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Santa Monica Daily Press

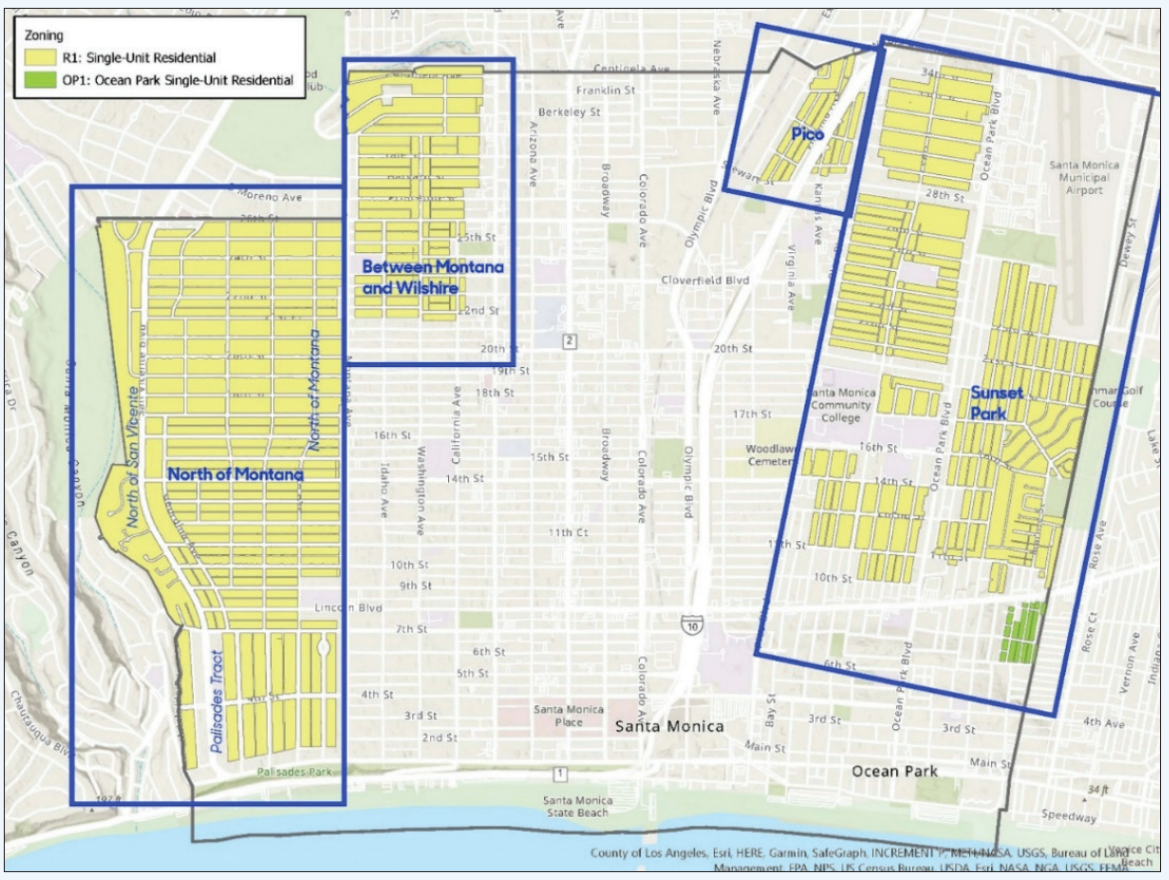
WEDNESDAY
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What's The Point
Stand Up For Change.
Page 5

Drought Rules
State announces first set of restrictions.
Page 4

City staff lays out suggestions for controlling housing development under SB 9



Courtesy image

HOUSING: A new state rule regulating housing mostly impacts Santa Monica's single family neighborhoods.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Development is always a heated topic in Santa Monica, particularly when it comes to people's doorstep, which is why City Hall is taking a conservative approach to construction under controversial housing bill SB 9.

SB 9 was passed by state legislators in September 2021 and came into effect on Jan. 1. City Council voted to formally oppose the bill in February 2021, but now must focus their efforts on managing its local implementation.

The bill is meant to help increase California's housing stock by allowing up to four units to be built on a land parcel zoned for a single family dwelling. Council opposed the bill due to its lack of an affordability requirement and fears that it would result in speculative investors purchasing land parcels and building expensive new units.

City staff are in the process of drafting local laws regulating SB 9 in Santa Monica, and on Dec. 29 Planning Manager Jing Yeo released a report with considerations for the new ordinance.

These considerations focus on tightening requirements for new construction under SB 9, limiting the ability to add additional dwelling units (ADUs) and junior additional dwelling units (JADUs) to newly constructed units, and deterring speculative investors.

SB 9 only applies to land areas zoned for single-unit dwellings. In Santa Monica single-unit dwelling zones are designated as R1 and OP1 and represent approximately one-third of the city's land area. These zones include the entire North of Montana neighborhood, large portions of Sunset Park and Northeast Neighbors neighborhood, and a small section

SEE **HOUSING** PAGE 6

City's second cannabis dispensary up for permits

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica is inching one step closer to having a medical marijuana dispensary operating in town, as the city's lengthy permitting and regulatory process continues to crawl forward.

On Thursday, when the Santa Monica Planning Commission holds its first meeting of 2022, it will discuss issuing a conditional use permit (CUP) to a long-awaited medicinal cannabis retailer that plans to move in at 1416 Wilshire Boulevard between 14th and 15th streets — not far from UCLA Medical Center.

But even if the Planning Commission decides to issue a CUP on Thursday, that is just the first in a laundry list of licenses, permits and fees needed to begin operations. Among the slew of permits and certificates required are cannabis permits, a county health permit, a seller's permit, insurance and an approved compliance report from code enforcement, plus required fees (around $20,000), before its doors may open.

The retailer, under the name Harvest of Santa Monica, LLC, is seeking to operate a 2,480-square-foot licensed medical cannabis retail facility, with proposed hours of operation from 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 12 p.m. – 7 p.m. Sunday, with delivery also offered within those hours.

The proposed shop would not issue physician recommendations for medicinal cannabis, meaning customers would need to arrive with existing medical marijuana cards. That also differentiates it from the much-disparaged Venice Boulevard-style pot shops that famously offer medical cards on

SEE **CANNABIS** PAGE 6

COVID case counts may be losing importance amid omicron

CARLA K. JOHNSON
AP Medical Writer

The explosive increase in U.S. coronavirus case counts is raising alarm, but some experts believe the focus should instead be on COVID-19 hospital admissions. And those aren't climbing as fast.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, for one, said Sunday on ABC that with many infections causing few or no symptoms, "it is much more relevant to focus on the hospitalizations as opposed to the total number of cases." Other experts argue that case counts still have value.

As the super-contagious omicron variant rages across the U.S., new COVID-19 cases per day have more than tripled over the past two weeks, reaching a record-shattering average of 480,000. Schools, hospitals and airlines are struggling as infected workers go into isolation.

Meanwhile, hospital admissions averaged 14,800 per day last week, up 63% from the week before, but still short of the peak of 16,500 per day a year ago, when the vast majority of the U.S. was unvaccinated. Deaths have been stable over the past two weeks at an average of about 1,200 per day, well below the all-time high of 3,400 last January.

Public health experts suspect that those numbers, taken together, reflect the vaccine's continued

SEE **COVID** PAGE 11


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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 247 CALLS ON JANUARY 3

Vehicle Burglar Alarm Lincoln Blvd / Hill St 1:03 a.m.
Arson Ocean Ave / Santa Monica Blvd 1:18 a.m.
Missing Person 1200Blk 3rd Street Prom 3:08 a.m.
Overdose 200Blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:26 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 4th St / Interstate 10 5:00 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 4th St / Interstate 10 5:08 a.m.
Person With A Gun 2400Blk Wilshire Blvd 6:00 a.m.
Encampment 1100Blk 20th St 6:47 a.m.
Violation Of Temporary No Parking Signs 1600Blk Franklin St 7:14 a.m.
Person Down 2200Blk Lincoln Blvd 7:25 a.m.
Encampment 2000Blk Ocean Ave 7:51 a.m.
Burglary 1500Blk California Ave 7:55 a.m.
General Parking Problem 300Blk Olympic Dr 8:16 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1300Blk 9th St 8:20 a.m.
Prowler There 2300Blk Ocean Ave 8:25 a.m.
Fight 1400Blk Montana Ave 8:31 a.m.
Bike Theft 2300Blk Ocean Ave 8:32 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1400Blk 2nd St 8:53 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 3100Blk Colorado Ave 9:20 a.m.
Petty Theft 3200Blk Colorado Ave 9:27 a.m.
Fraud 1700Blk Sunset Ave 9:29 a.m.
Red Zone Violation 2600Blk 23rd St 9:39 a.m.
General Parking Problem 900Blk 15th St 9:51 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 2400Blk Oak St 10:04 a.m.
Petty Theft 1700Blk Ocean Ave 10:08 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1600Blk Ashland Ave 10:11 a.m.
Vandalism 600Blk Marine St 10:24 a.m.
Petty Theft 500Blk Olympic Blvd 10:30 a.m.
Vandalism 700Blk Marine St 10:46 a.m.
Elder Abuse 1300Blk 17th St 10:59 a.m.
Found Senile Person 500Blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:59 a.m.
Encampment 2100Blk The Beach 11:03 a.m.
Burglary 1700Blk Ocean Park Blvd 11:05 a.m.
Found Property 1400Blk 16th St 11:06 a.m.
Speeding 17th St / Montana Ave 11:11 a.m.
Vandalism 700Blk Marine St 11:23 a.m.
Encampment 2600Blk The Beach 11:23 a.m.
Petty Theft 1200Blk 3rd Street Prom 11:27 a.m.
Found Property 1400Blk 16th St 11:29 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 700Blk Grant St 11:43 a.m.
General Parking Problem 2300Blk Pearl St 11:46 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2100Blk Pearl St 11:55 a.m.
Vandalism 2600Blk Wilshire Blvd 12:02 p.m.
Vandalism 600Blk Marine St 12:05 p.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 1200Blk 11th St 12:05 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1300Blk Grant St 12:11 p.m.
Lost Property 2900Blk The Beach 12:29 p.m.
Vandalism 600Blk Marine St 12:41 p.m.
Auto Burglary 2500Blk 34th St 12:57 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 16th St / Pico Blvd 1:10 p.m.
Burglary 2800Blk Wilshire Blvd 1:10 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3300Blk Barnard Way 1:33 p.m.
Auto Burglary 900Blk 16th St 1:48 p.m.
Grand Theft 800Blk Cedar St 2:02 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 1400Blk 2nd St 2:02 p.m.
Vandalism 800Blk Ozone Ave 2:17 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1400Blk Berkeley St 2:30 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2600Blk 11th St 2:30 p.m.
Assault 800Blk 12th St 2:32 p.m.
Vandalism 1600Blk Cloverfield Blvd 2:39 p.m.
Vandalism 3000Blk 7th St 2:49 p.m.
Person With A Gun 2200Blk Pico Blvd 2:54 p.m.
Vandalism 700Blk Ozone St 3:06 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 2400Blk Beverley Ave 3:10 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1200Blk Hill St 3:11 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1400Blk 5th St 3:20 p.m.
Domestic Violence 24th St / Pico Blvd 3:22 p.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 1000Blk Euclid St 3:29 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:37 p.m.
Vandalism Main St / Olympic Dr 3:40 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 26th St / Wilshire Blvd 3:43 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 600Blk Strand St 3:51 p.m.
Fraud 900Blk Pico Blvd 3:51 p.m.
Stalking 900Blk Wilshire Blvd 3:59 p.m.
Fight 2200Blk Lincoln Blvd 4:28 p.m.
Violation Of Restraining Order 1300Blk 17th St 4:32 p.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 4:41 p.m.
Encampment 2900Blk Lincoln Blvd 4:45 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1900Blk 6th St 5:05 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 200Blk 4th St 5:15 p.m.
Petty Theft 1300Blk Palisades Park 5:25 p.m.
Petty Theft 2900Blk 4th St 5:36 p.m.
Encampment 600Blk California Ave 5:46 p.m.
Encampment 2200Blk The Beach 5:53 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1400Blk Ocean Ave 5:55 p.m.
Harassing Phone Calls 600Blk Euclid St 6:09 p.m.
Vandalism 1600Blk Ocean Ave 6:13 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1000Blk 22nd St 6:32 p.m.
Public Intoxication 1500Blk 7th St 6:32 p.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 2700Blk 11th St 7:03 p.m.
Battery 1600Blk Ocean Front Walk 7:45 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2000Blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:05 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 2300Blk 6th St 8:23 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 25th St / Broadway 8:29 p.m.
Petty Theft 800Blk Colorado Ave 8:31 p.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 200Blk California Ave 8:33 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 7th St / San Vicente Blvd 9:01 p.m.
Loud Music 2500Blk 28th St 9:05 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 24th St / Alta Ave 9:47 p.m.
Burglary 2000Blk Olympic Blvd 9:51 p.m.
Construction Noise 1000Blk 21st St 9:54 p.m.
Construction Noise 22nd St / Washington Ave 9:57 p.m.
Encampment 2200Blk The Beach 11:52 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 45 CALLS ON JANUARY 3

EMS 100Blk Broadway 12:05 a.m.
EMS 800Blk 19th St 12:09 a.m.
EMS 2400Blk Beverley Ave 2:05 a.m.
EMS 200Blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:26 a.m.
EMS 2000Blk 19th St 3:54 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200Blk 6th St 4:19 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 4th St / Interstate 10 5:00 a.m.
EMS 1100Blk Ozone Ave 5:38 a.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 1400Blk 7th St 6:41 a.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 600Blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:52 a.m.
EMS 1100Blk 26th St 6:59 a.m.
EMS 900Blk 3rd St 7:05 a.m.
EMS 2200Blk Lincoln Blvd 7:25 a.m.
EMS 800Blk 4th St 7:50 a.m.
EMS 2000Blk Euclid St 8:11 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 600Blk 25th St 8:12 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200Blk 6th St 8:32 a.m.
EMS 1800Blk Euclid St 8:57 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 300Blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:19 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 300Blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:23 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1800Blk Wilshire Blvd 10:01 a.m.
EMS 2200Blk Main St 10:50 a.m.
EMS 1700Blk 17th St 10:57 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1800Blk Wilshire Blvd 12:00 p.m.
EMS 1000Blk 20th St 12:39 p.m.
EMS 2500Blk 5th St 12:49 p.m.
EMS 400Blk 17th St 1:27 p.m.
EMS 2300Blk Virginia Ave 1:33 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200Blk 15th St 2:05 p.m.
EMS 1900Blk Lincoln Blvd 3:21 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 3rd Street Prom 3:23 p.m.
EMS 2600Blk Kansas Ave 3:27 p.m.
EMS Euclid St / Maple St 4:48 p.m.
EMS 2400Blk California Ave 4:55 p.m.
EMS 2000Blk Santa Monica Blvd 5:09 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 200Blk 26th St 6:00 p.m.
EMS 2100Blk Ocean Ave 6:51 p.m.
EMS 300Blk Santa Monica Pl 7:40 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 600Blk Pico Blvd 7:40 p.m.
EMS 1200Blk 16th St 8:22 p.m.
EMS 3rd Street Prom / Santa Monica Blvd 9:02 p.m.
EMS 2200Blk 29th St 9:22 p.m.
EMS 100Blk Ocean Park Blvd 10:11 p.m.
EMS 1200Blk 23rd St 11:31 p.m.
EMS 1600Blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:42 a.m.

A record 4.5 million Americans quit their jobs in November

PAUL WISEMAN
AP Economics Writer

A record 4.5 million American workers quit their jobs in November, a sign of confidence and more evidence that the U.S. job market is bouncing back strongly from last year's coronavirus recession.

The Labor Department also reported Tuesday that employers posted 10.6 million job openings in November, down from 11.1 million in October but still high by historical standards.

Employers hired 6.7 million people in November, up from 6.5 million in October, the Labor Department reported Tuesday in its monthly Jobs Openings and Labor Turnover Survey.

Nick Bunker, research director at the Indeed Hiring Lab, noted that quits were high in the low-wage hotel and restaurant industries. "Lots of quits means stronger worker bargaining power which will likely feed into strong wage gains," he said. "Wage growth was very strong in 2021, and ... we might see more of the same in 2022."

Still, the Labor Department collected the numbers before COVID-19's omicron variant had spread widely in the United States. "While each successive wave of the pandemic caused less economic damage, there is still a risk to the labor market from the current surge of cases," Bunker said.

The job market is rebounding from last year's brief but intense coronavirus recession. When COVID hit, governments ordered lockdowns, consumers stayed home and many businesses closed or cut hours. Employers slashed more than 22 million jobs in March and April 2020, and the unemployment rate rocketed to 14.8%.

But massive government spending — and eventually the rollout of vaccines — brought the economy back. Employers have added 18.5 million jobs since April 2020, still leaving the U.S. still 3.9 million jobs short of what it had before the pandemic. The December jobs report, out Friday, is expected to show that the economy generated almost 393,000 more jobs this month, according to a survey by the data firm FactSet.

The unemployment rate has fallen to 4.2%, close to what economists consider full employment.

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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 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
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: 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.

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PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra,
Matthew King,
Kimberly Jaffe.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com
Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Clara Harter
clara@smdp.com

Emily Sawicki
emily@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com
Diana Corona
diana@smdp.com
Julio Davalos
julio@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press

1640 5th Street, Suite 218
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

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State adopts water restrictions as drought drags on

KATHLEEN RONAYNE
Associated Press

Californians will face mandatory restrictions governing how they can water their lawns and wash their cars for the second time in less than a decade as the state withers under another drought.

The rules adopted Tuesday by the State Water Resources Control Board are fairly mild — no watering lawns for 48 hours after a rainstorm or letting sprinklers run onto the sidewalk— and could take effect as soon as the end of the month. Scofflaws could face $500 daily fines, though regulators say they expect such fines will be rare, as they were in the last drought.

The action comes as Californians continue to fall short on Gov. Gavin Newsom's call for a voluntary 15% reduction in water use compared to last year. Between July and November, the state's water usage went down just 6%.

The new restrictions follow an extremely wet December that state officials warned may not continue during the winter months that normally are the state's wettest. Weather patterns have become more unpredictable due to climate change and state climatologist Michael Anderson said forecasts show January, February and March could be drier than average.

Earlier forecasts didn't predict such a wet December, which saw record amounts of rain and snow in many areas. In mid-December, about 80% of the state was in extreme or exceptional drought conditions. By the end of the month only about a third was experiencing those conditions, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor that tabulates conditions. Meanwhile, the state Department of Water Resources announced Tuesday that recent storms will allow the resumption of hydropower generation at the Oroville Dam, which was halted in early August due to historically low lake levels.

Despite the rain, significant parts of the state's water system are still under stress from the extremely dry conditions earlier in 2021 that dropped many of California's largest reservoirs to record and near-record lows.

"Conserving water and reducing water waste are critical and necessary habits for everyone to adopt as we adjust to these uncertainties and we build resilience to climate change, so adopting emergency regulations now just makes sense," said Eric Oppenheimer, chief deputy director for the state water board. "We need to be prepared for continued drought."

Northern California was wetter than Southern California in November and conserved significantly more water.

Regions north of the San Joaquin River, including Sacramento and San Francisco, used between 17% and 26% less water than November 2020, while Los Angeles, Orange and San Diego counties that account for 55% of the state's population used nearly 1% more, according to state data.

Among the water uses that won't be allowed under the new rules: outdoor watering that results in excessive runoff into the street and sidewalks; using water for landscaping and irrigation during the 48 hours after storms that bring at least .25 inches (.63 centimeters) of rain; washing cars with hoses lacking shut-off nozzles; using potable water to wash driveways, sidewalks, buildings and patios and for street cleaning or to fill decorative fountains or lakes.

There are some exceptions. For example, trees in street medians can be watered, while turf cannot. The rules take effect once an administrative review is completed.

Though much of the U.S. West is in drought, no other western state has adopted statewide restrictions on residential water usage. Instead, it's local governments and water agencies in places like Denver and Las Vegas setting policies about when people can water their lawns. For example, the Las Vegas region adopted restrictions on planting grass, including banning it in front yards, in an effort to save water.

California adopted similar restrictions during the five-year drought that ended in 2017, and some cities and local water districts made them permanent. Such restrictions were just one piece of the state's conservation approach, which also included incentives for Californians to rip up water-hungry lawns in favor of drought-resistant landscaping.

Today, California's overall water use is lower than it was when the last drought began. But that makes conservation trickier this time, because some of the easiest measures have already been adopted. State water board officials were unable to say how many of California's nearly 40 million people are under such rules or exactly how much water they expect to save.

Though the regulations include an ability to fine violators up to $500 per day, fines were rare last time around. The state has no plans to put "water cops" on the streets, Oppenheimer said, but he noted that during the last drought many local water districts beefed up staff to monitor conservation and compliance.

The state also has a website where individuals can report their neighbors or others they see violating the rules. The complaints will be directed to the relevant local water agency. During California's last drought, people engaged in so-called " drought shaming ", the process of publicly outing people who are wasting water by posting videos to social media.

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters to the Editor can be submitted to letters@smdp.com. Receipt of a letter does not guarantee publication and all content is published at the discretion of the paper. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content. All submissions must include the author's name, address and phone number for the purposes of verification.



What's the Point?

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Stand Up For Change

My column last week about the sorry state of the city's architecture and its increasingly boring designs, along with the condensation of people struck a nerve. I received some great feedback from readers who are just as frustrated, angry and pessimistic about our city's future as me.

The lack of local control is a concern, and it's certainly a component of the density and bad design. When the Legislature expanded the rules on development statewide it was in response to a perceived demand for housing. On a statewide level that's possibly true, but I am seeing a lot of 'For Rent' signs in the city. I've heard that even San Francisco with its history of 99% occupancy is having an increase in vacancies.

All of this is against a backdrop of a large exodus out of California and into states like Texas, Idaho, N. Carolina and the Midwest. Our high taxes, high regulation, and traffic are making many of us reconsider if living here is worth it. That outflow of residents may be a sign that rental prices are stabilizing and/or dropping.

I know of a landlord who two years ago was getting $4,300 a month for their 1 bedroom/ 1 bath with an outdoor patio and secured parking lowering the rent to $3,600 and having a hard time finding a tenant at that. It's the 'Invisible Hand' of the market at work bringing things back in balance.

Unfortunately I don't think that will help us with the overbuilding at the moment. The Hand of the market is pushing full bore to develop more, faster, with the intent that the developers can maximize their profits upon sale. I don't like it, but I do understand it.

As a small business owner myself I maximize my efforts at turning a profit. I have clients that pay me hourly and I regularly increase my fees based on what the market will bear, my own expertise and availability. We all do it, even if you're a salaried employee you should be asking for a raise every year, and if you switch jobs and have to do the salary negotiation thing, that's really nothing more than you selling your time and skills on the open market.

The difference is, I think, that a building once built is probably going to stay in place, absent a catastrophe, for a very long time. Once built a five-story apartment behemoth on Pico in place of the bowling alley, is probably never going to be torn down and turned into a one-story building with seven units and a parking lot.

Development is pretty much a one way street and it's always towards a higher better use. That's why finding ways to slow the growth are important. To have time for reflection on the impact, to do an environmental impact report. I expect that at some point we'll have to do a building moratorium to address the issues of infrastructure. Cities like Glenwood Springs Co are looking at moratorium to address their problems with development and a little issue like where's the water coming from to support this new development?

I'm rather shocked that there isn't more discussion around the need for water in our state. We're mostly a desert and we have for years been filling our need from the Pacific Northwest and the Colorado River. Our capacity to draw water from those resources is dwindling unless we do something to confront the problem.

Slowing any one development is understandable. The problem however is bigger and much further upstream. We have to deal with the fact that population continues to grow. That we continue to have a global emigration issue. That we have infrastructure demands that are not being addressed.

I appreciate the letters I received last week about my opinions on development and primary colors, and I am asking you, if you are also concerned about these issues and the state of city and its future, to please write in at letters@smdp.com so that the paper can share your thoughts. If enough people stand up, change can happen. It's the only way it's ever happened.

David Pisarra is a Los Angeles Divorce and Child Custody Lawyer specializing in Father's and Men's Rights with the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or 310/664-9969. You can follow him on Twitter @davidpisarra



City of Santa Monica

**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION
VIA TELECONFERENCE
Pursuant to AB361**

SUBJECT: 21ENT-0123 (Development Review Permit)
1736 22nd Street
APPLICANT: Crossroads School for Arts and Sciences
PROPERTY OWNER: Crossroads School for Arts and Sciences

A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission to consider the following request:

Development Review Permit to allow the construction of a new Tier 1, two-story, 45' high, 32,688 square-foot Performing Arts Center for Crossroads School for Arts and Sciences.

DATE/TIME: **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2022 AT 5:30 PM**

LOCATION: In an effort to reduce the risk of spreading Coronavirus (COVID-19), members of the Planning Commission and City Staff will participate via teleconference. The meeting will be broadcast on CityTV Channel 16 and streamed on the City's website as normal but participants may also join the teleconference via https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/rrduxyqy or by dialing in at 1-415-466-7000 (PIN: 1249662 #)

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Those wishing to give written public comment shall email comments to planningcomment@smgov.net. Comments received prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Planning Commission prior to the meeting and posted online. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

Additionally, public comment can be made by telephone by calling 1-408-740-7256 (Meeting ID: 550115322 and Passcode: 6509 followed by #) when the caller queue opens for the item on which you wish to comment. Remarks from the public made by telephone will be limited to up to 3 minutes per item. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment.

Address your comments to: Grace Page, Senior Planner
Re: 21ENT-0123

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Grace Page at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at grace.page@santamonica.gov. The Zoning Ordinance is available on the City's web site at www.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.

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HOUSING

FROM PAGE 1

of the Pico Neighborhood.

There are two options to increase housing on a single-unit zoned land parcel under SB 9.

The first is the duplex option, which allows property owners to construct two units on their parcel. The second is the lot split option, which allows owners to divide their land parcel into two lots. If a property owner chooses to split their lot and build duplexes on both lots they can end up with four individual units on an area of land previously zoned for a single dwelling.

One consideration for the upcoming local ordinance is to prevent the addition of ADUs and JADUs on units created via the duplex option (SB 9 already prevents ADUs and JADUs being added to units created via lot splitting).

ADUs and JADUs are small housing units such as guest houses that are often allowed on land parcels zoned for single family homes. Restricting ADUs on SB 9 conversions, would prevent a single land parcel from ultimately ending up with six units.

Another suggestion is to require that applicants who create a unit under the duplex path remain living in one of the two units for three years following the creation of division (SB 9 already has this rule in place for applicants pursuing a lot split).

Additionally, in order to deter speculative investment, City Hall is considering clarifying that the applicant occupying one of the units per SB 9 must be a natural person.

Outside of the staff's ordinance suggestions, SB 9 already has several restrictions built in to prevent tenant displacement and speculative investment.

Some of the most significant include a ban on converting rent controlled or deed restricted affordable units or a unit that has been tenant occupied in the last three years.

City Council will consider a draft ordinance on implementing SB 9 during a March Council meeting. Until there is formal City Council direction, City Manager David White said staff will take a conservative approach to SB 9 housing development.

Clara@smdp.com

CANNABIS

FROM PAGE 1

site.

Harvest is part of a multi-state vertically integrated company encompassing cultivation and both recreational and medicinal cannabis dispensaries with locations in states including Arizona, Florida, Maryland and Pennsylvania, in addition to Napa, Palm Springs, Grover Beach, and Venice, Calif. In Santa Monica, Harvest will only dispense medicinal cannabis — with no growing or recreational retail approved.

"The company has more than 425 employees with proven experience, expertise and knowledge of in-house best practices that are drawn upon whenever Harvest enters new markets," according to a 2018 press release announcing Harvest's winning bid to operate one of Santa Monica's two permitted cannabis retail facilities.

"Since its founding in 2011, Harvest has grown its footprint every year and now has more than 60 licenses in 12 states, with planned expansion into additional states by 2020," according to the statement.

The hearing comes more than three years after the company won a bid to secure one of two Medicinal Cannabis Retailer Permits issued by the City of Santa Monica. The bid process ran from December 2017 through February 2018, garnering 21 applications. By December 2018, Harvest and another retailer, CPC Compassion, Inc., were named the city's top choices.

The 21 applicants were ranked in seven categories, with the most weight given to: "experience operating a retail establishment," "financial viability" and "experience operating a medicinal cannabis retail establishment."

According to a Santa Monica ordinance, only two medicinal cannabis retailers may be operational at any time; no non-medical pot shops may operate in town.

In October 2021, CPC Compassion earned its CUP but had not yet secured a Santa Monica business license or California Bureau of Cannabis Control license, according to online directories. CPC Compassion's dispensary is to be located at 925 Wilshire Blvd.

Several residents contacted the city to voice their opposition to the proposed Harvest project with many emails raising concerns about the facility's proximity to Lincoln Middle School.

Resident Steve Rice opposed the application. In addition to questioning the proximity of the location to Lincoln Middle School, he raised other problems.

"A few of my concerns include: Impaired driving, attracting crime, accessibility to marijuana, edibles found by kids inadvertently left or lost by a customer, & an armed security guard on duty," Rice wrote. "This shop is steps away from the bus stop as well. Protect our kids do not allow this to happen please."

The staff report did not specifically address the proposed proximity to a school campus, but while the Santa Monica Municipal Code designates that "Medical Marijuana Dispensaries are prohibited within 600 feet of a Child Care and Early Education or Family Day Care Facility, park, school, library, Social Service Center, or other Medical Marijuana Dispensary," Lincoln Middle School is located outside of that protected zone, about 800 feet from the proposed location.

The terms of the CUP state that no cannabis would be cultivated or consumed at the subject property. On-site consumption is also barred in the Municipal Code.

The hearing will take place during the virtual Thursday, Jan. 6, Planning Commission meeting, which is set to begin at 6:30 p.m. and can be viewed online at https://www.youtube.com/user/Citytv16santamonica or https://www.smgov.net/video.

emily@smdp.com

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR
Santa Monica Daily Press
editor@smdp.com

Teachers at culture war front lines with Jan. 6 education

HEATHER HOLLINGSWORTH
Associated Press

What students are learning about the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6 may depend on where they live.

In a Boston suburb in heavily Democratic Massachusetts, history teacher Justin Voldman said his students will spend the day journaling about what happened and talking about the fragility of democracy.

"I feel really strongly that this needs to be talked about," said Voldman, who teaches history at Natick High School, 15 miles (24 kilometers) west of Boston. As the grandson of a Holocaust survivor, he said "it is fair to draw parallels between what happened on Jan. 6 and the rise of fascism."

Voldman said he feels fortunate: "There are other parts of the country where ... I would be scared to be a teacher."

Liz Wagner, an eighth and ninth grade social studies teacher in a Des Moines suburb of increasingly Republican Iowa, got an email from an administrator last year, warning teachers to be careful in how they framed the discussion.

"I guess I was so, I don't know if naive is the appropriate word, perhaps exhausted from the pandemic teaching year last year, to understand how controversial this was going to be," she said.

Some students questioned Wagner last year when she referred to what happened as an insurrection. She responded by having them read the dictionary definition for the word. This year, she will probably show students videos of the protest and ask them to write about what the footage shows.

"This is kind of what I have to do to ensure that I'm not upsetting anybody," Wagner said. "Last year I was on the front line of the COVID war, trying to dodge COVID, and now I'm on the front line of the culture war, and I don't want to be there."

With crowds shouting at school board meetings and political action committees investing millions of dollars in races to elect conservative candidates across the country, talking to students about what happened on Jan. 6 is increasingly fraught.

Teachers now are left to decide how — or whether — to instruct their students about the events that sit at the heart of the country's division. And the lessons sometimes vary based on whether they are in a red state or a blue state.

Facing History and Ourselves, a nonprofit that helps teachers with difficult lessons on subjects like the Holocaust, offered tips on how to broach the topic with students in the hours after the riot.

Within 18 hours of publication, it had 100,000 page views — a level of interest that Abby Weiss, who oversees the development of the nonprofit's teaching tools, said was unlike anything the group has seen before.

In the year that has followed, Weiss said, Republican lawmakers and governors in many states have championed legislation to limit the teaching of material that explores how race and racism influence American politics, culture and law.

"Teachers are anxious," she said. "On the face of it, if you read the laws, they're quite vague and, you know, hard to know actually what's permissible and what isn't."

Racial discussions are hard to avoid when discussing the riot because white supremacists were among those descending on the halls of power, said Jinnie Spiegler, director of curriculum and training for the Anti-Defamation League. She said the group is concerned that the insurrection could be used as a recruitment tool and wrote a newly released guide to help teachers and parents combat those radicalization efforts.

"To talk about white supremacy, to talk about white supremacist extremists, to talk about their racist Confederate flag, it's fraught for so many reasons," Spiegler said.

Anton Schulzki, the president of the National Council for the Social Studies, said students are often the ones bringing up the racial issues. Last year, he was just moments into discussing what happened when one of his honors students at William J. Palmer High School in Colorado Springs said, "'You know, if those rioters were all Black, they'd all be arrested by now."

Since then, three conservative school board candidates won seats on the school board where Schulzki teaches, and the district dissolved its equity leadership team. He is covered by a contract that offers academic freedom protections, and has discussed the riot periodically over the past year.

"I do feel," he said, "that there may be some teachers who are going to feel the best thing for me to do is to ignore this because I don't want to put myself in jeopardy because I have my own bills to pay, my own house, to take care of, my own kids to take back and forth to school."

Concerned teachers have been reaching out to the American Federation of Teachers, which last month sued over New Hampshire's new limits on the discussion of systemic racism and other topics.

"What I'm hearing now over and over and over again is that these laws that have been passed in different places are really intended to chill the discussion of current events," said Randi Weingarten, the union's president and a former social studies teacher. "I am very concerned about what it means in terms of the teaching as we get closer and closer to January 6th."

The biggest fear for Paula Davis, a middle school special education teacher in a rural central Indiana district, is that the discussion about what happened could be used by teachers with a political agenda to

SEE **TEACHERS** PAGE 11



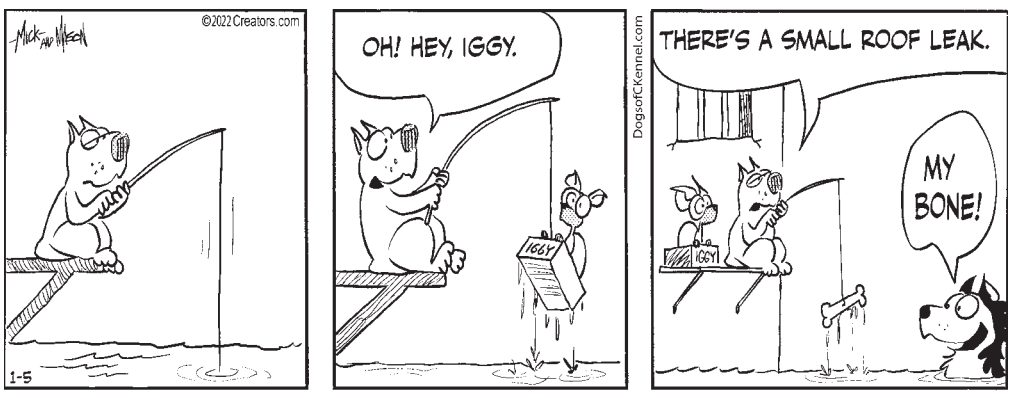
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By TONY COCHRAN



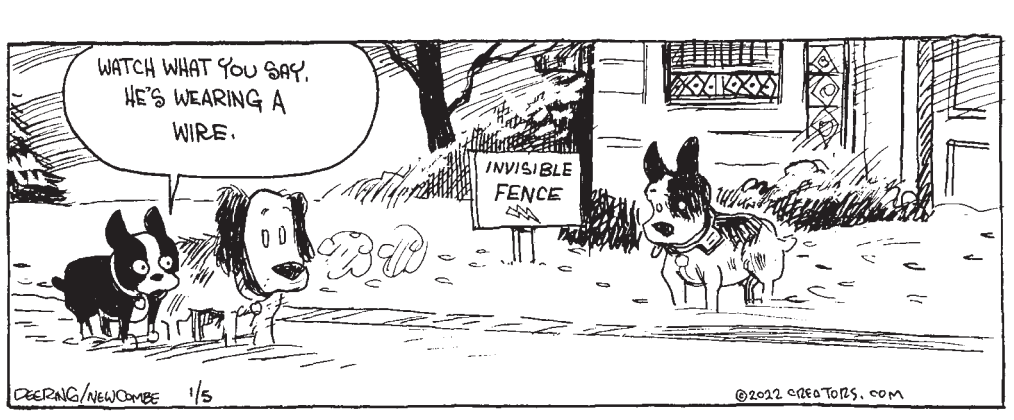
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Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



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By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 56.7°

WEDNESDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high
Increasing rideable pulse of NW swell tops out, blends with minor SPAC surf. Favorable wind for the morning and the afternoon low tide may be in play.

THURSDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high occ. 3 ft
Small NW swell eases and minor SSW swell lingers. AM wind/conditions looking favorable at this point.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 63. Northeast wind 10 to 15 mph.
Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 50. North northeast wind around 10 mph.
Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 62. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2022/01/09	Sun	2:56 PM	3.16	H
2022/01/09	Sun	8:54 PM	1.36	L
2022/01/10	Mon	03:57 AM	4.71	H
2022/01/10	Mon	11:13 AM	1.40	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERball
Draw Date: 1/3
2 13 32 33 48
Power#: 22
Jackpot: 610 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/31
2 5 30 46 61
Mega#: 8
Jackpot: 253 M

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

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/3
10 12 15 27 35

Daily 3
Draw Date: 1/3
EVENING: 6 2 1
Draw Date: 1/3
MIDDAY: 8 2 4

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 1/3
1st: 08 - Gorgeous George
2nd: 12 - Lucky Charms
3rd: 07 - Eureka
Race Time: 1:43.66

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (JANUARY 5)

Mention what you want often; you'll be around people who can help you get it and will be overjoyed to do so. One successful person in particular will be more than pleased to help you with your goals. Love takes many shades this year, sometimes burning like a hot flame and other times simmering, gentle, reliable or comforting. Taurus and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 5, 11, 33 and 20.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There's fun with a new venture even though it's not paying you back yet. You're still learning but learn with your time instead of your money. Don't invest more dollars until it starts making cents.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). While it's impossible to make anyone feel a certain way, you can certainly be the wind that blows the sails toward that emotional destination.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There will be a change in the group dynamic. It's not a change for better or worse but it's a change everyone will have to get used to. It won't go back to the way it was.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll get the chance to talk about yourself. Be sure to give a positive takeaway to the ending of your personal anecdotes, which is easier to do when you've thought it through and assigned one.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You hate to complain, but the noisy cat gets fed. Voicing your concerns to the right people will make things happen. The right people include anyone with the power to help.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It takes courage to change it up. Not every move will do what you want it to, but at least you're trying things. You're not afraid to be vulnerable, which is a very attractive quality.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Meeting interesting people will energize all of your relationships. Don't be afraid to show your true self. One person who's crazy about the real you is better than 100 admirers who don't really know you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Everyone has baggage. When you refuse to see it as baggage, it ceases to be that. Your expectations will be met but you would love if someone would exceed them the way you try to do for others.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). One way you become aware of what's really worth your energy is by doing things that aren't. When something feels like a waste of time, you'll take the lesson and choose differently the next time around.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There are parts of yesterday that are way too heavy to keep carrying around. Leave the past where it belongs. Today is an opportunity to be a new version of yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). As a rule, you try to be kinder than is necessary and you never regret it. This is a lot easier because of the way you see people. You're always looking for and finding the good in others.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Accept your feelings and allow yourself to process them. Better to vent in a safe place than to let the tension build up and risk blowing up with the wrong person or at an inopportune moment.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

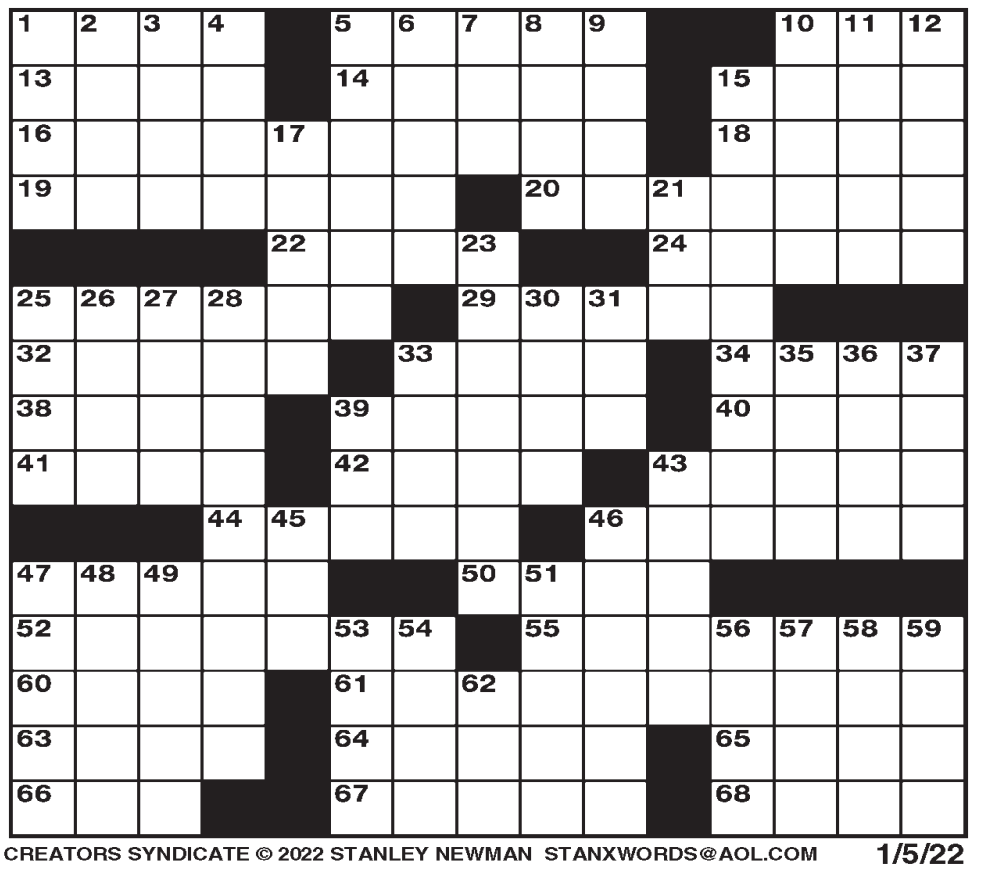
5		6		3		7		
	2	7	5					9
9						3	6	
8	9		6					
				7				
					2		8	4
	1	9						6
6					4	2	5	
		3		6		9		7

Newsday Crossword

OBEDIENCE SCHOOL by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Autos for hire
5 Twisty letters
10 Resort with saunas
13 India's continent
14 Post office machine
15 Many a number on a sports page
16 Don't go outside
18 Office passageway
19 Capturer of ballpark smooches
20 Winter sport destination
22 "Alternatively," in texts
24 Timetables, informally
25 Mexican dude
29 Help-desk sign
32 Eco-friendly
33 Ready to harvest
34 Dry as dust
38 Sharp flavor
39) or (, for short
40 Molten rock
41 Pigsty dinner
42 Lemon's skin
43 Device in 1 Across
44 With no one else
46 Condensed version
47 Love, in Italy
50 Kite appendage
52 "I'm not impressed!"
55 Plains of Russia
60 Scandinavian capital
61 Attend until the end
63 Southern TV chef Paula
64 Sound from a sleeper
65 Therefore, from the Latin
66 Make a mistake
67 High male voice
68 Try out

DOWN
1 Vintner's barrel
2 __ spumante wine
3 Unfairness
4 Puts into words
5 Fancy house and grounds
6 Hapless person
7 __ Paulo, Brazil
8 Shade trees
9 Try to find
10 Unblinking look
11 Was drained of color
12 Lifter of myth
15 Step on it
17 Chipmunk snack
21 "School of thought" suffix
23 Food worker's headgear
25 Altitudes: Abbr.
26 Of the mouth
27 "Ask __ questions . . ."
28 "Excuse me?"
30 Stepped on it
31 Barbie's boyfriend
33 Wet forecast
35 Evaluate
36 Currier's partner
37 Pub game missile
39 Golf course's teacher
43 Long-distance runner
45 Actress Jamie __ Curtis
46 Be indecisive
47 "Humble" dwelling
48 Penny pincher
49 One gawking
51 Texas baseballer
53 Manager's aide: Abbr.
54 People waiting
56 Verse writer
57 Without any additives
58 Henhouse products
59 Filmed, as a movie
62 Freight measure



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

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Jobs for the boys and girls

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

Army
Builder
Buyer
Char
Civil engineer
Classic
Clerk
Collage
Cook
Dentist
Depot
Drama
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Maid
Milko
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Navy
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Pilot
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Postie
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Rhythm
Sack
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SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Most of us live there

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COVID

FROM PAGE 1

effectiveness at preventing serious illness, even against omicron, as well as the possibility that the variant does not make most people as sick as earlier versions.

Omicron accounted for 95% of new coronavirus infections in the U.S. last week, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported Tuesday, in another indication of how astonishingly fast the variant has spread since it was first detected in South Africa in late November.

Dr. Wafaa El-Sadr, director of ICAP, a global health center at Columbia University, said the case count does not appear to be the most important number now.

Instead, she said, the U.S. at this stage of the pandemic should be "shifting our focus, especially in an era of vaccination, to really focus on preventing illness, disability and death, and therefore counting those."

Daily case counts and their ups and downs have been one of the most closely watched barometers during the outbreak and have been a reliable early warning sign of severe disease and death in previous coronavirus waves.

But they have long been considered an imperfect measure, in part because they consist of primarily of laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19, not the actual number of infections out there, which is almost certainly many times higher.

The daily case counts are also subject to wild swings. The number of new cases recorded on Monday topped an unprecedented 1 million, a figure that may reflect cases that had been held up by reporting delays over the holiday weekend. The seven-day rolling average is considered more reliable.

Now, the value of the daily case count is being called into question as never before.

For one thing, the skyrocketing increase reflects, at least in part, an omicron-induced stampede among many Americans to get tested before holiday gatherings, and new testing requirements at workplaces and at restaurants, theaters and other sites.

Also, the true number of infections is probably much higher than the case count because the results of the at-home tests that Americans are rushing to use are not added to the official tally, and because long waits have discouraged some people from lining up to get swabbed.

But also, case numbers seem to yield a less useful picture of the pandemic amid the spread of omicron, which is causing lots of infections but so far does not appear to be as severe in its effects.

Case counts have lost relevance, said Andrew Noymer, a public health professor at the University of California, Irvine.

"Hospitalizations are where the rubber meets the road," Noymer said. "It's a more objective measure." He added: "If I had to choose one metric, I would choose the hospitalization data."

Even hospital numbers aren't a perfect reflection of disease severity because they include patients admitted for other health problems who happen to test positive for the coronavirus.

Keeping track of COVID-19 admissions can tell doctors something about the seriousness of the virus and also the capacity of hospitals to deal with the crisis. That, in turn, can help health leaders determine where to shift equipment and other resources.

Still, health experts are not prepared to do away with case counts.

"We should not abandon looking at case numbers," said Dr. Eric Topol, head of the Scripps Research Translational Institute, "but it is important to acknowledge we're seeing only a portion of the actual number of cases."

Ali Mokdad, a professor of health metrics sciences at the University of Washington in Seattle, said that for each new infection detected, the U.S. is missing two cases. But he said tracking the number of positive test results is still important as omicron makes its way across the land.

Case numbers can point to future hot spots and indicate whether a wave of infection has peaked, Mokdad said.

Also, case counts will continue to be important to people who are vulnerable because of age or health reasons and need a sense of the virus' spread in their communities so they can make decisions about precautions, he said. Hospitals, schools and businesses need to plan for absences.

"To give up on knowing if cases are going up or down, it's flying blind. How can we as a country not know the epidemic curve for infection?" Mokdad said.

If testing has lost its relevance, he said, it is because the U.S. never developed a way to consistently and reliably monitor infections.

"It's not acceptable to cover failure by changing the rules," he said.

TEACHERS

FROM PAGE 7

indoctrinate students. She won't discuss Jan. 6 in her classroom; her focus is math and English.

"I think it's extremely important that any teacher that is addressing that topic does so from an unbiased perspective," said Davis, a regional chapter chair for Moms for Liberty, a group whose members have protested mask and vaccine mandates and critical race theory. "If it cannot be done without bias, then it should not be done."

But there is no way Dylan Huisken will avoid the topic in his middle school classroom in the Missoula, Montana, area town of Bonner. He plans to use the anniversary to teach his students to use their voice constructively by doing things like writing to lawmakers.

"Not addressing the attack," Huisken said, "is to suggest that the civic ideals we teach exist in a vacuum and don't have any real-world application, that civic knowledge is mere trivia."

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DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER:File Number 2021263472 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 12/6/21. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Lashed By Rovetti 12600 Braddock Dr 205 Los Angeles, CA 90066. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Rachel Rovetti 12600 Braddock Dr 205 Los Angeles, CA 90066 If corporation or LLC- Print State of Incorporation/ Organization California This Business is conducted by: An Individual The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date) 11/2021 Registrant/ Corp/ LLC Name /s/: Rachel Rovetti Title: Owner Rachel Rovetti This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/06/21 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, 01/07/21, 01/10/21, 01/17/21, 01/24/21

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