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Assemblymember Richard Bloom To Run For County Supervisor

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

Former Santa Monica Mayor and current Assemblymember Richard Bloom announced Wednesday he will run for Los Angeles County Supervisor in 2022.

With incumbent Supervisor Sheila Kuehl opting not to run for a third term, Bloom said in an interview this week he is running for L.A. County Supervisor because he hopes to build on Kuehl's progressive legacy while the county rebuilds from the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The impact of this would be that I would not be able to serve out two years of possible time in the Assembly but the fact of the matter is that term limits will catch up with me one way or another by 2024. So, if I want to continue in public service, I need to evaluate the opportunities that are out there.



RICHARD BLOOM

SEE **SUPERVISOR** PAGE 2

Nominees wanted for Black Excellence Awards

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

The deadline to nominate local professionals for Santa Monica's Black Excellence Awards has been extended, and local residents are invited to put forth those they think are worthy of being honored with one of the various awards that will be handed out this February.

Hundreds of residents gathered at the Third Street Promenade in last year for the inaugural "Celebrating Black Excellence Community Mixer," which featured treats from various vendors, a traditional West African Dance and Drum performance and plenty of opportunities to mix and mingle with fellow Santa Monicans and the many others who stopped by for a peek at the fun.

With safer-at-home orders likely to still be in effect this February, Black History Month celebrations will look a little different this year, but organizer Delana Gbenekama said the City is currently planning a few festivities for next month and still intends to celebrate Black professionals who have demonstrated displays of outstanding leadership or service.

The theme for Black History Month 2021 is: "The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity," so community members are being asked to submit their family stories for a chance to be featured during the opening ceremony and various events this year. Stories and nominations for the Black Excellence Awards are due Jan. 10 now that the deadline has been extended, according to Gbenekama, who said residents can visit bit.ly/38iYd3l for the

SEE **AWARDS** PAGE 11

A moment in America, unimaginable but perhaps inevitable

TED ANTHONY
AP National Writer

To see it unspool — to watch the jumbled images ricochet, live, across the world's endless screens — was, as an American, a struggle to believe your eyes. But there it was, in the capital city of the United States in early January 2021, a real-time breaking and entering the likes of which the republic has never seen.

The U.S. Capitol was overrun by violent supporters of Donald Trump, who exhorted them to march on the domed building as lawmakers inside carried out their Constitutional duty by certifying his electoral defeat. The proceedings were quickly abandoned as the mob smashed windows, marched through hallways and rummaged through lawmakers' desks.

Fourteen days before Joe Biden is set to be inaugurated on this very site, elected officials sheltered in place in their own building. Agents barricaded themselves inside congressional chambers, guns drawn. The stars and stripes — soaring over public property — was lowered, then replaced as a blue Trump flag ascended.

In one of the day's most indelible images, a hoodie-clad trespasser sat in a chair overlooking the Senate floor — minutes after it had been vacated by Trump's own vice

SEE **PROTEST** PAGE 11

Essential: Farmers Market Coordinator Kym Otterstedt

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

The Daily Press has launched a series of interviews with essential workers who are working bravely and diligently to keep the Santa Monica community functioning.

Kym Otterstedt is the market coordinator for the Pico Farmers Market, which runs on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Virginia Avenue Park. Thanks to Kym and her hardworking team members, Santa Monica's farmers markets have been able to adapt and remain open throughout the pandemic, providing a vital lifeline to farmers and a safe outdoor opportunity for community members to buy fresh food.



Courtesy photo

KYM OTTERSTEDT: The workers at the Farmers Market keep the city fed.

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR JOB AND TO LOCAL FARMERS MARKETS WHEN THE PANDEMIC BROKE OUT?

In Santa Monica we actually didn't close markets and that was a crazy process. Our work went from coming to the market and making sure everything was set up to trying to visualize every entry and exit point, how we were going to administer social distancing, how we were going to monitor masks, and how we were going to gather enough people together to make this happen.

Because we had so much collaboration with other City departments and such an amazing team of market managers we were able to very quickly switch our operations into emergency mode and keep the markets going. We initially closed our smaller Pico and Main Street markets and pulled those into the Wednesday and Saturday Downtown markets.

SEE **ESSENTIAL** PAGE 6

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 219 CALLS ON JANUARY 05

Prowler There Now 1200blk 22nd St 12:16 a.m.
Person With A Gun 100blk Colorado Ave 1:53 a.m.
Encampment 1800blk Main St 5:44 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1000blk 6th St 7:49 a.m.
Found Property 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 8:05 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1800blk 7th St 8:14 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 200blk 22nd St 8:16 a.m.
Fight 1200blk 16th St 8:54 a.m.
Burglary Report 2000blk Main St 9:20 a.m.
Encampment 900blk Interstate 10 9:24 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 700blk Ozone St 9:33 a.m.
Burglary Report 1100blk 4th St 10:01 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 900blk 20th St 10:07 a.m.
Encampment 1500blk Ocean Ave 10:07 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3200blk Pearl St 10:13 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1900blk 6th St 10:30 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2900blk Urban Ave 10:51 a.m.
Loitering 3100blk Pennsylvania Ave 10:52 a.m.
Person Down Ocean / Maybury 10:56 a.m.
Missing Person 2700blk 2nd St 11:04 a.m.
Bike Theft Report 900blk 4th St 11:11 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 900blk 21st St 11:23 a.m.
Keep The Peace 100blk 17th St 11:33 a.m.
Found Property 2600blk The Beach 11:38 a.m.
Silent Robbery Alarm 300blk Santa Monica Pl 12:01 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 1800blk 11th St 12:01 p.m.
Burglary Report 1200blk Pico Blvd 12:07 p.m.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered 1100blk 7th St 12:15 p.m.
Identity Theft 1000blk 19th St 12:24 p.m.
Encampment 800blk Palisades Park 12:27 p.m.
Domestic Violence Now 1100blk Princeton St 12:28 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1000blk Ocean Ave 12:30 p.m.
Fraud Report 700blk Strand St 12:34 p.m.
Battery 300blk Colorado Ave 12:53 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1200blk 11th St 12:56 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1500blk 10th St 12:58 p.m.
Malicious Mischief 200blk Broadway 1:04 p.m.
Loitering 2300blk Wilshire Blvd 1:10 p.m.
Burglary Report 400blk Broadway 1:12 p.m.
Injured Person Chelsea Ave / California Ave 1:22 p.m.
Attempt Auto Theft Report 600blk Hill St 1:27 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1500blk Ocean Ave 1:36 p.m.
Battery 1600blk Ocean Ave 1:49 p.m.
Assault 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 1:57 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1300blk Euclid St 2:10 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1300blk 12th St 2:10 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 2500blk 6th St 2:11 p.m.
Battery 3rd Street Prom / Broadway 2:13 p.m.
Vehicle Burglar Alarm 2800blk 3rd St 2:16 p.m.
Burglary Report 2900blk Arizona Ave 2:32 p.m.
Lewd Activity 2900blk Neilson Way 2:35 p.m.
Loitering 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 2:44 p.m.
Loud Music 1400blk 7th St 2:48 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 1500blk Stanford St 2:48 p.m.
Attempt Auto Theft Report 600blk Hill St 2:54 p.m.
Petty Theft 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 2:57 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 2100blk Wilshire Blvd 3:09 p.m.
Petty Theft Now 900blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:15 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 900blk 3rd St 3:22 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 0blk Arcadia Ter 3:33 p.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 3:33 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 20th St / Olympic Blvd 3:36 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 20th St / Olympic Blvd 3:36 p.m.
Encampment 900blk 4th St 3:39 p.m.
Attempt Auto Theft Report 600blk Hill St 3:41 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Cloverfield Blvd / Olympic Blvd 4:05 p.m.
Burglary Report 2000blk 4th St 4:31 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 800blk Hill St 4:53 p.m.
Burglary Report 400blk San Vicente Blvd 4:59 p.m.
Found Property 1400blk Palisades Park 5:07 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 3300blk Pearl St 5:26 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:02 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 4th St / Pico Blvd 6:40 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 2900blk Main St 7:38 p.m.
Fraud Report 300blk Olympic Dr 7:53 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 2600blk Wilshire Blvd 8:01 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1400blk Ocean Ave 8:08 p.m.
Construction Noise 3000blk Colorado Ave 8:32 p.m.
Party Complaint 1500blk 6th St 8:52 p.m.
Malicious Mischief 1500blk Euclid St 9:11 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Now 1500blk Ocean Front Walk 9:14 p.m.
Battery Now 1400blk Pacific Coast Hwy 9:20 p.m.
Loitering 800blk 2nd St 9:33 p.m.
Harassing Phone Calls Report 1500blk 19th St 10:26 p.m.
Party Complaint 1400blk Arizona Ave 10:40 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 1800blk Montana Ave 10:41 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 800blk Bay St 10:59 p.m.
Fight 600blk Wilshire Blvd 11:17 p.m.

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SMC's Emeritus Gallery to Launch Online Archive

SMC's Emeritus Gallery is pleased to announce the "Emeritus Gallery 2012-2020: Celebration and Archive Launch," a free event to debut the gallery's new online archive of exhibitions.

The live Zoom Virtual Launch Event will be held online from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, January 21. A link at smc.edu/emeritusgallery takes guests directly to the online event.

The launch celebration – hosted by Dean of Noncredit and External Programs Dr. Scott Silverman and Emeritus Gallery Curator Jesse Benson – will include guest speakers who have exhibited at the gallery, along with a 'walkthrough' of the archive.

The archive features artwork from exhibitions dating back to 2012, and includes photos and videos of opening receptions and related events, behind-the-scenes photos of art installations, and exhibition-related postcard designs and press releases. The thorough collection of images and materials provides proper documentation, for the first time, of the many past Emeritus Gallery exhibitions.

To explore the online archive at any time after the celebration, viewers may go to smc.edu/emeritusgallery and click on Archive of Gallery Events, available 24 hours a day. The link takes viewers to the archive, where events are organized by year.

"This is a great opportunity for us to revisit the amazing work that has appeared in our Emeritus Gallery in the past," said Silverman. For some, it will be our first time viewing this work, and for others, it will be like seeing a treasured view come back into focus. What better way to start off a New Year than by revising wondrous works from the past."

"We had been planning to launch a proper archive of Emeritus Gallery events for some time," said Benson, "but weren't able to manage it until the pandemic forced us to embrace an expansive approach to online programming. This embrace has offered a true silver lining for a challenging time. Our new online archive would not have been possible without significant efforts by the SMC web and design teams, who worked with us to radically restructure our gallery website. The result is an elegant document of the gallery's full program from 2012 to present. Please join us to look back at the incredible artwork and celebrate!"

SMC's widely praised Emeritus program, founded by Santa Monica College in 1975 to serve the lifelong learning interests of older adults, offers more than 120 noncredit adult education classes and special programs that serve more than 3,000 students each year.

More information is available by visiting smc.edu/emeritusgallery, sending email to the gallery's curator at benson_jesse@smc.edu, or calling 310-434-4306.

SUBMITTED BY JESSE BENSON, SMC EMERITUS ART GALLERY DIRECTOR

SUPERVISOR

FROM PAGE 1

And the opportunity to serve on the L.A. County Board of Supervisors was a surprise that presented itself," Bloom said. "So, I began to give serious thought to whether that would be an interesting position."

He said it didn't take long to determine it would allow an opportunity to continue focusing on issues that have been near and dear to the hearts of constituents.

Bloom added he believes the Board of Supervisors has a combination of resources — budgetary and policy-related — that allow it to address challenging issues, which include the "twin crises" of housing affordability and homelessness.

As for climate change, Bloom said, "when it comes to the county, much of the implementation of our goals for carbon neutrality by 2045 are going to be implemented at the local level," so he's excited for an opportunity to use his experience on the matter to guide policy.

"And then finally coming out of the pandemic, if I were to be so fortunate to be successful in this in this race, we'll be in the early stages of recovery from both the economic and the health impacts of the COVID pandemic, and I want to make sure the recovery efforts and things we do are shared by all who live in the County of Los Angeles, rich and poor," Bloom said as he discussed the need to reduce the growing economic disparity that has taken hold in California.

"A goal I have when returning to local government is to be as reflective as possible of the very diverse public that lives not just in the third district," but in all of the county, Bloom said. "One of the hallmarks of serving as a mayor is the ability to make sure that, to the extent possible," which is a skill the Assemblymember believes will prove useful on the campaign trail and on the job.

"I am looking forward to being able to share viewpoints with others and hearing from the public about what their concerns are," Bloom said, stating he believes he knows what's important to the public. "But I'm also sure that there are some (areas of concern) that I haven't identified that I need to know about and need to understand."

Supervisor Kuehl has been and will continue to be a champion of progress on the Board of Supervisors, Bloom said, and he hopes to continue that beyond 2022 when she steps down.

Kuehl shared a statement Wednesday, stating she's very proud of her work over the last six years at the County. And during her final two years in office, she intends to continues pushing for progress in efforts relating to homelessness, the juvenile justice system, infrastructure, "and of course, seeing the County all the way through this devastating COVID-19 pandemic."

"But I've been working non-stop since I was 7 years old and as I approach my 80th birthday, I'd like to see what it's like not to work, and follow all the dreams on my bucket list," Kuehl added in the statement. "I will certainly miss the many wonderful colleagues and the incredible opportunities for good work I have enjoyed as the proud supervisor of the mighty Third District when I leave at the end of 2022. I look forward to a spirited election with highly-qualified candidates who can bring new ideas to the County as well as build on the accomplishments of my two terms in office."

Brennon@smdp.com

Newsom proposes $600 payment for low-income Californians

KATHLEEN RONAYNE
Associated Press

Millions of low-income Californians would get a $600 payment from the state under a budget proposal by Gov. Gavin Newsom.

The proposed payment, announced Wednesday, would go to people with annual incomes of less than $30,000, including immigrants living in the country illegally who file taxes with the state. Roughly 4 million people would be eligible for the payment, for a total state cost of $2.4 billion. Newsom is also asking the Legislature to extend a moratorium on evictions.

Newsom called on lawmakers to join him with a sense of urgency to help Californians who are dealing with stress and anxiety over the prospect of putting food on the table, paying for child care or facing eviction.

"We recognize our responsibility to do more," he said.

State lawmakers normally pass the budget in June, but Newsom is asking them to act early on several proposals to provide faster relief to people suffering due to the coronavirus pandemic. California's unemployment rate was 8.2% in November, the most recent month with available state data. But that doesn't reflect the true number of out-of-work Californians, as many people have stopped seeking work.

A handful of Democratic lawmakers joined Newsom for a virtual announcement, indicating he'll find support in the Legislature.

"Millions of working families all across California, they're on the ropes. They're barely hanging on during this pandemic-induced recession," said State Sen. Mike McGuire, a Democrat who represents the state's north coast.

The $600 payment matches a federal stimulus payment approved by Congress, meaning some Californians could receive $1,200 in relief.

Newsom hopes payments of the state stimulus go out to Californians in February and March. If his plan is approved and signed into law, it will take three to four weeks to get payments out to people who filed their taxes electronically, said H.D. Palmer, spokesman for the California Department of Finance.

Taxpayers who received the California Earned Income Tax Credit, available to people making less than $30,000 annually, last year would receive the $600 payment. That covered about 3.9 million filers in 2020, Palmer said.

The $600 payment would also go to people with Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers who would be eligible to receive the tax credit this year. Those taxpayers are mostly immigrants living in the country illegally. The state estimates about 250,000 of those filers would be eligible for the payment, Palmer said.

Beyond the cash payments, Newsom's proposal aims to help Californians struggling to pay rent or losing out on money that would normally come in from tenants. The Legislature passed an eviction moratorium last year, and it bars landlords from evicting people who suffered economic loss due to the pandemic. They must be able to pay at least 25% of their monthly rent.

Newsom wants to extend the moratorium, though his office did not give a proposed extension date.

The state received $2.6 billion to help small property owners and low-income renters through the federal coronavirus bill passed in December. Newsom wants to quickly deploy that money.

The governor will announce his full budget proposal on Friday, but he's already revealed other pieces aimed at aiding people financially harmed by coronavirus. On Tuesday he proposed $4 billion in spending aimed at aiding businesses and creating jobs. He also proposed $2 billion to help schools reopen for in-person learning.

Meanwhile, a bipartisan group of state lawmakers introduced a proposal for $2.6 billion in small business support on Wednesday. It would include more money for small business grants than what Newsom has proposed.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 35 CALLS ON JANUARY 05

EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 12:45 a.m.
Carbon Monoxide Alarm 2300blk 4th St 3:20 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 16th St 3:38 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1700blk 21st St 6:37 a.m.
EMS 2600blk 33rd St 6:42 a.m.
EMS 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:27 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2200blk 11th St 7:31 a.m.
EMS 800blk 2nd St 7:34 a.m.
EMS 2200blk 29th St 7:51 a.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 100blk Broadway 7:52 a.m.
EMS 800blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:01 a.m.
EMS 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:30 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 10:50 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 800blk Ocean Ave 12:47 p.m.
EMS 300blk Colorado Ave 12:52 p.m.
EMS 700blk Broadway 2:09 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 3:02 p.m.
EMS 2200blk Delaware Ave 3:28 p.m.
EMS 9th St / Montana Ave 3:32 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Physical Rescue 20th St / Olympic Blvd 3:36 p.m.
EMS 2200blk Wilshire Blvd 3:55 p.m.
EMS 200blk San Vicente Blvd 4:08 p.m.
EMS 200blk San Vicente Blvd 4:10 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 20th St 4:11 p.m.
EMS 2800blk 6th St 4:41 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 16th St 5:16 p.m.
EMS 900blk 20th St 5:29 p.m.
EMS 1000blk Euclid St 5:37 p.m.
EMS 900blk 3rd St 5:57 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Euclid St 6:32 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 7:17 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 400blk Broadway 8:58 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 11:05 p.m.
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EMS 2000blk 19th St 11:41 p.m.

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Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

What We Lost

OUR TERRIBLE MUSIC LOSSES

It's always sobering to see those year-end lists of the musicians who died that year. But like so many other ways, 2020 was a record setter for the decimation of our great American music heritage. We lost giants, and we lost many with still a lot to offer. And yes, COVID-19 took a lot of them. Looks like about 20 percent.

We all know it didn't have to be this way. I won't say much more about that but when I heard that the great songwriter and performer John Prine had been taken by coronavirus, after beating cancer twice since 1998, my pervasive sadness flipped to anger. OK, that's it Donald J.ackass Trump, I put this one squarely in your corner. You did nothing because you had no idea what to do, it would have been too much work, and you just didn't care, if it wasn't all about you.

And now, of the more than 350,000 Americans dead from COVID-19, so far, 250,000 could have been spared. One of them could have been

JOHN PRINE

Yes, I do believe that when it is your time… it's your time. For me, there's no sense arguing otherwise, unless you want to posit an infinite number of alternate universes. But Hitler was clearly responsible for all the death and destruction from his regime and the war he started, and Trump is responsible for hundreds of thousands of deaths, and I include John Prine. Such an immense loss. One of the very best songwriters ever. Ever.

Dylan once wrote, "Prine's stuff is pure Proustian existentialism. Midwestern mind trips to the nth degree. And he writes beautiful songs. 'Sam Stone,' 'Donald and Lydia,' nobody but Prine could write like that." Someone I can't recall accurately dubbed him the Mark Twain of songwriters. Every time I would stop and really listen to his words, it made me want to throw out my typewriter and find another vocation.

d. 4/7/2020, Nashville, 73, COVID-19 complications

TOOTS

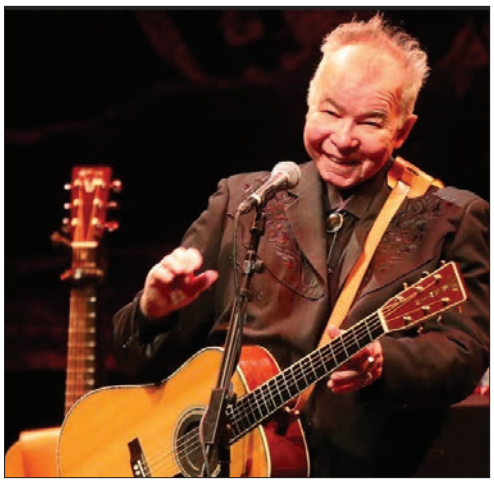
In the same breath I have to include Frederick "Toots" Hibbert, not just a rock of reggae (he invented the word) but one of the best vocalists, of any genre, ever. Ever. I will leave it at that, because I want to note some of the others we lost who have a particular meaning for me. These are not "the best," but perhaps the ones I will miss the most. In some cases my few words of description were borrowed from someone else, because they were perfect.

d. 9/11/2020, Kingston, Jamaica, COVID-19

I also set these two apart because I saw three such "musicians we lost" tributes on television and none of them included either Toots or Prine. That is so ridiculously ignorant that the people responsible should be slapped and fired.

JACK SHERMAN

Not in the lofty artistic plane of the other



Courtesy photo

JOHN PRINE: One of the best songwriters ever died last year.

two, but I have to put the Red Hot Chili Peppers guitarist and songwriter up top too. He lived a few blocks from me in Ocean Park for many years, and we became friends. Though not until after he had moved back to GA. We never met in person, and now we never will. A chance encounter on social media uncovered our Ocean Park roots and we stayed in touch. He had an odd predilection to Photoshop-fiddle with some of my posted photos of myself, then ask me if they weren't so much improved. I could rarely tell the difference.

He joined the band early on, after the mercurial Hillel Slovak left, played on their first album and first big U.S. tour and wrote their second album "Freaky Styley" but parted ways after Slovak returned a year later. He was not included on the roster when they were put in the Rock and Roll Hall of Lame and did not like that, and neither did I.

d. 8/18/2020, Savannah, GA, 64

Now, here are some we lost, in only the first half of the year. As Jim Ladd might intone, Lord have mercy.

NEIL PEART

I was never a fan of Rush because I too thought their vocals sounded like a gerbil on nitrous, but there's no denying he was among the very best rock drummers. Was he living in SM? Died here.

d. 1/7/2020, Santa Monica, 67

JOSEPH SHABALALA

Founded traditional Zulu music group Ladysmith Black Mambazo that shot to worldwide fame from Paul Simon's "Graceland" album. My friend and reggae authority Roger Steffens was the one behind all that, when he put a LBM recording in Simon's hands and advised, I think you should listen to this.

d. 2/11/2020, Pretoria, South Africa, 79

BUDDY CAGE

Pedal steel master from the New Riders, who was all over Dylan's "Blood on the Tracks." I love pedal steel and the New Riders-

SEE **LOST** PAGE 6

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WINNER

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Santa Monica Library's January Calendar of Events

PROGRAMS FOR KIDS & TEENS

Building Blocks for Kindergarten with SMPL. Mondays through Jan. 25 / 1 to 1:15 p.m. / Access via Facebook. Join organizers for short bilingual English/Spanish video segments that focus on kindergarten-readiness skills through reading and activities. Track Building Blocks activities your child completes through the virtual platform Beanstack and earn points towards a prize drawing for book packs. To register, go to smpl.beanstack.org.

Construyendo los Cimientos para el Kinder con SMPL. Lunes, 18 y 25 de enero / De la 1 a 1:15 p.m. / Acceda por Facebook. Únase a nosotros para ver breves segmentos de videos bilingües en inglés/español que se enfocarán en habilidades específicas de preparación para el kinder a través de actividades interactivas y de lectura. Rastree las actividades de Building Blocks que su hijo complete, a través de una plataforma virtual llamada Beanstack y gane puntos para un sorteo de premios para paquetes de libros. Para registrarse en este programa gratuito, vaya a smpl.beanstack.org.

Plant an Herbalicious Garden! Saturday, January 9 / 1 to 1:45 p.m. / For kids ages 6-11 / Register using the link below. The Santa Monica Community Garden shows kids how to start their own herb garden, perfect for a windowsill or patio. Materials provided and available at Curbside Pickup locations, while supplies last. Co-sponsored with the Office of Sustainability and the Environment. Register to attend this program here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYrceChrTosGNIKMjjdSx1qULikBpK8mzyi

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

Ocean Park Branch Book Group Discussion: The Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead. Thursday, January 7 / 4 to 5 p.m. / Register using the email address below. In this follow-up to The Underground Railroad, Colson Whitehead dramatizes a strand of American history through the story of two boys sentenced to a hellish reform school in Jim Crow-era Florida. Register to attend this program by emailing karen.reitz@smgov.net.

Notable Fiction Book Group Discussion: Trust Exercise by Susan Choi. Saturday, January 16 / 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. / Register using the email address below. While attending a competitive performing arts high school in the 1980s, David and Sarah fall in love. A shocking spiral of events catapults the action forward and flips their story upside down. Register to attend this program by emailing karen.reitz@smgov.net.

Main Library Book Group Discussion: The Metamorphosis by Franz Kafka. Monday, January 18 / 7 to 8 p.m. / Register using the email address below. In this short novel from 1915, a young man transforms into a giant insect in a dark and ambiguous fable of alienation, modernity, and the family. Register for this program by emailing jeff.schwartz@smgov.net

Mystery Book Group Discussion: The A.B.C. Murders by Agatha Christie. Tuesday, January 19 / 7 to 8 p.m. / Register using the email address below. In one of Christie's most twisted tales, Hercule Poirot navigates the eerie maze of a serial killer's mind. Register to attend this program by emailing karen.reitz@smgov.net.

Montana Avenue Branch Book Group Discussion: Overthrow: America's Century of Regime Change from Hawaii to Iraq by Stephen Kinzer. Wednesday, January 20 / 7 to 8:30 p.m. / Register using the email address below. Author Stephen Kinzer tells the stories of the powerful people who took it upon themselves to depose monarchs, presidents, and prime ministers. He also shows how the U.S. government has pursued such operations without understanding the countries involved, resulting in disastrous long-term consequences. Register to attend this program by emailing stephanie.archer@smgov.net.

Mindful Meditation. Thursday, January 21 / 7 to 8 p.m. / Register using the email address below. Curious about mindfulness meditation and how it might help in stressful times? Experience the pause that refreshes with longtime meditation teacher Henry Schipper. Beginners and experienced meditators, looking to support their practice, are welcome. 30 minute meditation plus Q&A. Register to attend this program by emailing karen.reitz@smgov.net.

Sleuths & Sidekicks Mystery Author Panel. Saturday, January 23 / 12 to 1 p.m. / Register using the email address below. Discover new authors of mystery fiction while learning what it takes to be a published writer. Authors Jen Collins Moore (Maggie White Mysteries), Tina deBellegarde (Batavia-on-Hudson Mysteries), Carol Pouliot (Blackwell and Watson Time Travel Mysteries), and Lida Sideris (Southern California Mysteries) discuss their books, followed by an audience Q&A. Register to attend this program by emailing karen.reitz@smgov.net.

Ongoing Classes Citizenship Classes. Mondays / 12 to 2:30 p.m. This series of classes is taught by Adult Education Center instructors. Students must be 18 years or older to attend. Enrollment is through the SMMUSD Adult Education Center, located at 2510 Lincoln Blvd., Room 203, Santa Monica, 90405. Contact Olga Saucedo at (310) 664-6222, ext. 76203 or osaucedo@smmusd.org to enroll.

ESL Classes. ESL, Multi Level LOW: Fridays / 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. ESL, Multi Level LOW: Saturdays / 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. ESL, Multi Level HIGH | Mondays / 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This series of English as a Second Language (ESL) classes is taught by Adult Education Center instructors. Students must be 18 years or older to attend. Enrollment is through the SMMUSD Adult Education Center, located at 2510 Lincoln Blvd., Room 203, Santa Monica, 90405. Contact Olga Saucedo at (310) 664-6222, ext. 76203 or osaucedo@smmusd.org to enroll.

CURBSIDE PICKUP

No appointments are necessary for curbside pickup. Just place a hold to pick up items at your preferred location. When picking up items, please bring your Library card or photo ID, wear a mask, and practice social distancing. Pickup locations and hours:

- Main Library, 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday – Friday and Saturday, January 9.
- Pico Branch, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday – Friday and Saturday, January 9.
- Montana Avenue Branch, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday & Wednesday

SUBMITTED BY SMPL

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LOST

FROM PAGE 4

Grateful Dead concert I saw in Albuquerque in the early '70s is in my Top Ten.
d. 2/5/2020, 73

MANU DIBANGO
Cameroonian saxophonist who brought African pop to the West.
d. 3/24/2020, 86, COVID-19

JOHN "BUCKY" PIZZARELLI
Jazz guitar legend whose son John led Guitar Nights in the Valley for years that were amazing for the sit-in talent.
d. 4/1/2020, Saddle River, NJ, 94, COVID-19

IAN WHITCOMB
Turned '60s novelty hit "You Really Turn Me On" into a long career, but his talents were wide-ranging. Also a friend.
d. 4/19/2020, LA, 78

MILLIE SMALL
"My Boy Lollipop" was the worldwide smash hit everyone loved in 1964 long before most of us knew it was reggae-ska. I wrote an entire column about her, then more the next week when her daughter wrote me with some personal insights. https://www.smdp.com/noteworthy-vintage-small-treasures/194299
https://www.smdp.com/noteworthy-small-talk-redux/194596
d. 5/6/2020. London, 72

LITTLE RICHARD
The architect of rock and roll and auteur of outrageousness.
d. 5/9/2020, Tullahoma, TN, 87

WILLIE K (KAHAIALI'I)
I love Hawaiian music and Willie was not only one of the best, he claimed to be royalty — how many Americans can say that? He graciously performed on my cable TV show, Not Just Another LA Music Show.
d. 5/19/2020, Wailuku, HI, 59

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 3,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 35 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

ESSENTIAL

FROM PAGE 1

This was an amazing feat because many of the other markets in L.A. County were closed for quite some time. Now all four markets are back running.

WHAT WAS THE IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC ON MARKET VENDORS?
It was very scary for them. We had some farmers who were older and chose not to participate during that initial time. Also, because many of the markets outside Santa Monica were closed for weeks or months, our ability to continue giving them an outlet to sell their produce was vital to their survival.

WHAT DOES MARKET DAY LOOK LIKE FOR YOU NOW?
We typically show up two to three hours prior to the market to get traffic directors, canopies, tents and then we are there two hours after the market to clean it all up. We are constantly walking the market to make sure everyone is wearing their mask and social distancing. We are also checking in with the farmers to see if they have any questions or issues that need to be resolved. We are required to have the farm stands be at least six to ten feet apart, so we are monitoring that. It's an additional five, sometimes six, hours on top of what we would typically do.

HAS THE ROLE OF LOCAL MARKETS CHANGED DURING THE PANDEMIC?
I feel that prior to the pandemic a lot of people didn't know about farmers markets or didn't frequent farmers markets. Because this is an opportunity to get food in a safe outdoor environment, more people are coming to the market. We've gone from a weekend outing for some people to an absolutely vital part of what they need to do to sustain themselves.

One of the things we do at the Market is our CalFresh partnership, so people with EBT cards can get tokens to spend in the market like cash. This program has been part of our market for many years, but we are seeing a dramatic increase in the number of people using their EBT cards during this pandemic. We recognize that more people are applying for food stamp assistance and it has been a true lifeline for people to redeem their credit for fresh produce.

WHY DO YOU LOVE WORKING IN SANTA MONICA?
I grew up in Santa Monica and moved to Arizona for several years where I had a nice career in parks and recreation, before coming home to be back close to family. One of the things I love about Santa Monica is that it's a City that is always looking at itself to improve or change along with what is happening in our society and is not afraid to try new things that haven't been tried before. I love the community, especially my Pico Market where people know each other, talk to each other and look out for each other.

WHAT DRIVES YOU TO KEEP WORKING HARD THROUGH THE CHALLENGES OF THIS YEAR?
There are a lot of things: the farmers who are so grateful and work so hard to provide food for people; the people who attend the farmers markets and are extremely grateful; our amazing team as we are working tirelessly to support each other; and our volunteers. We are utilizing sometimes twelve volunteers who show up in the middle of all this with smiles on their faces. They are not getting paid; they are not doing it for any other reason than they love this community and without them our small little team would never be able to do it.

Clara@smdp.com

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

County launches business assistance program

The Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) has launched a new online resource to help businesses large and small navigate through economic uncertainty and prepare them for a post-COVID-19 economy. The BizHelp Program will offer support and resources via a series of online webinars starting January 12, 2021.

The BizHelp Program is available to all businesses in the County of Los Angeles and is offered free of charge. The LACDA has teamed up with three local technical assistance providers – Acelera Advisory Group, Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment, and Vermont Slauson Economic Development Corporation – to host webinars that will cover various topics such as tips for successfully securing financial resources, operating post COVID-19, understanding basics in accounting and bookkeeping, and improving credit for business owners. Registration is required to participate.

"Local small businesses in the County of Los Angeles continue to face obstacles when it comes to securing resources," said Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Hilda L. Solis, Supervisor to the First District. "By lifting up this sector, we can spur innovation, bring back jobs, preserve community character, encourage development, and ensure generational prosperity. I urge our small business community to take advantage of the LACDA's new BizHelp Program which will provide technical assistance and offer support in navigating these uncertain times."

"The County is doing all it can to provide a variety of tools to businesses impacted by recent events. The BizHelp Program provides professional advice and guidance to prepare business owners to move their business forward and reach their future goals," said Emilio Salas, Executive Director, LACDA.

Registration is now open. Webinars begin on January 12, 2021. Businesses interested in participating or requiring further information can visit bizhelp.lacda.org.

SUBMITTED BY LACDA

Citywide

Black Community Leaders and City of Santa Monica to Host Virtual Forum on Advancing Anti-Racism on January 28

The City of Santa Monica is collaborating with Black community leaders to host a virtual forum titled "Courageous Conversations: Why Black Lives Matter" on Thursday, January 28, 2021, from 6 - 8 p.m. The event will explore ways that community members can work together to advance anti-racism in Santa Monica.

The virtual forum will feature a panel discussion with Los Angeles Times columnist Erika D. Smith and author and political analyst Earl Ofari Hutchinson. The pair will discuss their experiences covering social justice issues and perspectives about how change can be made within communities. The conversation will touch upon the history of the Black community in Santa Monica as well as the legacy of systemic racism that continues to affect the Black community. Forum attendees will have the opportunity to submit questions for the panelists during the event.

Additionally, Black community leaders will formally introduce the public to the Black Agenda and the newly formed nonprofit, the Santa Monica Black Lives Association, with a mission aimed at promoting the wellbeing of the Black community and working toward a more just and equitable Santa Monica. The forum will also include a special spoken word performance by mental health entrepreneur, author and speaker Nakeya T. Fields.

The panel discussion will be facilitated by longtime Santa Monica resident Karen S. Gunn, Ph.D., an advocate for social justice and founding member of the Santa Monica Black Agenda. "This forum provides a wonderful opportunity to drop some knowledge and share the vision of the Black Agenda," said Dr. Gunn. "We will explore the urgent, undeniable necessity for reckoning with the systemic racial inequities in our city's history and currently. It is my hope that it will build awareness, empathy and expand the community's commitment to social justice and change."

The forum will be opened by Barry Snell, a founding member of the Black Agenda, and Mayor Sue Himmelrich with remarks from Mayor Pro Tem Kristin McCowan.

"I encourage every member of our community to jump on this opportunity to be part of an insightful dialogue that is steeped in our own painful Santa Monica history," said Mayor Pro Tem McCowan. "Let's continue the positive momentum for racial justice we unified around last summer and support the Santa Monica Black Lives Association as they, with the City, lead us forward."

View biographies and photos of Erika D. Smith, Earl Ofari Hutchinson, Karen Gunn, Ph.D., and Nakeya T. Fields on Eventbrite.

Please register and learn more at www.eventbrite.com/e/135390674151. The forum will be livestreamed on CityTV Channel 16 and the City's YouTube channel.

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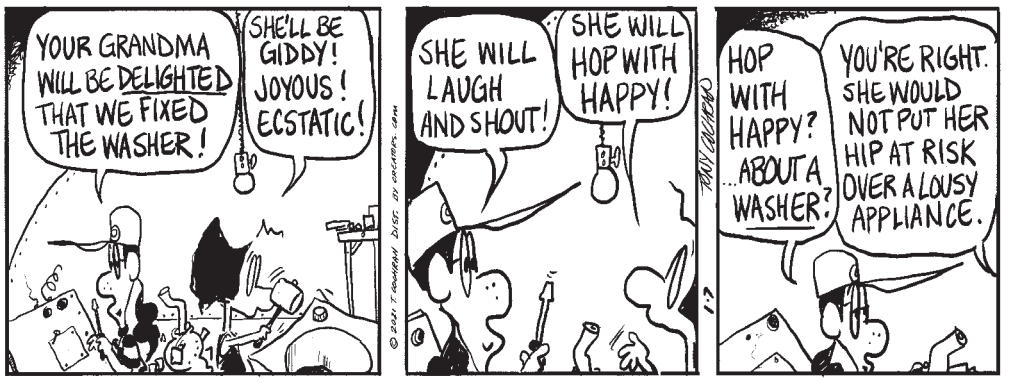
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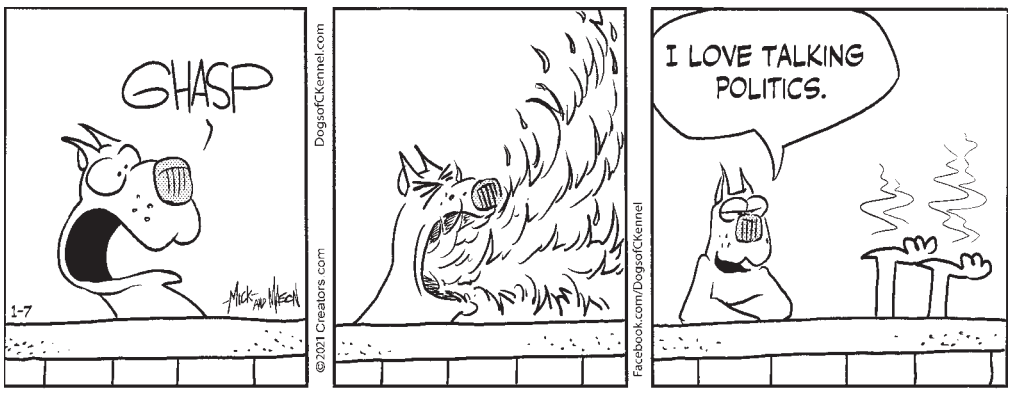
Agnes

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: 57.7°

THURSDAY - **FAIR TO GOOD** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high
Steep new NW swell to build in through the day.

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-5ft Waist to head high
Another good size NW swell builds late in the day.

WEATHER

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 68.
Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 50.
Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 65.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/01/07	Thu	04:06 AM	5.12	H
2021/01/07	Thu	11:10 AM	0.95	L
2021/01/07	Thu	4:52 PM	3.15	H
2021/01/07	Thu	10:04 PM	1.53	L
2021/01/08	Fri	04:54 AM	5.62	H
2021/01/08	Fri	12:12 PM	0.08	L
2021/01/08	Fri	6:21 PM	3.25	H
2021/01/08	Fri	11:02 PM	1.81	L
2021/01/09	Sat	05:42 AM	6.08	H
2021/01/09	Sat	1:05 PM	-0.68	L
2021/01/09	Sat	7:28 PM	3.48	H
2021/01/09	Sat	11:58 PM	1.97	L
2021/01/10	Sun	06:29 AM	6.46	H
2021/01/10	Sun	1:51 PM	-1.24	L
2021/01/10	Sun	8:20 PM	3.69	H
2021/01/11	Mon	12:50 AM	2.02	L
2021/01/11	Mon	07:15 AM	6.71	H
2021/01/11	Mon	2:35 PM	-1.57	L
2021/01/11	Mon	9:04 PM	3.84	H
2021/01/12	Tue	01:39 AM	2.00	L
2021/01/12	Tue	07:59 AM	6.79	H

DAILY LOTTERY

Powerball
Draw Date: 1/2
3 4 11 41 67
Power#: 5
Jackpot: 410 M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 1/5
20 43 51 55 57
Mega#: 4
Jackpot: 490 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 1/2
11 19 35 40 46
Mega#: 18
Jackpot: 9 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/5
3 9 13 17 38

Daily 3
Draw Date: 1/5
EVENING: 5 8 5
Draw Date: 1/5
MIDDAY: 4 9 4

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 1/5
1st: 07 - Eureka
2nd: 10 - Solid Gold
3rd: 08 - Gorgeous George
Race Time: 1:49.19

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

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (JANUARY 07)

Think back to the things that didn't work out – jobs you didn't get, situations that didn't celebrate you. This year represents the sweetest turnaround. You'll be lauded for uniqueness. You'll make a difference by the original way you solve problems. Truly, you'll later point to this year when you need a reference for when it all went right. Aries and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 24, 21, 29 and 13.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Even though there is no one better qualified than you to enhance your reputation, reputations are always the domain of other people. Still, you'll find subtle ways to get them to sing your praises.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The moment something major is going on for someone you care about is your time to shine as a supporter and true friend. This is not that. This is preparation for that. Gather your statements and talking points.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your intuitive inklings will be correct. You'll bet on a hunch and win. Said "bet" may be made with money but will more likely be an investment of time, attention and heart.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Lightheartedness has a time and place — maybe most of the time and a good percentage of the places. Today, though, you'll dig into your more serious purposes. This is it. Bring the grit.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Leave space for the other person to express his or her heart, soul and being. You'll learn. You'll be delighted — and baffled. Leaving space, allowing the air to go dead, is a kind of invitation.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Frustration gets misplaced. The problem with the vacuum cleaner is released on the dog, etc. Knowing this, you don't take things personally when someone you love is in an edgy state.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). At any given moment, you exist in several worlds and times. You're recalling the pertinent information of yesterday, nudging tomorrow in a direction, sitting with mixed reviews.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The friends who told you that you were on the rise were met with your skeptical eyes. But here you are, risen, to a degree — not the ultimate degree you will grow, but you're getting there. Take it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Shakespeare's Henry VI said, "Of all base passions, fear is most accursed." But fear doesn't have to turn into a passion. Nip it in the bud. Face it when it's small.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Thinking of other people — sometimes you think it's a lost art. You don't know why, considering you think of other people all the live-long day. You'll be delighted tonight by the proof that someone is thinking of you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your truth will be requested by people who want to know where you stand. People making plans based on your truth, well, it's one way to go, though you'd prefer they wait a minute so you can figure it out organically.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll help another make a psychological jump. You've been there, and you made that leap with your sheer force of will, or by the challenge of those who really know how to get under your skin.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

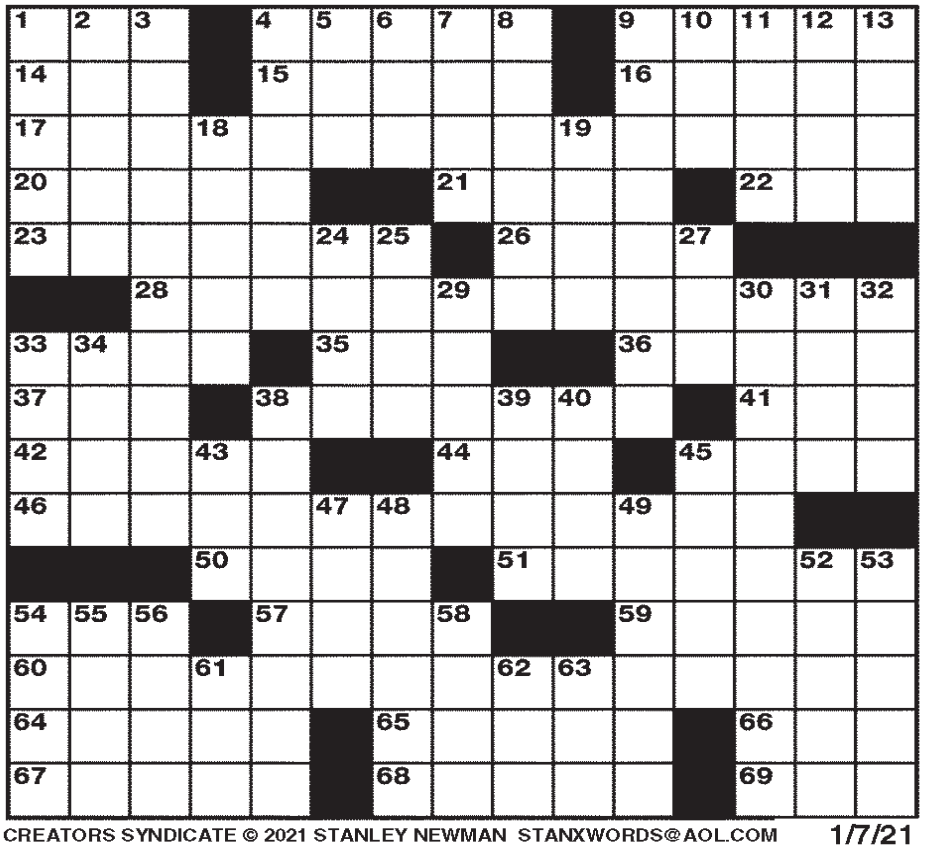
7	9		5					6
8	1	3		7			9	
5		6	9	3			7	
					1	2		4
	2						6	
4		1	6					
	8			6	7	4		3
	7			4		6	2	9
3					9		1	8

Newsday Crossword

FOLLOW THE SIGNS by Steve Mossberg
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 "I should have known that!"
4 Light melodies
9 Outward appearance
14 Case workers' grp.
15 Nonreactive, as elements
16 City near the Great Salt Lake
17 FIRST SIGN
20 Sported
21 Bubbly brand
22 Pro follower
23 Wasting no time
26 Motown's "Prince of Soul"
28 SECOND SIGN
33 Pressure prefix
35 End of an Amherst address
36 Not sanitary
37 *Moonlight* Oscar winner
38 Our soccer squad
41 Outward appearance
42 Common sonata movement
44 "Dude"
45 "External" beginning
46 THIRD SIGN
50 *Beowulf* beverage
51 Turmoils
54 Science class, for short
57 Bakery tray array
59 Lexus rival
60 FOURTH SIGN
64 Breadth
65 Leaf under a petal
66 Rug rat
67 Guitar or engine sound
68 "You shouldn't have!"
69 Where waters are taken

DOWN
1 Russian retreat
2 WWII sub
3 Bit of circular acrobatics
4 One with a mortgage
5 Useful connections
6 Allow
7 In good shape
8 Straight-line speaker
9 Exercise regimen with kids (really!)
10 Reaction to a bad pun
11 Inspiration
12 Tailor's creation
13 Leftovers
18 Start getting paid to play
19 With everything in place
24 Sporting sword
25 Bit of baby talk
27 Jargon suffix
29 Cuban music
30 Jogging attire
31 Fail to mention
32 Fire starter
33 Stinging comment
34 Lotion ingredient
38 Story-telling orchestral piece
39 Language of Pakistan
40 Spread in a field
43 Barely seen
45 Standing tall
47 Poncho weather
48 Port of Ukraine
49 Ancient visionary
52 Group on a scouting outing
53 Late-fall mall temp
54 Outclass
55 Measure of 47 Down
56 Telltale sign
58 Slow-cooked dinner
61 PC's brain
62 Deck-and-dice fantasy, for short
63 OPEC state



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Binary Puzzle

Each cell should contain a zero or a one. No more than two similar numbers below or next to each other are allowed. Each row and each column is unique and contains as many zeros as ones.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1
0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0
0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1
0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0

				0				0			
			0				1				
							1	1		1	1
	0							1			
						0			0		0
	1										
0		0	0			1		0		1	1
0	1				0		1		1	1	
			1								
1	0		1	1			0		0		0
	0				0		0		0		



"The City of Bell spectacle is what happens to communities without their own old-fashioned, diligent news coverage." - Terry Francke, Journalist

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smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

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 24 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 4986

Stage play

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

Actor	Epic	Mature	Romantic
Amaze	Exit	Method	Scary
Arena	Farce	Music	Scene
Aria	Film	Nervous	Sing
Aside	Foyer	Open	Stage
Beckett	Gags	Ovation	Thespian
Cast	Hero	Poster	Trap
Chase	Humour	Props	Tune
Cheer	Ibsen	Rabbit	Unit
Circle	Magic	Reel	Vanish
Clap	Make-up	Rest	Wigs
Concerto	Mask	Revues	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Requires skill and agility

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Hospitals struggle to keep up in COVID-19 hotspot California

BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press

California is so swamped by coronavirus cases that the state has ordered those with room to accept patients from others that have maxed out on intensive care beds.

The public health order issued late Tuesday is the latest attempt by authorities in the nation's most populous state to confront a surge in coronavirus infections and hospitalizations, a deteriorating situation that could worsen before it gets better, as gatherings during the recent holidays possibly accelerate cases.

The order, which will last three weeks, could result in patients being shipped to Northern California from Southern California and the agricultural San Joaquin Valley, where 14 counties were ordered to delay nonessential "and non-life threatening" surgeries in order to provide beds. The directive also applies to any county where ICU capacity to treat COVID-19 patients is bottoming out.

"If we continue to see an alarming increase of COVID-19 patient admissions at hospitals statewide, some facilities may not be able to provide the critical and necessary care Californians need, whether those patients have COVID-19 or another medical condition," said Dr. Tomás J. Aragón, the state's public health officer.

The order could be a bellwether for California, where officials have warned that some hospitals may have to start rationing care if the expected post-holiday surge in COVID-19 cases overwhelms the health care system.

For much of the year, the state did the right things to avoid a catastrophe. But now the virus is raging and California remains at or near the top of the list of states with the most newly confirmed cases per capita. Even with vaccines being administered, albeit slowly, it is expected to take many more weeks to quell the contagion.

Martin Luther King Jr. Community Hospital in Los Angeles, where patients are being housed in its former gift shop, a chapel, tents and hallways, had more COVID-19 patients on Tuesday than its total capacity. The hospital, which serves a largely Black and Latino population in the south part of the city, has a capacity of 131 patients but was treating 215 patients, 135 with COVID-19, said Jeff Stout, interim chief nursing and operating officer.

The hospital was emblematic of the worsening situation in Los Angeles County, the nation's most populous with about 10 million residents. A COVID-19 surge has created a shortage of oxygen and led to a directive to ambulance crews in the county to stop transporting patients they can't revive in the field.

Dr. Marc Eckstein, medical director and emergency medical services commander of the Los Angeles Fire Department, said transporting someone without a pulse gives families false hope, takes the ambulance out of service, exposes workers to COVID-19 and requires decontaminating the vehicle.

"To be clear, we're not asking first responders to decide who lives and who dies," Eckstein said. "These are people who are clinically dead."

Los Angeles continues to see hospitalizations rise day after day, setting a new record Tuesday with almost 8,000 hospitalized and more than a fifth of those in ICU. The county, which accounts for a quarter of California's 40 million residents, has more than 40% of the state's 27,000 coronavirus deaths.

Some hospitals have had to close their doors at times because they've become so overwhelmed, leaving ambulances waiting up to eight hours and diverting others to different emergency rooms.

Stout said Martin Luther King hospital was finalizing its crisis standards of care, which are guidelines for rationing treatment when staff, medicine and equipment are in short supply.

"We're not there yet," Stout said. "Every day, every hour we're trying to avoid going into crisis care. The ultimate goal with crisis care is never to get there."

The state on Tuesday formally requested that 500 federal medical personnel be deployed in California to help staff hospitals and skilled nursing homes after learning that the USNS Mercy Hospital ship, which docked off Los Angeles earlier in the year for overflow patients, was in dry dock and would not be returning.

In the San Joaquin Valley, Fresno County's top doctor said he was watching what's happening in L.A. County closely as he prepares for a seemingly inevitable surge stemming from people who ignored social distancing rules to gather for Christmas and New Year's Eve celebrations.

"I'm very worried that we are going to see an uptick in the number of hospitalizations and deaths related to gathering that happened over the holidays," said Dr. Rais Vohra, the county public health department's interim health officer.

Vohra said the county hopes to "scale up an army of vaccinators" to get people immunized as quickly as possible, starting with hospital staff, but one hurdle will be convincing people to get the vaccine.

There are some polls that show about 50% of people in the county "aren't ready for the vaccine at this time" and are waiting to see if there are any side effects, said Joe Prado, community health division manager for Fresno County.

In San Diego County, public health authorities reported 24 confirmed new cases of the more contagious strain of COVID-19 and four probable cases. The findings announced late Tuesday bring the county's total of confirmed cases of the variant to 28.

Authorities said the newly confirmed patients are believed to have no travel history, come from 19 different households and four different parts of the region.

Public health officer Dr. Wilma Wooten said the fact that cases have been identified in multiple areas shows that the new strain could be rapidly spreading.

Associated Press reporters Christopher Weber and John Antczak contributed.

PROTEST

FROM PAGE 1

president, Mike Pence — waving his fist in front of a thick, ornate curtain designed to summon the trappings of democracy.

This was not "the peaceful transfer of power" so lionized by the American tradition. Not even remotely. "This," Republican Sen. Pat Toomey of Pennsylvania said, "is an absolute disgrace."

The United States on Wednesday seemed at risk of becoming the very kind of country it has so often insisting it was helping: a fragile democracy.

"This is not dissent," Biden said in a televised address. "It's disorder. It's chaos."

Part of the point of building magnificent structures like the Capitol in the first place was to erect actual physical representations of an abstract system of government — deliberate, solid edifices as immutable and inviolable as their people hope the democracy itself will be.

So to see wooden furniture used as a barricade to keep American rioters out of an American congressional chamber, to watch Americans shattering American windows gazed through by who knows which American luminaries across the decades — that somehow spoke of something more, something deeper.

No matter what side you're on, the day's events underscored that the functioning monuments of a nation of laws — and even the very site where those laws come into being — could be upended by a group of its own people if they were angry enough and determined enough.

"Politics has become such a cultural divide in this country, and this is reflective of that," said Will James, a 56-year-old Republican-leaning real estate developer in Georgia who did not vote for Trump but backed his state's Republican candidates for the Senate. He watched the day's events and was shocked — but felt it had been approaching this point for a long time.

"We've lost a sense of common national purpose," James said. "People are all mad at their country. I don't think we've ever been here before. And I don't know how a republic survives long-term with those deep divisions."

In a fleeting message recorded from the White House, less than two miles away, Trump continued to foment those divisions. As Wednesday's chaos continued to unfold, he said a number of things, many of them inaccurate. At least one, though, was utterly true and hard to challenge: "There's never been a time like this."

But is this truly an inflection point, or simply another escalation — one in a series that has unfolded so gradually in recent years that the unimaginable of 2015 has become the merely repetitive in 2021? Is this the final gasp of something linked to the current administration, or the emergence of something that will become a dominant strand in the national DNA for decades?

"It seems like a different country, in one of those places where coups happen," said Bev Jackson, chair of the Democratic Party's Cobb County African American caucus in Georgia, where two Democrats won U.S. Senate seats in runoff elections Tuesday.

"I think people have feared a moment like this might be coming," Jackson said. "It's really sad and it's really tragic but I think people have been bracing themselves for this."

All over American television and on social networks were different permutations of the same statement: This isn't what America is. But what if it is? Indeed, many Americans who watched it all had similar how-could-this-happen-here reactions, echoed by newscasters and interviewees who used phrases like "banana republic" and the more unfortunate "like a third-world nation."

It raises the question: What on Earth does this look like abroad, where the United States has long positioned itself as a fixer of such things?

"I feel like I'm watching an American film," said Laurie Pezeron, the founder of a Black literature book club who lives in the suburbs of Paris. "I just hope it doesn't end up with a civil war."

Which brings us back to the Senate, shortly before it was infiltrated by intruders. Debating the objection to Arizona's balloting, Democratic Sen. Amy Klobuchar, an early 2020 candidate for president, had cited Benjamin Franklin's renowned (and probably actually uttered) words: "A republic, if you can keep it."

Barely an hour later, chaos had the floor.

Associated Press journalists Claire Galofaro in Louisville, Kentucky, and John Leicester in Paris contributed to this report.

AWARDS

FROM PAGE 1

forms to submit the names of prospective honorees and families stories.

"We want people to nominate black professionals who live in Santa Monica or who work in Santa Monica, who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and outstanding service to the community," Gbenekama said. "I think it's really important to highlight people who are doing great work in the community because they may not necessarily be in the spotlight all the time even though their efforts certainly make them worthy of attention," she added. "So, anybody can nominate anyone you know who fits these requirements. We just ask that you fill out a form that will help us get a really detailed explanation about why the person should be nominated to be honored."

Following last year's event, there was a lot of feedback from community members who said they were so happy to be part of an event like this, "so we knew we had to do it again because it feels great to have an event like this and hear how much it means to people," Gbenekama said. "We are elated to continue sharing and reflecting on Black History — an essential part of American history — with the Santa Monica community again in 2021. It's a time to honor many of the unnamed heroes, including influential family figures, who have uplifted the Black community and paved the way for people like me and future generations."

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