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Santa Monica Daily Press

THURSDAY
01.06.22
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City allocates $1 million for parks and public safety



Matthew Hall

PARKS: Fountains have been restarted thanks to an infusion of cash including one in Tongva Park and another in front of City Hall.

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

It isn't news that COVID-19 tanked Santa Monica's economy. The economic shutdown and lack of tourism dollars kicked off two years of uncertainty, with the city tightening its belt in all sorts of ways. However, City Hall recently found some extra cash to spend on maintenance projects.

In October of last year, Council determined a one-time $1 million capital improvement saving meant city staff could spend an extra seven figures on one priority in particular: clean and safe Santa Monica.

"Savings in the capital improvement program budget can be attributed to projects coming in under budget, having a reduced

SEE **BUDGET** PAGE 7

Residents and police searching for package thief



Courtesy image

THIEF: A man gained access to the lobby of an apartment building on 4th Street at Ashland Avenue around 4:30 p.m. on Jan. 3. He looked around the lobby and then proceeded to steal a small package, that was addressed to someone else, from on top of the mailboxes. Residents said there have been a number of package thefts from this building's lobby in the days preceding this crime and they are looking for any information on the suspect, described as a white male, likely in his late 20s or early 30s. He has reddish-brown hair and a beard without much of a mustache. He appears to have tattoos on his arms and on the lower part of the back of his neck. On the day of the crime he was wearing a black The North Face t-shirt, light-colored sagging jeans, black sneakers, a beige Herschel Supply Co. backpack, and a gold chain necklace. Santa Monica Police have this and other evidence; please contact them at (310) 458-8426 with any further details about the identity and whereabouts of this suspect.

Rain ends Malibu's policy to clear homeless camps due to fire dangers

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

December's rainstorms helped to replenish California's thirsty reservoirs, but all that rain had an unintended consequence: removing one of Malibu's tactics for enforcing homeless encampment removal throughout the city.

Since late August 2021, Malibu has been under a state of local emergency due to a concerning rise in encampment fires amid dry, windy conditions. According to public safety officials, between January and August 2021, 17 fires had been reported at homeless encampments within Malibu city limits, with more than one spreading to nearby brush.

City of Malibu Public Safety Manager Susan Dueñas reported that, as far as she was aware, none of the fires reportedly caused injuries or damaged homes or other structures, but it was enough to spur city council members to seek a legal method for encampments to be cleared. As live fuel moisture (LFM) dipped below 60 percent, officials grew increasingly concerned about how readily the mountains would burn if a fire were to begin.

So, on Aug. 23, Malibu City Council voted, 5-0, to declare a state of local emergency, "to prevent the occurrences of fire and loss of life and property."

During its next meeting on Monday, Jan. 10, Malibu City Council will discuss lifting the state of emergency, which will mean ceding the power it has held since August to clear encampments anywhere within the city.

Since the state of emergency was declared, the city has been quick to counter any notion the move may have been a convenient excuse to clear encampments, which many residents consider dangerous eyesores. At the time, Malibu interim City Attorney John Cotti emphasized that the temporary declaration was not to be considered an all-out ban on encampments, which could have landed the city in some legal hot water.

"The intent with this camping ordinance is not — it is 100 percent, absolutely not — to ban camping in its entirety. We can't legally do

SEE **ENCAMPMENT** PAGE 11

NICK THE GREEK
SOUVLAKI & GYRO HOUSE
@NICKTHEGREEK

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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 230 CALLS ON JANUARY 4

Prowler There 800Blk 4th St 12:33 a.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 2900Blk Pico Blvd 12:56 a.m.
Attempt Burglary 2600Blk Broadway 1:46 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2400Blk Pico Blvd 1:53 a.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 23rd St / Santa Monica Blvd 2:13 a.m.
Family Disturbance 1100Blk 12th St 3:02 a.m.
Petty Theft 11th St / Arizona Ave 5:28 a.m.
Burglary 1700Blk Ocean Ave 6:00 a.m.
Indecent Exposure 1700Blk Ocean Front Walk 6:02 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1600Blk Hill St 7:18 a.m.
Traffic Control Request - Level 1 1500Blk California Ave 8:05 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Neilson Way / Bicknell Ave 8:05 a.m.
Traffic Control Request - Level 1 2400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:05 a.m.
Encampment 1600Blk Colorado Ave 8:28 a.m.
Burglary 3200Blk Olympic Blvd 8:30 a.m.
Missing Person 1300Blk 4th St 8:34 a.m.
Traffic Hazard 1800Blk Lincoln Blvd 8:42 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2300Blk 11th St 8:46 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1300Blk Lincoln Blvd 9:03 a.m.
Petty Theft 200Blk Santa Monica Pier 9:21 a.m.
General Parking Problem Citywide 9:25 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1800Blk Main St 9:46 a.m.
Found Property 400Blk Arizona Ave 9:50 a.m.
Petty Theft 2900Blk 4th St 9:58 a.m.
Battery 1300Blk 3rd Street Prom 10:00 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 2100Blk Lincoln Blvd 10:02 a.m.
Death Investigation 2100Blk Delaware Ave 10:32 a.m.
Battery 1300Blk 3rd Street Prom 10:43 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1600Blk 9th St 10:48 a.m.
Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 200Blk Arizona Ave 10:55 a.m.
Auto Burglary 500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 11:00 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 2600Blk 31st St 11:00 a.m.
Fraud 1800Blk Idaho Ave 11:03 a.m.
Burglary 3200Blk Olympic Blvd 11:04 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2300Blk Ocean Park Blvd 11:11 a.m.
Petty Theft 1300Blk Montana Ave 11:23 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 400Blk Hill St 11:25 a.m.
Petty Theft 200Blk California Ave 11:26 a.m.
Family Disturbance 1100Blk 12th St 11:28 a.m.
Expired Registration 300Blk Strand St 11:30 a.m.
Person Down 1000Blk 3rd St 11:42 a.m.
Encampment 600Blk California Ave 11:53 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 100Blk Fraser Ave 11:56 a.m.
Identity Theft 300Blk Olympic Dr 11:57 a.m.
Vandalism 2200Blk Colorado Ave 12:05 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1000Blk Pearl St 12:19 p.m.
Encampment 00Blk Sea Colony Dr 12:38 p.m.
Red Zone Violation 1300Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 12:41 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1900Blk Colorado Ave 12:44 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2600Blk Centinela Ave 12:48 p.m.
Indecent Exposure 1300Blk 2nd St 12:51 p.m.
Vandalism 1100Blk Pico Blvd 1:30 p.m.
Petty Theft 100Blk Georgina Ave 1:35 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1400Blk Ocean Ave 1:36 p.m.
Fraud 700Blk Broadway 1:50 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2400Blk 23rd St 1:56 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 2600Blk Barnard Way 1:59 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 200Blk California Ave 2:13 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1300Blk 9th St 2:13 p.m.
Burglary 2800Blk Neilson Way 2:21 p.m.
Harassing Phone Calls 1200Blk 10th St 2:29 p.m.
Encampment 2700Blk Barnard Way 2:29 p.m.
Burglary 2000Blk Olympic Blvd 2:35 p.m.
Petty Theft 1600Blk Cloverfield Blvd 2:40 p.m.
Fraud 1300Blk 14th St 3:09 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1500Blk 12th St 3:15 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1500Blk Berkeley St 3:19 p.m.
General Parking Problem 600Blk Pico Blvd 3:21 p.m.
Petty Theft 1500Blk 6th St 3:43 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 1900Blk Main St 3:55 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1300Blk Montana Ave 3:56 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2600Blk 26th St 3:57 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 4:12 p.m.
Auto Burglary 2200Blk 3rd St 4:37 p.m.
Vandalism 500Blk Ashland Ave 4:49 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1000Blk Pacific St 5:23 p.m.
Traffic Hazard Ocean Ave / Wilshire Blvd 5:30 p.m.
Fraud 1300Blk 14th St 5:57 p.m.
Fraud 1300Blk 14th St 6:04 p.m.
Public Intoxication 2500Blk Main St 6:09 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 700Blk Pier Ave 6:14 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1100Blk 6th St 6:19 p.m.
Petty Theft 2900Blk 4th St 6:42 p.m.
Overdose 800Blk 5th St 6:46 p.m.
Vandalism 1700Blk Main St 6:55 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 400Blk Broadway 6:57 p.m.
Public Intoxication 2500Blk Main St 7:05 p.m.
Petty Theft 1800Blk Wilshire Blvd 7:06 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 2900Blk 4th St 7:22 p.m.
Grand Theft 2200Blk Virginia Ave 7:29 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1300Blk Ocean Ave 7:54 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2600Blk Lincoln Blvd 8:00 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 2600Blk Olympic Blvd 9:08 p.m.
Vandalism 2000Blk 20th St 9:19 p.m.
Found Property 2400Blk Ocean Front Walk 10:49 p.m.
Grand Theft 500Blk Broadway 10:59 p.m.

US hospitals seeing different kind of COVID surge this time

RODRIQUE NGOWI, MICHAEL CASEY AND DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

Hospitals across the U.S. are feeling the wrath of the omicron variant and getting thrown into disarray that is different from earlier COVID-19 surges.

This time, they are dealing with serious staff shortages because so many health care workers are getting sick with the fast-spreading variant. People are showing up at emergency rooms in large numbers in hopes of getting tested for COVID-19, putting more strain on the system. And a surprising share of patients — two-thirds in some places — are testing positive while in the hospital for other reasons.

At the same time, hospitals say the patients aren't as sick as those who came in during the last surge. Intensive care units aren't as full, and ventilators aren't needed as much as they were before.

The pressures are neverthless prompting hospitals to scale back non-emergency surgeries and close wards, while National Guard troops have been sent in several states to help at medical centers and testing sites.

Nearly two years into the pandemic, frustration and exhaustion are running high among health care workers.

"This is getting very tiring, and I'm being very polite in saying that," said Dr. Robert Glasgow of University of Utah Health, which has hundreds of workers out sick or in isolation.

About 85,000 Americans are in the hospital with COVID-19, just short of the delta-surge peak of about 94,000 in early September, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The all-time high during the pandemic was about 125,000 in January of last year.

But the hospitalization numbers do not tell the whole story. Some cases in the official count involve COVID-19 infections that weren't what put the patients in the hospital in the first place.

Dr. Fritz François, chief of hospital operations at NYU Langone Health in New York City, said about 65% of patients admitted to that system with COVID-19 recently were primarily hospitalized for something else and were incidentally found to have the virus.

At two large Seattle hospitals over the past two weeks, three-quarters of the 64 patients testing positive for the coronavirus were admitted with a primary diagnosis other than COVID-19.

Joanne Spetz, associate director of research at the Healthforce Center at the University of California, San Francisco, said the rising number of cases like that is both good and bad.

The lack of symptoms shows vaccines, boosters and natural immunity from prior infections are working, she said. The bad news is that the numbers mean the coronavirus is spreading rapidly, and some percentage of those people will wind up needing hospitalization.

This week, 36% of California hospitals reported critical staffing shortages. And 40% are expecting such shortages.

Some hospitals are reporting as much as one quarter of their staff out for virus-related reasons, said Kiyomi Burchill, the California Hospital Association's vice president for policy and leader on pandemic matters.

In response, hospitals are turning to temporary staffing agencies or transferring patients out.

University of Utah Health plans to keep more than 50 beds open because it doesn't have enough nurses. It is also rescheduling surgeries that aren't urgent. In Florida, a hospital temporarily closed its maternity ward because of staff shortages.

In Alabama, where most of the population is unvaccinated, UAB Health in Birmingham put out an urgent request for people to go elsewhere for COVID-19 tests or minor symptoms and stay home for all but true emergencies. Treatment rooms were so crowded that some patients had to be evaluated in hallways and closets.

As of Monday, New York state had just over 10,000 people in the hospital with COVID-19, including 5,500 in New York City. That's the most in either the city or state since the disastrous spring of 2020.

New York City hospital officials, though, reported that things haven't become dire. Generally, the patients aren't as sick as they were back then. Of the patients hospitalized in New York City, around 600 were in ICU beds.

"We're not even halfway to what we were in April 2020," said Dr. David Battinelli, the physician-in-chief for Northwell Health, New York state's largest hospital system.

Similarly, in Washington state, the number of COVID-19-infected people on ventilators increased over the past two weeks, but the share of patients needing such equipment dropped.

In South Carolina, which is seeing unprecedented numbers of new cases and a sharp rise in hospitalizations, Gov. Henry McMaster took note of the seemingly less-serious variant and said: "There's no need to panic. Be calm. Be happy."

Amid the omicron-triggered surge in demand for COVID-19 testing across the U.S., New York City's Fire Department is asking people not to call for an ambulance just because they are having trouble finding a test.

In Ohio, Gov. Mike DeWine announced new or expanded testing sites in nine cities to steer test-seekers away from ERs. About 300 National Guard members are being sent to help out at those centers.

In Connecticut, many ER patients are in beds in hallways, and nurses are often working double shifts because of staffing shortages, said Sherri Dayton, a nurse at the Backus Plainfield Emergency Care Center. Many emergency rooms have hours-long waiting times, she said.

"We are drowning. We are exhausted," Dayton said.

Doctors and nurses are complaining about burnout and a sense their neighbors are no longer treating the pandemic as a crisis, despite day after day of record COVID-19 cases.

"In the past, we didn't have the vaccine, so it was us all hands together, all the support. But

SEE **HOSPITAL** PAGE 11

City of Santa Monica

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

HOW TO COMMENT
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.

Sundance cancels in-person film festival due to virus surge

JAKE COYLE
AP Film Writer

Just two weeks before it was to be held in Park City, Utah, the Sundance Film Festival is canceling its in-person festival and reverting to an entirely virtual edition due to the current coronavirus surge.

Festival organizers announced Wednesday that the festival will start as scheduled on Jan. 20 but will shift online. The festival had been planned as a hybrid, with screenings both in Park City and online. Last year's Sundance was also held virtually because of the pandemic.

"This was a difficult decision to make," the festival said in a statement. "As a nonprofit, our Sundance spirit is in making something work against the odds. But with case numbers forecasted to peak in our host community the week of the festival we cannot knowingly put our staff and community at risk. The undue stress to Summit County's health services and our more than 1,500 staff and volunteers would be irresponsible in this climate."

The cancellation of an in-person Sundance is a huge blow to an independent film industry that has struggled to stay afloat during the pandemic. Last year's virtual Sundance, where films like "Summer of Soul (or The Revolution Will Not Be Televised)" and "CODA" made a splash, proved that a digital festival can still foster breakout hits. But filmmakers, executives, audiences and journalists had held out hope that Sundance — the premier American film festival and a launchpad for young filmmakers — could again kick off a new movie year with packed premieres in the Utah mountains.

The Sundance Institute, which puts on the festival, held out as long as it could in making the decision. In late December, when the highly infectious omicron variant of COVID-19 was driving cases up nationwide, the festival announced that vaccination boosters would be required for attendees, audience capacity would be slimmed down and no food or drink would be allowed in theaters. That was on top of previous protocols that mandated vaccination proof, masking indoors and other requirements.

But with omicron sending case counts to record highs, organizers ultimately pulled the plug on bringing crowds back to Park City.

"We do not believe it is safe nor feasible to gather thousands of artists, audiences, employees, volunteers, and partners from around the world for an 11-day festival while overwhelmed communities are already struggling to provide essential services," said the festival.

Sundance, which runs Jan. 20-30, earlier announced a slate of 82 feature-length films selected from more than 3,700 submissions. Kim Yutani, Sundance's director of programming said at the time that "this year's program reflects the unsettling and uncertain times we've been living in for the past year and a half."

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 43 CALLS ON JANUARY 4

EMS 1500Blk 5th St 1:42 a.m.
EMS Lincoln Blvd / Michigan Ave 1:50 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 300Blk Santa Monica Pl 1:59 a.m.
EMS 1900Blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:08 a.m.
EMS 2300Blk 30th St 3:26 a.m.
EMS 800Blk 11th St 4:54 a.m.
EMS 4th St / Broadway 5:22 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 200Blk Arizona Ave 6:01 a.m.
Broken Water Main 200Blk San Vicente Blvd 7:47 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2000Blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:51 a.m.
EMS Neilson Way / Bicknell Ave 8:05 a.m.
Electrical Fire - No Fire Visible 1100Blk Stanford St 8:15 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2100Blk Ocean Ave 8:22 a.m.
EMS 700Blk Montana Ave 8:23 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2000Blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:35 a.m.
EMS 2000Blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:16 a.m.
EMS 5th St / Colorado Ave 9:39 a.m.
EMS 700Blk Raymond Ave 9:43 a.m.
Broken Gas Main 800Blk Grant St 9:47 a.m.
EMS 2100Blk Delaware Ave 10:27 a.m.
EMS 900Blk 25th St 10:28 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400Blk Ocean Ave 10:33 a.m.
Structure Fire 1800Blk Pier Ave 11:33 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400Blk 7th St 11:57 a.m.
EMS 2400Blk Chelsea Pl 12:10 p.m.
Vehicle Fire Lincoln Blvd / Interstate 10 12:35 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400Blk 7th St 1:21 p.m.
EMS Cloverfield Blvd / Kansas Ave 1:57 p.m.
EMS 2600Blk Virginia Ave 3:00 p.m.
EMS 1800Blk 21st St 3:57 p.m.
EMS 1100Blk 7th St 4:03 p.m.
EMS 1200Blk 11th St 4:38 p.m.
EMS 2500Blk Kansas Ave 4:53 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk Lincoln Blvd 5:19 p.m.
Odor Of Natural Gas 800Blk Ocean Ave 5:26 p.m.
EMS 1200Blk 20th St 6:30 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200Blk 6th St 6:38 p.m.
EMS 2200Blk Colorado Ave 6:59 p.m.
EMS 2200Blk Colorado Ave 7:02 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk Ocean Ave 7:48 p.m.
EMS 1000Blk 2nd St 7:49 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk Berkeley St 8:32 p.m.
EMS 1100Blk California Ave 11:52 p.m.

Grammys postpone ceremony, citing omicron variant risks

ANDREW DALTON
AP Entertainment Writer

The Grammy Awards were postponed Wednesday weeks before the planned Los Angeles ceremony over what organizers called "too many risks" from the omicron variant, signaling what could be the start of another year of pandemic upheaval for awards season.

The attempt at a back-to-normal show had been scheduled for Jan. 31st at the newly renamed Crypto.com Arena with a live audience and performances, but no new date is on the books. The Recording Academy said it made the decision to postpone the ceremony "after careful consideration and analysis with city and state officials, health and safety experts, the artist community and our many partners.

"Given the uncertainty surrounding the omicron variant, holding the show on January 31st simply contains too many risks," the academy said in a statement.

Last year, like most major awards shows in early 2021, the Grammys were postponed due to coronavirus concerns. The show was moved from late January to mid-March and held with a spare audience made up of mostly nominees and their guests in and around the Los Angeles Convention Center, next door to its usual home, the arena then known as Staples Center.

It was a big night for Beyoncé and Taylor Swift, but the live performances that set the Grammys apart from other awards shows were set separately with no significant crowds, many of them pre-taped.

"We look forward to celebrating Music's Biggest Night on a future date, which will be announced soon," the academy statement said.

Finding that date could be complicated, with two professional basketball teams and a hockey team occupying the arena. The Recording Academy made no mention of a possible venue change in its statement.

The move was announced around the same time the Sundance Film Festival canceled its in-person programming set to begin on Jan. 20 and shifted to an online format.

The multi-talented Jon Batiste is the leading nominee for this year's honors, grabbing 11 nods in a variety of genres including R&B, jazz, American roots music, classical and music video.

Justin Bieber, Doja Cat and H.E.R. are tied for the second-most nominations with eight apiece.

The Grammys' move could be the beginning of another round of award-show rescheduling after another winter coronavirus surge, with the Screen Actors Guild Awards planned for February and the Academy Awards for March.



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Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

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‘We were trapped’: Trauma of Jan. 6 lingers for lawmakers

MARY CLARE JALONICK
Associated Press

Long after most other lawmakers had been rushed to safety, they were on the hard marble floor, ducking for cover.

Trapped in the gallery of the House, occupying balcony seats off-limits to the public because of COVID-19, roughly three dozen House Democrats were the last ones to leave the chamber on Jan. 6, bearing witness as the certification of a presidential election gave way to a violent insurrection.

As danger neared, and as the rioters were trying to break down the doors, they called their families. They scrambled for makeshift weapons and mentally prepared themselves to fight. Many thought they might die.

“When I looked up, I had this realization that we were trapped,” said Rep. Jason Crow, D-Colo., a former Army Ranger who served in Iraq and Afghanistan. “They had evacuated the House floor first. And they forgot about us.”

Bound together by circumstance, sharing a trauma uniquely their own, the lawmakers were both the witnesses and the victims of an unprecedented assault on American democracy. Along with a small number of staffers and members of the media, they remained in the chamber as Capitol Police strained to hold back the mob of supporters of then-President Donald Trump.

The lawmakers were finally taken to safety roughly an hour after the siege began.

Interviewed by The Associated Press before this week’s anniversary of the attack, 10 of the House members who were in the gallery talked of being deeply shaken by their experience.

Vividly they remember the loud, hornetlike buzz of their gas masks. The explosive crack of tear gas in the hallways outside. The screams of officers telling them to stay down. The thunderous beating on the doors below. Glass shattering as the rioters punched through a window. The knobs rattling ominously on the locked doors just a few feet behind them.

Most indelibly, the loud clap of a gunshot, reverberating across the cavernous chamber.

“I’ve heard a lot of gunshots in my time, and it was very clear what that was,” Crow said. “I knew that things had severely escalated.”

The shot was fired by Officer Michael Byrd and killed Ashli Babbitt, a Trump supporter trying to crawl through the broken window of a door that leads to the House chamber. Both the Justice Department and Capitol Police investigated the shooting and declined to file charges.

Their terror was compounded by knowledge of what the mob was after: stopping Congress from certifying the Electoral College votes that would make Joe Biden the 46th president. Mike Pence, as is customary for the vice president, had been presiding over the ceremony in the House where lawmakers gathered to hear the certified election results.

Trump had other ideas.

Spouting lies about election fraud that were refuted by his own Justice Department, Trump pressured Pence to reject the electors — a move that would have bucked the Constitution and thrown the House, and potentially the country, into chaos. Pence refused to do so, but Trump held a rally in Washington before the vote-counting began, telling hundreds of supporters at the Ellipse that they had to “fight like hell.”

Rep. Val Demings, D-Fla., was among those sheltering in the gallery. The former police chief in Orlando shuddered when police said there had been a “breach” of the building.

“I knew that meant that the police had somehow lost the line. And I also know, having been a former police officer, that they would have done everything in their power to hold that line to protect us,” she said.

Demings said she told a colleague sheltering with her in the gallery: “Just remember, we’re on the right side of history. If we all die today, another group will come in and certify those ballots.”

Congress reconvened that night, certifying Biden’s election victory before sunrise.

In the days after the attack, many of the lawmakers who were in the gallery started connecting on a text message chain. It quickly evolved into therapeutic group sessions and even potluck gatherings where they tried to make sense of it all. They dubbed themselves “the gallery group,” and the name stuck.

Many went on to seek therapy. Some were diagnosed with post-traumatic stress, their struggles exacerbated by the raw tensions on Capitol Hill and an increasing number of death threats. Others said they have been more traumatized by the growing tendency among Republican lawmakers, and some in the public, to downplay or ignore the violence than they were by the attack itself.

Rep. Annie Kuster, who sought treatment for post-traumatic stress, says the gallery group connects almost daily on the text message chain.

Kuster, D-N.H., was one of the first to be let out of the gallery on Jan. 6, escaping through the doors along with three other members just before the remaining lawmakers were locked inside. When Kuster’s group reached the hallway, a group of rioters was rushing toward them.

“We ducked into the elevator,” Kuster said. “And I said to this incredible policeman — I said, oh, my God, what if the elevator doors open, and they kill us? And I will never forget this moment ... he said, ‘Ma’am, I am here to protect you.’ And he was there to protect our democracy.”

Eventually, Capitol Police determined the upstairs area was clear, even as insurrectionists kept trying to break through the doors below. The lawmakers and others were rushed out of the chamber and down a warren of staircases and hallways. When they left, they could see police officers holding five or six rioters flat on the ground, guns pointed at their heads.

The rioters were inches from the doors of the gallery.

When Kuster made it home two days later, she watched hours of video from the insurrection. It only compounded the trauma.

“I remember my husband coming in, and I was just sobbing,” Kuster said. “And he was holding me, saying, ‘I don’t know if this is the best thing for you to see.’”

“But we have to — we have to acknowledge the reality of what happened that day. And what’s challenging for us is that we are both victims and witnesses to the crime on our country.”

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US advisers debate Pfizer boosters for younger teens

LAURAN NEERGAARD AND MIKE STOBBE
Associated Press

An influential government advisory panel is considering COVID-19 boosters for younger teens, as the U.S. battles the omicron surge and schools struggle with how to restart classes amid the spike.

Boosters already are recommended for everyone 16 and older. Earlier this week, the Food and Drug Administration authorized an extra Pfizer shot for kids ages 12 to 15 as well — but that wasn't the final hurdle.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention makes recommendations for vaccinations and its advisers on Wednesday are debating whether younger teens should get one as soon as they're eligible or if it's just an option for those who want it. The CDC's director, Dr. Rochelle Walensky, will weigh the panel's advice before making a final decision soon.

Vaccines still offer strong protection against serious illness from any type of COVID-19, including the highly contagious omicron variant, especially after a booster. But omicron can slip past a layer of the vaccines' protection to cause breakthrough infections. Studies show a booster dose at least temporarily revs up virus-fighting antibodies to levels that offer the best chance at avoiding symptomatic infection, even from omicron.

The vaccine made by Pfizer and its partner BioNTech is the only option for American children of any age. About 13.5 million children ages 12 to 17 have received two Pfizer shots, according to the CDC. Boosters were opened to the 16- and 17-year-olds last month.

If the CDC agrees, about 5 million of the younger teens, those 12 to 15, would be eligible for a booster right away because they got their last shot at least five months ago.

New U.S. guidelines say anyone who received two Pfizer vaccinations and is eligible for a booster can get it five months after their last shot, rather than the six months previously recommended.

Children tend to suffer less serious illness from COVID-19 than adults. But child hospitalizations are rising during the omicron wave — most of them unvaccinated.

The FDA decided a booster dose was as safe for the younger teens as the older ones based largely on data from 6,300 12- to 15-year-olds in Israel who got a Pfizer booster five months after their second dose.

The chief safety question for adolescents is a rare side effect called myocarditis, a type of heart inflammation seen mostly in younger men and teen boys who get either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines. The vast majority of cases are mild — far milder than the heart inflammation COVID-19 can cause — and they seem to peak in older teens, those 16 and 17.

Earlier this week, FDA vaccine chief Dr. Peter Marks said the side effect occurs in about 1 in 10,000 men and boys ages 16 to 30 after their second shot. But he said a third dose appears less risky, by about a third, probably because more time has passed before the booster than between the first two shots.

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Noteworthy

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Live Music Tiptoes Back



Courtesy Blue Lady Records
BARBARA MORRISON

CAUTION ADVISED

I sure do hate having to write that, again, still, but what are ya gonna do? It's our world now, where going to hear live music (one of the very best things a human can do… fully clothed) has become a matter of great planning, precaution and possible danger.

So, be careful, but there are a few possibilities that I will continue to list, because the fully vaxed should know there are some great shows still available out there. Hell, this is LA, the live music capital of the universe. (Yeah the Star Wars bar band swings, but, limited repertoire. And they need a better drummer. Steve Mugalian? Possibly the only band he's never played with.)

OPENING UP, SHUTTING DOWN…

Jacaranda, our groundbreaking local new (and old) music program, canceled their upcoming Jan. 22 performance of "Gratitude," the second in their "Turning Point" series, for which they had already assembled quite an ensemble. Ironically, for consideration of the raging resurgence of COVID, because the performance was meant to honor LA County's Director of Public Health Dr. Barbara Ferrer for her leadership. They are planning on being able to pull off the next one in mid-March, but who knows anything these days? I've attended many of their concerts over the past few years and highly recommend them for the musically open-minded. Jacaranda holds forth at the acoustically wonderful First Presbyterian Church in DTSM, on Fourth Street. Convenient across the street access from the City parking structure, for those of us who don't go everywhere by bike, scooter or skateboard, and dare to still drive a car occasionally in Santa Monica.

The outstanding jazz club near LAX, with the odd name of Sam First, recently announced that "Due to the current Covid-19 situation, Sam First is closed for at least a few weeks. In the meantime we are live-streaming from the club."

The cool and very cozy best-kept secret Cinema Bar still seems shuttered, to judge by the website. Great place for live music, formerly seven nights a week, never a cover. We need the Hot Club of Los Angeles back Monday nights, don't we Dan?

RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! - THE BONEDADDYS – When I moved to LA in 1980 this innovative, genre mixing, rockin' funkin' band was already an institution. (Or, possibly, recently released from one.) Founding member and percussive force to be reckoned with, the aptly named Mike Tempo, still drives the beat. You've never seen them? They're now in their sixth decade. It's not often life gives you such a second chance. They're just down the street on Lincoln. Don't blow it. Tonight, Thurs 8 p.m., Venice West, $10.

I don't know what happened to Venice West's booking of ORIANTHI for Friday but it has disappeared from their calendar, and I am very disappointed. I've been watching her on videos for years, collaborating with some of the best players (and a few of the worst – hey, it's a gig, a paycheck) but I really want to catch her live. She shreds an electric guitar like almost no one else, finally and absolutely settling the age old question (to some) of whether or not you need "big balls" to be a rock guitar star. AC/DC claimed the territory in their song by the same name, but also allowed for female dominance as well. God bless AC/DC. They're all Aussies – maybe they already knew of her when they wrote the song?

Lenore Raphael Trio featuring BARBARA MORRISON – all I know about the Lenore Raphael Trio is that Barbara Morrison is fronting them and that's good enough for me. Another LA musical treasure, performing 60 years, that not everyone knows about. She is a jazz and blues, soul and R&B singer of the highest echelon, and this club designed and owned by Herb Alpert, gorgeous, spacious, with great sound and sight lines and live music every night, is one of the best places to see any act. Sun 7 p.m., Vibrato Grill, Beverly Glen, $30.

LA PHIL with Michael Tilson Thomas, EMANUEL AX plays BRAHMS – I know we've all fallen deeply in love with The Dude(amel), but MTT ably led our great orchestra for many years, Ax is one of the best classical pianists on the planet, and Brahms, "Piano concerto No. 1," with a little Berg and MAHLER's "Blumine" thrown in – well, whaddaya want? Next Thurs 8 p.m, Walt Disney Concert Hall, DTLA, $71-229.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: LA PHIL with Michael Tilson Thomas, EMANUEL AX plays BRAHMS, Walt Disney Concert

SEE NOTEWORTHY PAGE 11

BUDGET

FROM PAGE 1

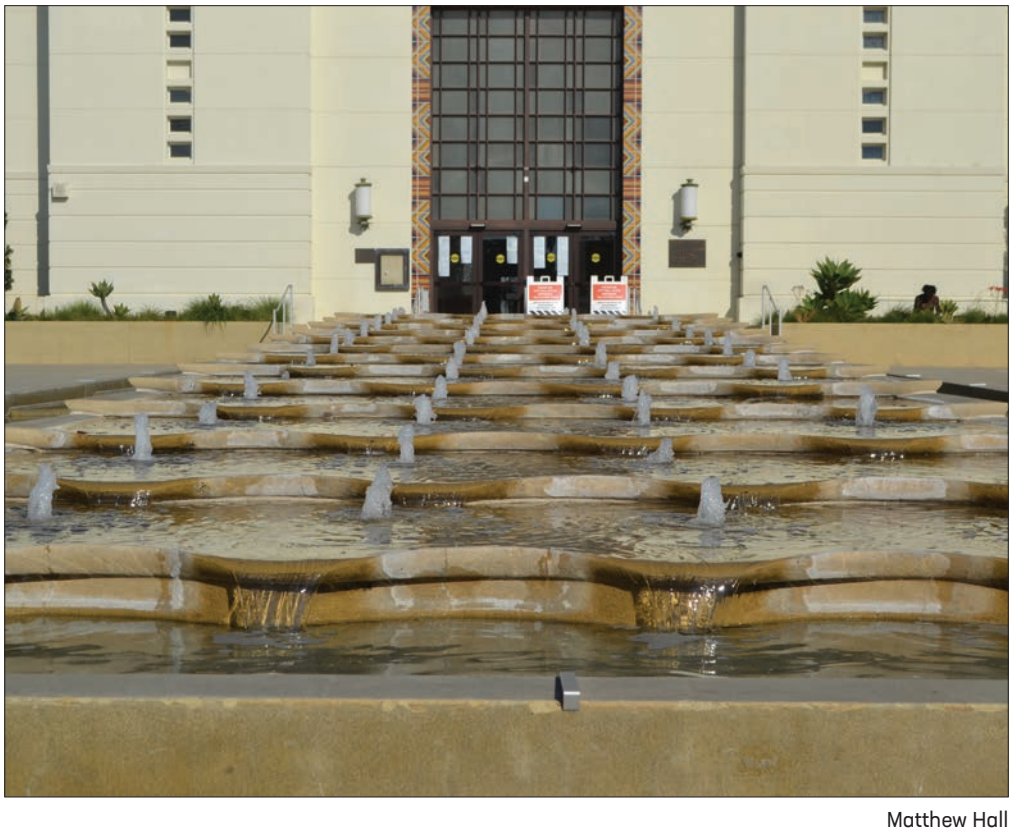
scope, or alternative grant resources that substituted General Funds during the budget cycle," Santa Monica Public Information Officer Constance Farrell described in an email.

According to an information item presented in December, "Staff will request that Council appropriate the additional funding to the FY 2021-22 Budget along with Midyear budget adjustments on February 8, 2022."

The largest share of the funding — $439,300 — was allocated toward enhanced maintenance through the Department of Transportation's Parking Operations Division. In other words, the city will spend it increasing the frequency of parking structure maintenance.

That maintenance "will include weekly powerwashing (now monthly), daily light and mirror replacements (now weekly), daily elevator inspections (now on-call within 24 hours), hourly trash pickup (new service), and after-hours hazardous materials cleaning (new service)," and will be conducted at parking structures 1-6, 9 and 10, as well as the Civic Parking Structure and the Main Library Parking Structure. Cleaning will be conducted by third-party contractors.

There will also be a new mobile vacuum truck to clean alleyways around the Third Street Promenade, which will allow the alleys to be cleaned five days a week. That truck replacement was expected to occur between February and May of this year.



Matthew Hall

CITY HALL: The water feature outside City Hall was restarted recently thanks to new funding. City staff said some of the park improvements will help discourage camping while other projects will enhance public safety around town.

The second-largest share of the $1 million was to be set aside for private security at the Pier, which will use $275,000 of the funding.

"The addition of security officers has helped in the enforcement effort to reduce the volume of unpermitted vending or other unlawful activity on the Pier, thus reducing the associated fire and environmental risks," according to Decavalles-Hughes.

Next up was $155,200 for "enhanced park activation and safety elements," including repairing six code blue phones along Ocean Front Walk and 14 damaged bollard lights at Tongva Park. Each of those repairs was expected to be delayed due to supply chain issues, according to the information item, with blue phone repairs expected by summer 2022 and light repairs expected by March 2022.

Other park improvements include activating the fountains at Tongva Park and Ken Genser Square.

"These fountains provide additional lighting, enjoyment of parks, and their reactivation would discourage camping or other unpermitted activities within the features," Decavalles-Hughes wrote.

Money would also go toward continued progress on the Park Safety Enhancement Project, which already set aside $427,900 to install new cameras, code blue phones and/or lights at Reed, Palisades and Tongva Parks, plus additional lighting at Tongva Park and along Ocean Avenue.

The City also set aside $80,000 in funds toward hiring a third clinician to assess the mental health of homeless individuals on the streets and/or in jail.

Finally, staff allocated $50,500 to increase the police department's use of remotely controlled unstaffed aerial systems (UAS) during the holiday season from Nov. 26-Jan. 1. The UAS was designed to "provide immediate response to 911 calls and ... assist the Department in dispatching the most appropriate response to calls, while another UAS [was] used as needed to respond to and monitor high need areas."

emily@smdp.com

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RESIDENTS: Learn how to use each bin and make a big impact right here at home!

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Leftover Food • Coffee Grounds
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Tea Bags • Paper Straws
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LARGE FOOD-RELATED BUSINESSES: Certain types of large food-generating businesses are required to collect edible food and donate to a food recovery charity. **Supermarkets and large grocery stores** must comply beginning January 1, 2022. **Larger hotels and restaurants, hospitals, and elder care facilities** must comply beginning January 1, 2024. Contact us to find out more.

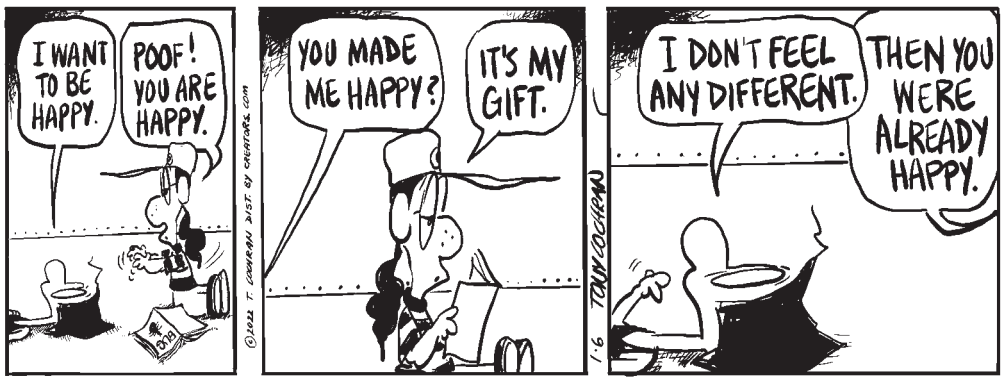
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Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



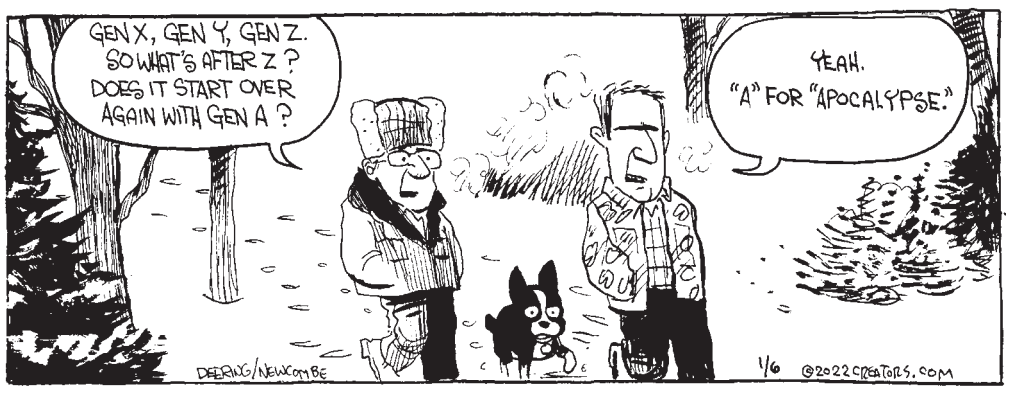
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



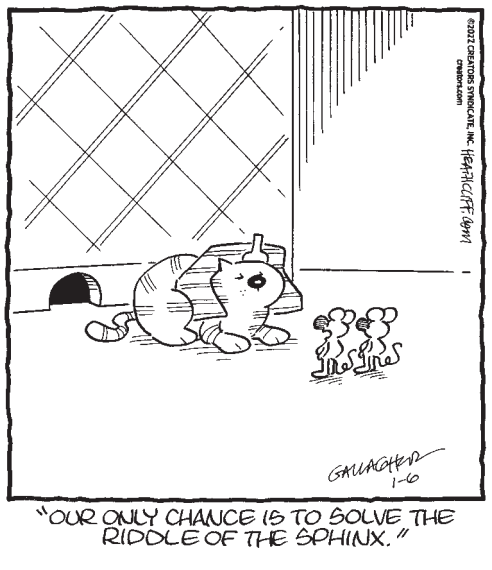
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



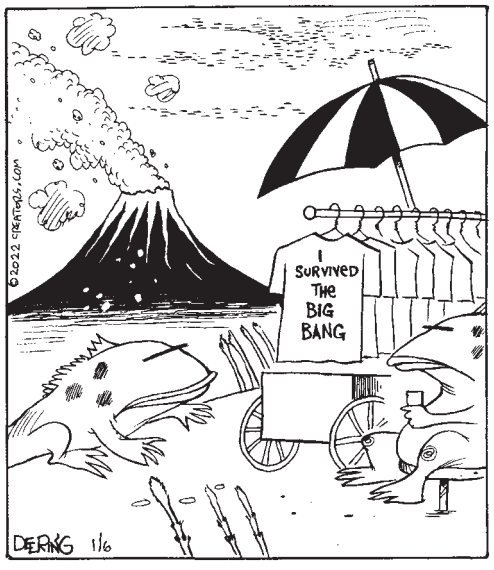
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 57.2°

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.

FRIDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high occ. 3 ft
Midweek NW swell eases but could have a more favorably angled WNW swell move in through the afternoon. Will want to keep an eye on the weekend ahead. Stay tuned.

WEATHER

Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 62. North northeast wind around 5 mph.
Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 48. Northwest wind around 5 mph.
Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 57. Calm wind becoming south southwest around 5 mph.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2022/01/10	Mon	4:49 PM	2.86	H
2022/01/10	Mon	9:49 PM	1.85	L
2022/01/11	Tue	04:43 AM	4.91	H

DAILY LOTTERY

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

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 1/4
4 6 16 21 22
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 278 M

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

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/4
16 17 30 31 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 1/4
EVENING: 6 6 9
Draw Date: 1/4
MIDDAY: 3 6 5

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 1/4
1st: 01 - Gold Rush
2nd: 04 - Big Ben
3rd: 05 - California Classic
Race Time: 1:49.97

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (JANUARY 6)

You're a deep person who feels things acutely and thinks farther into life than most. You'll meet your resonant equals and create a kind of poetry in the way you relate to one another. Debts will be paid, wrongs righted. You'll be a teacher and your students will show you new ways to take your interests. Cancer and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 12, 11, 4 and 20.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The more you think something the more power you give it. You can't change them, but you can change you, which could be enough to create just the result you were hoping for.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The person talking isn't always communicating. The person hearing isn't always listening. Regardless, right now you're so tuned into people's motivations and intentions, you'll come to a deeper understanding of your situation.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Social awareness will be a forte of yours. You'll be careful to take the temperature of the rooms you enter, and you'll change the climate just by being there, too.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). As any dinosaur would attest, adaptability is the talent of survivors. It doesn't matter how big and powerful you are; it's the ones who respond well to change who defy extinction.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The thing that stressed you out a little while back now holds a different place in your mind. You've finally made it to the day when you chalk it all up to a learning experience, or maybe even a funny story.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When you compete with others, you give away the advantages that have held you in good stead. Back off instead. Think it over. What would you do if you knew you were in a league of your own?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Creative, playful people will make your life better. One idea leads to another and suddenly you're caught into the swirl. Some people have a talent for turning ordinariness into adventure.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When the passenger inside your head is in a dark mood, spouting unhelpful opinions, get up and change seats. You'll be surprised at how one move can interrupt the whole pattern, allowing you a brighter outlook and experience.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Here comes the kind of yearning that doesn't happen every day. It's actually quite rare and, for all its discomfort, could be considered a gift. Desire is an ache but it's so much better than the numbness of wanting nothing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There's an art to managing your emotions. You're learning to use the power of your feelings as motivation instead of seeing them as burdens you must work around on your way to success.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When it comes to relationships, one good one is better than a million flimsy ones. You'll overlook minutiae. Pettiness helps no one. You know solid relationships are cultivated over time and you're in it for the long game.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). In the classroom of life, you teach people how to treat you. Lectures in this forum are extremely unpopular. Rather, it's usually a modeling situation. You care for yourself, and others pick up the cues.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

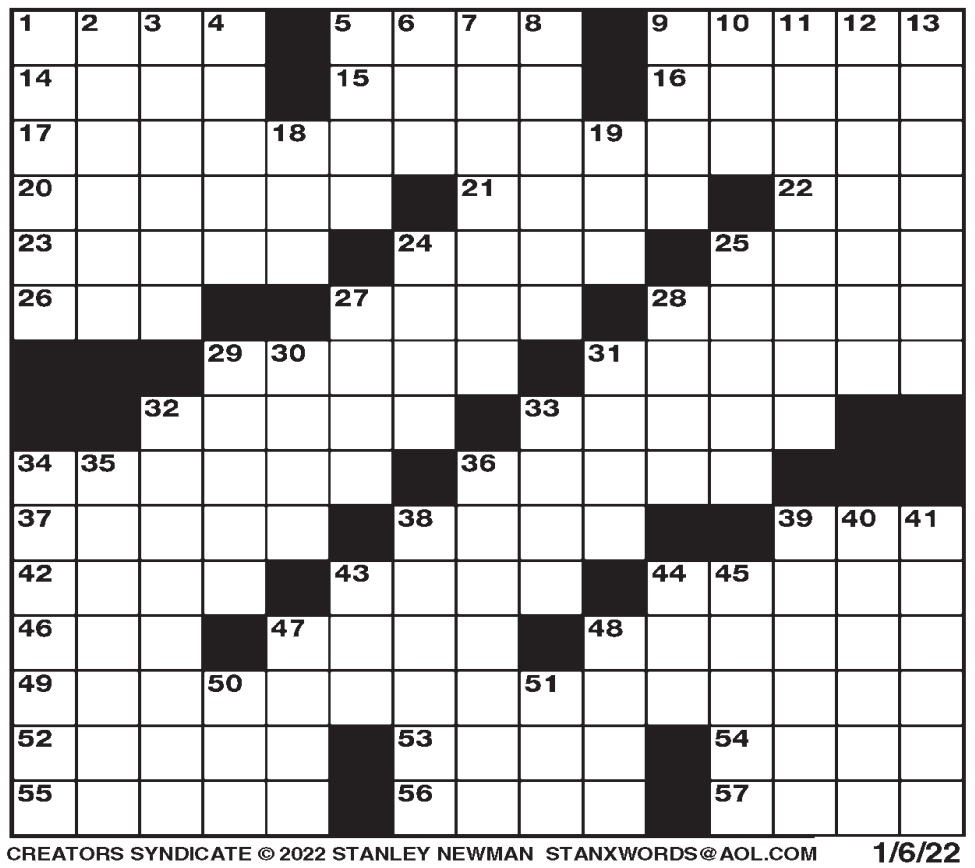
7	9	5				4		8
			5		2		9	
	3	6		9			7	
	5				6			
6	2	9		4		7	8	1
			9				6	
	4			5		8	1	
	6		2		8			
1		8				3	5	2

Newsday Crossword

HARD-BOILED TRIO by Jerry Clarkson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Advance of funds
5 Elaborate bash
9 Part of some addresses
14 Horde
15 Cameo gem
16 Advil alternative
17 *The Big Sleep* author
20 What you mean to do
21 Bumbler's comment
22 Man of mystery
23 Geode stone
24 Innermost part
25 Was ripped
26 Lobster's leg complement
27 Chase after
28 Cantina food
29 Acts sullen
31 "Watch me do it too!"
32 With 33 Across, *The Postman Always Rings Twice* author
33 See 32 Across
34 Movie medium
36 Ivanhoe creator
37 Not as common
38 Irish dramatist
39 *Survivor* airer
42 Arabian monarchy
43 Governmental center
44 Get sidetracked
46 Pecs' neighbors
47 Ponder (over)
48 Shuts up
49 *The Maltese Falcon* author
52 Exclamation in westerns
53 Animated character
54 Blade for sports
55 Blade for crafters
56 Carried a balance
57 Residence hall

DOWN
1 Prop in westerns
2 Sherbet flavor
3 *The Joy Luck Club* novelist
4 NL East athlete
5 Abundant source
6 Follower of business or bitter
7 Big shots in business
8 Admonish urgently
9 Cook's collection
10 Of long standing
11 Capital of Belize
12 Invaded
13 Victor at Thermopylae
18 Unspecified person
19 Big bumbler
24 Stage director's responsibility
25 Unexpressed but understood
27 Soldier's copter
28 Ideally
29 Printer's arc
30 Persian master poet
31 Large freight handler
32 Dinosaur's heyday
33 Hurdle for would-be GPs
34 Timber-cutting tool
35 '90s fad dance
36 Superficial
38 Have as a customer
39 Sleazy sort
40 Baker's creation
41 Computer network
43 __-happy (litigious)
44 Totality
45 Against the clock
47 Ramen ingredient
48 A preceder
50 Hard to keep in stock
51 Cultivator



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2022 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 1/6/22

What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

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.
https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/zuzkvghg or DIAL-IN NUMBER: 1 (415) 466-7000 (US), PIN 2157110 #

TUESDAY | JAN 11

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
The Zoning Administrator issues land use permits that are minor in nature and may adopt specific findings of fact to support the resulting decision, or require specific conditions. Some Zoning Administrator permits are administrative determinations, while others require a noticed public hearing. 10:30 a.m.
https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/erjtkjhz
DIAL-IN NUMBER: 1 (415) 466-7000 (US), PIN: 7933565 #

WEDNESDAY | JAN 12

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 5351

Keep on truckin'

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

Axle	Dogs	Loner	Semi
Bull lights	Emergency	Mt Isa	Service
Cab over	Excavator	North	station
engine	Freeway	Pies	Sleep
Carrying	Fridge	Plates	South
Cattle	Fuel	Produce	Speed
Coal	Gears	Race	Stop
Company	Haul	Rigs	Tyres
Cows	Hubs	Rims	Wheels
Damage	Idle	Ropes	
Dips	Kangaroos	Rugged	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Something for everybody

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Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

ENCAMPMENT

FROM PAGE 1

that. We've had that discussion before," Cotti said during the Aug. 23 meeting. Because Malibu does not offer homeless services like shelters or safe parking zones, the city is not empowered to clear encampments or ask unhoused individuals to move along, according to widespread interpretations of the 2018 Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruling Martin v Boise.

"Plaintiffs argued, and the Ninth Circuit agreed, that enforcing a statute prohibiting sleeping outside against homeless individuals with no access to alternative shelter violates Eighth Amendment's prohibition against cruel and unusual punishments," an article published by the National League of Cities described.

In 2019, an article in the Harvard Law Review stated, "The case's most significant impact, then, was to limit cities' ability to push homeless people out; by allowing them to stay somewhere within Boise's boundaries, the panel turned homeless people into part of the City's public."

Because of these interpretations, even if Malibu were to enact a policy of removing encampments, neither the County Sheriff's Department nor the County District Attorney's Office was likely to enforce it, Malibu city staff believed.

But when record-dry conditions and high winds drove the County Fire Department to declare all of Malibu a "Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone," city staff argued allowing encampments presented an undue risk.

"With the potential for the most devastating fire season on record, it was critical for the City to move with urgency to reduce the risk of fire to protect the community," a staff report prepared for the upcoming Jan. 10 meeting described. The report detailed that a California code allowed council to take the unusual step of clearing all encampments during the dry season, due to "extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the territorial limits of the City."

Even with the legal authority to clear encampments, Dueñas reported four additional encampment fires occurred in Malibu after the emergency order was recorded: two in September and two in October. Dueñas added that the fires were "small and extinguished quickly."

But since several inches of rain have fallen in Southern California over the past few weeks, the probability of additional fires has sharply diminished.

"[The code] also requires that the governing body proclaim the termination of the local emergency at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant. Since October 1, 2021, the Santa Monica Mountains have received more than six inches of rain and the LFM has increased to approximately 90% according to data collected by the Los Angeles County Fire Department through December 24, 2021," the staff report states. "Since the fire risk conditions that prompted the emergency declaration have improved significantly, staff recommends … terminating the state of local emergency."

The January 10, council meeting begins with closed session at 5:30 p.m. followed by open session at 6:30 p.m. and can be streamed on YouTube at youtube.com/user/cityofmalibu.

emily@smdp.com

HOSPITAL

FROM PAGE 3

that support has kind of dwindled from the community, and people seem to be moving on without us," said Rachel Chamberlin, a nurse at New Hampshire's Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center.

Edward Merrens, chief clinical officer at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health, said more than 85% of the hospitalized COVID-19 patients were unvaccinated.

Several patients in the hospital's COVID-19 ICU unit were on ventilators, a breathing tube down their throats. In one room, staff members made preparations for what they feared would be the final family visit for a dying patient.

One of the unvaccinated was Fred Rutherford, a 55-year-old from Claremont, New Hampshire. His son carried him out of the house when he became sick and took him to the hospital, where he needed a breathing tube for a while and feared he might die.

If he returns home, he said, he promises to get vaccinated and tell others to do so too.

"I probably thought I was immortal, that I was tough," Rutherford said, speaking from his hospital bed behind a window, his voice weak and shaky.

But he added: "I will do anything I can to be the voice of people that don't understand you've got to get vaccinated. You've got to get it done to protect each other."

Casey reported from Boston and Thompson from Sacramento. Associated Press writers Terry Tang and Bobby Calvan in New York City contributed to this report.

NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 6

Hall, 1/13, 14, 16; RACHAEL & VILRAY, Troubadour, 1/16; 15th Annual SoCal SLACK KEY FESTIVAL, Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center, 1/16; LA PHIL with Michael Tilson Thomas, GERALD CLAYTON plays Symphonic ELLINGTON, Walt Disney Concert Hall, 1/20, 21; PONCHO SANCHEZ, Venice West, 1/22; COLIN BLUNSTONE, Joe Wong, The Downtown Palace Theatre, 1/22; SARAH SILVERMAN & Friends, Largo at the Coronet 1/22; ITZAK PERLMAN, Rohan De Silva, Walt Disney Concert Hall, 1/26; BJORK, Shrine Auditorium, 1/26, 29, 2/2; NATHANIEL RATELIFF & The Night Sweats The Novo, 1/28; THE ENGLISH BEAT, The Bourbon Room, 1/28, 29; RAUL MALO, The Canyon Agoura Hills 1/28, The Canyon Santa Clarita 1/30; MUSICARES honors JONI MITCHELL, LA Convention Center, 1/29; FEE WAYBILL, Troubadour, 1/29; JOHN MAYALL, Venice West, 1/30; NORTH MISSISSIPPI ALL STARS, Venice West, 2/2; BARBARA MORRISON, Vibrato, 2/13; PETE ESCOVEDO, Vibrato, 2/20.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 2,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 34 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Malibu

Malibu City Hall Temporarily Closed Through Jan. 28

Malibu City Hall will be temporarily closed to the public through Jan. 28 in response to the rise in COVID-19 cases and community transmission in Los Angeles County.

Aside from in-person services in City Hall, the City staff and departments will continue to work and offer all services normally.

"The temporary closure of City Hall to the public is out of an abundance of caution to help slow the spread of COVID-19 amidst the current surge so that we can protect the health and safety of the community, especially seniors and other high-risk groups, and to allow City staff to continue to safely provide essential City services," said Mayor Paul Grisanti.

The City Manager and Public Safety Manager will assess the situation on a daily basis, and if conditions improve sufficiently, will re-open City Hall earlier than Jan. 28. Any changes will be announced on the City's website, social media and e-notification system. To sign up to receive COVID-19 e-notifications via text and/or email, visit www.MalibuCity.org/News and scroll to "COVID-19/Coronavirus."

Of particular concern is the rapid spread in the County, the state and the nation of the even more highly transmissible Omicron variant. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LADPH) confirmed 21,790 new positive cases and 24 new deaths due to COVID-19 in one day in Los Angeles County. The COVID-19 transmission rate in Los Angeles County is now estimated to be greater than at any point since the first months of the pandemic. For updated COVID-19 statistics for Los Angeles County, visit http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/coronavirus/data/.

Although the building and all public counters will be closed to the public, staff will be available to assist anyone with City business by phone, email or video call, including plan review, permit issuance and help with Woolsey Fire rebuild projects. Building Inspection operations will remain the same.

To make virtual appointments with City staff and Departments, please call or email:

Building Safety Department (including Environmental Health, Coastal Engineering and Geotechnical Engineering): Call 310-456-2489, ext. 390. Email mbuilding@malibucity.org.

Planning Department: Call 310-456-2489, ext. 485. Email mplanning@malibucity.org.

Public Works Department: Call 310-456-2489, ext. 391 . Email mpublicworks@malibucity.org.

All other City business: 310-456-2489, ext. 392. Email info@malibucity.org.

All Brown Act public meetings including City Council and Commissions will continue virtually as scheduled. The Senior Center is closed, but Senior Center staff are available to assist any seniors in the community that need help and the Dial-A-Ride program will continue to operate. For assistance, call the Senior Center at 310-456-2489, ext. 357.

LADPH continues to recommend that everyone in the County who is eligible get vaccinated, and boosted, as the best way to protect against the most severe effects of COVID-19. To find a vaccination site near you, or to make an appointment, visit: www.VaccinateLACounty.com (English) or www.VacunateLosAngeles.com (Spanish). People with disabilities or without computer access can call 833-540-0473 for help finding an appointment, help with free transportation to and from a vaccination site, or to schedule a home vaccination visit for people who are homebound.

For updated information about COVID-19 statistics, vaccines, boosters, testing, and other information, visit the LADPH website at http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus.

SUBMITTED BY MATT MYERHOFF

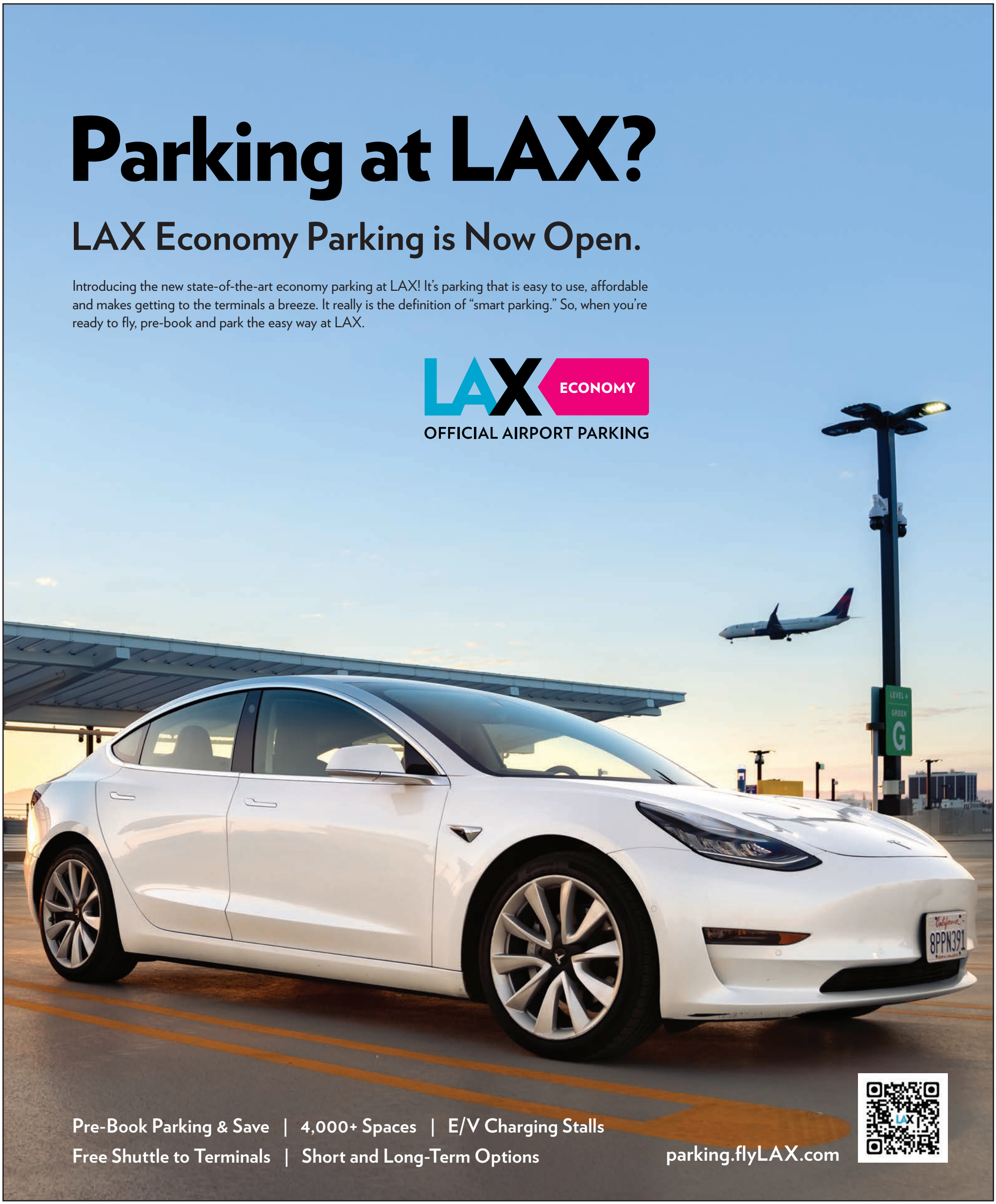


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