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New Year.

WEDNESDAY
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ONE DEAD IN TRIO OF RAIN-INDUCED TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS



Matthew Hall

CRASH: A Big Blue Bus hit a car and then hit the Firestone garage on January 2.

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

If you were celebrating New Year just a few days ago, it would've been impossible to escape the near-torrential downpour that soaked Santa Monica in the early hours of Jan. 1 and the wet weather caused at least one death on the suddenly slick roads.

According to the National Weather Service, the storm unloaded over two inches of rain in the San Gabriel, Santa Clarita and San Fernando valleys, plus many areas of metro Los Angeles, including Hollywood and Santa Monica.

As is so often the case in Southern California, the sudden fall of such a large amount of

SEE **RAIN** PAGE 7

SMMUSD asks for masks for at least ten days following return from break

GRACE INEZ ADAMS
SMDP Staff Writer

As students and teachers return to classrooms this week after winter break, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) officials are urging the use of masks in indoor spaces for at least 10 days to prevent a spike of COVID-19 cases as well the spread of other respiratory illnesses including the flu and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

In a message sent out to members of the SMMUSD community on Jan

SEE **SCHOOL MASKS** PAGE 6

California snowpack off to great start amid severe drought

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

The snowpack in California's mountains is off to one of its best starts in 40 years, officials announced Tuesday, offering hope that the drought-stricken state could soon see relief in the spring when the snow melts and flows into reservoirs that provide water for drinking and farming.

Statewide, snowpack is at 174% of the historical average for this year, an impressive amount because of a spate of recent storms. Even

SEE **DROUGHT** PAGE 8



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NFL balances emotions, tight schedule after Hamlin shock

ROB MAADDI
AP Pro Football Writer

The NFL pushed ahead Tuesday with a difficult balancing act, navigating players' emotions after Buffalo safety Damar Hamlin's shocking cardiac arrest with a tight playoff schedule and emphasizing Hamlin's health was its main focus.

The league informed the Buffalo Bills and Cincinnati Bengals that their game, suspended Monday night, would not be resumed this week while the Week 18 schedule remained unchanged, for now.

No decision regarding the possible resumption of the pivotal Bills-Bengals game has been made. The game was suspended in the first quarter when Hamlin suffered the cardiac arrest after making a tackle.

The 24-year-old Hamlin remained in critical condition a day after the Bills said his heart stopped following the seemingly routine play. Hamlin tackled Bengals wide receiver Tee Higgins, who led with his shoulder, then briefly got up before collapsing.

Medical staff restored his heartbeat during frantic moments on the field before he was loaded into an ambulance. Players from both teams were crying and praying during an emotional scene in front of a national television audience.

"Damar experienced cardiac arrest and was promptly resuscitated by on-site club physicians and independent medical personnel, all of whom are highly trained in implementing the plans for medical emergencies," NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said in a letter sent to all teams, and obtained by The Associated Press. "Damar was stabilized and transported to the University of Cincinnati Medical Center, a Level One trauma center, where he remains in the ICU."

> "Damar experienced cardiac arrest and was promptly resuscitated by on-site club physicians and independent medical personnel, all of whom are highly trained in implementing the plans for medical emergencies - Roger Goodell

Goodell informed the clubs that Dr. Nyaka NiiLampti had sent each team's clinician and head of player engagement information about mental health and support resources available to players and staff.

"Additional resources including on-site services can be available for any club that wishes this assistance," Goodell said.

Goodell told teams they would be promptly advised of any changes to this weekend's schedule.

Several teams canceled media availability, including the New England Patriots. They are scheduled to face the Bills on Sunday.

The Tennessee Titans and Jacksonville Jaguars practiced ahead of their game to determine the AFC South champion on Saturday night.

"Oh, I don't have no hesitation," Titans two-time Pro Bowl defensive tackle Jeffery Simmons said about playing. "But me personally, it's one of them things when you get shook up."

Simmons said his 15-year-old cousin, Jason "JJ" Hatcher, died Dec. 18 from a heart issue during a football practice. The teen, who was a sophomore at Hebron High School in Carrollton, Texas, is the son of former 10-year NFL veteran defensive end Jason Hatcher, who spent the last eight seasons of his career with the Dallas Cowboys.

Simmons received a call informing him of his cousin's death before the Titans played a late afternoon game in Los Angeles, a 17-14 loss to the Chargers.

"We just can't take this game for granted because you never know," Simmons said. "Sometimes we just get sidetracked. ... But the real reason why we play this game and sometimes we forget that, ... we're playing for each other. We're playing for our family. And most of all, just playing for ourselves because it's all we've been knowing all our whole life."

"And I'm sure that young man, it's all he knew his whole life," Simmons said of Hamlin. "You just never know when your last night may be. So there's just one thing you just can't take for granted. And I'm praying for him and his family."

Titans coach Mike Vrabel and Pittsburgh Steelers coach Mike Tomlin said they hadn't had any discussions with the league about postponing this week's games.

Aaron Rodgers, the reigning two-time NFL MVP, said he was "shook up."

"Your football mortality just comes right face to face. One of your brothers in the fraternity of the NFL is fighting for his life right now," the Green Bay Packers' quarterback said on his weekly appearance on "The Pat McAfee Show" on YouTube and SiriusXM.

"I've been part of a few games where they've carted guys off and we've had players with neck injuries. It shakes you to the core. That's injuries where they're awake and alert, and many of them give thumbs up or what not, and it still shakes you. It's like 10-, sometimes 15-minute delays on the field and, 'All right, go back out and play,' even though your buddy might not ever play again and

SEE **NFL** PAGE 8



As legal pot grows, more kids sickened by edibles at home

JONEL ALECCIA
AP Health Writer

The number of young kids, especially toddlers, who accidentally ate marijuana-laced treats rose sharply over five years as pot became legal in more places in the U.S., according to a study published Tuesday.

More than 7,000 confirmed cases of kids younger than 6 eating marijuana edibles were reported to the nation's poison control centers between 2017 and 2021, climbing from about 200 to more than 3,000 per year.

> When it's in a candy form or cookies, people don't think of it in the same way as household chemicals or other things a child could get into - Dr. Marit Tweet

Nearly a quarter of the children wound up hospitalized, some seriously ill, according to a new analysis in the journal Pediatrics.

And those are just the reported cases, said Dr. Marit Tweet, a medical toxicologist with the Southern Illinois School of Medicine, who led the study.

Cases of kids eating pot products such as candies, chocolate and cookies have coincided with more states allowing medical and recreational cannabis use. Currently 37 U.S. states permit use of marijuana for medical purposes and 21 states regulate adult recreational use.

Tweet called for greater vigilance by parents and for more laws like those adopted by several states to make pot products — often packaged to look like kids' candies and snacks — less appealing and accessible to children.

"When it's in a candy form or cookies, people don't think of it in the same way as household chemicals or other things a child could get into," she said. "But people should really be thinking of it as a medication."

Tweet and her colleagues analyzed reports to the National Poison Data System, which includes the nation's 55 regional poison control centers. More than half of the children were toddlers, ages 2 and 3, the study showed. More than 90% got the edibles at home.

"They're the ones starting to explore and to get up and move around," she said.

Of more than 7,000 reports, researchers were able to track the outcomes of nearly 5,000 cases. They found that nearly 600 kids, or about 8%, were admitted to critical care units, most often with depressed breathing or even coma. Nearly 15% were admitted to non-critical care units and more than a third were seen in emergency rooms. Drowsiness, breathing problems, fast heart rate and vomiting were the most common symptoms.

The results are not surprising, said Dr. Brian Schultz, a pediatric emergency physician at Johns Hopkins Medicine in Baltimore. He previously worked at Children's National Hospital in Washington, D.C., where he and his colleagues treated kids who had eaten pot edibles "almost on a daily basis," he said.

Reports and hospitalizations rose during the last two years of the study, during the COVID-19 pandemic. More children were at home, with more opportunities to find pot treats, Tweet said. With marijuana more widely legal, parents may have felt less stigma seeking help from poison centers and health care providers, she added.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

LOS ANGELES

Report analyzes racial profiling in California traffic stops

California law enforcement was more than twice as likely to use force against people they perceived as Black during vehicle and pedestrian stops in 2021, as compared to people believed to be white, according to a state report released Tuesday.

The annual report by California's Racial and Identity Profiling Advisory Board gathered data on vehicle and pedestrian stops by officers from 58 law enforcement agencies in 2021. The data includes what officers perceived to be the race, ethnicity, gender and disability status of people they stop so that the state can better identify and analyze bias in policing.

The 58 agencies — which includes the 23 largest departments in the state — collectively made more than 3.1 million vehicle and pedestrian stops in 2021. By April, all of California's more than 400 law enforcement agencies must submit their data.

The data includes how officers perceive an individual's race or gender, even if it's different than how the person identifies, because the officer's perception is what drives bias.

In more than 42% of the 3.1 million stops, the individual was perceived to be Hispanic or Latino, according to the report. More than 30% were perceived to be white and 15% were believed to be Black.

But law enforcement searched people who were perceived to be Black at 2.2 times the rate of people thought to be white, the report said. And teenagers 15 to 17 years who were perceived to be Black were searched at nearly six times the rate of teens believed to be white.

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LOS ANGELES

LA County to pay $20M for Black family's seized land

Southern California beachfront property that was taken from a Black couple through eminent domain a century ago and returned to their heirs last year will be sold back to Los Angeles County for nearly $20 million, officials said Tuesday.

The heirs' decision to sell what was once known as Bruce's Beach was announced by Janice Hahn, chair of the county Board of Supervisors, and state Sen. Steven Bradford, who led local and state governmental efforts to undo the long-ago injustice.

"This fight has always been about what is best for the Bruce family, and they feel what is best for them is selling this property back to the County for nearly $20 million and finally rebuilding the generational wealth they were denied for nearly a century," Hahn said in a statement.

Bradford, who authored the state legislation that enabled the land's return, said he supported the heirs' decision to sell it to the county because current zoning regulations would prevent them from developing it in an economically beneficial manner.

The land in the city of Manhattan Beach was purchased in 1912 by Willa and Charles Bruce, who built a small resort for African Americans on the south shore of Santa Monica Bay.

The Bruces suffered racist harassment from white neighbors, and in the 1920s the Manhattan Beach City Council condemned the property and took it through eminent domain. The city did nothing with the property, and it was transferred to the state of California and then to Los Angeles County.

The county built its lifeguard training headquarters on the land, which includes a small parking lot.

Hahn learned about the property's history and launched the complex process of returning the property, including determining that two great-grandsons of the Bruces are their legal heirs.

Terms of the transfer agreement completed last June called for the property to be leased back to the county for 24 months, with an annual rent of $413,000 plus all operation and maintenance costs, and a possible sale back to the county for nearly $20 million, the estimated value.

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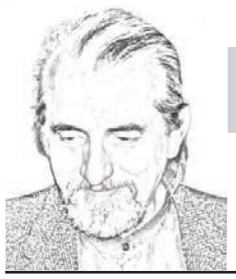
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OPINION | CURIOUS CITY

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

POPULUS FELIX IN URBE FELICI



Courtesy photo

NEW YEAR: LESS ROTTEN IN '23

A NEW YEAR! A NEW ME?

Nah. It's just another square on the calendar. We can start fresh, resolve up the wazoo, declare A New Me any day of the year, right? But 1/1 seems perfect for such fol-de-rol, a futile charade of self-deception masked in good intention. I'm not saying I never went to a New Year's Eve party and enjoyed it, but I've always been amused by the frantic, over the top, dare I say forced? celebrations – colorfully lit buildings and rivers! Star performers! Incredible fireworks! Hundreds of thousands jammed shoulder to shoulder while COVID still takes its toll (and it's probably freezing so how many colds and flu show up the next week?) – every 1/1 this Brobdingnagian brouhaha celebrates short memory, that the Bad Old Year has passed, thank Zeus, and now we can get on with a Good New Year. But wait – isn't that exactly what we celebrated so hard exactly one year ago? Oh well. I guess everyone loves a party.

I'm all aboard with being a better person. (You first...) But I know my human habits, frailties and limitations. Don't aim for Mars if you haven't yet managed a soft Moon landing. Better yet, make those detailed Mars plans first instead of just jumping onto a used Musk missile.

I'm always a believer in trying to figure out what the big picture is. Don't worry about lighting the fuse on that rocket until you've figured out what needs to happen after that. The same applies to Santa Monica issues, and God knows we have plenty of them. More than our share, I think, for a small but wealthy city. More than we should have. But before I go into my pitch about identifying the real source of problems and not fighting on the level that is irrelevant to what you need to accomplish, let me offer this cheery New Year idea. (Talkin' to myself here, but you can listen in.)

I'M GOING TO TRY...

...to remember to always fight the idea but not hate the messenger. No one can really know what is inside another person's head, and heart. There are some people in this town who push ideas that are ruinous for Santa Monica. They sometimes operate in all sorts of underhanded ways to accomplish their goals. Do they not understand what harm they are causing? Or do they understand but their agenda is more important to them? Is the acquisition of money and/or power so enticing that nothing else matters? Are they so committed to their ideologies that they believe any sacrifice (by us) is worth it?

I'm going to try... to always assume the best of these folks. Because I can't see inside their souls. I'm going to assume they love Santa Monica as much as I do, but they are misguided or misinformed. But that doesn't change my duty to resist. I've alway said, since coming to understand more about how we govern ourselves and why things play out the way they do here, that in Santa Monica it is always hard to tell the difference between incompetence and ill intent. But, the results are the same.

So, for me, that means a different attitude, more empathetic, generous and even loving, but – not so much a different approach. I still want to do all I can to save what remains of what has always been so good and special about our town. And no, that does not mean that I and so many other residents like me are hopelessly devoted to a nostalgic myopia that cannot exist in modern times. We of course must progress with the times. But we don't need to lose our minds and lose the soul of this fine city over it. For one thing, we can look to other communities, across the planet and sometimes just next door, to learn from others who are meeting similar challenges without throwing the baby out with the bathwater.

FROM THE BUDDHA TO JESUS TO MLK JR.

To yes, the Beatles ("All You Need is Love"), many leaders have taught the power of love for your enemy and peaceful resistance to wrongdoing. Gandhi booted the mighty British Empire out of India without firing a shot. In the end, historically, it seems not only the best path morally, but effectively. It takes great patience because always the forces aligned against you are experienced, organized and well funded. David had only a rock, but it was a righteous rock.

Remember, I am not condemning those with a different vision for Santa Monica, just condemning their ideas if they bring residents more harm than good, and trying to encourage myself, and maybe others, that while things may look dark and we may see the best parts of Santa Monica slipping away, it's still a beautiful warm and sunny day at the beach (while the rest of the US is tortured by the horrendous effects of climate change) and that's not a terrible battlefield. We should give thanks for being "populus felix in urbe felici" (it's on our city coat of arms), sometimes translated as "a fortunate people in a prosperous city."

That, of course, is the root of our problems. Santa Monica is so prosperous, the land so valuable, that vultures sweep in for the rich pickings, sweeping out again leaving only a sad carcass. I'm determined not to let that happen, and I get encouraging notes every week from residents who have never before contacted me, saying they feel the same way. We may be out moneyed, out politicked, out organized, but we have the numbers, and the passion. We are fighting for our home. Just ask the US military, the greatest fighting machine in history, how that worked out in Viet Nam, Afghanistan, and other places.

We do need the organization, but while the last election showed how much that is lacking, already there are groups working on that. I can't wait for election 2024.

Charles Andrews has lived in Santa Monica for 37 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

City of Santa Monica

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NOTICE INVITING BIDS

CITY OF SANTA MONICA IS NOW ONLY ACCEPTING ELECTRONIC BID SUBMITTALS

Notice is hereby given that electronic proposals for **Bid No. SP2685-1** shall be received to **furnish and deliver Public Works Streetlight Electrical Supplies**, per terms, conditions and specifications. Bids will be electronically opened at 5:00 pm **(Pacific Time) on Friday, January 27, 2023** viewable on the City's e-Procurement Portal, ProcureNow.

Vendor Queries Due: Questions must be submitted online in the "Q&A" tab. The City will only accept or respond to questions submitted through the online vendor portal. Questions regarding this bid are due Friday, January 13, 2023 no later than 5:00 pm Pacific Time.

Bid Package: *Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the City's e-Procurement Portal.*

Electronic Submissions: *Submissions will only be accepted through the City's e-Procurement Portal, ProcureNow. They must be received by the specified date and bid opening time.*

GET IT DAILY...

GUEST COMMENTARY

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A new year, but California's old crises still abound

BY DAN WALTERS

It's a new year, but the Democratic politicians who dominate the state Capitol face a raft of old problems that, if anything, worsened during 2022.

Despite a fairly wet winter – so far – California is still coping with a multi-year drought that's devastating the nation's most productive agricultural industry, the electrical grid struggles to meet demand, public school students are struggling with learning losses from COVID-19 school shutdowns, and the state's chronic housing shortage underlies the nation's highest rates of poverty and homelessness.

Any one of these crises could be labeled as existential – something that threatens California's economic and societal future – and collectively they should tell the state's politicians, including the recently re-elected Gov. Gavin Newsom, that it's time to stop promising effective responses and start delivering them.

Just before 2022 ended, the state received two statistical jolts that should be wake-up calls on the need for decisive action.

The U.S. Census Bureau reported that California's population declined for the third straight year, largely due to hundreds of thousands of Californians voting with their feet, giving up on the state and seeking more welcoming, stable and less expensive places to live.

California used to be the place where people went to make better lives for themselves, but now we've become one of those places that people leave because we make it too difficult for them to prosper. Newsom often disparages states such as Texas and Florida, but they are gaining population while California is losing it.

The second negative data point came from the federal Department of Housing and Community Development, revealing anew that California has the nation's worst homelessness problem.

The first "point-in-time" count of people sleeping in shelters and cars or living on the street since 2019 found an estimated 172,000 in California, or 44 of every 10,000 people in the state – the nation's highest rate.

It's widely acknowledged that the official tally of homelessness probably understates the numbers, too, and it's also evident that it's worsened even as federal, state and local governments were spending countless billions of dollars to reverse the trend.

It's also evident, as a recent article in The Atlantic explained, that the most important factor in California's embarrassingly high homelessness rate is the state's failure to build enough housing to meet demand. The shortage of housing drives up costs for both renters and would-be homeowners, thereby pushing some people into the streets and others to pack up and leave the state.

The state is at least a million housing units short and some estimates run as high as 3.5 million. The state's official goal is adding 2.5 million units by the end of the decade, but that would require tripling the current rate of construction.

The simple fact is that building housing, particularly for low- and middle-income families, is immensely difficult, and therefore immensely expensive, in California.

Local governments tend to make construction difficult because their voters tend to not want the traffic and other impacts of development. The state has adopted some pro-housing policies, but has added to construction costs by imposing its own design mandates.

The Capitol's politicians have made some efforts to make development easier but they have been unwilling to take big steps, such as reforming the California Environmental Quality Act, which is often misused by anti-development activists and labor unions.

The Democrats' dominance in the Capitol should make it easier for them to do what's necessary to address housing, homelessness and other major issues. However, the lack of effective political competition also makes it easy for them to avoid making hard decisions.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

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SCHOOL MASKS

FROM PAGE 1

2, Interim Superintendent Mark Kelly said the 10 day masking recommendation is in line with Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) guidelines, citing a LACDPH message.

"To prevent a post-holiday COVID-19 surge, residents are asked to layer protections as they return to work and school," it stated. "Masking indoors remains an easy and sensible precaution to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmissions, limit disruptions related to workplace or school outbreaks, and limit additional stress on health care providers and hospitals."

LACDPH Director Barbara Ferrer said the department issued the masking guidance with the hope of preventing the type of increase in illness that has been seen following previous holidays.

"The holiday season, by its very nature, brings increased risk of exposure," she said. "Including at celebrations and events, during travel or while out in more crowded public spaces."

In addition to COVID-19, she noted the presence of RSV, which has been especially prevalent among children in Southern California in recent months, along with what she called a "quick, severe start" to the flu season.

Since early October, 43 LA County residents have been reported to have died from flu-related illness, but Ferrer said that, accounting for lack of testing and reporting, Center for Disease Control modeling suggests the number is likely closer to 360.

While flu cases have been on the decline in recent weeks according to wastewater data, Ferrer cautioned that the flu season is not yet over and encouraged residents to get the flu vaccine if they have not yet.

She also urged individuals to receive the bivalent COVID-19 booster shot to help protect against variants of the virus. According to the most recent LACDPH data, SMMUSD has a Covid vaccination rate of 94.5% for 12-18 year olds and 64.4% for 5-11 year olds.

Even with these high rates, SMMUSD officials continue to stress the role of additional precautions such as masking and frequent testing in combating the spread of the disease. In his recent message, Kelly asked all students to take a free district-provided COVID-19 test the evening or morning before returning to campuses.

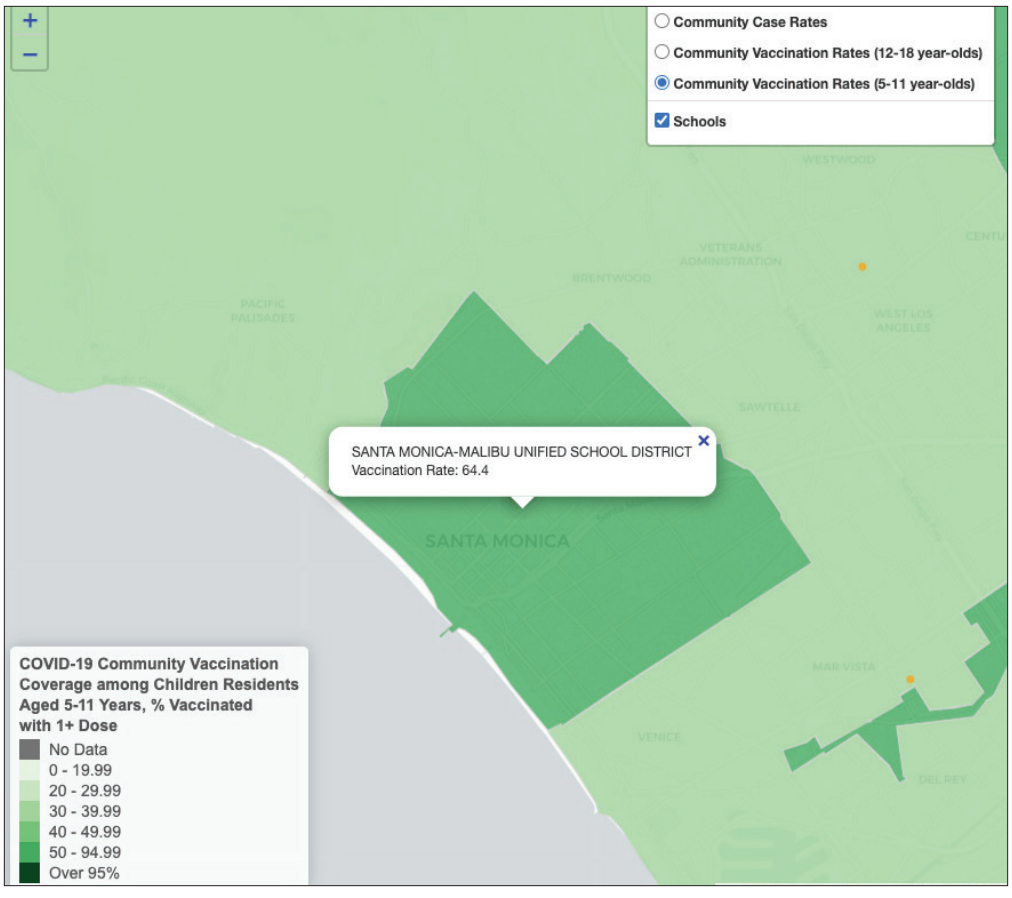
"We are looking forward to our return to school and starting off 2023 with enthusiasm for student academic success, along with continued health and wellness of our staff and students," he wrote.

> "We are looking forward to our return to school and starting off 2023 with enthusiasm for student academic success, along with continued health and wellness of our staff and students - Mark Kelly

SMMUSD elementary schools resumed on Jan. 3 and secondary school students returned beginning on Jan. 4.

grace@smdp.com





Courtesy image

CASES: SMMUSD has continued to report cases and is asking for masks to return to school.

RAIN

FROM PAGE 1

rain can very easily cause a number of dents, dings, collisions and crashes on the roads which very quickly become greasy and slippery.

On Jan. 2, at approximately 2:50 p.m., Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) responded to an incident in the 1800 block of Lincoln Blvd where a Big Blue Bus collided with a vehicle, then crashed into a tree that fell on top parked cars, before hitting Firestone Tires and finally coming to a complete stop. The bus driver was transported to the hospital to be medically evaluated and thankfully there were no reports of any injuries to either any of the 15 passengers on the bus or any occupants of the vehicles.

Also on Jan. 2, at approximately 3:15 p.m., the SMPD responded to an incident involving a single vehicle that crashed into a tree at the intersection of Ocean Ave and San Vicente Blvd. The driver of that vehicle was transported to a local hospital with non life-threatening injuries.

Finally, at about 6:23 p.m. on the same day, officers reacted to a fatal collision in the 400 block of 26th Street when a solo-occupied vehicle traveling northbound collided with a pedestrian who walked into the roadway. The victim was transported to a local hospital where he was subsequently pronounced dead. The driver was cooperative and remained on scene.

And with another "atmospheric river" arriving this week, residents across Southern California could face up to another eight inches of rain in some areas. Consequently, police are urging drivers — and pedestrians — to exercise extreme caution.

"Driving in the rain, whether a sprinkle or a heavy downpour, can be difficult and dangerous," said Lt. Rudy Flores, Public Information Officer for the SMPD. "Inclement weather conditions are directly associated with higher accident rates. Drivers are reminded to slow down, maintain a safe distance between cars, turn on your headlights, avoid heavy braking and make sure to double check your car's equipment prior to a commute in the rain."

scott.snowden@smdp.com



Beth Wooke

CRASH: A car hit a tree near the intersection of Ocean and San Vicente.

COMMUNITY NEWS

WASHINGTON

Biden renominates Garcetti, others as new Senate begins

President Joe Biden still wants former Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, who has been shadowed by a controversy over sexual harassment, to serve as his ambassador to India.

He renominated Garcetti as the new congressional session began Tuesday. Garcetti was originally nominated several months after Biden took office, but he never received a vote of the full Senate. He's faced accusations of turning a blind eye to misconduct by a top aide in his mayor's office. Garcetti has repeatedly denied being aware of any inappropriate behavior.

Amid Garcetti's struggles to get confirmed, the White House publicly defended him as a well-qualified candidate and noted that his nomination cleared the Senate Foreign Relations Committee unanimously.

"We see this as a very important nomination," White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said Tuesday. "We're hopeful that the full Senate will confirm him promptly."

All told, the White House on Tuesday resubmitted 85 nominations out of roughly 175 that fell short in the last congressional session.

Biden will also continue pushing Phil Washington, the chief executive of Denver International Airport, to lead the Federal Aviation Administration and Danny Werfel, a managing director at the Boston Consulting Group, to lead the Internal Revenue Service. Werfel previously held the job on an acting basis under President Barack Obama.

More renominations are expected in the coming weeks.

SUBMITTED BY SEUNG MIN KIM AND CHRIS MEGERIAN ASSOCIATED PRESS

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DBA

MULTIPLE DBA NAMES: FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: File Number 2022255897 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 11/28/22. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as USA VIP TOURS,USA VIP LIMO SERVICESCALIFORNIA-TOURS5210 Premiere Hills Circle 236 Woodland Hills, CA 91364The full name of the registrant(s) is/are RUS USA TRAVEL 5210 Premiere Hills Circle 236 Woodland Hills, CA 91364 If corporation or LLC-Print State of Incorporation/ Organization CAThis Business is conducted by: A Corporation The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date) 01/2008 Registrant/Corp/ LLC Name /s/: RUS USA TRAVEL Title: CEO Irina Khichenko, Irina Khichenko,This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/28/22 NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish, 11/28/22, 01/04/22, 01/11/22, 01/18/22ONE DBA NAME:FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: File Number 2022019815 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 1/27/22. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as RUBY RAE'S 216 W 4th Street San Dimas, CA 91773. The full name of the registrant(s) is/ are RUBI MONTANEZ 216 W 4th Street San Dimas, CA 91773. If corporation or LLC-Print State of Incorporation/ OrganizationThis Business is conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transaction business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date) 01/2022 Registrant/ Corp/ LLC Name /s/: RUBI MONTANEZ.This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 1/27/22 NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish, 02/26/22, 03/05/22, 03/12/22, 03/19/22.

HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
LOCATION 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401



DROUGHT

FROM PAGE 1

more snow is expected later this week and over the weekend, giving officials hope for a wet winter the state so desperately needs.

"While we see a terrific snowpack — and that in and of itself may be an opportunity to breathe a sigh of relief — we are by no means out of the woods when it comes to drought," said Karla Nemeth, director of the California Department of Water Resources.

Officials from the department measured the snow and its water content in the community of Phillips just west of Lake Tahoe, marking the first snow survey of the winter. The snow there was at a depth of 55.5 inches — enough to store 17.5 inches of water. That's at 177% of the historical average for that station.

The past three years in California have been the driest ever recorded, dating back to 1896. State officials have severely limited water deliveries to farmers while Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom has urged residents and businesses to conserve water.

> "While we see a terrific snowpack — and that in and of itself may be an opportunity to breathe a sigh of relief — we are by no means out of the woods when it comes to drought - Karla Nemeth

Roughly a third of California's water supply comes from melting snow in the Northern California mountains. About 75% of California's rain and snow comes from the watersheds north of Sacramento. But about 80% of the state's water demand comes from Southern California, where most of the people live.

Tuesday was the third most snow recorded in early January in the past 40 years, behind 1983 and 2011. The same thing happened last year, when a series of large storms in December pushed the state's snowpack to well above average. But the next three months were the driest ever recorded.

By the time the snow melted in the spring, the soil was so dry that it absorbed most of the water, leaving little to flow into the state's reservoirs. Many of California's reservoirs have been at historically low levels since then, prompting severe restrictions for farmers and calls to conserve for residents and businesses.

State officials think that is less likely to happen again this year because it has rained a lot more, meaning the soil is not as dry. Still, state climatologist Michael Anderson says officials have much work to do to better understand and plan for how dry soil can affect the amount of water that flows from melting snow in the mountains.

A New Year's Eve storm drenched much of the state in heavy rain, causing flooding that killed at least one person and damaged a levee system in Sacramento County. But that storm was warmer, bringing mostly rain instead of snow.

Two more powerful storms are expected to hit the state this week, and these will be much colder. The National Weather Service says the mountains could get up to 5 feet of snow between the two storms.

In Southern California, weather forecasters said "all systems go" for a major storm to sweep over the area Wednesday and Thursday, with peak intensity occurring from midnight to noon Thursday.

Strong winds will add to impressive storm dynamics "setting the stage for a massive rainfall event" across south-facing coastal mountains, especially the Santa Ynez range in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties, forecasters said.

On Jan. 9, 2018, the community of Montecito on the foothills of the Santa Ynez Mountains was ravaged by a massive debris flow that killed 23 people when a downpour fell on a fresh wildfire burn scar

Associated Press reporter John Antczak contributed reporting from Los Angeles.

NFL

FROM PAGE 2

we're hoping he can walk. It's a weird feeling."

"In this situation, this is unprecedented, definitely in my time. ... I've never seen something where a player had to be given CPR on the field and supposedly didn't have a pulse." Rodgers said. "I thought, 'There's no way. They're going to go back in the locker room and then come out and play. What? That can't happen.'"

The NFL disputed a television report that both teams were told to resume play after a five-minute warmup. "It never crossed our mind to talk about warming up to resume play," league executive Troy Vincent said.

The Kansas City Chiefs practiced Tuesday for their Saturday afternoon game against the Las Vegas Raiders. The Chiefs (13-3) are battling with the Bills (12-3) and Bengals (11-4) for the No. 1 seed in the AFC.

Thus, the outcome of the Bills-Bengals game has major playoff implications. The Bills entered the game in the top spot while the Bengals had a chance to clinch the AFC North with a victory and also were in the mix for the No. 1 seed along with Kansas City.

The Bengals led 7-3 in the first quarter when the game was stopped. The NFL is scheduled to begin playoffs on Jan. 14. The No. 1 seed in each conference gets a first-round bye and home-field advantage throughout the playoffs.

It's uncertain how the league will handle seedings if the Bills-Bengals game isn't concluded. The NFL could push the start of the playoffs back one week and eliminate the extra week in between the conference championship games and Super Bowl. The Pro Bowl Games are scheduled for Feb. 5.

NFL teams changed their avatars on Twitter to a blue Bills background with Hamlin's No. 3 and the words: "Pray for Damar."

AP Pro Football Writers Teresa Walker and Mark Long and AP Sports Writers John Wawrow and Steve Megargee contributed to this report.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 4)

A bright outlook lights your way. You don't have to work at it. You've practiced optimism every day for years and can easily see wonders wherever you are. Lucrative deals come through from business that's creative, risky and fun. More highlights: living near dear ones, hassle-free holidays and exotic travel. Gemini and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 1, 11, 5 and 17.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Differences are not the cause of stress, disagreement is. You choose the peaceable route, acknowledging that the world is a diverse place without taking issue with everything that is different.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Take time to work out a deal, but don't dwell in the semantics because they are the least important aspect in play. The negotiation is about coming into a state of harmony with the other party and learning what you can agree on.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're focused on finding your next opportunity, which will lead you into interesting scenarios that seem made for you. Because you believe you'll be lucky, you'll find good fortune everywhere.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Until you're the one inside the real-life experience, you just don't know. For this reason, even though you find it difficult to relate to someone's choices, you assume they have their reasons and leave it at that.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Whether the deal is better for you or the other person is beside the point. You seek to create interactions that increase the quality of your bonds. This principle will carry you through many beneficial exchanges.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Pretend you can psychically read the other person. What information do you imagine you're getting? Grant yourself permission to guess and suddenly you'll find yourself with strong intuitive guidance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When you speak your truth, people will consider you brave. What they don't understand is that you're too passionate not to say what's on your mind. It would be much harder to stay silent.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Emotionally, you are like a sea creature. You've no fear of the open water, but the shallows can be dangerous. You'll avoid getting beached by seeking to understand the depths of those who have depths to understand.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your dreams are like a net you toss out to the ether and bring back periodically to find out what they caught. New people, places and things will populate your life because of the effort and strategy you put into today's throw.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Pleasure is not the absence of pain. Similarly, doing just enough is not nearly enough for the kind of mood you're in. You'll go for the wow factor, or keep moving until you find something that's worthy of your superstar effort.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Someone wants you to conform to their wishes, which you may find annoying, but in another way you see their conviction as admirable. It inspires you to figure out what you want, too. There's a chance of overlapping interests.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You can see the end goal in your mind's eye, and this helps you be tenacious. You would have lost heart long ago without this clarity of vision. Paint the picture for one who is having trouble seeing as well as you do.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

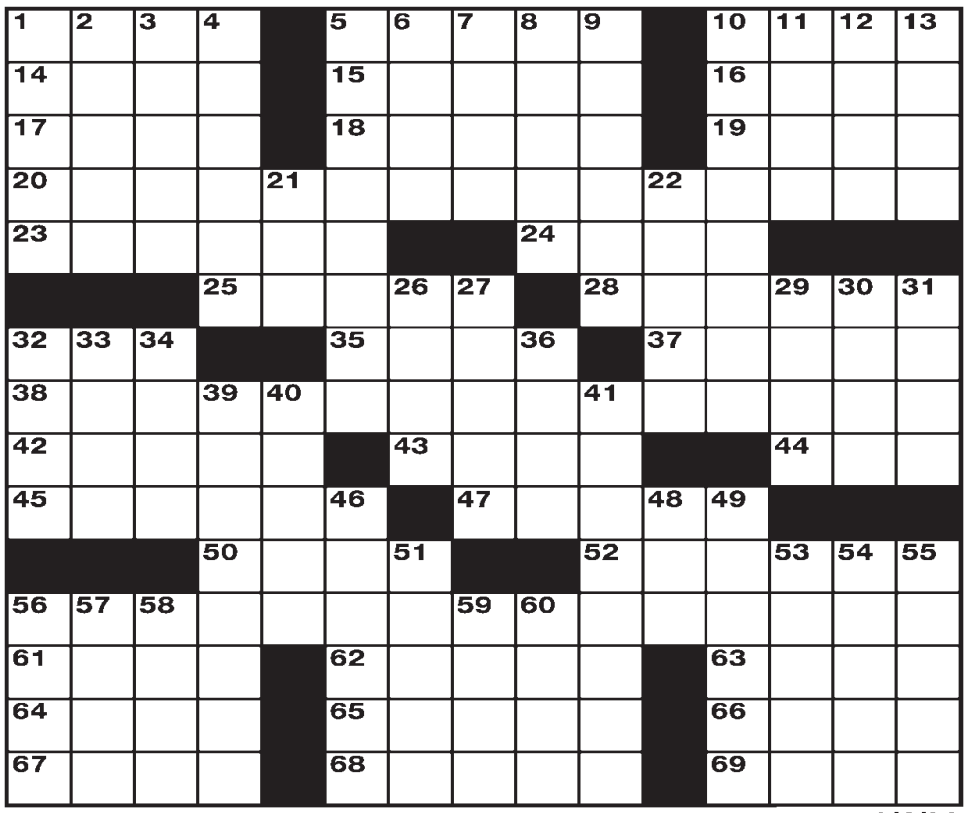
8			6	7				
1			2			5		
	3				5	8	6	
		2		3			9	
4				5				6
	9			6		1		
	1	6	3				8	
		3			4			2
				8	6			5

Newsday Crossword

FILM FORECASTS by Bruce Venzke
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Somewhat, on a music score
5 Carved Indian pole
10 Engrave deeply
14 Frenzied
15 Run off for romance
16 Mideast "Strip" region
17 *Divine Secrets of the __ Sisterhood* (Bullock film)
18 Brother of Moses
19 Metric measure
20 George Clooney fishing-boat film
23 Diverse
24 Arizona Native American
25 Grouch's look
28 Kind of aircraft engine
32 Pitchfork-shaped letter
35 Horse-stopping cry
37 Farm machinery giant
38 Gene Kelly "umbrella" film
42 Bird on a birth announcement
43 Actress Catherine __-Jones
44 Homer Simpson neighbor
45 Apartment occupant
47 From farm country
50 Pulls along
52 Nod off
56 Clark Gable epic film
61 Wall St. debuts
62 "Bye now!"
63 Publicize aggressively
64 Presidential turndown
65 Entice
66 Succulent plant
67 Forbidden fruit locale
68 Secret agents
69 Cookbook amts.

DOWN
1 Cable service
2 Midwest metropolis
3 More demure
4 Cousins of giraffes
5 Raze
6 Norway's patron saint
7 Ripped (up)
8 Distinctive period
9 Teacher and advisor
10 Board game gadget
11 Poi source
12 Captain of industry
13 Soccer great Mia
21 Common Market initials
22 Garden implement
26 Expert
27 Nonsocial person
29 Author Auel
30 Pennsylvania port
31 Be disposed (to)
32 Attention-getting whisper
33 Building's location
34 Aware of
36 Westernmost of the Aleutians
39 Irritates
40 "That's not news to me"
41 Construction workers
46 Surprising plot turns
48 Comprise
49 Lean, as cuisine
51 Prepare, as tea
53 Makes happen just by thinking
54 Busybody
55 Outer boundaries
56 Provide
57 Newspaper essay page
58 Write down briefly
59 Prefix for sphere
60 Do keyboarding

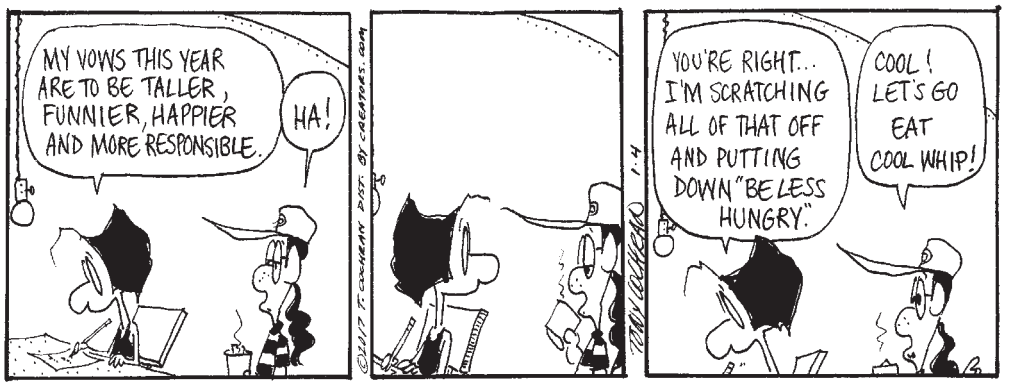


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MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



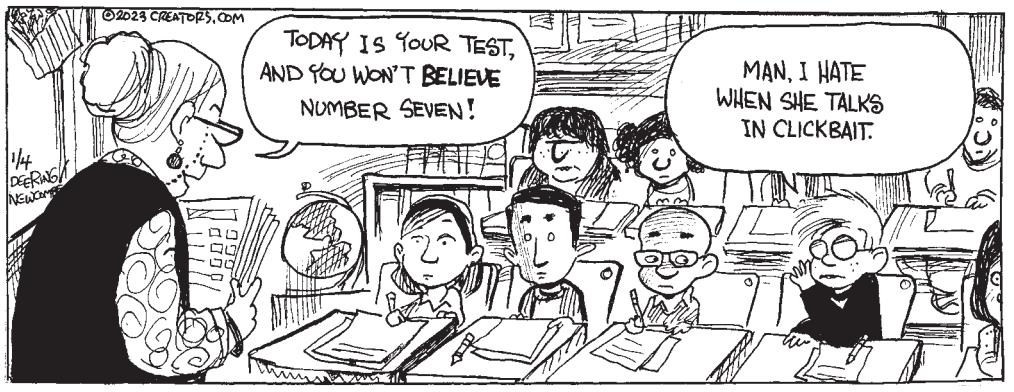
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



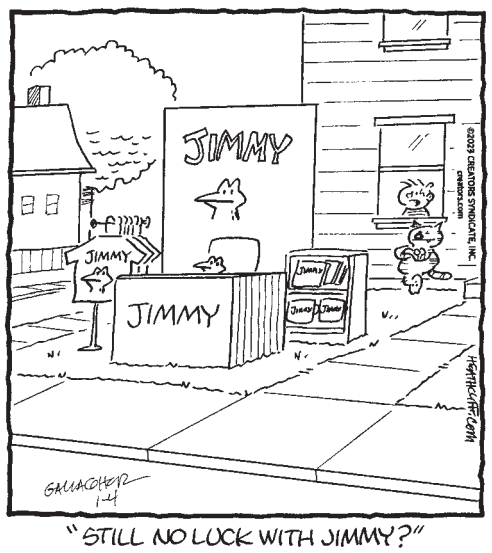
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"STILL NO LUCK WITH JIMMY?"

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



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 18 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 5714

Adelaide

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

Aging	Dry Creek	Kudla	Skye
Arts	East	Largs Bay	Soil
Bikes	Elizabeth	MacDonald	Sturt
Calm	Enfield	Park	Taperoo
Cavan	Fair	Marden	Unley
Chidda	Fitzroy	Moana	Urrbrae
Churches	Fulham	Ottoway	Walks
Cosy	Hilton	Pinera	Woodville
Crafers	Hove	Seaford	South
Direk	Joslin	Semaphore	
Downs	Klemzig	Show	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
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What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

WEDNESDAY | JANUARY 4

NEW YEAR, NEW JOB
Representatives from local nonprofit Chrysalis provide drop-in resume assistance, job listings, and on-the-spot orientations for their free employment training and job placement programs. Pico Branch Library, 3 - 5 p.m.

THURSDAY | JANUARY 5

HOUSING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
The Housing Commission works to improve the quality of life of residents and the City by supporting and helping to guide the production and preservation of affordable housing. 6 p.m. https://www.santamonica.gov/housing-commission

WALK-IN TUTORING
Location is Main Library, 2nd floor Tutoring Center. Friendly volunteer tutors provide help with basic reading and writing skills, using the Internet, filling out online forms, using email, resume writing, and job searches. 1 - 3 p.m.

FRIDAY | JANUARY 6

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL), LOW
Classes are free and students must be 18 years or older to attend. Community parents and SMMUSD parents have priority enrollment. Learn more about California adult education at caladulted.org. Enrollment is through the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Adult Education Center, located at 2510 Lincoln Blvd., Room 203, Santa Monica, CA, 90405. Contact Olga Saucedo at (310) 664-6222, ext.76203 or osaucedo@smmusd.org to enroll. 10 a.m.

SATURDAY | JANUARY 7

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. Main Library, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) CONVERSATION, HIGH
Santa Monica Public Library hosts an ongoing series of English as a Second Language (ESL) classes taught by Adult Education Center instructors. Classes are free and students must be 18 years or older to attend. Community parents and SMMUSD parents have priority enrollment. Learn more about California adult education at caladulted.org. Enrollment is through the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Adult Education Center, located at 2510 Lincoln Blvd., Room 203, Santa Monica, CA, 90405. Contact Olga Saucedo at (310) 664-6222, ext.76203 or osaucedo@smmusd.org to enroll. 12 - 3 p.m.

BYOB (BRING YOUR BABY/BOOB/BOTTLE/BUGGY): A COMEDY SHOW
Have a baby? Date nights non-existent? We have a mid-day, raunchy comedy show for parents – by parents – that you can bring your baby to! The BYOB Comedy Show: bring your baby, boob, bottle, buggy! (Stroller parking included.) Enjoy a comedy show in the middle of the day instead of crying in the corner while your baby doesn't nap. Bring the baby to the show because they don't understand it yet! The Crow, 2525 Michigan Avenue, Unit F4, 1 - 2:30 p.m. https://www.crowcomedy.com/family-shows

DRAG BRUNCH AT LANEA
Join Lanea for delicious margaritas, savory street tacos and an amazing drag show the first Saturday of every month! No RSVP required and enjoy live music by DJ Daunkos. 2 - 5 p.m. Lanea, 217 Broadway. https://www.gotolanea.com/events

SUNDAY | JANUARY 8

MAIN STREET FARMERS MARKET
The Sunday Main Street Farmers Market features some of California's freshest produce plus prepared foods from local Main Street restaurants as well as artisanal foods prepared with ingredients sourced from California farmers – you can't get more local than that! 2640 Main Street. https://www.santamonica.gov/places/farmers-markets/main-street-farmers-market

MONDAY | JANUARY 9

KARAOKE NIGHT PARTY AT TAVERN ON MAIN
Sing a song, sing it loud and sing it strong at Tavern on Main's Karaoke Night Party, every Monday and Wednesday night from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tavern on Main, 2907 Main St

TUESDAY | JANUARY 10

FRIDAY NIGHT JAMS AT TAVERN ON MAIN
Start those weekend vibes buzzing with hot tunes by a roster of rotating DJs at Tavern on Main. This is a 21+ event with no cover charge. Enjoy lively music, great drinks and the best food. Tavern on Main, 2907 Main St. 9 p.m. https://www.tavernonmainsm.com/events/friday-night-jams

WEDNESDAY | JANUARY 11

AQUARIUM COMEDY CLUB
Celebrate with an intimate comedy event at Heal the Bay Aquarium in Santa Monica! Major headliners from Netflix, Comedy Central & movies perform in this 90 minute stand up comedy show. Watch comedy while the fish are swimming around you! Heal the Bay Aquarium 1600 Ocean Front Walk 8 p.m. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aquarium-comedy-club-santa-monica-tickets-317082400997

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



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **58.6**

WEDNESDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:**	2-3ft+ Thigh to stomach	Continued WNW energy as winds ramp up from the east. West facing beaches/spots will show best for size and quality.
THURSDAY *POOR*	**SURF:**	3-5ft Waist to head	Small W swell best served west of Dume in the morning before a solid dose of WNW swell arrives late. S winds ahead of an approaching front for poor conditions in the morning, swinging WNW into the end of the day.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Rain likely. Cloudy, with a high near 61. South southeast wind around 15 mph.
Wednesday Night: Rain. The rain could be heavy at times. Low around 54. Breezy.
Thursday: Rain, mainly before 4pm. The rain could be heavy at times. High near 59.
Thursday Night: A 30 percent chance of rain before 10pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 48.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/01/04	Wed	12:46 AM	2.42	L
2023/01/04	Wed	07:07 AM	5.93	H
2023/01/04	Wed	2:36 PM	-0.74	L
2023/01/04	Wed	9:14 PM	3.50	H
2023/01/05	Thu	01:23 AM	2.46	L
2023/01/05	Thu	07:40 AM	5.98	H
2023/01/05	Thu	3:08 PM	-0.81	L
2023/01/05	Thu	9:46 PM	3.52	H
2023/01/06	Fri	01:57 AM	2.44	L
2023/01/06	Fri	08:13 AM	5.99	H
2023/01/06	Fri	3:39 PM	-0.80	L
2023/01/06	Fri	10:17 PM	3.52	H
2023/01/07	Sat	02:30 AM	2.40	L
2023/01/07	Sat	08:45 AM	5.94	H
2023/01/07	Sat	4:10 PM	-0.73	L
2023/01/07	Sat	10:48 PM	3.52	H
2023/01/08	Sun	03:03 AM	2.38	L
2023/01/08	Sun	09:16 AM	5.81	H

DAILY LOTTERY

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 1/2
7 9 12 31 62
Power#: 22
Jackpot: 291 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/30
1 3 6 44 51
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: 785 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 12/31
6 9 20 22 42
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 21 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/2
8 10 12 15 33

Daily 3
Draw Date: 1/2
EVENING: 7 7 6
Draw Date: 1/2
MIDDAY: 7 3 6

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 1/2
1st: 09 - Winning Spirit
2nd: 08 - Gorgeous George
3rd: 12 - Lucky Charms
Race Time: 1:43.79

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