

# South Bay Cities

Featuring the Weekly Newspapers of Hawthorne, Inglewood and Lawndale

Hawthorne Press Tribune  
The Weekly Newspaper of Hawthorne

Inglewood News  
The Weekly Newspaper of Inglewood

Lawndale Tribune  
AND LAWDALE NEWS  
The Weekly Newspaper of Lawndale

Herald Publications - El Segundo, Hawthorne, Lawndale & Inglewood Community Newspapers Since 1911 - (310) 322-1830 - Vol. 4, No. 4 - January 27, 2022

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## LA Rams and Pepsi Give Back to the South Bay Community



The Los Angeles Rams partnered with Pepsi's "Dig In" program to provide fans with free lunch from the iconic restaurant, The Serving Spoon. Photo by Kelly Smiley, courtesy LA Rams.

## A Courtroom Hearing You Wouldn't Mind Getting

By Kiersten Vannest

Picture a court scene: the defense, the prosecution, the judge, the jury. Perhaps a police officer, an attorney, or a full gallery are in attendance. In this picture, do you see someone in attendance furiously swiping away at a machine, listening intently? This is the court reporter, and it's secretly one of the most in-demand jobs on the market.

Stella Cordova, a lifelong El Segundo resident, has been trying to tell the world about her job for years. "There are different court reporting schools around the country," says Cordova, "and it's more and more common now to train online." Cordova herself didn't know about court reporting until she found herself doing it!

"It's kind of funny. I went to school in the seventies, and there was a big gas shortage, and that's when they started the carpool thing," she says. A friend of hers wanted to go to court reporting school and asked if Cordova would carpool with her. Not knowing what she was getting into, what it would cost, or where it would go, she agreed. She stayed simply because she didn't want any gossip about her quitting or giving up!

Cordova says it was the hardest four years of her life getting trained as a court reporter. She explains how court reporters don't hear words in the same way as normal English speakers; in fact, they practically speak a different language. Court reporters have to be able to transcribe every word said in court, which means they have to intake a lot of information incredibly quickly. Because of this, court reporters are trained to hear vowels and consonants instead of words and sentences by letter.

As the words are spoken, Cordova listens to the sounds and strokes a stenotype machine according to what she's hearing. The machine is like a typewriter, only it has fewer keys, and it's meant to be typed pressing multiple keys at once. Cordova tells the machine the syllables

she hears, and the machine interprets the syllables into fully spelled out words.

Being a court reporter has sculpted her into an excellent listener. So much so that Cordova says she used to come home and want absolute silence, a sentiment shared by many court reporters.

Though the job is called court reporter, this career can take a professional anywhere in the world. Near the beginning of her career, Cordova took her skills to Australia, where she met her husband. The courts there, she says, were very different from American courts, complete with wigs and very formal etiquette.

Court reporter jobs are so in demand that they transcend the courtroom. Many court reporters don't report to a single court and take jobs privately through attorneys and firms. Others instead choose to use their skills to transcribe seminars, classes, or sports. Live

captioning is done by trained court reporters because, as Cordova says, no machine will ever be able to transcribe with the nuance of a real person. Large universities use court reporters

**See Stella Cordova, page 7**



Stella Cordova. Photo provided by Stella Cordova.

## Weekend Forecast

**Friday**  
Partly  
Cloudy  
72°/51°



**Saturday**  
Partly  
Cloudy  
69°/49°



**Sunday**  
Sunny  
67°/50°



## The Thing About Bruxelles

Article and photos  
by Ben & Glinda Shipley

You can tell a lot about a country by sorting through its stock of public statuary. Americans tend to favor—and then disfavor—resolute citizen warriors, preferably seated on snorting steeds large enough to support a half-dozen selfie-snapping protesters. Communist Russia replaced the smug Romanov boyars with angry, determined workers, then spread their stone-and-metal likenesses across eastern Europe like a kitsch factory on overdrive. Italians can't help a fondness for bold, holy conquerors from a legend of two thousand years ago. The French love myths of any kind, stolen or otherwise, while the British vent their wind-blown imperial ambitions.

In Bruxelles, Belgium, the most celebrated

statue—le Mannequin-Pis—is a two-foot-high fountain, first reported in 1451, of a three-year-old urinating into a canal. Supposedly, his aristocratic father commissioned the artwork out of gratitude after the son wandered off and was found relieving himself. Not that anyone really cares. Every year, local mobs get drunk on the legendary Belgian brews and dress the bronze boy in a gaudy, new outfit without interfering with the free flow of his miniature stream.

Our own favorite gusher, le Cracheur (the Spitter), spews a constant stream of disdain from his wall perch between police headquarters and one of the oldest gay bars in Bruxelles. Here again, no one seems to know or care why he was carved, although his birthdate is fixed at 1704. Yet, when you

**See Travel, page 7**

# Cloudy with a Chance of Science: The 2022 NASA Cloud Challenge

By Tommy Vinh Bui, MLIS Associate Librarian, Inglewood Public Library

Find yourself distracted and staring listlessly out the window as clouds coast by these days? Well, you can start cloud-gazing in the service of science with NASA's 2022



Cloud Challenge. Let's start the new year by squinting skyward and joining neighborhood scientists around the world study our changing climate. All you need is a ready pair of eyeballs and a wellspring of curiosity to observe, capture, and share data about clouds in your community to the benefit of our understanding of global ecosystems.

Besides being picturesque and pivotal to inspirational calendar pages, clouds perform an important role in the global environment. Clouds reflect, absorb, and scatter sunlight and infrared emissions from our planet and consequently directly influence how energy is passed through the atmosphere. Varying types of clouds have variegated effects on how these processes are performed. Clouds are ever amorphous and change structure

rapidly so frequent observations and updated data sets are important to the interpretation of satellite cloud data over time.

Some of the observations that scientists are interested in include percentage of cloud cover and opacity, sky color, and overall visibility. Your unique on-the-ground cloud classifications are critical to forming a comprehensive grasp of the conditions that induce specific climate variables. Identifying and documenting the appearance and characteristics of certain clouds will contribute to a larger data set being compiled in the service of studying climate change. Clouds are reliable indicators of long-term global change and influence local weather patterns and air quality and the Earth's overall climate system. Clouds have a significant impact on surface temperatures and this will provide climate and atmospheric scientists with invaluable predictive data to better compile research

See NASA, page 5



Tommy Vinh Bui

## Classifieds

The deadline for Classified Ad submission and payment is Noon on Tuesday to appear in Thursday's paper. Advertisements must be submitted in writing by mail, fax or email. You may pay by cash, check, or credit card (Visa or M/C over the phone).

Errors: Please check your advertisements immediately. Any corrections and/or changes in an ad must be requested prior to the following Tuesday deadline in order to receive a credit. A credit will be issued for only the first time the error appears. Multiple runs will only be credited for the first time the error appears. No credit will be issued for an amount greater than the cost of the advertisement.

Beware: Employment offers that suggest guaranteed out-of-state or overseas positions may be deceptive or unethical in nature. If you have any doubts about the nature of a company, contact the local office of the Better Business Bureau, (213) 251-9696. Herald Publications does not guarantee that the advertiser's claims are true nor does it take responsibility for those claims.

### EMPLOYMENT

**FOOD SCIENTIST** - Develop & evaluate food processing guidelines. Monitor regulations. Conduct safety audits. BS in Food Science & Tech req'd. F/T Job Site/Intvw: Inglewood, CA. Resume to: HR Manager, Ito Inc., 431 S. Isis Avenue, Inglewood, CA 90301.

### FOR RENT

**Private ES 2** bedrooms, 1 bath updated upstairs apartment. Avail Feb 1, \$2700/mo. Call Lisa 310-322-6111

### EMPLOYMENT

**ENGAGEMENT REP** Language Access Network LLC is hiring a Partner Engagement Representative to drive loyalty & growth in healthcare clients. Reqs 2 yrs exp; exp must incl data analytics for business devel; Lean Six Sigma methods; CRM in business srvc sector. Work location: El Segundo CA. May work from home w/in commuting distance of El Segundo CA office. 50% travel within So. CA reqd to visit client sites. Email resume: jdunn1@cloudbreak.us attn: J. Dunn. Principals only. EOE.

### ROOM FOR RENT

**1 Bdrm**, furnished or unfurnished. Walking distance to Loyola University. \$795/month. 310.365.1481 or 310.641.2148.

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**WANTED. Vinyl, records, vinyl, anything musical.** Collectibles/antiques. Typewriters, sewing machines, military, silver, Japan, records, stamps, coins, jewelry, Chinese, ANYTHING. Buy/Sell/Trade. We sell for you on EBAY. Studio Antiques, El Segundo. 310.322.3895.

To appear in next week's paper, submit your Classified Ad by Noon on Tuesday. Late Ads will incur a \$20.00 late fee.



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# Entertainment

## Film Review

### Sundance 2022: 3 Films We Saw From This Year's Fest

By Morgan and Ryan Rojas, Cinemacy

Despite the initial disappointment felt when this year's Sundance Film Festival announced that it would be moving its in-person component to run entirely online (due to the ongoing pandemic), that didn't stop us from discovering amazing and standout independent films that transcended computer screens everywhere.

Below are a few of our favorite films that you should definitely keep an eye out for in 2022. For all of our festival reviews, check out [cinemacy.com](http://cinemacy.com).

**When You Finish Saving the World** (Dir. Jesse Eisenberg, 88 min.)

In his first feature film, Jesse Eisenberg adapts the story that he originally wrote, an Audible spoken-word story of the same name centered around the same idea of the discord between commercialism and activism. Here,

One day, they inadvertently found themselves caught in the middle of an unexpected volcanic eruption. Although their love story ended too soon and their contribution to the scientific community feels incomplete, what they did leave behind is hundreds of hours of in-depth and deep archival footage, which director Sara Dosa weaves together fervently to create a sweeping portrait of two people passionately in love with science, nature, and each other. *Fire of Love* was recently acquired by National Geographic Documentaries, release date forthcoming.

**After Yang** (Dir. Kogonada, 96 min.)

With his gifted eye for aesthetics, Kogonada's films are among the most arresting in movies today. His ability to compose beautifully designed, richly crafted shots of environments and the people who inhabit them, makes his



From L-R: *When You Finish Saving the World*, *Fire of Love*, *After Yang*. Photos courtesy of Sundance Institute.

he creates a story in which two characters – a very waspy, humorously self-centered mother and son – pursue their passions while also being preoccupied with their own narcissism – enough to fail to see that they're unable to connect with the outside world, and each other.

Finn Wolfhard and Julianne Moore star as headstrong mother and son, each separated by generational gaps and naturally narcissistic tendencies. Ziggy (Wolfhard) is a popular live-streamer, playing his original bedroom guitar jams for his devoted internet fanbase (20,000 of them, which he proudly shares to all who will listen). Once mother and son both slow down and listen to each other, Eisenberg's film reveals the simple answer of how one can truly "save the world."

**Fire of Love** (Dir. Sara Dosa, 93 min.)

Making its World Premiere in the U.S. Documentary competition is *Fire of Love*, the incredible true story of French scientists Katia and Maurice Krafft who sacrificed their lives to advance the public understanding of the mineral world. In an effort to show the strength and beauty of volcanoes, the Kraffts routinely put themselves in the path of danger.

films visually and singularly special.

Adapted from a short story by Alexander Weinstein ("Saying Goodbye to Yang"), *After Yang* tells the story of Jake (Colin Farrell) and Kyra (Jodie Turner-Smith), who are parents to an adopted Chinese daughter, Mika (Malea Emma Tjandrawidjaja). Their other "child" is the artificially intelligent android, Yang (Justin H. Min), who supports the family and especially Mika.

The performances throughout the film are all emotionally felt. Each of the actors' scenes, including Colin Farrell, Jodie Turner-Smith, Justin H. Min, and Haley Lu Richardson, all resonate deeply in their tender honesty. They convey a tranquil serenity to Kogonada's gorgeously created world, while also expressing such deeply felt feelings like grief, loss, and the fear of life's finiteness.

While you'll have to slow yourself down to its patient, slow-burning pace, it left my heart swelling, eyes tearing, and soul transcending. *After Yang* is a deeply beautiful, profound, and amazing achievement from Kogonada that will make you look at your world and life with a little more wonder after. •



Morgan Rojas



Ryan Rojas

# Hawthorne Press Tribune

The Weekly Newspaper of Hawthorne

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## South Bay 8th Graders, Don't Miss Out on the School and Programs of Your Choice



This Thursday, January 27 is our final Enrollment Open House at Hawthorne High School, Lawndale High School & Leuzinger High School from 5-8PM. Come learn about all that our schools have to offer and register onsite. Learn about Academies, Clubs, Programs and Sports. You are not automatically enrolled in high school, you must register for the school of your choice. Join our family CV family. Photo courtesy Centinela Valley Union High School District.

### Finance

#### Get Extra Liability Protection With Umbrella Insurance

(BPT) - When a claim exceeds the limit of your home or auto liability insurance, a personal umbrella policy can help cover the rest and give you peace of mind.

Legal responsibility is a tricky thing. Whether you're at fault for an auto accident, or someone is injured on your property, you can be held responsible for other people's medical expenses, pain and suffering, property damage, and even lost wages. And here's the thing: You don't have to be a millionaire to get sued like one.

That's why liability coverage is such a vital part of your homeowners or auto insurance policy.

The truth is, anyone can get hit with a costly lawsuit, regardless of age or income. And if you're found liable for damages, it's not only your savings that's at risk. Your property, investments and even future wages could be on the line if damages exceed the amount covered by your homeowners or auto liability insurance.

##### What Is Umbrella Insurance?

A personal umbrella policy (PUP) offers extra liability coverage beyond the limits of your homeowners, auto or renters insurance. After you reach the limits of other policies, umbrella insurance kicks in so you don't have to pay for additional damages out of pocket.

##### Do You Need an Umbrella Insurance Policy?

"Major liability can arise easier than you

might think," says JJ Montanaro, Military Affairs Director and Certified Financial Planner professional.

"Let's say you crash into and total a \$100,000 sports car driven by a heart surgeon who, ... as a result, can't go back to work," Montanaro says. "Or maybe there's a pool accident at your house. Or your dog bites someone. It happens, and it can get very expensive - even exceeding what your auto or homeowners insurance would pay."

Adding umbrella coverage can provide a higher level of protection for your assets and wages - as well as any loved ones in your household.

A good rule of thumb is to have enough liability protection to cover your net worth - everything that you own minus everything you owe. If your net worth exceeds your limits on your auto and home insurance, get an umbrella policy.

##### What Does an Umbrella Policy Cover?

Umbrella policies typically offer four general categories of coverage:

- 1) Bodily injury liability refers to the cost of injuries to other people.
- 2) Property damage liability refers to the cost of damage to another person's property caused by you or a member of your household.
- 3) Other personal liability covers other types of claims beyond bodily injury and

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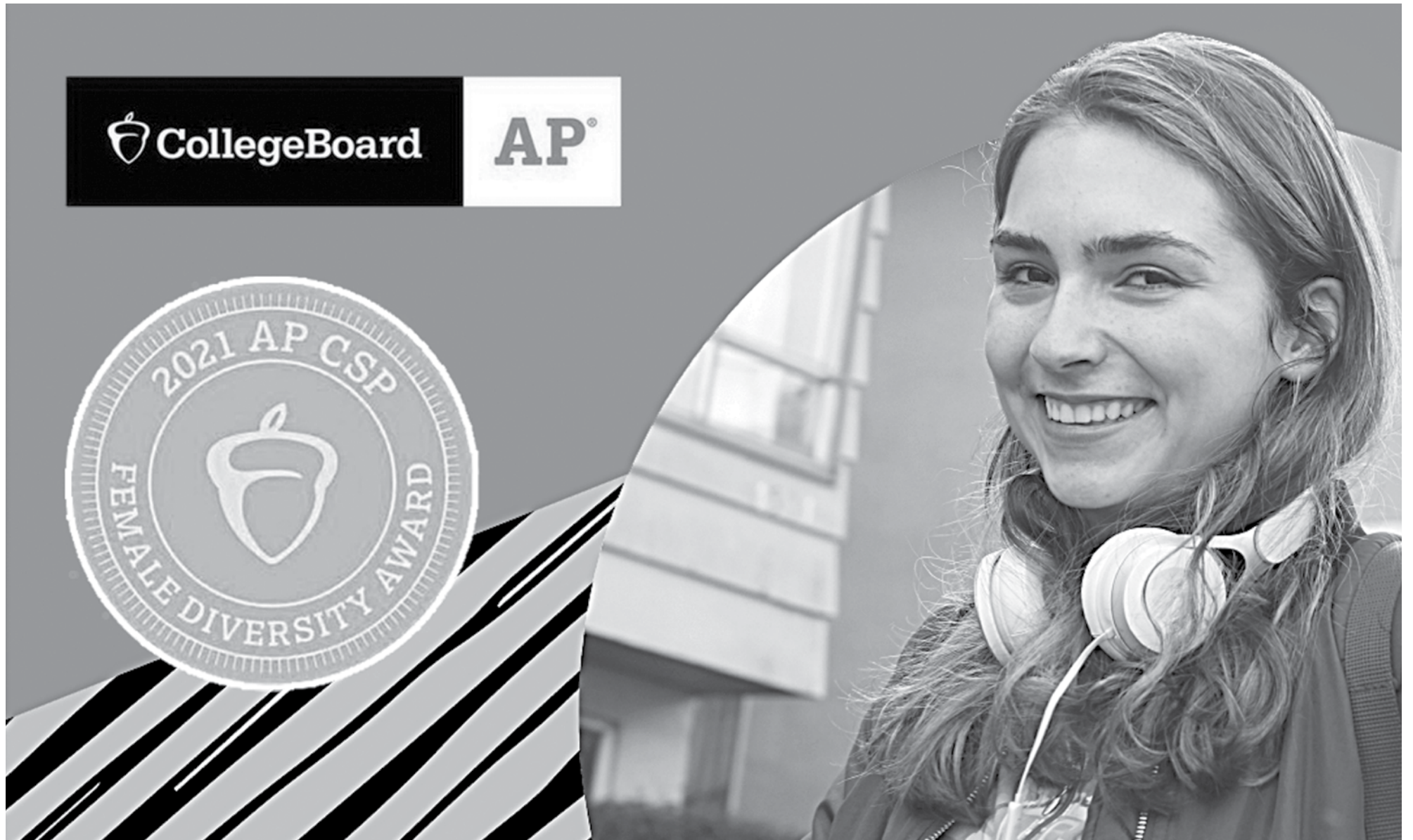
# Lawndale Tribune

AND LAWNDALE NEWS

The Weekly Newspaper of Lawndale

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## Leuzinger Helps Female Students Succeed



Leuzinger High School was recognized by The College Board for engaging more female students in computer science. Congratulations for all your hard work that inspires our students. Photo courtesy The College Board.

### Seniors

## 3 Ways To Stay Active And Keep Your Mind In Shape

(BPT) - Aging brings about many changes. Beyond graying hair and wrinkles, your brain is also changing as you grow older and wiser. According to McKnight Brain Research Foundation, 87% of people 65 and older experience cognitive changes associated with normal aging. The good news is that these changes don't have to be a normal passage of aging. You may find that you can combat some cognitive decline through exercise.

Beyond staying physically fit and healthy, exercise can benefit your mental health. Physical activity improves cognitive function as people age through neuroplasticity, which allows the brain to compensate for injury and disease and adjust in response to new situations. Exercise also helps alleviate stress and depression.

Here are three ways you can stay physically active and reap the mental benefits.

### Take a Walk

Daily walks are incredibly beneficial and easy to incorporate into your routine. You can start small by taking a walk around your block or going to a local park for a short circuit. As you continue to build your walking stamina, you may find that you can go farther and farther.

Walking doesn't have to be a solitary activity. Ask a friend or family member to come along on your daily walk. Your neighborhood may have local walking groups. Joining a group allows you to stay active, provides community and allows you to make new friends.

### Join a Fitness Class

Group exercise is a great way to stay

active. Whether you're going back to a familiar activity like swimming and water aerobics or learning a new form of exercise like yoga and dance, a fitness class allows you to have a repeating, consistent physical activity in your weekly schedule.

"I encourage seniors who are new to exercise to try a class like SilverSneakers that is designed specifically for older adults," said Richard Ashworth, president and CEO of Tivity Health, the company that delivers

SilverSneakers. "We also have a wide variety of live virtual classes through SilverSneakers.com with trainers who guide participants every step of the way.

Keeping your mind as active as your body is vital to healthy aging. SilverSneakers has added mental enrichment to the experiences available to members by joining forces with GetSetUp, a virtual learning platform designed specifically for seniors. The program offers a wide range of classes through



a senior-specific video platform optimized for ease of activation, user engagement and social connection.

"Once you turn 65 or 85, it doesn't mean you can't keep learning, trying new things and sharing your passions with others," said Lawrence Kosick, Co-Founder and President of GetSetUp. "The older adults who participate in GetSetUp classes are eager to explore new topics and develop or deepen hobbies. Not only is it a lot of fun, but with brain health being as important as physical health as we age, learning new skills or enjoying mentally stimulating activities with peers all can lead to healthier aging."

### Keep Stretching

As you age, you tend to lose some muscle strength and elasticity and your joints weaken. A gentle way to incorporate movement into your life is to do daily stretches. Stretching provides several benefits, including increased circulation and blood flow, enhanced muscle strength and improved range of motion and flexibility. You may also find that stretching relieves lower back pain and stiffness associated with arthritis.

Low-intensity stretching - such as lunges, squats and shoulder circles - can also improve your mood and energy. You can incorporate these and other stretches into your routine by starting your day with some light stretches after your morning cup of coffee or doing a few dynamic yoga stretches before turning in for the night.

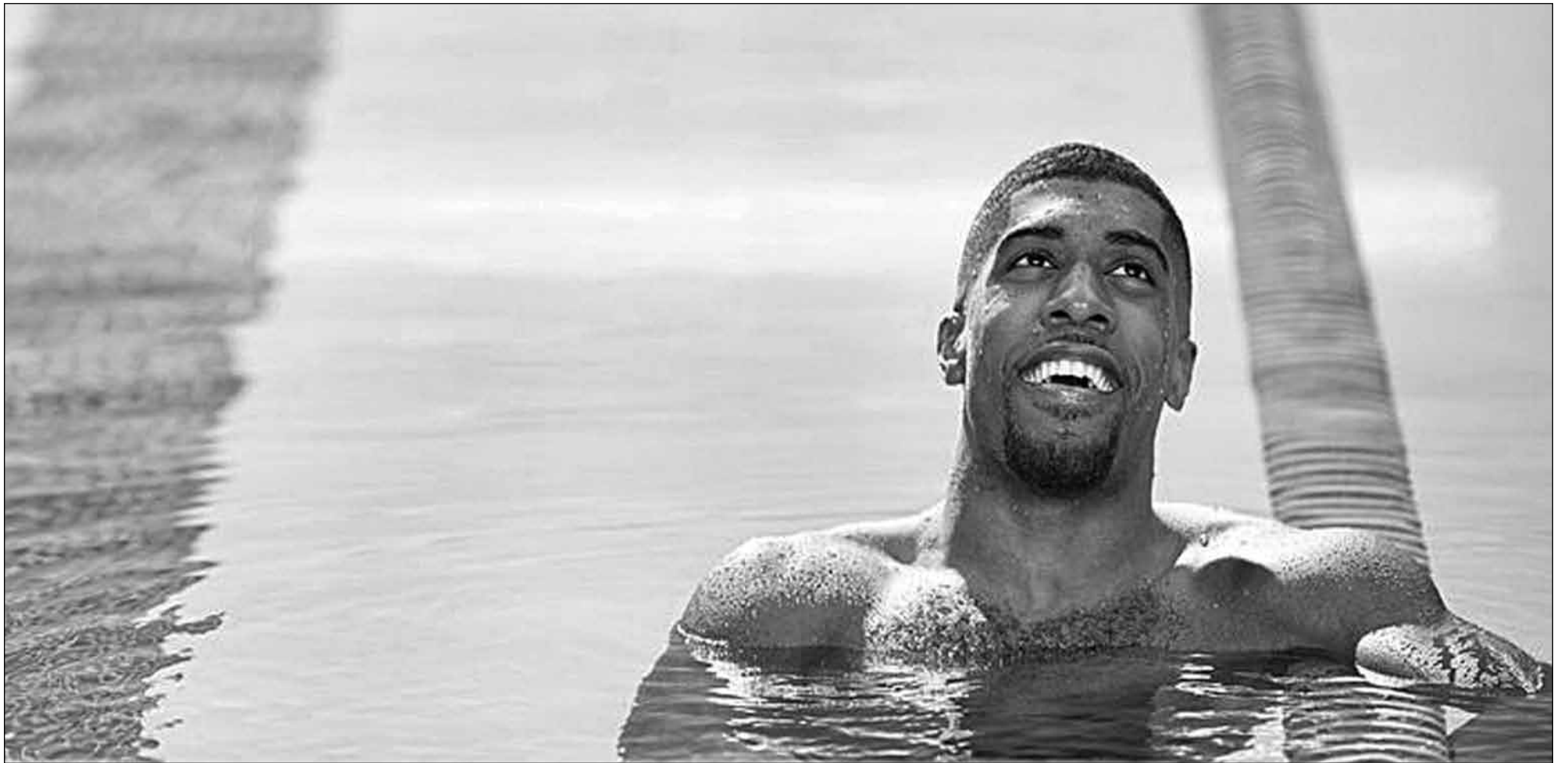
No matter what type of physical activity you decide to do, invest in your mind and body and get moving today. •

# Inglewood News

The Weekly Newspaper of Inglewood

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## Passing the Mic to Jamal Hill, Bronze Medalist – 2021 Paralympics in Tokyo



Librarians of the Inglewood Public Library interview bronze medal winner, Olympian & Aquatics Educator Jamal Hill, a native of this city of Champions. Listen to Mr. Hill talk about his life, successes, dreams & goals. To take a listen go to the LISTEN UP podcast a series from our local librarians. Photo courtesy Jamal Hill.

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### NASA from page 2

addressing our increasingly warming planet.

Furthermore, your vigilant cloud reports will provide researchers with a clearer picture of clouds and their correlation with Earth's energy. By making cloud observations right in your own backyard, we'll get more nuanced information about regional temperatures, moisture, and wind conditions at varying altitudes in the atmosphere. This data is also useful to meteorologists for predicting the weather and providing insights about the interaction between regional sunlight, heat, and surface conditions. Clouds play a most central role in modulating the exchange of heat in our atmosphere and those changes over time will be critical in anticipating future climate trends and the health of our environment.

The active participation of Citizen Scientists is indispensable in this long-term collection of cloud measurements and phenomena. NASA and other space agencies have a plenitude of orbiting satellites making regular rounds patrolling the planet and collecting datum about clouds and the flux and ebb of Earth's energy. And while these satellites supply useful information, there is still a need to scrutinize surface details that might be missed by the satellite's instrumentation. Certain wispy thin cirrus cloud types are often difficult for satellites to detect. And distinguishing between clouds and snow-covered topographies also prove to be a challenge for the satellite's capabilities.

So, let's get counting clouds together. And we'll simultaneously strengthen our scientific community and meaningfully contribute to the stalwart efforts to better understand the nefarious scourge of climate change. And all from the comfort of your gently swaying backyard hammock. NASA scientists are eagerly looking forward to looking up together as a community. •

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 310-322-1830



# Stella Cordova

from front page

to transcribe lessons for students who are hard of hearing or learn better by reading

Cordova herself works for the county, mostly sticking to a single court location. From civil suits and divorce to felonies and dramatic elevator rides between sessions, she has seen (or heard) it all. Working in criminal court requires having a tough skin and an ability to remove oneself from the case. She says work outside the courtroom could be as eventful as what was happening on the stand, with fights, kids, and a wide array of visitors.

Despite the schooling and the tough cases, Cordova also describes court reporting as one of the best and most rewarding things in her life. Along with the darker stories, she gets tales of levity, and no day at work is ever the same. Cordova says a court reporter can't leave a session without having learned something, listening to experts present evidence, and lawyers deep dive into laws all day.

Court reporting work is constantly in demand and faces a significant shortage, as less and less it is advertised. Even with technology continu-

ally evolving, the need for accurate transcription remains steady and pays well. A beginning court reporter in California can expect to bring in \$99k and up in their first year of work. Transcripts made outside the workday bring in extra income above and beyond salaried work. Court reporters working privately can make as much or as little as desired, taking one of many jobs available whenever time allows.

Cordova's hope is that today's burgeoning adults learn about her line of work and keep an open mind to pursuing a career like hers.

She's spoken at high schools and job fairs, though she says that most high schoolers are more interested in being influencers and gamers than transcribing court cases. In the future, she hopes to talk to a younger audience who may have a more open mind to outside opportunities, perhaps speaking at middle schools around the area.

Though court reporting can mean a major exercise in listening, learning, and speaking up, it also promises a life of stable income, variety, and a lifetime of stories. •

# Travel

from front page

consider that nearly all European fountains were built to supply water for drinking and washing...

Off the Grand' Place in Bruxelles, a life-size brass wall inlay commemorates the death of an obscure Brabantine patriot, Everard t'Serclaes. In 1356, Everard led a daring assault on the Flemings at the Bruxelles Hotel de Ville. Thirty years later, he was innocently walking down a peaceful street, when grudge-filled enemies recognized and cut him to pieces. It goes without saying, that the local guide books advise the gullible to rub Everard's arm for good luck!

So what do these statues say?

In 50 BCE, when Julius Caesar was driving the Roman Empire up through Europe, the one tribe he found nearly impossible to quell was the Belgae. These uncouth, illiterate savages did something no other tribe had managed, which was to turn the fearsome Roman Legions leftward toward the future British Isles. Yet some areas of the globe are just destined for invasion, and the tiny walnut-shaped wedge between France, the Netherlands, and Germany seems to be one of them. Over the centuries since the ancient Italians, the Belgians have reluctantly hosted Goths, Danes, Saxons, Austrians, Spanish, French, British, Dutch, Germans, and Americans.

Each invader has tried to shove its One True Religion down local throats, some with more success than others. All have left traces, making Belgium an authentic melting pot long before the first passengers set off for the New World. But none has entirely succeeded in breaking through the defining characteristic—the “thing” about Bruxelles and Belgium—which is a healthy and persistent contempt for anything that represents official authority. Rulers be damned. The unit of social organization here isn't the state, the city, the neighborhood, nor

even the street. The only structure that really matters in Belgium is the family.

In 2000, the US Supreme Court decided an election in part because no one trusted the country to go a day without a sitting govern-



La Place Royale: Godefroy de Bouillon summons the faithful to the First Crusade, then dies in Jerusalem.

ment. In 2010, on the other hand, Belgium set a world record for surviving 541 days with no government at all—and hardly anyone seemed to notice. Belgian elections are lively, chaotic affairs, with three or four strands of political thought divided regionally into French, Flemish, and even German versions. For a month or two, everyone gets excited, posters splash across the walls, demonstrators fulminate, and the timorous US State Department issues an advisory. Then, just as quickly, the citizens get back to the business of living and ignoring city hall.

The longest-lasting and most successful invasion of this tiny country took place in 1831 not on the border, but in an obscure collection of London drawing rooms. By then, all the crowned heads of Europe had inter-married, rather than tainting their blood with the rest of us. So along with a hemophilic gene, the European royals all shared the same irritable German uncle, Leopold of Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld. If they all sported unearned crowns, why shouldn't he? Eventually, the mighty gave in and—while barely mentioning it to the locals—awarded the German-English-speaking-Protestant Leopold a French-Dutch-speaking-Catholic crown and the title King of the Belgians.

And this in turn led to a much more serious invasion, when Leopold's son, by then King Leopold II, complained that he'd been left out of the race for imperial colonies in Africa. Once again, at the 1884 Berlin Conference, the European nations gave into Leopold's grumbles

and awarded him the vast Congo River basin. This led to one of the bloodiest, most horrific scandals of colonial mismanagement in history—so bad, that ten years before the King died, obese and tired, in bed with his favorite



La Grand' Place: Rubbing Everard t'Serclaes on the arm might bring you luck, but it didn't help with his enemies.

Bruxelles prostitute, the frustrated Belgian government took away his prize.

The guilty secret, of course, is that the flood of money from the Congo turned Bruxelles into one of the most beautiful capitals in the world. The usual monuments and palaces are far less overbearing (and tourist-mobbed) than other European relics—after all, imperial pretensions only travel so far in a tiny populace that treats tax evasion like a second religion. Yet, Bruxelles sports the greenest park network of any capital on the planet, with gorgeous spaces ranging from the geometric Parc Royal and Grand Sablon to sumptuous Botanical Gardens, to the leafy sprawls of le Bois de la Cambre



La Rue des Pierres: Le Cracheur spews his opinion of tourists and officials alike.

and le Forêt de Soignes.

In 2016, when American journalists arrived in Bruxelles to cover the terrorist bombings at Zaventem Airport, they had a serious problem fitting Belgian chaos into their preconceived notions of how public life should work. They described the city as thoroughly misgoverned and segregated, and even declared our own neighborhood of sixty years a “no-go zone” for Caucasians. Every time a protest breaks out, those same foreign news sources quake and tremble—even though their own footage might show bored café goers watching the excitement from the fringes.

The ancient name Brosella refers to the swamp along the Senne River with the evil air that has produced some of the finest beers and lagers in the world. Today, the swamp might be filled in and driven underground, but the notion remains of dragging great things and great moments out of chaos, one puzzling, anarchic lunge at a time. We're guessing this is why Bruxelles enjoys relatively few visitors, at least from the US. Americans generally head to Paris and London for pretensions of aristocratic grandeur and to Amsterdam to misbehave amongst the tulips. In Bruxelles, you have a more subtle and polyglot reflection of the progress of Europe that has always had fans crowning it the best-kept secret in Europe. And like most locals not involved in the tourist trade, we don't mind if it stays that way.

**Next up: The Earth in the Palm of Your Hand.**

Ben & Glinda Shipley, published writers and photographers, share their expertise and experience of their many world travels. If you have any questions or interest in a particular subject, please email them at [web@heraldpublications.com](mailto:web@heraldpublications.com). •



Arc du Cinquantenaire: One King's taste in art, another King's penchant for scandal.



Église Sainte-Catherine de Bruxelles: A demon gushes liquid venom in agony at all our righteousness.

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# PETSPETS **Pets** PETSPETS

## Purrrfect Companions



Orange Juice

*"Time spent with cats is never wasted"*

– Sigmund Freud.

When you adopt, you save a life... and in turn enrich your own.

**Minnie** is a bit of a diva. She has lots to say and strong opinions (her sister is Siamese). She loves cuddles and pets, and purrs instantly when touched. Despite her diminutive stature, her cuddle buddy is Jacques-Pierre, another foster cat in our house who is still a kitten himself, but quite large. Despite their size difference (Jacques is about three times Minnie's size) they love to wrestle and play together. Minnie would love to be adopted with Jacques-Pierre or any other younger cat or older kitten who would love worshipping her and following her lead. She is patient with children (so long as they are worshipping her, preferably with treats) and is also very independent.

**Jacques-Pierre** is sweet, shy fellow, whose big heart is hard to resist. When he is feeling safe, Jacques-Pierre loves being hugged, pet, and cuddled. At night, he likes to sleep pressed against his human. He is a submissive cat who gets along with difficult kitty personalities and would love to be placed with a confident, even bossy cat who would love him (or let him worship them) and tell him what to do. He is currently taking orders from little Minnie who is 1/3 his size. He loves caring for her and will cuddle and groom her several times a day. They would love to be adopted together.

Ready for a double treat? **Orange Juice** (orange tabby) and **Creamsicle** (buff tabby) are a bonded pair of teenage brothers. Both are super sweet, affectionate, and outgoing. They are also highly energetic and playful. Bonus feature... they were raised with and love dogs. This handsome duo is looking for a safe and loving home together.



Minnie (left) and Jacques-Pierre

**Phoebe** is a bold, playful charmer. She can be quite athletic (and immensely entertaining) as she performs high leaps to catch the "birdie" at the end of a wand toy, bats a little ball or goes vertically airborne during a game of chase with her siblings. Every morning, she is one of the first kittens to cuddle with her foster mom in bed. Although Phoebe takes a moment to warm up, she truly enjoys getting attention and loving pets from all people, regardless of whether she knows them. Phoebe has lived with a dog and an unrelated cat since birth. She has shown increasing interest in playing with both as she has gotten older – although they generally ignore her. She has also enjoyed playing with several visiting children. Because Phoebe has a lot of playful energy, she would do best with a playmate to keep her company instead of being the only pet in the home.

**Camila** is an owner-surrendered young mom who had birthed two litters already at approximately one year old. Her previous owner decided to surrender this beautiful



Phoebe

girl after his apartment complex changed to no-pets policy. Camila is friendly, inquisitive and loves her human. She's talkative when she wants food or pets. Camila is still young herself and will need a high energy playmate to keep her company. She can be adopted with any of her kittens from the recent litter, Spring, Winter, or to a home that already has another similar active young cat who will play with her. Even though Camila had been



Camila

a wonderful mom taking care of her kittens, now that she has been spayed, it's time for her to find her forever home and retire from making more babies.

Do you like big cats? **Shamu** is a huge hunk of love that enjoys attention, affection,



Shamu

adoption through Kitten Rescue, one of the largest cat rescue groups in Southern California. All our kitties are spayed/neutered, microchipped, tested for FeLV and FIV, dewormed and current on their vaccinations. For additional information and to see these or our other kittens and cats, please check our website [www.kittenrescue.org](http://www.kittenrescue.org).

Our Adoption Center is temporarily closed. In the meantime, we are still conducting contactless adoptions using all the online tools at our disposal. To virtually browse our adoptable cats, please visit our Adoption Gallery where you can find photos and profiles of all the cats and kittens we have up for adoption from our network of foster homes and from the Sanctuary. At the end of each cat's profile is a link to the email address of the foster parent or adoption counselor, and you may reach out directly with questions or to arrange a virtual meeting.

The donations and support we receive from individuals like you, who share our love and commitment to helping cats and kittens in Los Angeles, are the sole reason we are able to do what we do. We are grateful for your financial help. By making even a small donation today, you can touch the lives of the many deserving, wonderful animals in our care. There are many ways you can donate and help, and every dollar means so much. Kitten Rescue is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Your tax-deductible donations for the rescue and care of our cats and kittens can be made through our website or by sending a check payable to Kitten Rescue, 3519 Casitas Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90039.

Saving one animal won't change the world, but the world will surely change for that animal. •



Creamsicle