



LILA OMURA, Redondo Beach housing navigator, shows Brook Owens one of the tiny homes she'd reserved for Owens and her daughter.

A city's homelessness success story

How Redondo Beach reduced its unhoused population to 'functional zero'

By Doug Smith

In the morning, Lila Omura checked in on a woman on the beach who had been kicked out of her shelter, again, because she wouldn't shower. By noon she had comforted a raggedly dressed man outside a coffee shop who couldn't stop crying, and offered help to a woman on a bus bench who snapped back, "You need help more than I do."

It was a predictably unpredictable morning in Redondo Beach for Omura, a housing navigator employed by the South Bay city and the field leader for an aggressive program to reduce homelessness on its streets to a bare minimum.

Over the first six months of this year, the city reached a milestone: The median time it took Omura and her colleagues to get homeless people off the street fell to 14 days. That was more than it



CHECKING on a man sleeping on a sidewalk. He declined Omura's help.

needed to earn the rare "functional zero" designation, a term broadly meaning that services are in balance with homelessness.

The recognition came from the South Bay Cities Council of Governments, which picked Redondo Beach to lead the way to a goal of getting the upper hand on homelessness regionally.

Since 2017, the city of 68,000 has dropped from 11th to 51st among the county's 56 cities that had the most homeless people per capita, a Times analysis of homeless-count data shows.

"We felt like our cities were doing well," said Ronson Chu, the council's senior project manager for homeless and senior services. "We were making a lot of progress, especially Redondo Beach. We wanted to measure the progress, so we can say to our constituents that these services are working, so we can hold ourselves accountable and educate the public."

[See Homelessness, A7]

A shrine to Ohtani's baseball talent — and humanity

Memorabilia costing close to \$100,000 fill unlikely hometown museum

By Max Kim

OSHU, Japan — Seems Hair and Spa in Oshu, a city in northern Japan, is crammed full with Dodgers memorabilia, but owner Hironobu Kanno is adamant that he isn't really a Dodgers fan.

It was just past 9 a.m. and Kanno, who is 63 and sports a flowing blond ponytail, had just hurried to his shop to tune in to Game 4 of the World Series.

Like the rest of Dodgers superstar Shohei Ohtani's hometown, he was hoping, of course, that today was the day that the L.A. franchise would complete a sweep of its historical rivals, the Yan-

kees.

Even so, he is clear that his loyalties lie not with the Dodgers but with Ohtani, the Oshu native who has taken Major League Baseball by storm and seen the city rally behind him in a way only a hometown can.

If Ohtani were to magically join the Yankees tomorrow? Would Kanno trade out his Dodgers blue for Yankee stripes?

"Of course," Kanno said, without pause.

In reality, Ohtani is on a 10-year contract with the Dodgers, meaning Kanno's loyalty is, too.

Per a rule he has instituted for the World Series, every single one of the hair-

[See Ohtani, A10]



HIRONOBU KANNO insists that all stylists at his salon in Oshu, Japan, wear Dodgers jerseys while tending to clients during the World Series.

A DODGERS BAR IN NYC? There is one in Manhattan, and an L.A. reporter who's a Yankees fan pays a visit. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Would a new D.A. prosecute cops?

Gascón has gone after them for use of force. Some fear Hochman, his rival, is too close to police to do so.

By James Queally

Chiquita Twyman didn't think she'd ever see justice for her younger brother, Ryan.

The unarmed 24-year-old was killed by Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies

when they fired 34 rounds into the back of his vehicle in Willowbrook in June 2019.

His sister knew the district attorney's office rarely prosecuted law enforcement officers for using excessive force. Even after George Gascón became district attorney by campaigning on holding police accountable, she remained skeptical.

But in Gascón's four years as the county's top prosecutor, he has been one of California's most aggressive pursuers of officers suspected of misconduct, making him an ally for advocates

of criminal justice reform — one whom some fear they'll lose if the latest poll numbers prove true.

Nathan Hochman is heavily favored to oust Gascón from office on Nov. 5, and the former federal prosecutor is the preferred candidate of law enforcement throughout L.A. County. He has raked in millions in donations from police unions and often talks about restoring the relationship between the district attorney's office and local cops.

Gascón has charged five

[See D.A., A5]

The politics of apologies in L.A. City Council race

Ysabel Jurado gets flak for LAPD comment, but she's not budging.

By David Zahner

Los Angeles Police Officer Roberto Yanez said he has spent much of his career forging ties with residents in South L.A. and Watts, working with them to tackle gang graffiti, theft and many

other quality-of-life issues.

As a senior lead officer, Yanez works to ensure that residents and business owners feel comfortable contacting him about neighborhood problems.

So when he learned that City Council candidate Ysabel Jurado had said "F—the police, that's how I see 'em" at a college meet-and-greet, he was taken aback.

"I try not to allow politics to affect me, but it's a slap in

[See Council, A5]

U.S. GDP is still going strong

Nation's economic growth inspires envy around the world — but not at home. Why the disconnect?

By Don Lee

WASHINGTON — The last and most consequential report on the nation's economic health before next week's election provided more evidence of America's resilient growth. Whether it will make a difference to voters is an open question.

The Commerce Department said Wednesday that U.S. gross domestic product, the broadest measure of economic output, expanded at a robust annual rate of 2.8% in the third quarter. A country's GDP is a tally of the value of all goods and services produced in the nation.

The growth was a slight deceleration from the 3% annualized increase in the second quarter, but U.S. economic activity continued to far outpace almost every other developed nation. "The outlook is for more of the same with growth the envy of the world," said Chris Rupkey, chief economist at Fwd-bonds, a economic and markets research firm in New York.

The latest GDP increase was again powered by durable consumer spending as U.S. households have benefited from a solid job market, declining inflation and a booming stock market.

"It's impressive, phenomenal," said Jeffrey Korzenik, chief economist at Fifth Third Bank, referring to the American economy's exceptional run of strong output and full employment.

The Labor Department is set on Friday to release job creation and unemployment numbers for October, but analysts are discounting the report as the data are expected to be badly distorted by the temporary effects of

[See Economy, A10]

World Series Game 5 results

Read about Wednesday night's Dodgers-Yankees result at latimes.com/sports and in our World Series Extra at latimes.com/enewspaper.

Voter roll purge in Virginia OKd

Supreme Court overrules federal judge and sides with Republicans on the 11th-hour effort. **PERSPECTIVES, A2**

San Francisco mayor's pitch

London Breed is direct and unapologetic about her tilt to the right as she recounts her tenure. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

Weather Sunshine.

L.A. Basin: 72/50. **B6**

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