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Police & Fire logs
See the calls for service.
Page 2 & 3

City apology
Advocates ask for recognition of racial injustice.
Page 4

City plans recontextualization of controversial City Hall murals



File photo

ART: The murals could be covered with a metal curtain while officials debate their long-term fate.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

City staff have released a timeline for recontextualizing a pair of 1930s Stanton Macdonald Wright murals, which have been a subject of controversy for several years due to their depiction of native Americans and framing of Santa Monica's history.

In the first quarter of 2022, temporary semi-transparent metal curtains will be installed over the murals per a decision made in a May 2021 City Council meeting. Community discussions are planned for May to October 2022 and staff is expected to report back to Council with recommendations for recontextualization by January 2023 with a goal to implement the project by the end of 2023.

The two murals are in the lobby of City Hall. One displays the first contact between the Europeans and native Tongva, while the other shows popular activities from the City's past including polo, tennis, auto races, aviation and sailing.

Concerns about the murals include the comparative attention to detail on the faces of European versus native characters, the interpretation of natives' posture as subservient and the elite nature of the recreational activities that are displayed.

One of the prominent critics of the murals is Councilmember Oscar de la Torre. De la Torre currently serves on an Ad Hoc Committee with Councilmember Christine Parra that is in charge of serving as liaisons to the Arts and Landmarks Commissions as the community explores how to address the murals' contested history.

"We should strive to do everything in our power to unite our country behind principles and

SEE **MURAL** PAGE 6

Schools return in person amid COVID-19 surge

Malibu High School begins semester with distance learning after 20 students and staffers test positive over the weekend.

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica students were back in classrooms this week following a winter break that coincided with a drastic uptick in local COVID-19 cases, with school officials saying their goal was to continue offering in-person instruction unless absolutely forced to go remote.

The goal was not met in Malibu, where 20 new virus cases triggered a distance learning day for Malibu High School and Middle School students on Tuesday, Jan. 4.

"Given the high percentage of positive cases from Sunday's testing and given the prior recommendations from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LADPH) physician assigned to our outbreak case prior to winter break, we have determined that Tuesday, January 4th will be a distance learning day," MHS Principal Patrick Miller wrote in an email to MHS/MMS families on Monday afternoon. "This will allow us to receive the results from today's testing and to notify any additional positive cases, ensuring they do not come to campus. It will also allow us to obtain test results

SEE **SCHOOLS** PAGE 11

New York company makes city's largest real estate purchase



Courtesy image

APARTMENTS: Several pre-approved projects have changed ownership.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The largest real estate deal in the city's history closed this week with the sale of eight properties to New York based real estate company Tishman Speyer.

According to a statement from brokerage Walker & Dunlop, Tishman's purchase of 3.1 acres from WS Communities is one of the

SEE **DEVELOPMENT** PAGE 6

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL
VIA TELECONFERENCE
Pursuant to AB361

SUBJECT: **Proposed Extension of Interim Zoning Regulations Revising the Demolition Permit Review Process Related to the Preservation of Historic Resources**

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to introduce and adopt an Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance to extend interim zoning regulations established by Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance Number 2592 (CCS), extended by Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance Numbers 2599 and 2626 (CCS), and amended by Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance Number 2643 (CCS).

The interim zoning regulations amend Chapter 9.25 of the Santa Monica Municipal Code to revise the demolition permit process relating to the preservation of historic resources and to reflect the restructured historic preservation program implemented in July 2020. The interim zoning regulations apply to demolition permit applications filed for buildings or structures 40 years of age or older.

The proposed Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance would extend the interim zoning regulations to allow for further study of the revised demolition permit review process prior to making permanent changes to the Santa Monica Municipal Code.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2022 AT 6:30 P.M.**

LOCATION: In an effort to reduce the risk of spreading Coronavirus (COVID-19), only members of the City Council and City Staff will participate in person at City Hall. Members of the public may participate via telephone. The meeting will be broadcast on CityTV Channel 16 and streamed on the City's website as normal at https://www.youtube.com/user/Citytv16santamonica or https://www.smgov.net/video. Members of the public may also dial in to listen to the meeting per the phone number that will be published on the meeting agenda.

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Written public comment can be submitted via email to councilmtgitems@santamonica.gov. Written public comment submitted before 2:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be available for online viewing. Please note the agenda item number in the subject line of your written comments.

If you want to speak on a particular agenda item, please call (310) 312-8173 once the caller queue for the agenda item opens. Please note that the caller queue for each agenda item will not open until just before the item is called and will close after the first five public comments (from other callers) are heard.

Please see the January 25, 2022 City Council Agenda for more detailed instructions.

Address your comments to: City Clerk
Re: Demolition IZO Amendments

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Jing Yeo by e-mail at jing.yeo@smgov.net. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 198 CALLS ON JANUARY 2

Rape Report 100Blk Montana Ave 12:12 a.m.
Public Intoxication 4th St / Santa Monica Blvd 1:01 a.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 100Blk Georgina Ave 1:24 a.m.
Loud Music 1400Blk 11th St 1:52 a.m.
Fight 1200Blk 3rd Street Prom 1:57 a.m.
Illegal Weapon 26th St / Wilshire Blvd 5:37 a.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop Lincoln Blvd / Marine St 5:45 a.m.
Violation Of Restraining Order In Progress 1900Blk Arizona Ave 6:55 a.m.
Arson Euclid St / Wilshire Blvd 6:57 a.m.
Arson Euclid St / Wilshire Blvd 6:58 a.m.
Encampment 400Blk The Beach 6:59 a.m.
Panic Alarm 100Blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:16 a.m.
Loud Music 100Blk Broadway 8:26 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1300Blk 19th St 9:18 a.m.
Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 1300Blk 3rd Street Prom 9:18 a.m.
Auto Burglary Now 1100Blk Euclid St 9:36 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 1300Blk Ocean Ave 9:59 a.m.
Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 1000Blk 12th St 10:14 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 1300Blk Stanford St 10:29 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 900Blk Idaho Ave 10:35 a.m.
Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 3200Blk Olympic Blvd 10:36 a.m.
Burglary Report 3000Blk Lincoln Blvd 10:57 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 2400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:04 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1400Blk 2nd St 11:15 a.m.
General Parking Problem 1500Blk 6th St 11:16 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1500Blk Ocean Ave 11:35 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 700Blk Idaho Ave 11:37 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1000Blk Hill St 11:55 a.m.
Animal Related Incident Ocean Ave / Wilshire Blvd 12:01 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Ocean Ave / Arizona Ave 12:07 p.m.
Encampment 2000Blk Ocean Front Walk 12:18 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 1500Blk Princeton St 12:27 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3300Blk Barnard Way 12:31 p.m.
Traffic Hazard Cloverfield Blvd / Olympic Blvd 12:38 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 3200Blk 23rd St 1:04 p.m.
Loitering 1100Blk 20th St 1:13 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 2200Blk 22nd St 1:16 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1500Blk Ocean Ave 1:21 p.m.
Found Property 1300Blk The Beach 1:31 p.m.
Keep The Peace 900Blk Arizona Ave 1:41 p.m.
Person Down 1600Blk 6th St 1:46 p.m.
General Parking Problem 2600Blk Barnard Way 1:59 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Appian Way / Pacific Ter 2:21 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 1400Blk Pico Blvd 2:22 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 2600Blk Main St 2:24 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3300Blk Barnard Way 2:31 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 100Blk Hollister Ave 2:35 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Just Occurred 2000Blk Ocean Ave 2:40 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1200Blk 23rd St 2:42 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 200Blk Santa Monica Pl 2:47 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1400Blk Berkeley St 2:56 p.m.
Assault Report 1300Blk 3rd Street Prom 2:57 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 2nd St / Arizona Ave 3:25 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Neilson Way / Marine St 3:40 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 100Blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:47 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 1100Blk Wilshire Blvd 3:52 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 4th St / Colorado Ave 3:54 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 100Blk Hollister Ave 3:59 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1500Blk Stanford St 4:00 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Now 1300Blk 14th St 4:13 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1400Blk Olympic Blvd 4:13 p.m.
Found Property 2800Blk 3rd St 4:17 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1300Blk Ocean Ave 4:20 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1100Blk 4th St 4:25 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1400Blk Olympic Blvd 4:36 p.m.
Person With A Gun Pacific Coast Hwy / California Incline 4:51 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3300Blk Barnard Way 5:07 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1400Blk Lincoln Blvd 5:18 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 800Blk Marine St 5:31 p.m.
Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 1100Blk Lincoln Blvd 5:32 p.m.
Found Property 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 5:38 p.m.
Found Property 1700Blk Ocean Ave 5:44 p.m.
Battery Report Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 6:00 p.m.
Fight Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 6:10 p.m.
Animal Related Incident Cloverfield Blvd / Ocean Park Blvd 6:10 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 1100Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 6:24 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Just Occurred 3100Blk Longfellow St 6:24 p.m.
Loud Music 3rd Street Prom / Arizona Ave 6:42 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 4th St / Wilshire Blvd 6:46 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 200Blk Broadway 6:58 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 6th St / Pacific St 7:04 p.m.
Battery Report 2400Blk Main St 7:11 p.m.
Construction Noise 1000Blk Bay St 7:24 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1500Blk 11th St

SEE **POLICE LOG** PAGE 4

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 41 CALLS ON JANUARY 2

EMS 1700Blk Expo Line 5:59 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk Franklin St 12:52 a.m.
EMS 700Blk Copeland Ct 12:54 a.m.
EMS 2000Blk Cloverfield Blvd 2:03 a.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Broadway 2:26 a.m.
Request Fire 600Blk Broadway 2:41 a.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 14th St / Wilshire Blvd 6:48 a.m.
Brush Fire Euclid St / Wilshire Blvd 6:56 a.m.
EMS 2400Blk Chelsea Pl 7:18 a.m.
Wires Down 3100Blk Pearl St 7:30 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400Blk 2nd St 8:29 a.m.
EMS 2400Blk 7th St 9:10 a.m.
EMS 700Blk Grant St 9:24 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1800Blk Wilshire Blvd 9:57 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 10:14 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 3300Blk Airport Ave 10:28 a.m.
EMS 800Blk 5th St 11:50 a.m.
EMS 100Blk San Vicente Blvd 11:55 a.m.
Carbon Monoxide Alarm 900Blk 11th St 12:22 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 17th St 12:55 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 1:29 p.m.
EMS 1600Blk 6th St 1:46 p.m.
EMS 1100Blk 7th St 1:47 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk 11th St 2:04 p.m.
EMS 900Blk 3rd St 4:10 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400Blk 21st St 4:24 p.m.
EMS 1600Blk 11th St 4:55 p.m.
EMS 2300Blk Ocean Park Blvd 5:07 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk Lincoln Blvd 5:49 p.m.
EMS 1000Blk Wilshire Blvd 6:12 p.m.
Odor Investigation 2900Blk Broadway 6:54 p.m.
EMS 2500Blk 20th St 8:48 p.m.
Wires Down Cloverfield Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 9:19 p.m.
EMS 1100Blk 7th St 9:24 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1500Blk 17th St 9:32 p.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 1400Blk Marine St 10:05 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 10th St 10:22 p.m.
EMS 11th St / Wilshire Blvd 10:31 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk 17th St 10:33 p.m.
EMS 2300Blk 4th St 10:47 p.m.
EMS 100Blk Broadway 11:56 p.m.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Parents and Children Are Urged to Take Precaution Amid Surging Transmission

According to Public Health data, pediatric hospitalizations increased by nearly 190% between Dec. 4 and Dec. 25. And while the numbers of children hospitalized remain very small, those 0-4 years old saw the biggest rise in rates with a 3.25-fold increase, followed by 12-to-17- year- old teens, who had a 3.0-fold increase, and 5-to-11 -year- old, who saw an increase of 1.5-fold. Cases among children have also increased by 207% from the two-week period starting on November 8th to the two-week period ending on Dec. 26.

With pediatric cases and hospitalizations rising and many children returning to in-person learning this week, Public Health asks that everyone focus on following the public health safety measures that reduce spread including wearing a medical grade mask indoors and in outdoor crowded spaces; testing all staff and students before or during the first few days of schools reopening; and strictly adhering to the revised quarantine and isolation requirements outlined in the LA County Health Officer Order issued on December 31. Along with getting vaccinated and boosted, these are critical steps to help reduce transmission in the community and at our schools.

This week, in an effort to increase capacity at schools to offer testing to returning students, LA County Public Health and the LA County Office of Education are working to distribute at-home test kits provided by the state for the county's 1.4 million school aged students. Additionally, the L.A. County Home Test Collection program is offering free, at-home COVID nasal swab test kits via mail to all L.A. County residents who have experienced COVID-19 symptoms or believe they may have been exposed. These kits are free of charge and can be requested through the program's website at www.covid19.lacounty.gov/hometest.

"I send my heartfelt condolences to everyone mourning the loss of a loved one to COVID-19," said Dr. Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "As students return to the classroom, we all need to follow the public health safety measures in place to ensure our schools can open safely after the winter break. Because higher community transmission creates additional challenges at our schools, everyone needs to do their part to slow the spread of the virus."

"Most importantly, given that vaccinations and boosters provide the most protection against COVID-19, reducing transmission and disruptions in learning at schools, families need to act urgently to get their school-aged children vaccinated," Ferrer continued. "Additionally, staff, teachers and older teens should be getting their boosters as soon as they are eligible. An important protection from transmission of this airborne virus are well-fitting, higher-grade masks and these should be worn by everyone at schools when indoors and in outdoor crowded spaces. And where possible, children and staff should have a negative COVID-19 test the first week they return to the classroom. I am grateful to the state, our partners at LACOE, and school district administrators and staff for everything they are doing to distribute these test kits to the students so that there is an additional layer of safety as schools reopen for a new semester."

Public Health confirmed eight additional deaths and 16,269 new cases of COVID-19. The number of cases and deaths reflect the weekend reporting delays. Of the 8 new deaths reported today, two people were between the ages of 30 and 49, one was between the ages of 50-64, three were between the ages of 65-79, and two were over the age of 80 years old. Of the 8 newly reported deaths, 7 had underlying conditions. To date, the total number of deaths in L.A. County is 24,647.

SEE **BRIEFS** PAGE 11

City of Santa Monica

**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL
VIA TELECONFERENCE
Pursuant to AB361**

SUBJECT: **Proposed Extension of and Amendment to Interim Zoning Regulations Establishing Increased Thresholds for Administrative Review of 100% Affordable Housing Projects and Tier 2 Housing Projects Subject to the Housing Accountability Act**

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to introduce and adopt an Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance extending and amending interim zoning regulations established by Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance Number 2633 (CCS) and extended by Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance Number 2645 (CCS).

The interim zoning regulations amend Chapter 9.39 and Section 9.40.020 of the Santa Monica Municipal Code to increase thresholds for administrative review of: 1) 100% affordable housing projects; and 2) housing projects subject to the Housing Accountability Act, Government Code Section 65589.5, that do not exceed Tier 2 maximums. For projects with rental units, the interim zoning regulations require an applicant to agree, prior to issuance of a building permit, to record a deed restriction against the property ensuring that (i) all leases shall be made only to a tenant who is a natural person, or to tenants who are natural persons; (ii) all leases shall be made only to a tenant or tenants who, regardless of the term of occupancy, intend to make the rental unit the tenants' primary residence; (iii) all leases shall be in writing and provide for a minimum initial term of one (1) year; and (iv) all units shall be leased as unfurnished units.

The interim zoning regulations require applicants to conduct a community meeting prior to submitting an application and further requires the City to post project plans and approvals on the City's website for additional public noticing.

The proposed Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance would extend and amend the interim zoning regulations to allow for updates consistent with the 6th Cycle Housing Element to be implemented and amend the interim zoning regulations to remove the requirement for projects with rental units to record a deed restriction for consistency with Santa Monica Municipal Code Chapter 6.22, the City's residential leasing requirements.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2022, AT 6:30 P.M.**

LOCATION: In an effort to reduce the risk of spreading Coronavirus (COVID-19), only members of the City Council and City Staff will participate in person at City Hall. Members of the public may participate via telephone. The meeting will be broadcast on CityTV Channel 16 and streamed on the City's website as normal at https://www.youtube.com/user/Citytv16santamonica or https://www.smgov.net/video. Members of the public may also dial in to listen to the meeting per the phone number that will be published on the meeting agenda.

HOW TO COMMENT
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If you want to speak on a particular agenda item, please call (310) 312-8173 once the caller queue for the agenda item opens. Please note that the caller queue for each agenda item will not open until just before the item is called and will close after the first five public comments (from other callers) are heard.

Please see the January 25, 2022 City Council Agenda for more detailed instructions.

Address your comments to: City Clerk
Re: Process Thresholds IZO

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project, please contact Jing Yeo at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at jing.yeo@santamonica.gov. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

California court rejects early releases for violent crime

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

The California Supreme Court unanimously ruled Monday that corrections officials need not consider earlier release for violent felons, even those whose primary offense is considered nonviolent under state law.

The ruling stems from inmates' latest attempt to expand the application of an initiative championed by former Gov. Jerry Brown and approved by nearly two-thirds of voters in 2016.

But the high court ruled that corrections officials acted properly in drafting regulations that "exclude from nonviolent offender early parole consideration any inmate who 'is currently serving a term of incarceration for a 'violent felony.'"

The justices said that includes prisoners serving sentences for a combination of violent and nonviolent felonies.

"In reaching this conclusion, we find the constitutional text (of the ballot initiative) is ambiguous," wrote Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye on behalf of the court.

However, the justices agreed with the corrections department's argument that "the ballot materials reveal that the voters intended to exclude any inmate currently serving a term for a violent felony from early parole consideration, regardless of whether such an inmate has also been convicted of a nonviolent felony."

The broadest interpretation of the lower court's finding to the contrary would have required earlier release consideration for the vast majority of inmates, the department argued, since most are serving time for both violent and nonviolent felonies.

Proposition 57 allows most inmates to seek earlier paroles as a way to encourage rehabilitation and reduce mass incarceration. Parole boards can still choose not to allow individual earlier releases.

But Brown and other proponents told voters it would apply only to nonviolent offenders and exclude those convicted of sex crimes.

"Nobody thought this provision would apply to anyone with a violent conviction. And to take an extremely literal view of the (ballot) language and apply it in a way that nobody on either side thought it was going to be applied would be absurd," said Kent Scheidegger, legal director of the Criminal Justice Legal Foundation that filed a friend of the court brief opposing such a broad interpretation.

The Supreme Court's decision overturned one appeals court ruling that would have invalidated the corrections department's regulation that excluded inmates serving time for any violent crime, even it is not their primary offense.

The Supreme Court's ruling upheld four other appellate rulings that supported the department's regulation.

California's legal definition of violent crimes is narrow, applying to about two-dozen of the most serious crimes including murder, voluntary manslaughter, attempted murder, kidnapping, assaults, arson, robbery and extortion.

The case was brought by inmate Mohammad Mohammad, now age 44, who in 2012 pleaded no contest to nine counts of second-degree robbery, which are considered violent felonies, and six counts of receiving stolen property — nonviolent crimes.

The Los Angeles County judge designated one of property offenses as his principal crime but said the other sentences should run consecutively, giving Mohammad an

SEE **CRIME** PAGE 11

Your column here

By Joanne Berlin, Robbie Jones, Janet McKeithen, Angela Scott Send comments to editor@smdp.com

City should apologize

Editor:

It seems that our nation is finally trying to face generational consequences created by the Jim Crow-era institutionalization of systemic racism. As we know, Santa Monica has its own "ghosts in the closet," while California cities such as Burbank, Glendale, Pasadena, San Jose, and Redwood City find themselves also contending with shared racist histories. Past wrongs include exclusionary practices against "non-whites" often resulting in destroying communities, redlining neighborhoods, and supporting "sundown towns." Blacks were warned to stay away from sundown towns following sunset or face the wrath of unspeakable discriminatory acts. During the early 19th Century, Santa Monica initially presented great opportunities for African American-owned businesses such as La Bonita Bathhouse, Thurman's Rest A While Apartments, The Dew Drop Inn, and Café for Inkwell beachgoers. However, all of that changed during the 1920s when local chapters of the Ku Klux Klan sought to prevent "non-whites" from thriving in Santa Monica. Ultimately, the city enforced a "Caucasian Clause" with systemic policies preventing African American residents from owning businesses or homes by the beach. Yes, all of this took place prior to displacing those by the Bel Mar and 10 Freeway-Pico Corridor areas in the 1950s and 1960s. In addition to implementing "Right to Return" policies, our City Council should also issue a Formal Apology by way of an official resolution acknowledging deep-seated racial injustices committed in Santa Monica. This Formal Apology MUST and SHOULD address ALL racial inequities inflicted upon Santa Monica's diverse residents.

Racially-charged discriminatory practices extended to all "non-white" Santa Monicans, thereby prohibiting the selling, transferring, or leasing of property to "persons of the African or Negro, Japanese, Chinese, Jewish or Hebrew races, or their descendants." Let's be clear, despite the Supreme Court declaring restrictive covenants unconstitutional in 1948, Santa Monica formally implemented far-reaching discriminatory policies during the 1950s and 1960s. Racist tactics included harsh discrimination toward Japanese American Santa Monicans returning from internment camps - with countless unable to reclaim lost homes and worldly possessions. Jewish American residents also experienced redlining and covenant restrictions when attempting to purchase homes and run businesses outside of the Pico area. To this day, in a city where 32% of the land is zoned for single-family homes, few Black and Brown people live in R1 zones. A fact attributed to single-family zoning or R1, which prohibits apartments of multi-family housing - dwellings that are sorely needed for Santa Monica's low-income residents. How can providing a "Right to Return" policy fairly compensate for decades of injustice? How will we ensure diversity and inclusion are maintained and thereby prevent further generational pain and suffering?

In good conscience, Santa Monica MUST and SHOULD acknowledge and formally pass a resolution that apologizes for its racist past and continued harm against people of color and marginalized communities. Commitment to systemic change begins at the point of awareness. Santa Monica should publicly take ownership for contributions toward its erroneous ways. October of 2020 saw the city of Glendale publicly apologize and pass a resolution to address its history as a "sundown town" and prevalent systemic issues. This past October, San Jose instituted a similar apology for enforcing anti-Chinese policies, including the destruction of the 2nd Market Street Chinatown. Will Santa Monica publicly apologize for its racist past? Is a Formal Apology from Santa Monica's City Council needed? Reimagining an inclusive Santa Monica begins with acknowledging and submitting a Formal Apology for decades of prevalent racial injustice and discrimination against not just Black/African Americans, but also Indigenous Americans, Latino/x Americans, Chinese Americans, Japanese Americans, Jewish Americans, and the LGBTQ community. A Formal Apology, a resolution of this magnitude, intentionally acknowledges, accepts, and commits to righting the wrongs of the past by ensuring a more diverse and inclusive Santa Monica.

Committee for Racial Justice Steering Committee, Joanne Berlin, Robbie Jones, Janet McKeithen, Angela Scott.

POLICE LOG

FROM PAGE 2

7:41 p.m.
Domestic Violence Now 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 7:56 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 2400Blk Ocean Front Walk 8:02 p.m.
Loud Music 3rd Street Prom / Arizona Ave 8:11 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 200Blk Broadway 8:32 p.m.
Out Of Order Traffic Signals Yale St / Wilshire Blvd 8:37 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 1600Blk Appian Way 8:40 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Cloverfield Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 9:06 p.m.
Traffic Hazard Lincoln Blvd / Olympic Blvd E 9:46 p.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 400Blk Georgina Ave 9:54 p.m.
Loud Music 300Blk California Ave 9:58 p.m.
Loud Music 2000Blk Ocean Ave 10:03 p.m.
Arson 1400Blk Marine St 10:06 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1400Blk Ocean Ave 10:52 p.m.
Loud Music 2000Blk Ocean Ave 11:30 p.m.
Prowler There Now 1100Blk Lincoln Blvd 11:46 p.m.

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Flush budget, unfinished business await California lawmakers

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

California lawmakers are flush with money and unfinished business from last year as they return to the state Capitol on Monday, but they head into an election year rife with uncertainty due to the redrawing of legislative districts after the 2020 census.

Gov. Gavin Newsom said he anticipates another "historic" budget surplus months after he approved a record spending plan that topped a quarter-trillion dollars including a $75 billion surplus. Legislative analysts predict the state will have another $31 billion surplus for the fiscal year starting July 1.

Newsom, a Democrat, promised that the proposed budget he must present by Jan. 10 will seek more money to deter a recent surge in large scale smash-and-grab robberies, $100 million to clean up areas associated with homeless encampments, and funding for dyslexia programs after the governor wrote a children's book based on his own struggles.

Democrats who control the Legislature have their own priorities, with Senate leader Toni Atkins promising to spend the wealth on "those who need it most — the middle class and families struggling to get by." That includes on affordable housing, essential workers, schools and colleges and protecting the climate, senators said.

Assembly budget chairman Phil Ting set similar priorities but does not expect the Legislature to immediately allocate billions of dollars this year as it did last year to address the coronavirus pandemic and in anticipation of a severe wildfire season.

"It's interesting the economy continues to do well (but) people don't feel it," Ting said. "And so I think we have to get a sense of exactly where the pain points are, and what the best ways to help them out."

Newsom runs for reelection this year along with other statewide officeholders, but he handily defeated a mid-term recall effort last fall.

Lawmakers, however, are engaged in a game of "musical chairs mixed in with chicken" to determine who survives the legislative remapping that often lumped incumbents into the same district, said Rob Pyers, research director of the nonpartisan California Target Book, which closely tracks redistricting.

Individual battles aside, Democrats are the big winners in the remapping that will lock in their supermajorities for the next decade, said Pyers and Paul Mitchell of Redistricting Partners. The advantage doesn't change much in the 40-member Senate, but under the new maps Republicans are unlikely to top 18 members in the 80-member Assembly, said Pyers, and could fall to about a dozen, Mitchell said.

"In these maps, could they even get to 20 Assembly members? It's inconceivable," said Mitchell. "So they are really firmly ensconced in the super-minority that they have, and that's probably going to be true for the whole decade."

In the meantime, lawmakers face a Jan. 31 deadline to advance bills held over from last year that never cleared their house of origin.

But many of the higher profile leftovers at least passed their initial chamber, giving their proponents more time to seek consensus.

They include a bill to overhaul California's cash bail system, after voters in 2020 blocked a more sweeping effort to end cash bail; measures to decriminalize some psychedelic drugs and give opioid users a place to inject drugs while supervised; and a ban on turning immigrants who complete their criminal sentences over to federal authorities for possible deportation.

Lawmakers last year passed a bill to end the crime of loitering for the purpose of prostitution, but Sen. Scott Wiener took the unusual step of withholding it from Newsom until early this year.

Meanwhile, lawmakers may consider several measures designed to encourage people to get vaccinated against the coronavirus, a volatile issue that drew more than a thousand people to the Capitol in September to protest vaccine mandates.

A bill initially floated last year by Assemblywoman Buffy Wicks would have required all workers to either receive the coronavirus vaccine or submit to weekly testing. A business-backed bill by Assemblyman Evan Low would protect employers who require their workers to be vaccinated.

And Sen. Richard Pan, a pediatrician and leading vaccine advocate, suggested he might seek to limit medical and personal belief exemptions in pending regulations requiring K-12 students in public and private schools to be vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to attend classes in-person.

Democratic lawmakers also expect to propose constitutional amendments that would make future efforts to recall the governor and other officials more difficult.

More action on climate change is expected, with Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon among lawmakers saying California is falling behind as a world leader with goals that fail to recognize that global warming is happening more swiftly than many had imagined.

For instance, seven Democratic lawmakers said they learned from last fall's United Nations climate conference that "the world is surpassing California on climate change education."

So they introduced legislation requiring that climate change be taught as part of the K-12 science curriculum, following the lead of Italy, New Zealand and New Jersey.

Legislators also are attuned as always to dominant headlines.

Democratic Assemblywoman Jacqui Irwin is promising legislation making it easer for district attorneys to prosecute organized retail thefts that cross county lines, responding to the recent mass smash-and-grab thefts in California and elsewhere.

Ting and fellow Democratic Assemblyman Mike Gipson promise legislation responding to Newsom's call for a Texas-style law that would allow individuals to sue manufactures of illegal ghost guns and assault weapons.

Democratic Sen. Mike McGuire wants to spend more than $200 million to hire more than 1,100 new wildland firefighters.

And lawmakers may decide to pay for people from other states to come to California for abortions if the U.S. Supreme Court overturns

SEE **BUDGET** PAGE 11

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DEVELOPMENT

FROM PAGE 1

largest entitled land sales on the West Coast and the largest in Santa Monica's history. The sale price was not disclosed by press time.

In total, the downtown development portfolio includes 325,391 net rentable square feet, including 31,473 square feet of commercial space and 627 multifamily units – all of which are fully entitled and approved by city authorities.

In a statement, Tishman Speyer said it would develop 620 Class A apartments, 116 of which will be designated as affordable, as well as the retail space. The company said Phase One of project construction is expected to begin by late 2022, with the first buildings complete by the end of 2024.

"The Santa Monica Collection project represents a rare opportunity to develop a critical mass of new housing in a market where demand is acute," Tishman Speyer President and CEO Rob Speyer said. "Over the past decade, we have created exciting new residential communities in major cities across the U.S., including New York City, Boston, San Francisco and Washington, DC, with additional projects planned or underway. We're excited to be able to establish a significant residential foothold in the Los Angeles market as well."

WS Communities put its entire 23-parcel portfolio, which is entitled for the development of over 2,100 units and more than 200,000 square feet of commercial space, up for sale last year.

WS Communities is a spin-off of Neil Shekhter's NMS Properties. While NMS was mired in a legal fight with a former partner over ownership of several apartment buildings, WS Communities was able to secure several additional projects in the Downtown area.

Tishman Speyer said its projects aim to address demand from individuals and families that want to live in the area but are priced out of home ownership.

"We were extremely pleased to find such a well-located collection of sites for our initial residential project in the Los Angeles market," said Paul De Martini, Senior Managing Director for Tishman Speyer. "The proximity of beautiful beaches and mountains, along with other aspects of the local lifestyle, make it one of the region's most compelling places to live, work and visit."

editor@smdp.com

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MURAL

FROM PAGE 1

actions that show respect for the cultural diversity that makes us a strong nation," said de la Torre. "The murals from the 1930's on our walls at City Hall fail to deliver what we need today."

While recontextualizing is the verb of choice, it is unclear what this will entail in terms of material changes.

The information item prepared by staff states that the goal of recontextualizing artwork instead of removing it is, "to avoid erasing the stains of the past but to use the process and new artworks to educate, with the goal of acknowledging historic inequities and committing to a more just future."

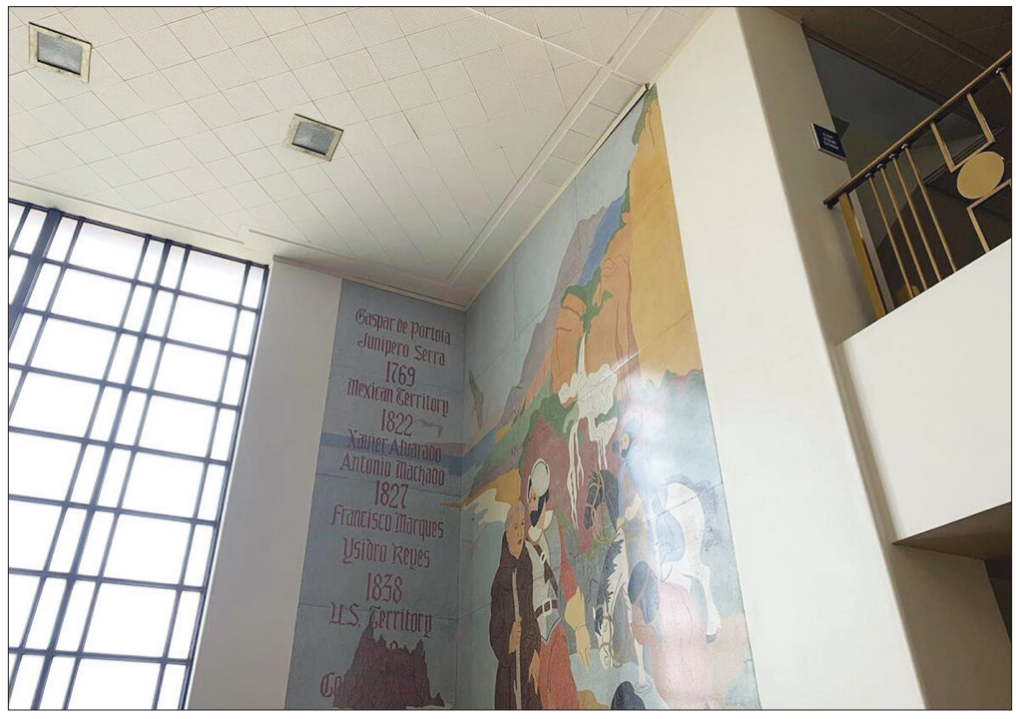
Some ways this has been implemented to other artworks include adding educational signage commenting on the art or correcting historical inaccuracies, overlaying the art with quotes from members of communities that the artwork marginalizes, or adding new inclusive artwork and installations around the original.

The City plans to hold three to four educational discussions to talk about the future of the murals with community members and representatives from the Council Ad Hoc Committee, Arts Commission and Landmarks Commission.

"We have an opportunity to engage in a conversation that I hope will deepen our understanding of each other's histories," said de la Torre. "Ultimately, everyone should feel welcomed, uplifted and proud of the way we present our City Hall to the world."

Once Council has approved the recontextualization plan, a RFP process will begin to solicit artists or artistic teams to carry out the project. The timeline plans for the alterations to take place in between August and December 2023.

Clara@smdp.com



File photo

CITY HALL: The two murals are part of an ongoing discussion over racism in Santa Monica.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LONG BEACH

Some beaches reopen after Southern California sewage spill

Some Southern California beaches have reopened after a large sewage spill shut off large segment of the coastline before New Year's Day.

Los Angeles County health officials on Sunday said closures were lifted for beaches including Point Fermin and Outer Cabrillo. Other beaches remained closed.

Officials said a sewer mainline failed Thursday in the city of Carson, discharging roughly 8.5 million gallons of sewage into the Dominguez Channel, which empties into Los Angeles Harbor.

The spill prompted the closure of swimming areas stretching from Orange County's Sunset Beach to Rancho Palos Verdes in Los Angeles County. An annual Polar Bear Swim that usually draws hundreds of people to Cabrillo Beach on New Year's Day was canceled.

The spill was the biggest reported in four decades in the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, which serve more than 5 million people, said Bryan Langpap, an agency spokesman.

The leak occurred in an aging pipe but the cause was not immediately known, he said.

Officials have been monitoring water quality in onshore and offshore locations but on Monday had no data immediately available for release, he said. The spill was stopped late Friday and crews have been working to install a permanent fix, he said.

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Omicron upends return to US schools and workplaces

JENNIFER PELTZ, GRETCHEN EHLKE AND TERRY TANG
Associated Press

Some school systems around the U.S. extended their holiday break Monday or switched back to online instruction because of the explosion in COVID-19 cases, while others pressed ahead with in-person classes amid a seemingly growing sense that Americans will have to learn to co-exist with the virus.

Caught between pleas from teachers fearful of infection and parents who want their children in class, school districts in cities such as New York, Milwaukee, Chicago, Detroit and beyond found themselves in a difficult position midway through the academic year because of the super-contagious omicron variant.

New York City, home of the nation's largest school system, reopened classrooms to roughly 1 million students with a stockpile of take-home COVID-19 test kits and plans to double the number of random tests done in schools.

"We are going to be safe, and we will be open to educate our children," newly sworn-in Mayor Eric Adams said on MSNBC.

New Yorker Trisha White said that she feels the risk is the same for her 9-year-old son in or out of school and that being with classmates is far better for him than remote learning.

"He could get the virus outside of school," she said as she dropped the boy off. "So what can you do? You know, I wouldn't blame the school system. They're trying their best."

While the teachers union had asked the mayor to postpone in-person learning for a week, city officials have long said that mask requirements, testing and other safety measures mean that children are safe in school. The city also has a vaccination mandate for employees.

New cases of COVID-19 in the city shot up from a daily average of about 17,000 in the week before the holidays to nearly 37,000 last week.

Across the U.S., new COVID-19 cases have tripled in the past two weeks to over 400,000 a day, the highest level on record, amid a rush by many Americans to get tested.

The high infection rates and resulting worker shortages are putting a heavy burden on employers large and small. Thousands of airline flights have been canceled in recent days, and many businesses have shelved return-to-work plans.

Weekend garbage collection was delayed in New Orleans, and jury trials in several Colorado counties were suspended. Some libraries on New York's Long Island and a ski resort in New Hampshire had to close.

Dawn Crawley, CEO of House Cleaning Heroes, a cleaning service based in Herndon, Virginia, said she had to cancel four of 20 cleaning jobs for Tuesday because four employees were sick — three with COVID-19.

"The fear is it will run through the team" as well as customers, she said.

Policymakers and health authorities have been mindful of the toll on the economy and the education system.

Public heath experts have said that eradicating the virus is unlikely and that the world will instead have to find a way to keep COVID-19 down to an acceptable level, the way it does with the flu.

Last week, after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention cut the recommended COVID-19 isolation period from 10 days to five, CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky said: "We want to make sure there is a mechanism by which we can safely continue to keep society functioning while following the science."

In another development Monday that could have a bearing on the ability of schools to stay open, the Food and Drug Administration gave its OK for Pfizer booster shots for children as young as 12. Boosters already are recommended for everyone 16 and older.

Elsewhere around the country, Syracuse, New York, canceled school Monday because of the increasing number of infections and a lack of substitute teachers.

In Wisconsin, the 75,000-student Milwaukee school system is going back to virtual instruction Tuesday because of rising cases among staff members. The district said it is aiming to return to in-person classes Jan. 10.

The Madison, Wisconsin, district also announced a shift to virtual learning, beginning Thursday.

Detroit School Superintendent Nikolai Vitti told parents there will be no in-person or online learning through Wednesday because of a high rate of infection among employees that could lead to extensive spread of COVID-19 and "excessive staff shortages."

The roughly 350,000 students in the Chicago school system returned, but a dispute between district leaders and the teachers union over safety measures could disrupt classes later this week. The union said it may vote Tuesday for remote teaching in the nation's third-largest district.

The Peoria, Illinois, district extended winter break by a week.

Schools in Davenport, Iowa, surprised parents early Monday by announcing the cancellation of all classes for the day because of a shortage of bus drivers that was blamed at least in part on COVID-19.

Minnesota's educators braced for a spike in cases as classrooms reopened as scheduled.

"What I've heard from superintendents is that they are nervous about omicron," said Bob Indihar, executive director of the Minnesota Rural Education Association. "It

SEE **EDUCATION** PAGE 11



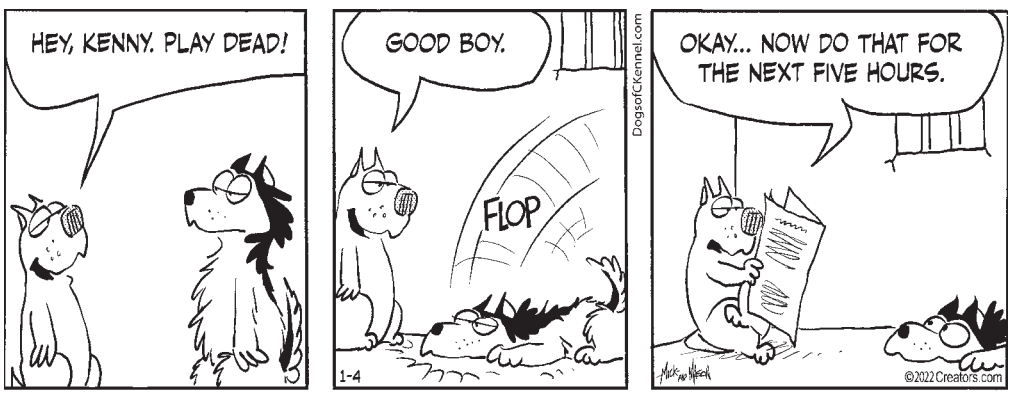
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



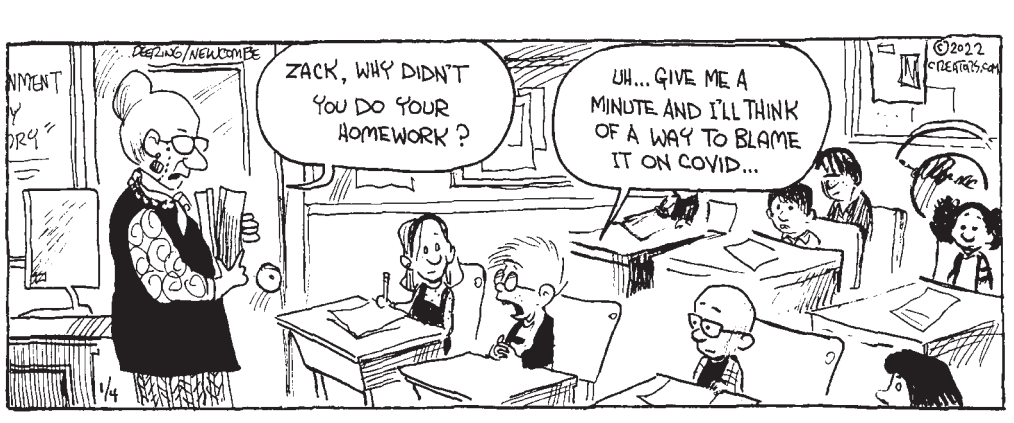
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



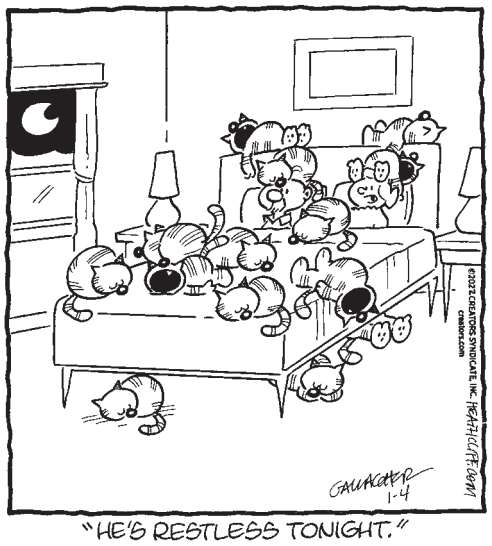
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE'S RESTLESS TONIGHT."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 56.8°

TUESDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft Thigh to waist high
Small/minor SW swell eases. New NW swell starts to show at best exposures in the PM. Wind remain decent just very little surf. Mind the tides.

WEDNESDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high
Increasing rideable pulse of NW swell tops out, blends with minor SPAC surf. AM conditions looking favorable. Keep tides in mind.

WEATHER

Tuesday: Mostly cloudy, then gradually becoming sunny, with a high near 58.
Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 48. North wind around 10 mph.
Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 63. North wind 10 to 15 mph.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2022/01/04	Tue	03:24 AM	2.02	L
2022/01/04	Tue	09:39 AM	6.79	H
2022/01/04	Tue	5:01 PM	-1.61	L
2022/01/04	Tue	11:37 PM	4.03	H
2022/01/05	Wed	04:19 AM	2.08	L
2022/01/05	Wed	10:28 AM	6.25	H
2022/01/05	Wed	5:46 PM	-1.15	L
2022/01/06	Thu	12:26 AM	4.10	H
2022/01/06	Thu	05:19 AM	2.18	L
2022/01/06	Thu	11:20 AM	5.52	H
2022/01/06	Thu	6:30 PM	-0.56	L
2022/01/07	Fri	01:18 AM	4.20	H
2022/01/07	Fri	06:27 AM	2.27	L
2022/01/07	Fri	12:15 PM	4.68	H
2022/01/07	Fri	7:14 PM	0.10	L
2022/01/08	Sat	02:12 AM	4.33	H
2022/01/08	Sat	07:56 AM	2.26	L
2022/01/08	Sat	1:22 PM	3.84	H
2022/01/08	Sat	8:01 PM	0.76	L
2022/01/09	Sun	03:06 AM	4.51	H
2022/01/09	Sun	09:45 AM	1.96	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 1/1
6 12 39 48 50
Power#: 7
Jackpot: 522 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/31
2 5 30 46 61
Mega#: 8
Jackpot: 244 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 1/1
1 5 22 29 42
Mega#: 2
Jackpot: 12 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/2
6 11 24 31 33

Daily 3
Draw Date: 1/2
EVENING: 7 8 4
Draw Date: 1/2
MIDDAY: 9 1 3

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 1/2
1st: 12 - Lucky Charms
2nd: 10 - Solid Gold
3rd: 02 - Lucky Star
Race Time: 1:47.25

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (JANUARY 4)

When you look back on this year, you'll count your obstacles as blessings because they make things more interesting. You'll stretch, think and assert yourself to master a craft, and you won't mind a bit because you're happiest when challenged and growing to fulfill your potential. Love, humor and fun will go hand in hand. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 30, 1, 11 and 17.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The clouds part. The sun shines through. You can see clearly what must be done. Next you will create the structure, form and organization to make your life the way you want it to be.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your sense of whimsy has gone under appreciated. Who do you know who understands the importance of play? You deserve to be around people who get you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Don't think in terms of success and failure, just accept what happens and build on it. Out of the graceful handling of your mistakes will come your masterpiece.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You have no intention of bossing others around. But what if they want you to? Some people behave badly because they are secretly longing for someone to keep them in line.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). None have seen the atom but many have witnessed the enormous power harnessed inside it. You have an invisible power inside of you, much greater than your current estimation.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). While it's true that all good things must come to an end, so must all bad things, all mediocre things and eventually (but not soon enough) all dreadfully boring things. The best is yet to come.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Though hard work can accomplish much, so much more will be accomplished today by going easy on yourself and others. Start by asking yourself what is really worth doing.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Don't let a lack of experience scare you away from a situation. You'll get up to speed quickly enough. Also, being well-informed can oddly give you a narrower vision. No matter what you know, it's enough for today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Progress will be made swift and tidy when you pose certain questions to yourself before moving forward. Ask: How can I make this easier? More fun? More comfortable? How can I edit to simplify?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). What's hard for you is easy for another. What's hard for another is easy for you. So, exchange work and help each other out. Great things will come of it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There's not a single thing that warrants a stressed-out response. Remain relaxed and playful. All the work gets done; the problems get solved; the errors get fixed.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You don't have to be a fire safety expert to know that one incendiary element is all that's needed to start the trouble. The real question today is: What is your tolerance for trouble?

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

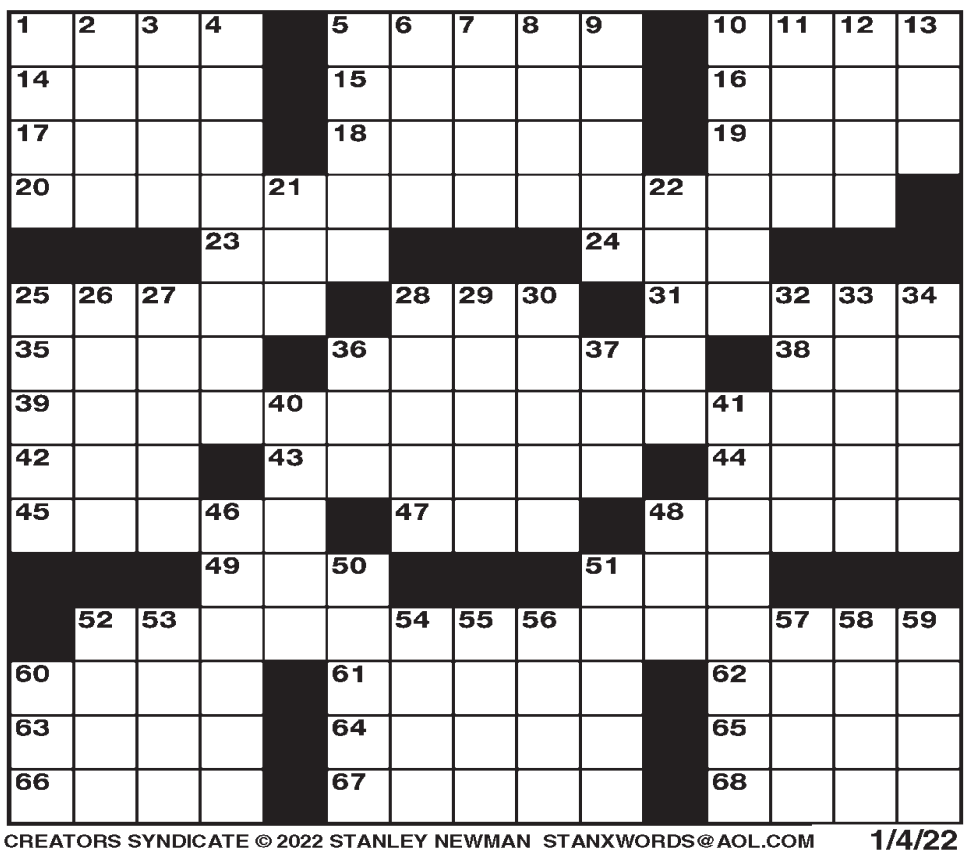
	1	2		5	3			
	3						5	
		6	8			1		4
				2	6		8	
6		1				9		2
	8		5	7				
1		7			4	5		
	2						1	
			9	3		4	2	

Newsday Crossword

RETRO KIDS' GAMES by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Shoreline indentations
5 Becomes less angry
10 Emphatic agreement in Spanish
14 Creme-filled cookie
15 On or __ (approximately)
16 Barber's tool with teeth
17 __-control (will power)
18 "You win"
19 Molecule part
20 Kids' retro banner-taking game
23 Male sibling, for short
24 __-med student
25 The Devil
28 Auto fuel
31 Old maxim
35 Army no-show: Abbr.
36 Device for a video chat
38 Used a shovel
39 Kids' retro "do what I do" game
42 __ out a living (just manage)
43 "Huge" fish that got away
44 Alternatively
45 Brief quarrel
47 Unrefined metal
48 Peak of a wave
49 GOP candidate's opponent
51 Cow's remark
52 Kids' retro "catch the crooks" game
60 Middle of the Three Bears
61 Show on TV again
62 "No harm done"
63 Luau instruments
64 Impolite
65 Give as an example
66 Family rooms
67 Comfy, like your abode
68 Meal in a slow cooker

DOWN
1 Pear variety
2 Region
3 Dog's shrill bark
4 "Slow-pitch" sport
5 Egyptian capital
6 Up to the job
7 Stolen property
8 Sled-dog race command
9 Pricey
10 Climbed, as a ladder
11 Very small amount
12 Urban haze
13 "Big Blue" tech company
21 Caterer's coffee machine
22 Portrait holder
25 Vaults in some walls
26 Stopped sleeping
27 "For rent" sign
28 Very beginning, informally
29 Detest
30 Segment of a play
32 Confuse
33 Make a conjecture
34 Type of heron
36 1910s conflict, for short
37 Pub servings
40 Clarinet cousins
41 Vigorous exercise program
46 QB's successful throw
48 Corn on the __
50 Walk in a parade
51 Cash
52 Birthday party dessert
53 Sign of the future
54 Notorious Roman emperor
55 Percussion instrument
56 Impolite
57 Give off, as light
58 Memorization method
59 Distort, as facts
60 Wet dirt



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What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

WEDNESDAY | JAN 5

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET
Arizona Ave. (between 4th & Ocean)
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

LIVE BAND KARAOKE AT HARVELLE'S
Come Sing With The Band. The famous "Live Band Karaoke" show comes to Harvelle's every Wednesday at 9 p.m. $2 Tacos $4 PBR Beers $6 Well Drinks. Harvelle's Blues Club, 1432 4th Street

PLANNING COMMISSION
Established in 1946, the Planning Commission envisions Santa Monica as a city of wellbeing, sustainability, and equity, and seeks to balance the many needs and priorities within our community in accordance with the City's General Plan and Specific Plans.
LIVE STREAM: https://www.youtube.com/user/Citytv16santamonica or https://www.smgov.net/video
TELECONFERENCE: https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/daqajcsq
DIAL-IN NUMBER: 1 (415) 466-7000 (US), PIN 9881342 #
5:30 p.m.

THURSDAY | JAN 6

COURTYARD & SPLASH PAD OPEN
The Annenberg Community Beach House gated area, including the courtyard and splash pad, are open to the public daily. Please note, from September - May hours are subject to change with short notice. Check the Beach House website calendar or call 310-458-4904 to confirm. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

FRIDAY | JAN 7

MARION DAVIES GUEST HOUSE OPEN
Santa Monica Conservancy docents share the rich history of the Beach House site from the 1920s onward. Free 20-minute visits docent tours are available on a walk-up basis, for groups of up to six people on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 12 – 2 p.m. Just head to the Marion Davies Guest House where you will be greeted by a docent. Please note masks are required while indoors. Schedule subject to change, call Guest Services at 310-458-4904 to confirm dates and hours. Annenberg Community Beach House.

SATURDAY | JAN 8

OCEAN PARK BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
Join a community-led discussion of books chosen by the group. Contact jeff.schwartz@santamonica.gov for the Zoom link. 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

LUCE PUPPET COMPANY PRESENTS: WACKY WINTER ADVENTURE
Luce Puppet Company presents the story of Pepe the Dog and Freezey the Snow Girl as they travel to the North Pole to find the Gingerbread Princess who can grant them a special wish. For families. Space is limited. To register, email ann.wilson@santamonica.gov. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET
Arizona Ave. (between 2nd & 4th)
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

PICO FARMERS MARKET
Pico Blvd. & Cloverfield Blvd.
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

SUNDAY | JAN 9

4TH ANNUAL POLAR BEAR SWIM
The City of Santa Monica's Polar Bear Swim at the Annenberg Community Beach House was postponed to Sunday, January 9. While online registration for the event is full, registration for the ocean swim portion of the event is not required. Availability of walk-up passes to the pool and pool deck is anticipated the morning of the event, in limited capacity. Please contact the Beach House with any questions at (310) 458-4904 or beach.house@santamonica.gov.

MAIN ST. FARMERS MARKET
2640 Main St. (In The Victorian Parking Lot) 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

MONDAY | JAN 10

LANDMARKS COMMISSION MEETING
The mission of the Commission is "To protect improvements and areas which represent the City's cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history; safeguard the City's historic, aesthetic and cultural heritage; and promote the use of landmarks and historic districts for the education, pleasure and welfare of the people." 7 p.m.

For help submitting an event, contact us at
310-458-7737 or submit to events@smdp.com

FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 17 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

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Head to the coast

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

Airlie Beach	Fishing	North	Surf
Alva	Fremantle	Steyne	Swim
Avoca	Gerroa	Pialba	Tallow
Bega	Iluka	Pinky	Tathra
Bells	Kiama	Play	Tides
Boil	Lizard	Rest	Watego
Caloundra	Island	Robe	Wave
Clarkes	Lorne	Rock	Wineglass
Dee Why	Main	Sale	Bay
Dunes	Mindil	Sawyers	Yamba
Eden	Nowra	Sunbake	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Most have a meaning

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Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

SCHOOLS
FROM PAGE 1

from any student who did not show up to either testing day."

All other district school sites were set to return in person as scheduled; Miller wrote that administrators planned to have in-person instruction resume at MHS/MMS on Wednesday.

"There is no specific case threshold at which state and local public health recommend a temporary closure of a classroom or school. Guidance from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) states that 'a temporary school closure due to COVID-19 should be a last resort and considered only after all available resources have been exhausted in an attempt to preserve in-person education,'" Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) Superintendent Ben Drati wrote in a letter to parents dated Sunday, Jan. 2. "Should a situation arise where our district is seeing high rates of in-school transmission, we will work with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) and local public health officials to make decisions that support the health and safety as well as continuity of learning for our students. If we are experiencing operational challenges such as our ability to maintain sufficient staff to provide in-person instruction, we will also work with our guiding agencies to make appropriate decisions."

The letter was delivered two hours after the LA County Department of Public Health reported nearly 45,000 new cases of COVID-19 were recorded countywide over the New Years holiday weekend, "even with the holiday reporting delays."

In Santa Monica, 1,475 new cases were reported between Sunday, Dec. 26, and Sunday, Jan. 2 — more new cases than had been recorded in the three previous weeks combined. Over the course of the pandemic, 10,245 coronavirus cases have been reported in Santa Monica.

Elementary school students were instructed to resume in-person learning as previously scheduled on Monday, Jan. 3, with secondary school students to be back in classrooms the following day; however, Drati wrote to parents that they "may keep [their] child home from school with an excused absence if you would like to wait a few days to see on-site testing results for your site."

District spokesperson Gail Pinsker wrote in an email that the district was aware of students being kept home, but was not immediately able to provide data on how many kids stayed home on Monday.

"Schools are also allowing students to come in during their usual PCR testing time and leave, as long as they are asymptomatic," Pinsker added.

Drati's letter also addressed new county masking guidelines which require medical-grade masks for educators and "strongly recommends" them for students.

"At this time, all school employees … must wear surgical-grade masks (also referred to as medical procedure masks) or higher level PPE (e.g. KN95 or N95 respirator masks)," according to guidance published Saturday. "For those wearing surgical masks, double masking, with a cloth face covering worn over the surgical mask, is recommended for enhanced protection. Cloth face coverings alone are no longer acceptable, as they do not provide the same level of source control or personal protection as a proper surgical mask or higher level PPE."

Those rules were set to go into effect by Jan. 15.

Pinsker, who said district leadership spent the greater part of the day Monday discussing COVID-19 policy, wrote that when it came to new masking rules, "we are currently discussing the new guidance and will order and comply within two weeks as directed."

Districts will be required to provide surgical-grade or higher level PPE for all school employees, the budget for which Pinsker acknowledged would also need to be discussed.

Both Drati and LA County DPH encouraged parents to have their eligible children vaccinated. Districtwide, 88 percent of students ages 12-17 had received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine as of Dec. 26, the latest data available; the rate was about half that for students ages five-11, with 46.8 percent of young students at least partially vaccinated. Still, the SMMUSD vaccination rate for young children ages five-11 was double the countywide average of just 22.4 percent vaccinated in that age group.

"Achieving a high vaccination rate on your school campus is the first and best way to lower risk of infection and transmission at your school, greatly decrease risk of severe illness, hospitalization and death in those who are fully vaccinated, and provide an additional layer of protection for those who cannot be fully vaccinated, are immunocompromised, or have underlying health conditions," according to DPH guidance.

As of early January, SMMUSD staff were required to be vaccinated, but the district did not have a vaccine mandate in place for students. A survey given to district parents last fall indicated vaccine mandates were popular among Santa Monica parents, but Malibu parents were divided on the issue.

Vaccine clinics were scheduled for Jan. 4 at John Adams Middle School, Jan. 5 at McKinley Elementary School and Jan. 6 at Malibu High School, all from 2:30-5 p.m.

Recent CDC guidelines that shortened quarantine from five to 10 days following a positive test result were not yet in place, Drati wrote, saying the district was "awaiting direction from our local guiding health agencies."

In an earlier letter, Drati detailed the district's quarantine guidelines.

"If any SMMUSD community member (including staff and students) is fully vaccinated, (meaning greater than two weeks since the second dose and within six months of the second or subsequent doses), then they will not need to quarantine if exposed to a positive case and they remain asymptomatic," according to a Dec. 30 letter from Drati. "If your student has been vaccinated please share that information (copy of vaccination card) with your school health office so they are aware in the case of a quarantine. If you are a staff member please share vaccination updates with human resources."

On Dec. 31, DPH updated the guidance to specify that quarantine exemptions would only be granted to "persons who are boosted" or "persons who are fully vaccinated but not yet booster-eligible." As of Jan. 3, boosters are available to all residents ages 16 and up.

emily@smdp.com

BRIEFS
FROM PAGE 3

Public Health has identified a total 1,757,522 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County. Monday's positivity rate is 22.5%.

There are 1,792 people with COVID-19 currently hospitalized. Testing results are available for more than 10,113,300 individuals, with 16% of people testing positive.

While we continue to experience the surge in cases, Public Health is reminding residents to avoid visiting the emergency room unless they need emergency medical care. Residents should not be visiting the emergency department solely to get a COVID test or for minor complaints that could be resolved through their primary care physician. Emergency room visits should be reserved for those patients who are feeling severely ill – for example, those who are short of breath – or who have serious concerns about their health and who require immediate emergency care.

To keep workplaces and schools open, residents and workers are asked to:

Get tested to help reduce the spread, especially if you traveled for the holidays, have had a possible exposure, or have symptoms, or are gathering with people not in your household

Adhere to masking requirements when indoors or at crowded outdoor spaces, regardless of vaccination status

Residents are legally required to be isolated if they have a positive COVID test result and that vaccinated close contacts with symptoms and unvaccinated close contacts need to quarantine. For updated isolation and quarantine guidance, please visit www.publichealth.lacounty.gov

COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective and are recommended for everyone 5 years old and older to help protect against COVID-19. Vaccinations are always free and open to eligible residents and workers regardless of immigration status. Appointments are not needed at all Public Health vaccination sites and many community sites where first, second, and third doses are available.

To find a vaccination site near you, or to make an appointment, please visit:

www.VaccinateLACounty.com (English) or www.VacunateLosAngeles.com (Spanish). If you need assistance, you can also call 1-833-540-0473 for help.

SUBMITTED BY PUBLIC HEALTH

BUDGET
FROM PAGE 5

Roe v. Wade, following the recommendations of a panel formed by Newsom that includes Senate leader Atkins.

Democrats start the year with somewhat depleted ranks, though not enough to challenge their overwhelming majority.

Democratic Assemblymen David Chiu, Ed Chau and Jim Frazier all resigned, forcing upcoming special elections. Chiu left to become San Francisco city attorney, Chau to become a Los Angeles County judge and Frazier to seek unspecified work in the transportation sector.

EDUCATION
FROM PAGE 7

seems to be the new normal that changes are going to happen and quarantines and people being out are just part of the process now. Districts are kind of taking it in stride."

The president of the National Parents Union, a network of parent organizations, called the sudden switch back to virtual learning "an abomination."

"Once again, parents are left scrambling at the last minute and, worse, far too many children are being deprived of an in-person learning experience, which is critical for their academic and social-emotional development," Keri Rodrigues said in a statement.

CRIME
FROM PAGE 4

aggregate sentence of 29 years in prison.

Mohammad argued that under the plain language of Proposition 57, he should be considered for release after serving just three years for the property crime, and the appeals court agreed.

His attorney, Heather MacKay, said she was disappointed but may file a new challenge starting over again in county superior court, based on some of the questions left unresolved by the decision.

"They left open the possibility (for future court interpretation) that Mr. Mohammad and other folks with mixed offenses might become eligible for early parole after they serve the violent felony portions of their terms," she said.

The justices' decision Monday contrasted with their previous decision that broadened parole consideration for sex offenders.

A year ago, they ruled that inmates who have been convicted of nonviolent sex crimes may be eligible for early parole consideration under the plain language of the same ballot measure.

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