smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

WEDNESDAY
01.27.21
Volume 20 Issue 63

Life Sentence
Suspect was arrested for attempted rape.
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Covid Anniversary
Public Health says prevention efforts still necessary.
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Lincoln Middle School evacuated due to bomb threat

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Around 20 adults were evacuated from Lincoln Middle School campus at approximately 12:50 p.m. on Tuesday due to a bomb threat received via email.

Members of the Santa Monica Police Department searched the perimeter and grounds at 1501 California Ave. and did not locate any device or suspicious items.

The perimeter was temporarily closed to pedestrians and vehicular access and reported as clear at 1:55 p.m., according to SMPD Public Information Officer Rudy Flores.

The bomb threat email was received by a Lincoln Middle School staff member at around 11:45 am, according to Flores. This individual called the police at 12:45 p.m. and a team was immediately dispatched to the site.

The initial investigation was conducted by patrol officers and the Unarmed Aircraft System team who utilized drones to search the area.

"A report will be written with whatever information the officers come up with and evidence they find. All that will be relayed and forwarded to the detectives in the Criminal Investigation Division to conduct a follow up," said Flores.

Evacuated individuals included teachers who were conducting distance learning from their classrooms. These teachers' classes were canceled for the rest of the day. No students were on campus at the time.

SMMUSD Superintendent Ben Drati sent an email to Santa Monica families, staff, and community members alerting them to the incident at 1:32 p.m., after on-campus personnel were evacuated.

Evacuated personnel were allowed to reenter campus once SMPD reported the area as clear. SMMUSD community members were altered that the area was safe via a follow up email at 2:37 p.m.

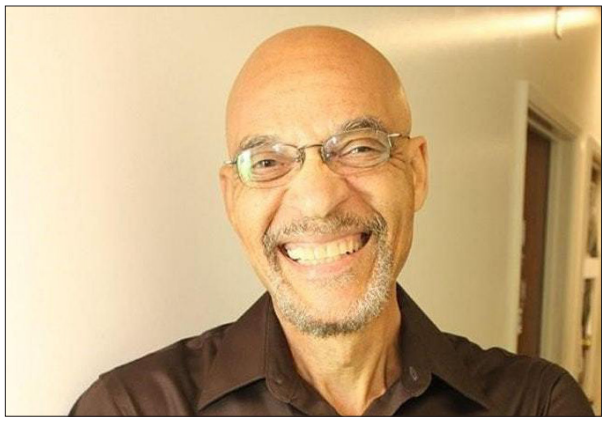
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Courtesy photo

SCHOOL: No students were on the campus when a threat was made.

Community invited to 'Courageous Conversations: Why Black Lives Matter'





Courtesy photo

SPEAKERS: Earl Ofari Hutchinson and Erika Smith are among the participants in the upcoming event.

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica and surrounding Westside communities have grappled with issues pertaining to racial justice for decades. And local Black leaders feel the region cannot move forward without dialogue, so the public is invited to "Courageous Conversations: Why Black Lives Matter," this Thursday at 6 p.m.

Tickets to Thursday's event are free, but residents must register online at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/courageous-conversations-why-black-lives-matter-tickets-135390674151 to receive a link to attend.

Along with a special spoken word performance by mental health entrepreneur, author and speaker Nakeya T. Fields, the community forum will feature a panel discussion with Los Angeles Times columnist Erika Smith and nationally renowned political analyst Earl Ofari Hutchinson. During the two-hour conversation, Smith and Hutchinson are expected to discuss their experiences covering social

SEE **COMMUNITY** PAGE 11

Boys and Girls Club to honor 2021 Youth of the Year

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

At 4 p.m. on Friday, seven brave young leaders will be taking the virtual stage at the Santa Monica Boys & Girls Club's 2021 Youth of the Year award ceremony.

While only one winner will be selected, all candidates have traveled a long road from shy young children who first entered the center to confident and articulate public speakers and leaders.

"It's an enormous undertaking, and I'm very proud of all our members for being brave enough to recognize how far they've come and being willing to put themselves out there and expose their stories and their lives to strangers," said Logan Fricke, SMBGC teen coordinator.

SEE **YOUTH** PAGE 11



Courtesy photo

AWARD: Salvador Molina won the award in 2018.



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California to take more control over slow vaccine delivery

AMY TAXIN AND JANIE HAR
Associated Press

Facing widespread criticism for its slow vaccine rollout, California is revamping its delivery system mid-stride by centralizing its hodgepodge of county systems and streamlining appointment sign-up, notification, and eligibility for its 40 million residents.

Gov. Gavin Newsom on Tuesday named Yolanda Richardson as secretary of the government operations agency that will spearhead operations and delivery, the state announced in advance of a noon news briefing. Richardson will work with private third party administrators, as yet unnamed, to decide where the state's supply of vaccine should go as the federal supply ramps up to meet demand.

The change means counties and hospital networks — which have been scheduling appointments and determining eligibility under broad state guidance — will move at a more uniform pace. Residents have been baffled by the varying systems as some counties will vaccinate people 65 and older while others are limited to the more restrictive 75 and up.

"Our state and county public health leaders have done the important groundwork to get California's vaccination plan up and running and we are grateful to them and will continue to partner with them," said Newsom. "We have learned that to accelerate pace we need to dial up the scale of our efforts to ensure vaccine supply goes into arms as quickly as it arrives in the state."

California has been dinged for vaccinating so few people even amid a national vaccine shortage that appears to be the main limiting factor. It has administered more than 2.4 million of 4.5 million doses shipped.

It wasn't immediately clear how the change will affect giant vaccination sites at places like LA's Dodger Stadium and Orange County's Disneyland, which have been inoculating thousands of people a day. It's also unclear how the move will affect people who have received first doses but still require second shots.

California has said healthcare, education and childcare, emergency service and food and agriculture workers, as well as anyone 65 and older, are eligible for vaccines.

The third party administrator or administrators will allocate vaccines directly to providers, which will include county public health systems, pharmacies, health systems, public hospitals, community health centers, pharmacies and pop-up sites.

Dr. Chris Farnitano, health officer for the San Francisco Bay Area county of Contra Costa, said they're seeking details about the new arrangement, but expects county public health offices to continue playing a major role. Counties know the makeup of its residents best, and provide health care to people who lack insurance or who are underinsured.

"The local health departments are still going to be the main on the ground provider of vaccine to the community. Hopefully, this will be better coordination at the state level and maybe bringing in additional partners," he said.

On Monday, Newsom caught counties by surprise when he abruptly lifted stay-home orders that covered much of the state.

The state has also launched a website called "My Turn" where people can sign up to be notified when they are eligible for a vaccine and to schedule appointments.

More people will become eligible for vaccines in the future based on age, the state health agency said in a statement.



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Public Health Marks One-Year Anniversary of First COVID-19 Case by Urging Everyone to Comply with Preventive Measures

One year ago, Public Health announced its first case of coronavirus in Los Angeles County. Since then, over 1 million cases have been reported and nearly 16,000 deaths; January is trending to be the deadliest month in the pandemic. And while this virus is still novel and researchers continue to learn new details about COVID-19, one thing we know for certain is how it spreads and how to prevent its spread. Residents are urged not to gather in crowds, stay home when you are sick, wear a face covering and maintain physical distance from others when outside your home.

The State lifted the Regional Stay Home Order and moved all counties back into the Blueprint for a Safer Economy color-coded tiers. Los Angeles County, along with the majority of the State, is in the most restrictive purple tier. With the lifting of the Regional Stay Home Order, the Los Angeles County Health Officer Order that was issued on Nov. 25 is now in effect until a new Health Officer Order is issued later this week to more fully align with the sector openings permitted in the purple tier.

With the lifting of the State's Order, several sectors are allowed to resume operations. Businesses are urged to adhere to safety protocols and specific sector guidance in order to protect both employees and customers. Public Health's compliance teams continue to visit businesses across the County every day. Inspectors review Public Health protocols with business owners, identify deficiencies, and issue citations for businesses out of compliance.

During Public Health's recent business compliance checks, inspectors noted that while the majority of businesses were in compliance with most of the Public Health protocols, some businesses failed to ensure employees and patrons were appropriately distanced, and wearing face coverings, were not adequately cleaning and sanitizing surfaces, or did not post their completed protocols for reopening. From January 18 through January 24, a total of 74 citations were issued to businesses including restaurants, gyms, personal care salons, hair salons/barbershops, and shopping malls for noncompliance with Health Officer Orders. Since the end of August, a total of 761 citations have been issued.

Businesses that are not adhering to safety protocols to protect workers and customers contribute to increased risk for COVID-19 spread. A list of non-compliant businesses that received citations can be found online.

Residents continue to be advised to stay home as much as possible and always wear a face covering over their nose and mouth when they are outside their household and around others.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) confirmed 291 new deaths and 5,927 new cases of COVID-19. To date, Public Health identified 1,085,044 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County and a total of 15,592 deaths.

Of the 280 new deaths reported, 91 people that passed away were over the age of 80, 99 people who died were between the ages of 65 and 79, 69 people who died were between the ages of 50 and 64, 17 people who died were between the ages of 30 and 49 and three people who died were between the ages of 18 and 29. Eleven deaths were reported by the City of Pasadena.

Testing results are available for nearly 5,410,000 individuals with 19% of people testing positive. Today's daily test positivity rate is 12.0%. There are 6,307 people with COVID-19 currently hospitalized and 25% of these people are in the ICU.

"Today, as we mark the one-year anniversary of the first COVID-19 case in L.A. County, we remember the many people who died from COVID-19 over the past year and the many families that will forever be healing from their loss. May you find peace today and always," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "COVID-19 transmission remains very high in Los Angeles County. And while we issued a new health order that allows some businesses to reopen, this does not mean that we have stopped the spread of the virus. The simple fact of the matter is that if we are not more careful than we have been in the past when sectors have reopened, case counts will rise again, creating the possibility of another surge. I know we've been battling this virus for a year now and all of us are tired of the restrictions, but we need to continue to be vigilant for a while longer."

Los Angeles County's COVID-19 Vaccine website, VaccinateLACounty.com has incorporated the State's new appointment registration platform, MyTurn. The registration system features a streamlined process for residents eligible to receive the vaccine. The system lets residents know if they are currently eligible and, if they are, can help find and book appointments that are available in their area. The site also alerts people who registered to when appointments open up, or when vaccinations are opening up to additional priority groups. Currently, MyTurn will make appointments for our five large capacity sites as well as two other county-operated vaccination sites. Appointments for all other locations, such as pharmacies and clinics, are also available on our website. Unfortunately, with limited vaccine supply, there are not enough appointments available to meet demand.

Residents with internet access and a computer are urged to use VaccinateLACounty.com to sign up for an appointment. For those without access to a computer or the internet, or with disabilities, a call center is open daily from 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. to help schedule appointments at 833-540-0473. The phone line is reserved for people with disabilities or who don't have a computer or internet access.

The Reopening Protocols, COVID-19 Surveillance Interactive Dashboard, Roadmap to Recovery, Recovery Dashboard, and additional things you can do to protect yourself, your family and your community are on the Public Health website, www.publichealth.lacounty.gov.

SUBMITTED BY PUBLIC HEALTH

Potent atmospheric river storm heading toward California

JOHN ANTCZAK AND OLGA RODRIGUEZ
Associated Press

A potent atmospheric river barreled toward California on Tuesday, bringing the threat of downpours that could unleash destructive debris flows from wildfire burn scars as well as a heavy dump of snow from blizzard conditions in the Sierra Nevada.

Evacuation orders were in issued in Santa Cruz and San Mateo counties around the area scorched by a complex of wildfires ignited by lightning last August. The state Office of Emergency Services positioned strike teams and task forces in five counties.

"If you have not already heeded local county advice don't wait any longer. This morning is the time to act and prepare if you`re near a burn area," the National Weather Service office for the San Francisco Bay Area wrote.

The atmospheric river — a huge plume of moisture extending over the Pacific — was expected to be preceded by lighter prefrontal rain before intensifying Tuesday evening, hitting the North Bay first, then spreading south to Santa Cruz, Monterey and Big Sur.

"Overnight rain late Tuesday and early Wednesday is expected to meet or exceed thresholds for potential debris flow events," Santa Cruz County tweeted.

Debris flows — torrents carrying massive boulders, soil, trees and other objects — are considered more dangerous than mudslides or landslides. The Jan. 9, 2018, debris flow that blasted the Santa Barbara County community of Montecito killed 23 people.

Flash flood watches were issued for two other Northern California areas scorched by lightning complexes, and snow was forecast to fall as low as the floor of the Sacramento Valley. Travel was more than just discouraged in the mountains above the valley.

The National Weather Service issued a rare blizzard warning for Lake Tahoe and much of the Sierra, forecasting up to 6 feet of snow falling on upper elevations and winds gusting in excess of 100 mph over ridgetops.

Describing it as a potential "life-threatening situation," the warning was to be in effect from 10 p.m. Tuesday through 4 a.m. Friday for the Tahoe area as far south as Mammoth Lakes, California.

A warning was also issued for widespread high avalanche danger on the eastern slopes of the Sierra because of heavy snow combining with wind from before dawn Wednesday through Friday morning.

"We cannot stress this enough," the California Department of Transportation tweeted. "If you have not arrived to your destination before sunset tonight, travel to the Sierra is not advised. Heavy snow is on tap and whiteout conditions are expected."

Meanwhile, icy conditions in mountains north of Los Angeles shut vital Interstate 5 in Tejon Pass until early afternoon. Some truckers tried old narrow mountain roads around the closure and became stuck. In the same region, State Route 58 in Tehachapi Pass reopened at late morning after an overnight closure.

In the Sierra Nevada, the closure of Yosemite National Park was extended to at least Jan. 30. The park sustained heavy damage more than a week ago when it was battered by fierce winds that swept through California before the onset of the current storms.

Antczak reported from Los Angeles. Associated Press writer Scott Sonner contributed from Reno, Nevada.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 29 CALLS ON JANUARY 25

EMS 800blk Cedar St 4:18 a.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Arizona Ave 4:29 a.m.
EMS 1300blk Pico Blvd 5:10 a.m.
EMS 1000blk 11th St 6:33 a.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 1400blk Ocean Ave 7:43 a.m.
Carbon Monoxide Alarm 2200blk Hill St 8:26 a.m.
EMS 800blk Ocean Ave 8:29 a.m.
EMS 2200blk 24th St 10:08 a.m.
EMS 800blk 6th St 10:35 a.m.
EMS 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 11:36 a.m.
EMS 400blk San Vicente Blvd 11:50 a.m.
Flooded Condition 900blk 24th St 12:49 p.m.
EMS 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 1:07 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Cloverfield Blvd / Colorado Ave 1:36 p.m.
EMS 400blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:38 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 20th St 4:00 p.m.
EMS 1000blk 11th St 4:06 p.m.
EMS 3000blk Margaret Lane 4:09 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 15th St 4:12 p.m.
EMS 2400blk 6th St 4:16 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 200blk 22nd St 4:19 p.m.
Wires Down 2200blk Ashland Ave 7:23 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 200blk San Vicente Blvd 7:48 p.m.
Structure Fire 14th St / Georgina Ave 8:29 p.m.
EMS 300blk Santa Monica Pl 8:35 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 8:42 p.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 700blk Pico Blvd 9:05 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 9:49 p.m.
EMS 2600blk 28th St 11:44 p.m.

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION
Santa Monica Daily Press
editor@smdp.com

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 212 CALLS ON JANUARY 25

Family Disturbance 2400blk Virginia Ave 12:02 a.m.
Petty Theft Now 2300blk 14th St 12:22 a.m.
Health & Safety Code Violation 500blk Colorado Ave 1:29 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2000blk Pico Blvd 3:34 a.m.
Violation Of Temporary No Parking Signs 1300blk Franklin St 6:23 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1900blk Lincoln Blvd 6:43 a.m.
Fight 100blk Colorado Ave 6:55 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 900blk Ocean Ave 7:13 a.m.
Violation Of Temporary No Parking Signs 2400blk Beverley Ave 7:24 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2300blk 28th St 7:30 a.m.
Encampment 1000blk 2nd St 7:51 a.m.
General Parking Problem 2400blk Beverley Ave 8:04 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1200blk Pine St 8:16 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 2600blk 23rd St 8:19 a.m.
Fraud Report 1500blk 4th St 8:27 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1600blk Berkeley St 8:37 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1400blk 5th St 8:57 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 2400blk Beverley Ave 9:08 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 1300blk Berkeley St 9:11 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 200blk Arizona Ave 9:34 a.m.
Encampment 400blk Interstate 10 9:47 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 26th St / Colorado Ave 10:02 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1200blk 16th St 10:03 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1300blk 14th St 10:05 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 26th St / Colorado Ave 10:10 a.m.
Death Investigation 2200blk 24th St 10:11 a.m.
Domestic Violence Now 2600blk Kansas Ave 10:16 a.m.
Burglary Report 2900blk Pico Blvd 10:19 a.m.
Encampment 1500blk 9th St 10:20 a.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 1700blk Idaho Ave 10:24 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 3100blk 17th St 10:26 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1400blk Yale St 10:28 a.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 1800blk Montana Ave 10:41 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1300blk 19th St 10:56 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1300blk 20th St 11:02 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 2800blk 25th St 11:07 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 11:13 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 700blk Hill St 11:20 a.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon Just Occurred 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 11:31 a.m.
Burglary Report 700blk Ashland Ave 11:56 a.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 2300blk Idaho Ave 12:13 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1600blk Lincoln Blvd 12:23 p.m.
Encampment 1800blk Main St 12:37 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 2900blk Pico Blvd 12:53 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 2000blk 14th St 1:17 p.m.
Encampment 800blk Palisades Park 1:19 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Now 600blk Wilshire Blvd 1:26 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries Cloverfield Blvd / Colorado Ave 1:36 p.m.
Fight 500blk Colorado Ave 1:46 p.m.
Found Property 300blk Olympic Dr 2:19 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 500blk Ashland Ave 2:40 p.m.
Injured Person 400blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:41 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 600blk Strand St 2:49 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 2900blk 3rd St 2:58 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 600blk Strand St 3:10 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1000blk 7th St 3:13 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1300blk 17th St 3:24 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 2200blk Virginia Ave 4:06 p.m.
Prowler Report 2600blk 6th St 4:39 p.m.
Vehicle Cite & Tow (Parking Problem) 1500blk 16th St 4:46 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1100blk 3rd St 5:09 p.m.
Burglary Report 900blk 3rd St 5:10 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 700blk Broadway 5:51 p.m.
Loitering 17th St / Colorado Ave 5:56 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 700blk Broadway 6:20 p.m.
Missing Person 3200blk Colorado Ave 6:26 p.m.
Grand Theft Just Occurred 800blk Wilshire Blvd 6:30 p.m.
Attempt Burglary Report 1200blk 9th St 6:41 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2200blk Lincoln Blvd 6:59 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 500blk Wilshire Blvd 7:16 p.m.
Encampment 800blk Montana Ave 7:41 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 500blk Wilshire Blvd 7:53 p.m.
Missing Person 2000blk Cloverfield Blvd 8:06 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 800blk 4th St 8:19 p.m.
Grand Theft Just Occurred 1100blk Pearl St 8:39 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 3200blk Wilshire Blvd 8:40 p.m.
Public Intoxication 2800blk Main St 8:45 p.m.
Found Property 2300blk 4th St 8:58 p.m.
Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 1500blk 19th St 9:02 p.m.
Death Investigation 1300blk 17th St 9:15 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2800blk Main St 9:37 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 300blk Santa Monica Pier 10:07 p.m.
Loitering 1100blk 6th St 10:14 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 300blk 24th St 10:29 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1800blk 7th St 10:51 p.m.
Runaway 2600blk Virginia Ave 10:54 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Just Occurred 2900blk Wilshire Blvd 11:45 p.m.



WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE BECAUSE OF THE CARELESSNESS OR NEGLIGENCE OF OTHERS.



Robert Lemle

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LEMLE LAW GROUP, PC

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Jenny Rice
jenny@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Brennon Dixson
brennon@smdp.com
Clara Harter
clara@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra.

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Achling Holliday
ross@smdp.com
Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

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

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WINNER



Curious City

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Teardown Steamroller Rolls On

YOU THINK 2020 WAS CRAZY

Buckle up for 2021. Don't ease up on your resilience or sense of humor yet. This year will hold some historic moments (already has). So maybe if we're prepared or anything, we can make it a positive journey.

It already has affected our lives in so many ways. Let's take a look at our city, the state and our nation. Just a few examples.

RECALL NEWSOM!

He rubs some people the wrong way, just for the excess hair gel. You can debate whether or not he's done a good or rotten job, in the face of a pandemic and the resultant economic collapse, and a Federal Government throwing stumbling blocks at CA, following the lead of the Orange Oaf. The LA Times reported that the recall effort has been fueled by QAnon and other conspiracy groups, including one affiliated with the lethal Proud Boys. Politics, rearing its very ugly head.

On the national front, you have the stunning scene of Republican legislators, whose very lives were threatened by the insurrection at the Capitol just three weeks ago, saying the idea of holding the former president accountable for his documented efforts to aid and abet the insurrection is "stupid." Let's just move on and heal a divided nation, say the folks who did their best these last four years to blow up those divides.

I don't think all politicians are bad actors. But certainly, too many of them. It affects our personal lives greatly. It's a huge challenge, to vote in only public servants and not feeders at the public trough.

IN SANTA MONICA

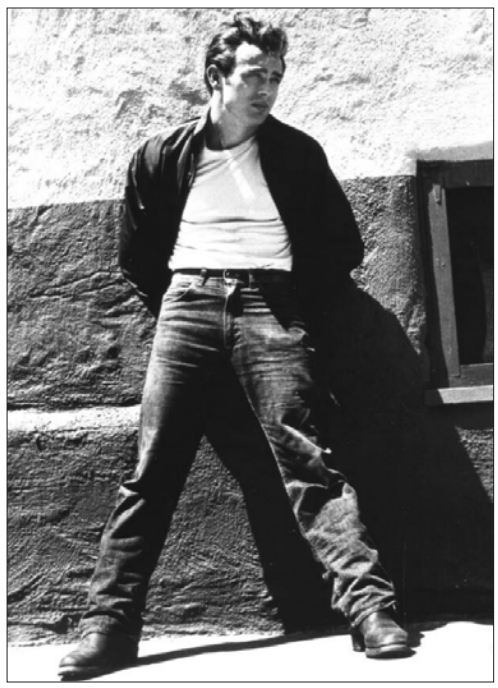
We have had City Councils, staff bureaucrats, and School Boards that are fiscally out of control. $2.5M toilets, $9M bus stop redesigns that are a joke, a $140M "world's greenest" office building that now needs more money for the new reality of office space in COVID. Way too many staff lawyers at sky high salaries. Running through school bonds literally in the billions, and soon asking for more. A pension time bomb of half a billion dollars.

This is my take on explaining the latest round of School Board excesses and errors, based on a lot of observation and information, most of it not known by the general public.

SMMUSD HAS A MASTER PLAN?

— for construction. They say. Haven't seen it. I'm sure there must be a master plan for instruction, but we haven't heard so much about that.

The man who oversees it all, and pushes the construction plan hard, is Carey Upton, the COO of SMMUSD. Formerly he was their Director of Facility Use where, according to his Linked In bio, he "developed the department from a one-person operation with a revenue



Courtesy photo

JAMES DEAN: Save Samohi!

of $80,000 annually to a thriving business managing all district facility use with a direct staff of 22 that earns $1.7 million annually... Created a unique entrepreneurial business that raises much needed capital."

That's impressive, and funding is always needed for our schools, but I think that's also the problem. You get people who become really good at generating cash, and then they overlook their original mission, ignoring detrimental consequences to the communities they are supposed to serve. All for the shiny resume. Dollars are the measure of success.

BEFORE COMING TO SMMUSD

Upton was manager at Los Angeles Theatre, where he "took an operation that averaged $300K annual to $1.9 Million in 21 months." Before that he taught Acting I and Directing I at the University of Maryland for less than four years — his only academic experience listed. Before that he directed plays and stage managed, and "helped park cars with Steve Ball."

I swear, I am not making fun of any of this. Honest labor in any field is commendable. Respect the mail carrier and the scientist, the teacher, the sanitation worker and the actor equally. Upton apparently really excelled when it came to making big money where others did not, and I respect that.

But does that make him the right person to be directing massive construction that perhaps does not do what's best for the students, and for the community?

WHY SO MUCH NEW CONSTRUCTION?

Especially when the student population

SEE **TEARDOWN** PAGE 6

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

California reveals data used to lift stay-at-home order

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

California's health department on Monday released to the public previously secret projections for future hospital intensive care unit capacity throughout the state, the key metric for lifting the coronavirus stay-at-home order.

However, state officials did not explain how regional per capita virus cases and transmission rates that also were released might influence how much ICU space will be available in four weeks.

Last week, state health officials told The Associated Press they were keeping all the data secret because it is complicated and might mislead the public. The release of the data points came after coronavirus experts, joined by a public access organization and a business group, said the information should be public, and as Gov. Gavin Newsom's political opponents decried the secrecy.

Dr. George Rutherford, an epidemiologist and infectious-diseases control expert at University of California, San Francisco, was among the critics. He applauded the state for being more open. He said it's "not utterly transparent, but I have a better idea of what's going on."

In December, when California became the nation's epicenter for the virus before numbers improved in the new year, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced a new stay-at-home order that was based on ICU capacity in each of five regions. Any region that fell below 15% had new restrictions imposed, including closures of hair and nail salons and other businesses, and fewer customers allowed inside retail stores.

Four of the regions fell under the new order and three remained there until Monday, when state health officials announced that four-week projections showed them rising above the 15% threshold and Newsom said the order was lifted.

At a news conference with Newsom, California Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly promised to reveal some of the information behind the projections.

Several hours later the agency released a chart showing projections for regional ICU capacity, along with per capita cases and transmission rates. The capacity takes into account not only coronavirus patients but those who would need intensive care for other reasons even if there were no pandemic.

The state said the Southern California region, which includes more than half the state's population, will go from no ICU capacity under the state's weighted formula to 33.3% capacity in four weeks, the most of any region.

Los Angeles County public health director Dr. Barbara Ferrer said she had yet to see the governor's algorithm but has confidence in the state. Currently, the county has very few ICU beds available, she said, "but it's certainly better than it has been."

The San Joaquin Valley just to the north will jump from 0% to 22.3%, the state projects, while the San Francisco Bay Area will reach 25%, up from 8.2% now.

The 13-county Greater Sacramento region is projected to have 27.3% capacity. But it's currently stuck at 9.9% — virtually the same level it was two weeks ago when state officials abruptly lifted the stay-at-home order there.

Only the rural Northern California region never was under the order. However, the state now projects its capacity will fall from 47.9% to 18.9%. State officials did not explain the reasons for the steep decline.

It's not clear if the state ultimately will provide the level of day-to-day detail behind the projections currently available for its existing four-week modeling on hospitalizations, intensive care patients and deaths.

Dr. Lee Riley, chairman of the University of California, Berkeley School of Public Health infectious disease division, said he's hopeful the state will provide that level of detail. "This is going in the right direction," he said.

Prior to Ghaly's announcement, the secrecy in the Democratic Newsom administration brought recriminations from Republican legislative leaders and from former San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer, who is exploring a challenge to Newsom.

"Californians want to follow the science. Instead we're forced to follow a governor who decides on a whim the fate of millions of Californians while refusing to release the data behind his contradictory and arbitrary decisions," Faulconer tweeted early Monday.

California Assembly Republicans sent a letter to the Democratic leaders of the Legislature calling for oversight hearings on data used to make decisions on the coronavirus.

Associated Press Writer Stefanie Dazio contributed from Los Angeles.

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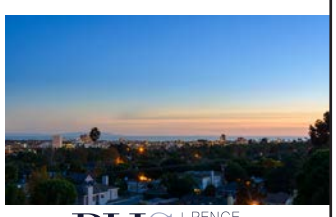
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TEARDOWN

FROM PAGE 4

is declining. Add to that 13ish percent of enrollment from out of district — partly for diversity, we are told, but no stats are offered to back that up. Until recently there was also a financial incentive, a payment from the state for each student in class that day. But that ended. So now we the taxpayers and school bond suckers are paying to educate other cities' students, shortchanging our own kids.

That plan for construction will result in, among other things, nearly an entirely new Santa Monica High School. Only a couple of older buildings left standing. You won't recognize your old high school.

That sounds like a great idea! The best classrooms for our students, 21st century classrooms. But… a couple of things.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS

That could be repurposed, probably even at less cost, will be torn down. It's been a national movement for universities and high schools across the nation for some years now, to maintain an important continuity for the institution and teach students the importance of history and tradition, architecture and conservancy. But I guess SMMUSD missed all that.

A lot of attention has focused on the History Building, a defining structure for 85 years of Samohi grads but not officially a designated landmark. When Samohi moved to this location, that building was it. That was Santa Monica High School. The pleas of the Santa Monica Conservancy to take a pause, to study alternatives that could satisfy all needs, have fallen on deaf SMMUSD ears. At their Board meeting last Thursday there were more 70 voices in favor of the teardown, around five opposing. Don't read too much into that.

Not that it mattered. The decision had already been made. The chorus for teardown was virtually a membership list for Forward, who apparently are now turning their attention away from the City Council they lost control of, to the School Board.

What a town.

Charles Andrews 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

Citywide

Life sentence for attempted rape suspect

Rashad Devon Harris, a 28-year-old black male from Los Angeles, has been found guilty on six counts in connection to a break in and assault that occurred in 2018.

On February 23, 2018 at approximately 3:20 a.m., officers from the Santa Monica Police Department responded to the 1700 block of 5th Street in response to a "Check the Status" call pertaining to a resident on the first floor of the building. Neighbors reported hearing a female yelling for help.

Officers arrived and located a female victim who was bleeding from lacerations on her hands, arms and forehead. The victim told officers she was alone in her apartment when an unknown person entered and demanded money. The suspect tried pushing the victim into another room when the victim began to fight with the suspect. The suspect armed himself with a knife and slashed at the victim several times, as she continued to fight him off and yell for help. The suspect eventually fled from the location and the victim was able to call 9-1-1.

Detectives with the Criminal Investigations Division of the Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) were able to identify Harris as the suspect involved in the attack.

On February 27, 2018, SMPD Detectives arrested Rashad Harris for the crime. The case was presented to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office on March 1, 2018 where Harris was charged with the following:

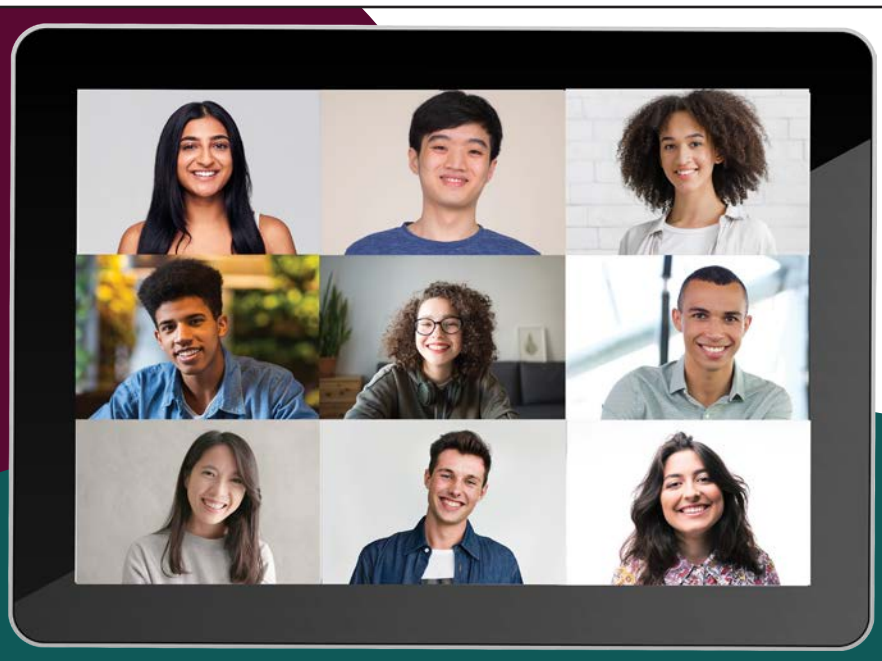
- 220(b) PC, Assault with the Intent to Commit Rape
- 459 PC, Burglary
- 211 PC, Robbery
- 245(a)(1) PC, Assault with a Deadly Weapon
- 203 PC, Mayhem
- 422(a) PC, Criminal Threats

Harris was held at the Los Angeles County Jail without bail after charges were filed.

On December 20, 2020, and after a lengthy court and trial process, Harris was convicted on all counts. Harris was sentenced to Life in State Prison on January 6, 2021.

LIEUTENANT RUDY FLORES





California Youth Leadership Summit

Peace, Kindness & Cooperation

Free Online Event

Hosted by
Sister Cities International Southern California Chapter

Live stream on
Sat. Feb 6, 2021
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm PST

Panel Moderators include:
Go to www.californiasummit.org for the complete list



Mark Sanchez
Former NFL Quarterback &
ESPN College Football Analyst



Marin Minamiya
Guinness World Record Holder:
Youngest Mountain Climber to Conquer the World's Seven Summits

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Fundamental human rights

World Peace & Cooperation
Building effective relationships

Coping with the Pandemic
How are we adapting?

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USJETAA — US Japan Exchange & Teaching Programme Alumni Association

For panelist applications or to register as a viewer, go to
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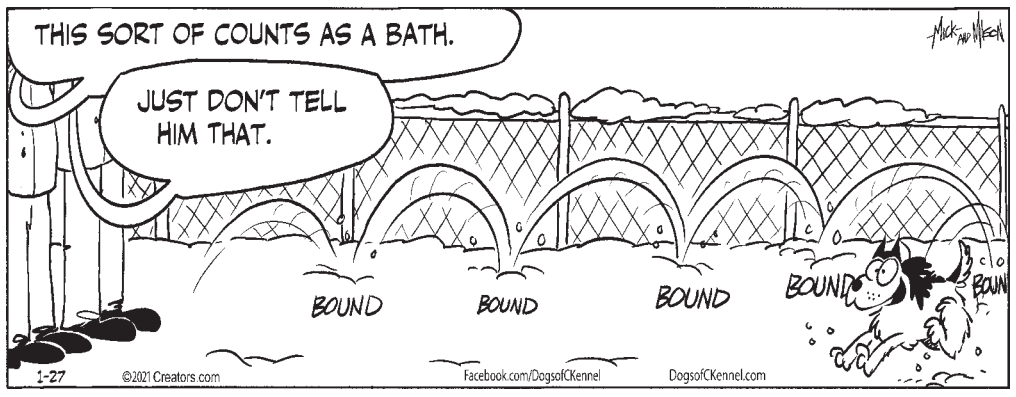
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



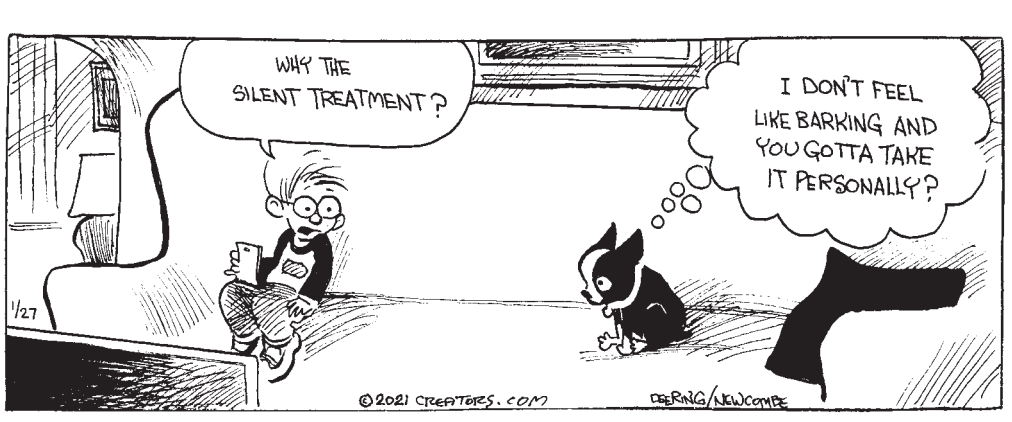
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



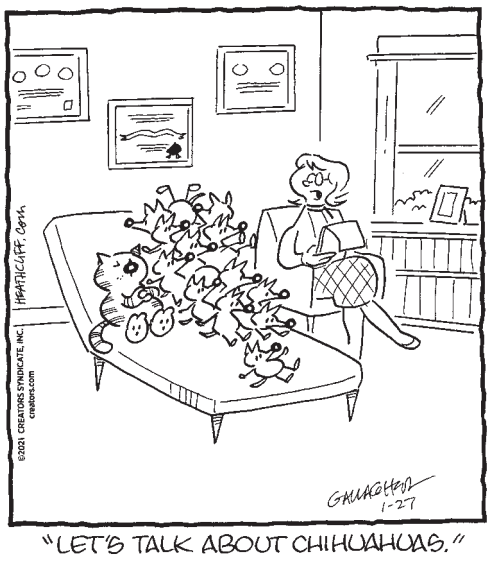
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"LET'S TALK ABOUT CHIHUAHUAS."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 56.7°

WEDNESDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft Waist to chest high
Long-period WNW swell due to ease but shorter-period NW may bump back up to keep some decent size in the water.

THURSDAY - **POOR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high
More WNW/NW swell due, along with breezy south winds, so looking pretty hacked in the AM.

WEATHER

Wednesday: A 50 percent chance of rain. Cloudy, with a high near 57.
Wednesday Night: A 40 percent chance of rain. Cloudy, with a low around 49.
Thursday: Rain, mainly after 4pm. High near 59.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/01/27	Wed	01:35 AM	2.16	L
2021/01/27	Wed	07:50 AM	6.12	H
2021/01/27	Wed	3:07 PM	-1.09	L
2021/01/27	Wed	9:36 PM	3.71	H
2021/01/28	Thu	02:13 AM	1.98	L
2021/01/28	Thu	08:25 AM	6.28	H
2021/01/28	Thu	3:40 PM	-1.20	L
2021/01/28	Thu	10:06 PM	3.83	H
2021/01/29	Fri	02:51 AM	1.83	L
2021/01/29	Fri	09:02 AM	6.29	H
2021/01/29	Fri	4:12 PM	-1.17	L
2021/01/29	Fri	10:38 PM	3.97	H
2021/01/30	Sat	03:34 AM	1.71	L
2021/01/30	Sat	09:41 AM	6.09	H
2021/01/30	Sat	4:46 PM	-0.99	L
2021/01/30	Sat	11:13 PM	4.12	H
2021/01/31	Sun	04:21 AM	1.63	L
2021/01/31	Sun	10:23 AM	5.67	H
2021/01/31	Sun	5:19 PM	-0.63	L
2021/01/31	Sun	11:50 PM	4.30	H
2021/02/01	Mon	05:15 AM	1.58	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 1/23
5 8 17 27 28
Power#: 14
Jackpot: 20 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 1/22
4 26 42 50 60
Mega#: 24
Jackpot: 20 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 1/23
15 25 37 43 45
Mega#: 12
Jackpot: 15 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/25
16 20 25 30 36

Daily 3
Draw Date: 1/25
EVENING: 1 4 7

Draw Date: 1/25
MIDDAY: 5 2 4

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 1/25
1st: 04 - Big Ben
2nd: 08 - Gorgeous George
3rd: 03 - Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:42.65

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 27)

You're excellent at encouraging talent and coaxing others toward their best performance. But it's when you turn this gift inward that your life really begins to reflect the most powerful part of you. It is not selfish to become your own best champion. So many others will ultimately benefit from your subsequent blossoming. Libra and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 14, 3, 24, 38 and 5.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The prevailing muted mood seems to be perfectly fine for the others, though your standards are different. You so often dwell in the bright and joyous that these dull tones call out to you for improvement.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The magic combination you offer is different from what anyone else can give. Others could fill in, but it wouldn't be the same. How does it feel to know that you are, in some ways, irreplaceable?

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Metaphorically, today brings a choice along the lines of canine or feline. Would you rather the reliable affection of a dog or the unpredictable amusement of a cat? Many pet owners cannot choose and thus have both.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Other people's routines are interesting to you. In following your curiosity on the matter, you'll learn a trick you can immediately employ to make your life run better.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You cherish beauty and feel driven to protect it, even while realizing that ultimately it's the temporary qualities that make a thing beautiful. There is a strange peace in this inevitability.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll learn how things work. You'll figure out what triggers the action, what motivates the characters involved, how the cog twists, how the lever lifts. A little learning every day, and you'll soon be an expert.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You've a gift for saying sweet words. Mostly you are just expressing your feelings and relaying the way you see things. But on a day like today, you can be more strategic, using this talent to get what you want.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). In order to feel the release of joy, there must first be the tension of its opposite. This is yet another reason to stop avoiding conflict. It's neither natural nor beneficial to be forever pleasing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Whatever response you get it will be because the other person can relate, or feels in some way personally needed, wanted or involved. Performances that are just one person showing off, but not connecting, fall flat.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You don't set out to sharpen your intellect, but it gets sharp anyway as you keep up with the demands of the day, which will include adjusting to new ideas, technologies and people.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The stage is set and yet nothing much is happening. The scene lacks a catalyst. For this to progress, one person must go on the offensive and that person is you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Whatever happens, you maintain a certain amount of levity. It will seem to others that you care about what's going on around you, though not too much. How mysterious!

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

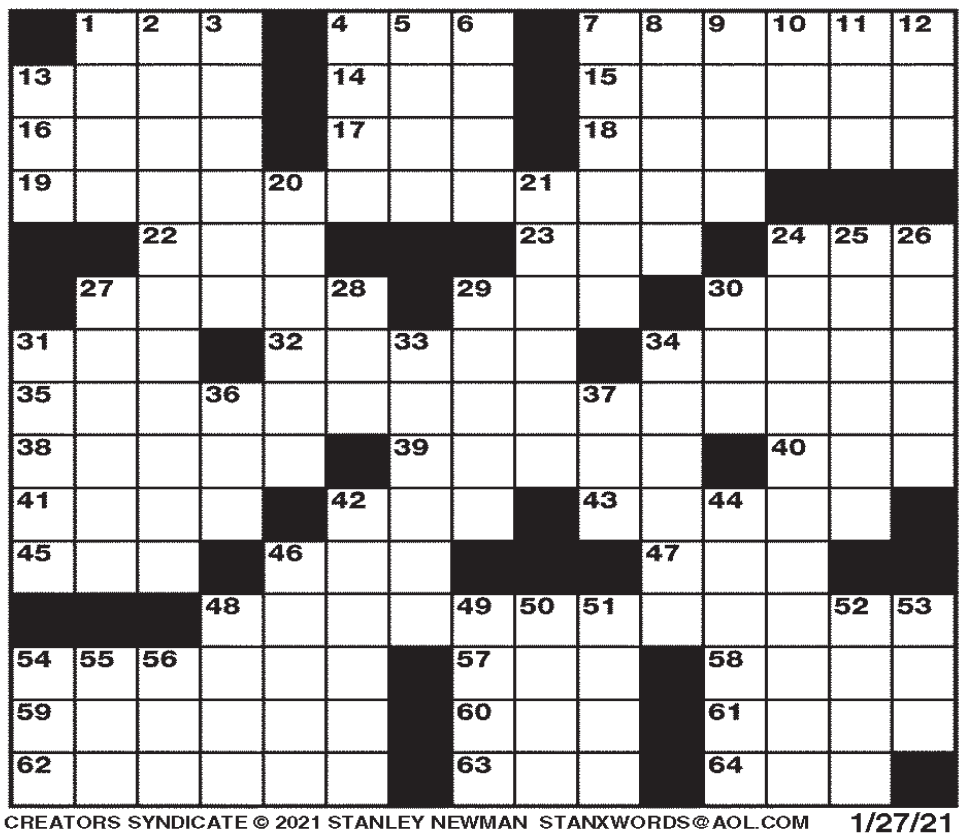
6			7					1
	1			6			9	
7					4		8	2
			8	7			1	
8		2				5		7
	7			5	2			
9	3		6					8
	6			9			7	
4					1			3

Newsday Crossword

LOUDER, PLEASE by Stella Zawistowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Troop-entertaining grp.
4 Brew from a kettle
7 Stash cash for a purchase
13 Fort full of gold
14 Solo of *Star Wars*
15 Small streams
16 Orderly and neat
17 Nightclub performance
18 Fluffy brunch creation
19 Aside to an audience
22 Place to sleep
23 Danson of TV
24 Abbr. on a sunscreen bottle
27 Choral performances
29 Young boy
30 Nary a __ (no one)
31 ABA member
32 Legendary fable teller
34 Guy, familiarly
35 Chatter at the office
38 Map-filled tome
39 San __ (southern California city)
40 King: Sp.
41 Bird-feeder food
42 Dessert with a crust
43 Stuck together, as model airplane parts
45 "For __ a jolly good . . ."
46 Target of an annual vaccine
47 Quaint place to stay
48 Therapeutic outburst
54 Melonlike tropical fruit
57 Needing to be paid
58 Lake near Niagara Falls
59 Protein in wheat
60 Eyebrow shape
61 City with the Taj Mahal
62 Professor Einstein
63 Encountered
64 Strong drain cleaner

DOWN
1 Part of CPU or BTU
2 Recyclable two-liter containers
3 Scuba tank contents
4 Start to unfreeze
5 Apiece
6 "Opposed to" prefix
7 Investigated, with "out"
8 Activated, as an alarm
9 Swerve suddenly
10 Electrified fish
11 Luau instrument
12 L.A. winter clock setting
13 Gold purity measures: Abbr.
20 Awards for mystery writing
21 Paper clip alternative
24 Power from sun panels
25 Tugged on
26 Crumbly, as puff pastry
27 Art on a pedestal
28 Brief moment, for short
29 Sarge's superior
30 Complete collection
31 Overflowing (with)
33 Element in table salt
34 Play merrily
36 Ingest
37 Humpty Dumpty, for one
42 Easily molded
44 Fanciful
46 Doughnut maker's appliance
48 Top of the head
49 Abel's dad
50 Enticement
51 Religious offshoot
52 Suffix for billion
53 "Give __ break!"
54 Org. with expert putters
55 100%
56 British tavern



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2021 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 1/27/21

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

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



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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 28 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5006

Scottish names

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

Aileen	Drew	Iain	Oliphant
Alban	Fergus	Jamie	Owen
Alec	Fingal	Kerr	Paxton
Annis	Fiona	Kilt	Rob
Boyd	Fletcher	Kin	Ross
Brodie	Fraser	Lachlan	Roy
Burns	Gavin	MacCallum	Shaw
Cairstine	Gow	Malcolm	Sorcha
Campbell	Graham	Morag	Stuart
Clyde	Hay	Muir	Tamhas
Douglas	Hogg	Ness	

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COMMUNITY

FROM PAGE 1

justice issues and share how change can be made in local communities.

"I really want to promote understanding," Smith said prior to the event. "I think a lot of people have a lot of feelings about things that are happening currently and things that have happened in the past… And I think other parts of the community don't always know what their neighbors and fellow residents are feeling so I think any opportunity you can have that promotes a conversation to try to come to some sort of common understanding to move forward is important."

Longtime Santa Monica resident and founding member of the Santa Monica Black Agenda Karen Gunn, who will chair the event, concurred in an interview Wednesday when she said attendees should also expect to hear some history about the Black community in Santa Monica as well as the city's legacy of systemic racism, which is a concept that Gunn believes isn't fully understood by locals.

"I'm not trying to be dismissive of our residents but I need to acknowledge that I think these kinds of things that have occurred over decades are just now getting their well-deserved spotlight," Gunn said as she detailed the Belmar community's destruction and local segregation efforts that forced young Americans like Nick Gabaldón to paddle all the way out to Malibu to surf.

"So, the Black Agenda has had a goal since it was recognized by City Council in September to highlight and bring to the fore an appreciation for the historical racism within the city of Santa Monica and also to bring awareness, reckoning, response and corrective action to address these things that have had an impact on our wonderfully progressive city... And this Courageous Conversations (event) is one opportunity to bring the community in and hopefully we can build an understanding and continue to share information from there," Gunn added. "It's absolutely exciting to know this is going to happen because it's a great opportunity that I think has been well-planned — evident by some of our extraordinary presenters."

Dialogue and engagement are the critical components in bridging the gaping racial gap in America, Hutchinson said in a statement And in a divisive and divided America it's even more important to have critical engagement, which is why the famed author said he is eager to provide insight and perspective on topics related to police abuse, gang violence, and job and housing discrimination.

"Besides having a thought provoking stimulating experience on Thursday, I hope that people will walk away understanding the importance of what we're doing," Gunn said. "Where there are perhaps some members of our community who question the credibility, the rationale, the reasoning behind our effort — our hope is that this will create some common ground and allow the community to ask us questions and bring issues to our attention. I think they'll come to see why we're here and why it's important."

Brennon@smdp.com

YOUTH

FROM PAGE 1

The journey to Youth of the Year is not an easy one, but it is highly rewarding.

Teens need to complete multiple personal essays, write a speech, and prepare to be interviewed by a live panel. In turn they gain skills in public speaking, self-reflection, writing and confidence.

"Having these questions asked about what I wrote and letting people have a peek into my life, that was very opening and very warming. I felt very vulnerable, but at the same time I felt very powerful," said Salvador Molina, 2018 Santa Monica YOY winner.

A lot of the young adults that pass through the Santa Monica Boys and Girls Club have dealt with many trials and obstacles in their short lives. The YOY competition gives them a chance to reflect on their growth and share their experiences from a place of empowerment.

"Having the title of Youth of the Year is a big honor and makes me feel like I'm truly representing the community that raised me like family and made me who I am," said Ledia Soliman , who won both the 2020 Santa Monica YOY award and the LA County YOY award.

Soliman started coming to the Boys and Girls Club when she was seven years old. It was the place where she first built most of her friendships and felt encouraged to take on leadership roles. Her dream now is to become a California State Senator.

"As an immigrant, I saw a lot of communities being impacted and not really being assisted. If it wasn't for the Boys and Girls Club, I wouldn't have those big dreams because seeing how the community truly impacts the youth is why I got into politics."

For Molina, the Boys and Girls Club was a place of mentorship, friendship, and social emotional growth. The YOY competition made him discover his love of public speaking and inspired his decision to study communications.



Courtesy image

STUDENTS: Ledia Soliman won the 2020 Santa Monica and LA County Youth of the Year awards.

"Before ever stepping foot into that building I was a very timid kid and had anger problems. Boys and Girls helped me develop into a more mature, calm, compassionate person, rather than being very rash and very lonely," said Molina.

The young leaders participating in Friday's competition have their own set of impressive stories and achievements to share. While they have been preparing their applications for months, their interpersonal preparation has been occurring at the club for years.

"If I could give an award like Youth of the Year to every kid here I would," said Fricke. "There's something uniquely special about watching the kids' growth and seeing them become young successful adults. I can't even really put into words how amazing it is."

Clara@smdp.com

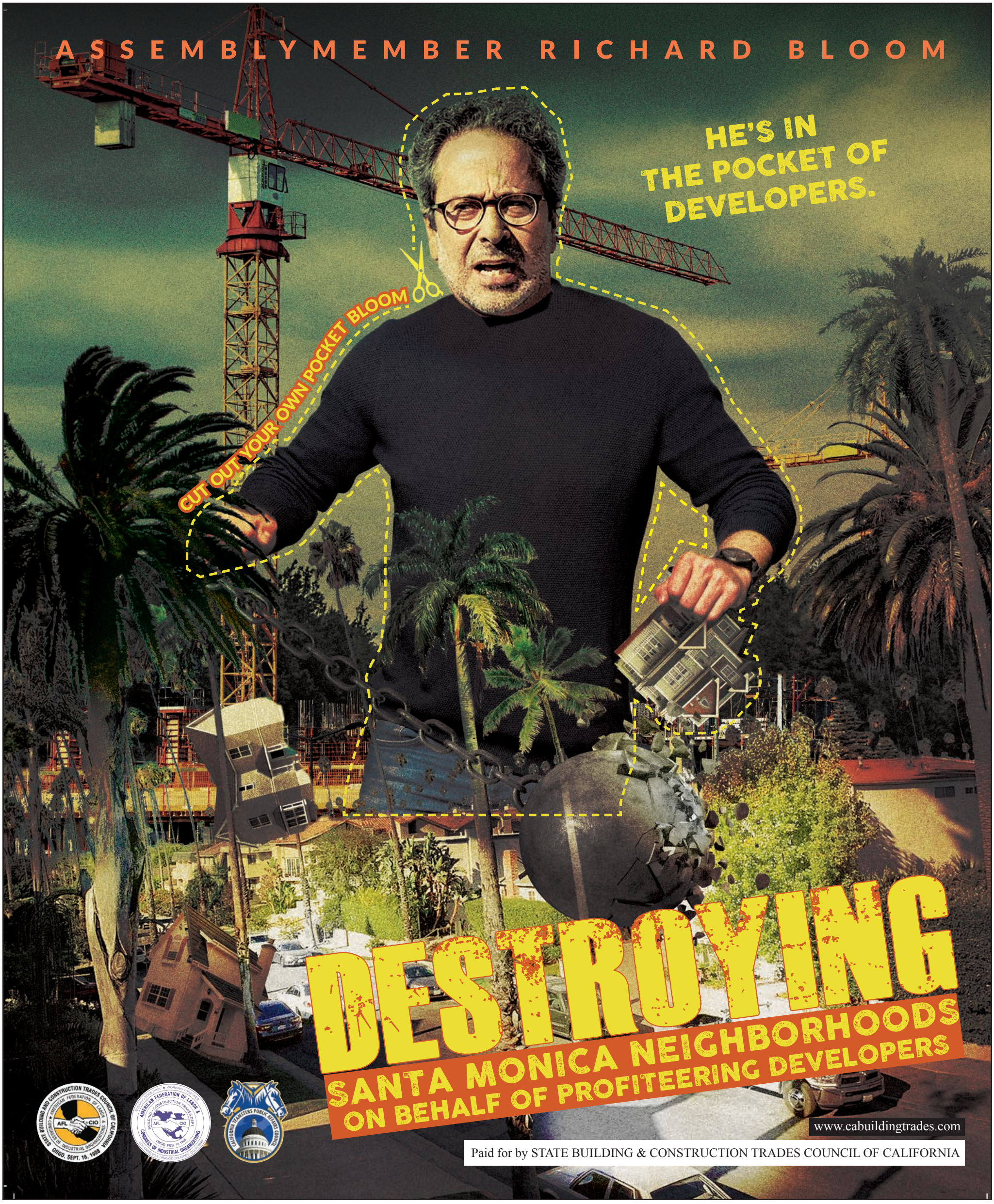
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Help Wanted

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING WITH RESPECTTO THE ISSUANCE OF OBLIGATIONS BY THECALIFORNIA INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMICDEVELOPMENT BANK FOR THE BENEFIT OFTHE RAND CORPORATIONNOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, on February 8, 2021, the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (the "Issuer") will conduct a public hearing (the "Public Hearing"), by teleconference as further described below, at which the Issuer will hear and consider information concerning the issuance by the Issuer, from time to time, pursuant to a plan of finance, of one or more series of its tax-exempt bonds, notes or other evidence of indebtedness in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed Ninety-Eight Million Two Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($98,225,000) (the "Obligations") for the benefit of The RAND Corporation, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation, or any related or successor entity thereto (the "Borrower"). The proceeds of the Obligations will be loaned by the Issuer to the Borrower pursuant to a loan agreement or financing agreement (the "Loan Agreement") and used by the Borrower to (a) refinance certain indebtedness of the Borrower the proceeds of which were used to refinance the cost of the acquisition, construction, installation, furnishing and equipping of the Borrower's corporate headquarters located at 1776 Main Street, Santa Monica, California 90401, consisting of approximately 3.7 acres of land with a five-story office building containing approximately 310,000 square feet of office space and a three-story underground parking garage (collectively, the "Facilities"); and (b) pay certain financing costs and costs of issuance in connection with the Obligations. The Borrower is an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and owns and will operate the Facilities in connection with its mission to help improve policy and decision making through research and analysis. The Obligations will be paid entirely from repayments and other funds made available by the Borrower under the Loan Agreement.Neither the faith and credit nor the taxing power of the Issuer, the State of California (the "State") or any other political corporation, subdivision or agency of the State is pledged to the payment of the principal of, premium, if any, or interest on, the Obligations, nor shall the Issuer, the State or any other political corporation, subdivision or agency of the State be liable or obligated to pay the principal of, premium, if any, or interest on, the Obligations, except to the extent that the Obligations will be limited Obligations of the Issuer payable from funds received from the Borrower pursuant to the Loan Agreement. The Public Hearing is intended to comply with the public approval requirements of Section 147(f) of the Code.Those wishing to comment on the proposed nature and location of the Facilities and the refinancing of the Facilities with the proceeds of the Obligations may attend by phone (888) 398-2342 (participation code 212999), or submit written comments to the Public Hearing, which must be received by the Issuer c/o Mr. William D. Pahland, Jr., General Counsel, California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank, 1325 J Street, Suite 1300, Sacramento, California 95814 prior to the start of the Public Hearing.Date: January 27, 2021CALIFORNIA INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BANKBy /s/ William D. Pahland, Jr. General Counsel

HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
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