL PADRINOS COFFEE
CO., This statement was
filed with the County Clerk
of Los Angeles County

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thing on your roof! Sign up
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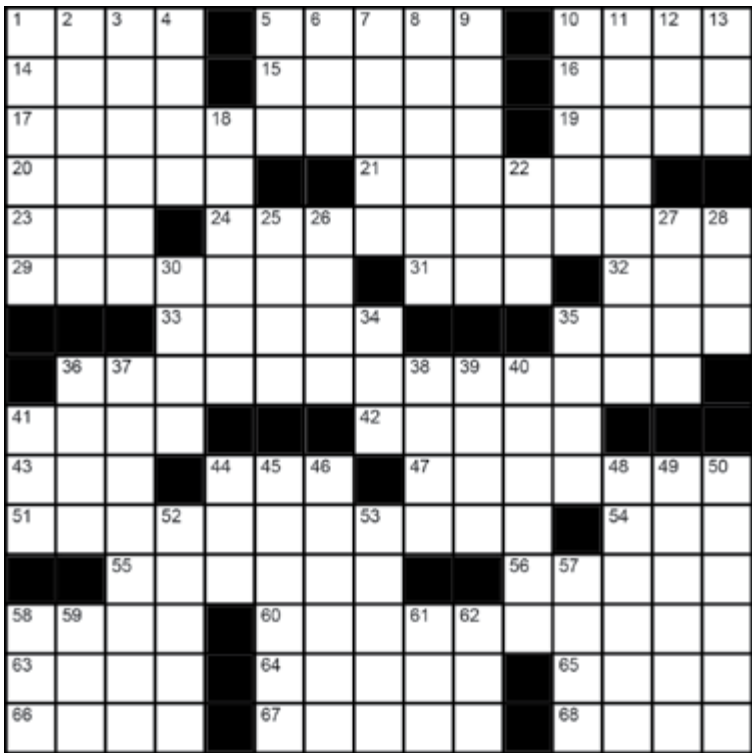
PETS

PEDRO PET PALS cat adop-
tion facility at 395 W. 7th St.,
San Pedro, open Sat. & Sun,
12 to 5 p.m., offers low cost
spay/neuter and vaccines.
info@pedropetpals.com

on 4/02/2026. NOTICE-In
accordance with Subdivi-
sion (a) of Section 17920, a
Fictitious Name Statement
generally expires at the end
of five years from the date on
which it was filed in the office
of the County Clerk, except,
as provided in Subdivision
(b) of Section 17920, where
it expires 40 days
after any change in the facts
set forth in the statement
pursuant to Section 17913
other than a change in the
residence address of a regis-
tered owner. A new Fictitious
Business Name Statement
must be filed before the ex-
piration. Effective January
1, 2014, the Fictitious Busi-
ness Name Statement must
be accompanied by the Af-
fidavit of Identity form. The
filing of this statement does
not of itself authorize the use
in this state of a Fictitious
Business Name in violation
of the rights of another under
Federal, State, or common
law (See Section 14411 et
seq., Business and Profes-
sions Code).8/6/26, 8/20/26,
9/3/26, 9/17/26.



“Say It Ain’t Snow” — it’s way too hot for that.



Across

1. Phineas's brother
5. French painter Edouard
10. Like extremely successful comedy, so to speak
14. Reason for a spotlight during an opera
15. From the beginning, in law
16. One not on the level
17. Casual shoe for professional use?
19. Puts a stop to
20. Only U.S. state with a Great Seal designed by a woman
21. How some text might be highlighted
23. Prefix with "evangelist"
24. Person asking too much about a BLT ingredient?
29. For tacking on
31. "No more seats" Broadway sign
32. Hoppy option
33. Things to split
35. "I'll think ____"
36. The viper of virtue?
41. A little horse
42. One with steal-y resolve?
43. Hurricane center
44. "You're the Worst" actress Cash
47. Blackboard items

51. Gastropod that works on cars?
54. ____ de mer (sea sickness)
55. Recorded
56. Baroness who wrote "The Scarlet Pimpernel"
58. Be sulky
60. Peak achoo?
63. Ash holders
64. Cookies making up an entire wall display at the Museum of Failure
65. Apiary dwellers
66. Substance
67. With 40-Down, "SNL" alum on "Weeds"
68. Helper, for short

Down

1. Marinated meat in a tortilla
2. Ate away at
3. Risqué
4. Big party
5. Author Rita ____ Brown
6. Law school org.
7. Company based in Finland
8. Calendar entries
9. Lethargy
10. Howerton of "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia"
11. "Old MacDonald" repetition, maybe
12. "A Shropshire ____" (A.E.

13. AMA members
18. Fair
22. "Equal" prefix
25. "Chocolat" actress Lena
26. Unembellished
27. "The Andy Griffith Show" kid
28. Butter bit
30. Greeting to a matey
34. Retired jet, for short
35. Stumblebums
36. "La Tauromaquia" artist
37. Quick bout length
38. Old New York ballpark
39. Apple voice assistant
40. See 67-Across
41. Take down a ____
44. Insurance co. rep.
45. "Fine, whatever"
46. Have a goal
48. Hosts
49. Teases
50. Most devious
52. Fidgety
53. Triangular Mideast desert
57. Singer McEntire
58. Quizzing site
61. ____ polloi
62. ID with dashes

RLN LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE INVITING BIDS NOTICE IS HEREBY

GIVEN that the City of Long Beach, California, acting by and through the City's Board of Harbor Commissioners ("City") will receive, **before** the Bid Deadline established below, Bids for the

following Work:
PIER B ON-DOCK RAIL SUPPORT FACILITY
NORTH YARD UTILITIES & PIER B ST. WIDENING

LONG BEACH,
CALIFORNIA
CMAQ/RSTP, PIDP 23
AS DESCRIBED IN
SPECIFICATION
NO. HD-S3180

2026, at 5 p.m.. Questions received after the pre-Bid question deadline will not be accepted. Neither questions nor answers are part of the Contract Documents, unless the question and answer result in an addendum.

Questions must be submitted electronically through the PB System. Emails, phone calls, and faxes will not be accepted. Questions submitted to City staff will not be addressed and Bidder will be directed to the PB System.

NIB -3 Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting and Site Visit. The engineering staff of the City's Harbor Department

not be relieved of its sole responsibility to inform itself of all conditions at the Project Site and the content of the Contract Documents. **EACH BIDDER MUST ATTEND THE MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING. FAILURE TO ATTEND THE MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING SHALL DISQUALIFY YOUR BID.**

Bidders are encouraged to RSVP for the Pre-Bid Meeting through the PB System; located under the "RSVP" tab of the Prospective Bidder Detail. Following the meeting a list of Pre-Bid Meeting signed-in attendees will be available on the PB System.

NIB -4 Summary Description of the Work. The Work required by this Contract includes, but is not limited to, the following: surface and subsurface demolition; storm drainage, sewer, water, communication and electrical facilities construction; fire protection; sewer lift station construction; roadway and retaining wall construction; landscaping and irrigation; street lighting; paving; striping and signage; traffic control; fencing; erosion control; and grading. Refer to Section 01 11 00, Summary of Work in the Technical Specifications.

NIB -5 Contract Time and Liquidated Damages. The Contractor shall achieve Substantial Completion of Work within 905 calendar days and Affidavit of Final Completion of the Project within 995 calendar days as provided in Paragraph SC- 6.1 of the Special Conditions, from a date specified in a written "Notice to Proceed" issued by the City and subject to adjustment as provided in Section 8.2 of the General Conditions. **FAILURE OF THE CONTRACTOR TO COMPLETE THE WORK WITHIN THE CONTRACT TIME AND OTHER MILESTONES SET FORTH IN THE SPECIAL CONDITIONS, INCLUDING THE ENGINEER'S APPROVAL OF AFFIDAVIT OF FINAL COMPLETION, WILL RESULT IN ASSESSMENT OF LIQUIDATED DAMAGES IN THE AMOUNTS ESTABLISHED IN THE SPECIAL CONDITIONS.**

NIB -6 Contractor's License. The Bidder shall hold a current and valid Class "A", California Contractor's License to construct this project.

This Contract involves federal funds and, therefore, the Contractor's Bid will not be invalidated by the failure to be licensed at the time of the Bid Deadline, but the Contractor must be properly licensed at the time of the award of the Contract per Public Contract Code section 20103.5. Failure to possess such license may render the Bid non-responsive and bar the award of the Contract to that non-responsive Bidder.

NIB -7 Contractor Performed Work. The Contractor shall perform, with its own employees, Contract Work amounting to at least 30% of the Contract Price, except that any designated "Specialty Items" may be performed by subcontract. The

amount of any such "Specialty Items" so performed may be deducted from the Contract Price before computing the amount required to be performed by the Contractor with its own employees. "Specialty Items" will be identified by the City on the Schedule of Bid Items. The bid price of any materials or equipment rental costs from vendors who are solely furnishing materials or rental equipment and are not performing Work as a licensed subcontractor on this project shall also be deducted from the Contract Price before computing the amount required to be performed by the Contractor with its own employees.

NIB -8 S B E / V S B E . This project is subject to the Port of Long Beach (POLB) Small Business Enterprises (SBE)/Very Small Business Enterprises (VSBE) Program.

The combined SBE/VSBE participation goal for this Project is seventeen percent (17%) of total bid value. The combined SBE/VSBE participation goal shall include a minimum zero percent (0%) of total bid value as VSBE

POLB expects all Bidders to achieve the combined SBE/VSBE participation goal. Award of the Contract will be conditioned on the Bidder submitting an SBE-2C Commitment Plan demonstrating the Bidder's intent to meet the combined SBE/VSBE participation goal. If the Bidder's Commitment Plan does not demonstrate intent to meet the combined goal, the Bidder shall demonstrate that it made an adequate good faith effort to do so, as specified in the Instructions to Bidders. The Port's SBE Program staff is available to provide information on the program requirements, including SBE certification assistance. Please contact the SBE Office at (562) 283-7598 or sbeprogram@polb.com. You may also view the Port's SBE program requirements at www.polb.com/sbe.

NIB -9 Prevailing Wage Requirements per Department of Industrial Relations. This Project is a public work Contract as defined in Labor Code Section 1720. The Contractor receiving award of the Contract and Subcontractors of any tier shall pay not less than the prevailing wage rates to all workers employed in execution of the Contract. The Director of Industrial Relations of the State of California has determined the general prevailing rates of wages in the locality in which the Work is to be performed. The rate schedules are available on the internet at <http://www.dir.ca.gov/dlsr/DPreWageDetermination.htm> and on file at the City, available upon request. Bidders are directed to Article 15 of the General Conditions for requirements concerning payment of prevailing wages, payroll records, hours of work and employment of apprentices.

This Project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations.

No Contractor or Subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5 (with limited exceptions from this requirement for bid purposes only under Labor Code Section 1771.1(a)). No Contractor or Subcontractor may be awarded a contract for public work on a public works project unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5.

NIB -10 Project Labor Agreement. This project is not covered by a PLA.

NIB -11 Trade Names and Substitution of Equals. With the exception of any sole source determination that may be identified in this paragraph, a written request for an Or Equal Substitution using the form included in **Appendix A** together with data substantiating that the non-specified item is of equal quality to the item specified, may be submitted after Conditional Award and no later than **fourteen (14) calendar days** after City's issuance of Notice to Proceed (NTP). Authorization of a substitution is solely within the discretion of the City.

The Board of Harbor Commissioners made a finding on June 22, 2026, that the following items be sole sourced in compliance with Public Contract Code Section 3400, for compatibility in operations and maintenance of existing equipment at multiple sewer lift stations.

- (1) Technical Specification Section 40 63 43 Programmable Logic Controllers by Allen-Bradley (CompactLogix Processor); and
- (2) Technical Specification Section 40 66 00 Network and Communication Equipment by Ericsson (Cradlepoint); and
- (3) Technical Specification Section 40 72 13 UI-

trasonic Level Meters by Siemens (HydroRanger).

NIB -12 Prequalification of Contractors. Prime Contractors eligible to bid on this project have been prequalified. Bids will only be accepted from the following prequalified Prime Contractors:

- Ames Construction Inc.
- Balfour Beatty Infrastructure, Inc.
- Griffith Company
- Kiewit Infrastructure West Co.
- Ragнар Benson, LLC
- Reyes Construction, Inc.
- Stacy and Witbeck, Inc.
- Steve P. Rados, Inc.

NIB -13 Bid Security, Signed Contract, Insurance and Bonds. Each Bid shall be accompanied by a satisfactory Bidder's Bond or other acceptable Bid Security in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the Base Bid as a guarantee that the Bidder will, if Conditionally Awarded a Contract by the Board, within **thirty (30) calendar days** after the Contract is conditionally awarded to the Contractor by the City, execute and deliver such Contract to the Chief Harbor Engineer together with all required documents including insurance forms, a Payment Bond for one hundred percent (100%) of the Contract Price, and a Performance Bond for one hundred percent (100%) of the Contract Price. All Bonds shall be on forms provided by the City.

NIB -14 Conditional Award of Contract and Reservation of Rights. The Board, acting through the Chief Executive Officer, reserves the right at any time before the execution of the Contract by the City, to reject any or all Bids, and to waive any informality or irregularity. The Conditional Award of the Contract, if any, will be to the responsible Bidder submitting the lowest responsive and responsible Bid. If the lowest responsive responsi-

ble Bidder fails to submit the required documents including insurance forms, bonds and signed Contract **within thirty (30) calendar days** after Conditional Award of Contract, the Board reserves the right to rescind the Conditional Award and Conditionally Award the Contract to the next lowest responsive and responsible Bidder.

NIB -15 Period of Bid Irrevocability. Bids shall remain open and valid and Bidder's Bonds and other acceptable Bid Security shall be guaranteed and valid for **ninety (90) calendar days** after the Bid Deadline or until the Chief Executive Officer executes a Contract, whichever occurs first.

NIB -16 Substitution of Securities for retainage. Substitution of Securities is permitted in accordance with Section 22300 of the Public Contract Code.

NIB -17 Iran Contracting Act of 2010. In accordance with Public Contract Code sections 2200-2208, every person who submits a bid or proposal for entering into or renewing contracts with the City for goods or services estimated at \$1,000,000 or more are required to complete, sign, and submit the "Iran Contracting Act of 2010 Compliance Affidavit."

NIB -18 Grant Funding. This project is partially funded by CMAQ/RSTP, PIDP 23. Please refer to Special Conditions SC-9.

Issued at Long Beach, California, this 22nd day of June 2026.

Dr. Noel Hecagaba,
Chief Executive Officer of
the Harbor Department,
City of Long Beach,
California

Note: For project updates after Bid Opening, please contact plans.specs@polb.com.

[Post 9/11, from p. 8]

Post 9/11: Another World

was sharply at odds with elite war lust at the time, which undoubtedly influenced public opinion.

The war lust was evident in a survey of op-eds in *New York Times* and *Washington Post* by Fairness And Accuracy In Reporting, which found a lopsided 44 columns stressed a military response vs just two stressing non-military solutions in the first three weeks after 9/11.

These figures show there was no serious reflection on alternative responses, no check at all on our knee-jerk reaction, which is just what bin Laden wanted—a violent lawless response making us seem more like him once innocent civilians started dying by the thousands.

Our knee-jerk response to 9/11 created the chaotic, war-torn, increasingly lawless world we live in

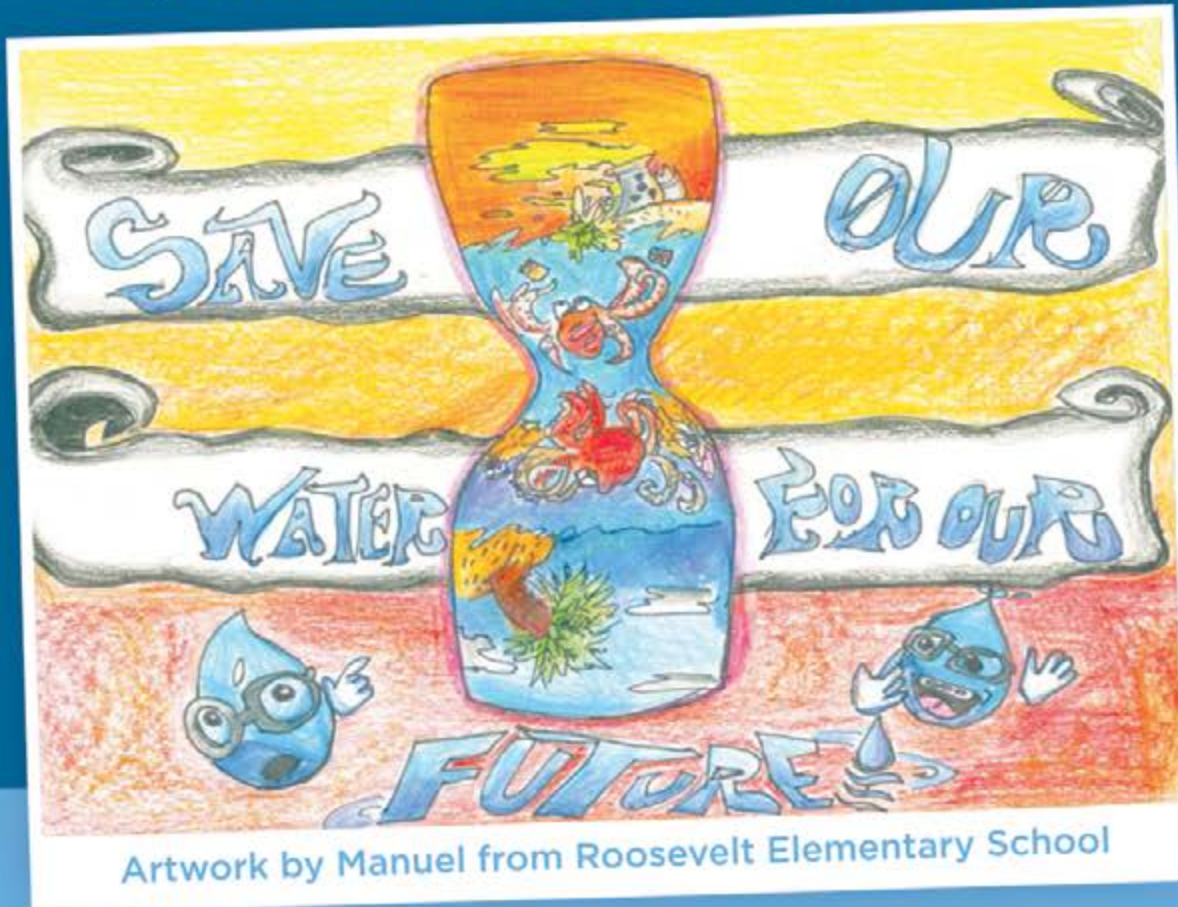
today. It gave permission to Putin's invasions abroad and eroded trust in elites, paving the way for Trump. The flood of refugees fleeing the wars we started after 9/11 also feed anti-immigrant sentiment across Europe, as many people who never wanted Middle East wars in the first place resented both the elites who took them to war, and the refugees fleeing it afterwards. This, in turn, was a major factor in the rise of far right parties in Europe.

It didn't have to be like this. Another world was possible—and the peaceful alternative was widely popular where it was thoughtfully considered. Democracy could have saved us — if we'd put it into practice when we needed it most.



STUDENT ART CONTEST

Open to K-6 Students in WRD Service Area



Artwork by Manuel from Roosevelt Elementary School



Choose a Topic to Create Your Artistic Masterpiece!

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DROP
COUNTS**

 **GUARDIANS
OF OUR
GROUNDWATER**

 **NATURE'S
WATER
HEROES**

DUE: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2026

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