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THURSDAY
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Volume 20 Issue 64

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Ed Foundation Match
$15,000 match through Jan 31.
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Police and Fire Logs
Calls for Service.
Page 3

Council disqualifies de la Torre from specific CVRA conversations

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica City Council has determined that Councilmember Oscar de la Torre has a Common Law Conflict of Interest that disqualifies him from being involved in any closed session or confidential conversation concerning the City of Santa Monica's California Voting Rights Act lawsuit.

De la Torre is also disqualified from voting on any decisions relating to the Pico Neighborhood Association and Maria Loya v. City of Santa Monica case as a result of Tuesday's 4-2 vote, which resulted after more than an hour-and-a-half of contentious discussion.

A common law conflict occurs when an official's private, personal interests conflict with their official duties. The CVRA case was brought by de la Torre's wife and the Pico Neighborhood Association.

The council vote said de la Torre is personally conflicted over the CVRA case due to his connections to both plaintiffs. Maria Loya is married to de la Torre and he was personally involved with the Pico Neighborhood Association during the case.

Debate was fiery from the start of the special meeting and only became more tense as de la Torre grilled Interim City Attorney George Cardona on privileged information and accused Cardona of being unqualified to weigh in on the matter. De la Torre also asserted that he should not be barred from closed session meetings relating to the lawsuit that names his wife as a plaintiff because he has no ability to gain anything financially from the case.

But councilmembers said de la Torre has been so heavily involved in the litigation that it's impossible for him to not be conflicted.

"The potential for conflict of interest is rife," Councilmember Gleam Davis said during the meeting.

"It's like a football game. If I am planning, if I am going into the huddle, I am not inviting the coach from the other team into a strategy session about the play I'm going to call," Mayor Sue Himmelrich said.

"I think the point you just made is a key one… If this was a matter of policy discussion, there's no question that the duly-elected council member Oscar de la Torre should be part of that policy discussion," Councilmember Kevin McKeown said. "But this is, not at this point, a policy discussion. I honestly wish it were; I wish that five years ago — instead of suing the city — people who are interested in district elections had begun the process of public discussion because, by now, we could have had a ballot measure and voted on it. And the people, the city would have decided what they want to do. Instead, the plaintiffs chose litigation (and) Oscar was indeed part of that team."

"And like Mayor Himmelrich, I had the experience of being deposed in this case with Oscar in the room — and the only other people in the room were attorneys for their side or the city's side. So, it's very clear that Oscar took a role in the initiation and strategizing of this litigation. And for that reason, the common law conflict is quite obvious to me," McKeown added as he stated he would certainly

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 11

Safe Place for Youth Executive Director steps down

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Alison Hurst founded Safe Place for Youth as the Westside's first dedicated service provider for homeless youth and, after 10 years of exceptional growth, has decided it is time to move on.

When Hurst began her work SPY was nothing more than a group of volunteers handing out bags of food and clothes to homeless youth in Venice Beach.

A decade later it has expanded into an organization with over 80 employees providing housing, case management, street outreach, health and wellness support, and education and employment programs to over 1,500 youths a year.

SEE **DIRECTOR** PAGE 11



Courtesy photo

SPY: Alison Hurst will depart the organization she founded.

As Covid decreases elementary schools could reopen

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

As Covid-19 cases continue to decrease, L.A. County could reach the threshold to reopen schools for transitional kindergarten through grade six in two to three weeks, according to Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer.

"The state set a threshold for counties that want to reopen all their elementary schools grades TK through grade six at new 25 cases or less per 100,000 residents,"

SEE **COVID** PAGE 11



Courtesy image

CASES: The trend in Los Angeles is pushing cases down and officials are discussing more reopening options.

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US terrorism alert warns of politically motivated violence

BEN FOX AND ERIC TUCKER
Associated Press

The Department of Homeland Security issued a national terrorism bulletin Wednesday warning of the lingering potential for violence from people motivated by anti-government sentiment after President Joe Biden's election, suggesting the Jan. 6 riot at the Capitol may embolden extremists and set the stage for additional attacks.

The department did not cite any specific plots, but pointed to "a heightened threat environment across the United States" that it believes "will persist" for weeks after Biden's Jan. 20 inauguration.

It is not uncommon for the federal government to warn local law enforcement through bulletins about the prospect for violence tied to a particular event or date, such as July 4.

But this particular bulletin, issued through the department's National Terrorism Advisory System, is notable because it effectively places the Biden administration into the politically charged debate over how to describe or characterize acts motivated by political ideology and suggests that it sees violence aimed at overturning the election as akin to terrorism.

The wording of the document suggests that national security officials see a connective thread between recent violence over the last year motivated by anti-government grievances, including COVID-19 restrictions, the 2020 election results and police use of force. It also singles out racially motivated acts of violence such as the 2019 rampage targeting Hispanics in El Paso, Texas, as well as the threat posed by extremists motivated by foreign terrorist organizations.

"Information suggests that some ideologically-motivated violent extremists with objections to the exercise of governmental authority and the presidential transition, as well as other perceived grievances fueled by false narratives, could continue to mobilize to incite or commit violence," the bulletin said.

A DHS statement that accompanied the bulletin noted the potential for violence from "a broad range of ideologically-motivated actors."

The alert comes at a tense time following the riot at the Capitol by supporters of then-President Donald Trump seeking to overturn the presidential election. DHS also noted violent riots in "recent days," an apparent reference to events in Portland, Oregon, linked to anarchist groups.

"The domestic terrorism attack on our Capitol earlier this month shined a light on a threat that has been right in front of our faces for years," said Rep. Bennie Thompson, a Mississippi Democrat who is chairman of the House Homeland Security Committee. "I am glad to see that DHS fully recognizes the threat posed by violent, right-wing extremists and is taking efforts to communicate that threat to the American people."

The alert was issued by acting Homeland Security Secretary David Pekoske. Biden's nominee for the Cabinet post, Alejandro Mayorkas, has not been confirmed by the Senate.

Two former homeland security secretaries, Michael Chertoff and Janet Napolitano, called on the Senate to confirm Mayorkas so he can start working with the FBI and other agencies and deal with the threat posed by domestic extremists, among other issues.

Chertoff, who served under President George W. Bush, said attacks by far-right, domestic extremists are not new but that deaths attributed to them in recent years in the U.S. have exceeded those linked to jihadists such as al-Qaida. "We have to be candid and face what the real risk is," he said in a conference call with reporters.

Federal authorities have charged more than 150 people in the Capitol siege, including some with links to right-wing extremist groups such as the Three Percenters and the Oath Keepers.

The Justice Department announced charges Wednesday against 43-year Ian Rogers, a California man found with five pipe bombs during a search of his business this month who had a sticker associated with the Three Percenters on his vehicle. His lawyer told his hometown newspaper, The Napa Valley Register, that he is a "very well-respected small business owner, father, and family man" who does not belong to any violent organizations.

SMMUSD
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
smmusd.org

SANTA MONICA MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BID NOTICE

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County will receive sealed proposals on the following: RFP# 21.11 – High Speed Lit and/or Dark Fiber Optic Network. Fitness and quality being equal, supplies grown, manufactured, or produced in the State of California will be given preference. Due to COVID-19 Stay Safer at Home Orders, all proposals must be electronically submitted with bid name and number via ARC Southern California file share at https://www.ishipdocs.com/Filetransfer/TransferFiles.aspx to the attention of: Kim Nguyen, Director of Purchasing - Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District at knguyen@smmusd.org on or before: **March 10, 2021; 2:00 pm.** **MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK:** Thursday, February 4, 2021 **and** Friday, February 5, 2021. All attending contractors must RSVP by Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. Bid forms and specifications requests may be obtained by emailing knguyen@smmusd.org.

Due to COVID-19 On site visits and SITE WALKs must adhere to SMMUSD, LA County and State of California Covid-19 safety regulations within the following link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/18TMXoK8E-JwV3bmXO4FZLVSd7k1bIVBr/view

The right is reserved to reject any and all proposals.

Biden: 'We can't wait any longer' to address climate crisis

MATTHEW DALY AND ELLEN KNICKMEYER
Associated Press

In the most ambitious U.S. effort to stave off the worst of climate change, President Joe Biden signed executive orders Wednesday to transform the nation's heavily fossil-fuel powered economy into a clean-burning one, pausing oil and gas leasing on federal land and targeting subsidies for those industries.

The directives aim to conserve 30 percent of the country's lands and waters in the next 10 years, double the nation's offshore wind energy, and move to an all-electric federal vehicle fleet, among other changes. Biden's sweeping plan is aimed at staving off the worst of global warming caused by burning fossil fuels.

But his effort it also carries political risk for the president and Democrats as oil- and coal-producing states face job losses from moves to sharply increase U.S. reliance on clean energy such as wind and solar power.

"We can't wait any longer'' to address the climate crisis, Biden said at the White House. "We see with our own eyes. We know it in our bones. It is time to act.''

He said his orders will "supercharge our administration's ambitious plan to confront the existential threat of climate change."

Biden has set a goal of eliminating pollution from fossil fuel in the power sector by 2035 and from the U.S. economy overall by 2050, speeding what is already a market-driven growth of solar and wind energy and lessening the country's dependence on oil and gas. The aggressive plan is aimed at slowing human-caused global warming that is magnifying extreme weather events such as deadly wildfires in the West and drenching rains and hurricanes in the East.

Biden acknowledged the political risk, repeatedly stating his approach would create jobs in the renewable energy and automotive sectors to offset any losses in oil, coal or natural gas.

"When I think of climate change and the answers to it, I think of jobs,'' Biden said. "These aren't pie-in-the-sky dreams. These are concrete actionable solutions. And we know how to do this.''

In a change from previous administrations of both parties, Biden also is directing agencies to focus help and investment on the low-income and minority communities that live closest to polluting refineries and other hazards, and the oil- and coal-patch towns that face job losses as the U.S. moves to sharply increase its reliance on wind, solar and other energy sources that do not emit climate-warming greenhouse gases.

Biden pledged to create "millions of good-paying, union jobs" building electric cars, installing solar panels and wind turbines, and performing specialized work to cap abandoned walls, restore mine-scarred land and turn old industrial sites "into the new hubs of economic growth.''

Even so, Republicans immediately criticized the plan as a job killer.

"Pie-in-the-sky government mandates and directives that restrict our mining, oil, and gas industries adversely impact our energy security and independence,'' said Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers of Washington state, the top Republican on the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Biden also is elevating the warming climate to a national security priority, directing intelligence agencies, the military and others to do more to prepare for the heightened risks. The conservation plan would set aside millions of acres for recreation, wildlife and climate efforts by 2030 as part of Biden's campaign pledge for a $2 trillion program to slow global warming.

President Donald Trump, who ridiculed the science of climate change, withdrew the U.S. from the Paris global climate accord, opened more public lands to coal, gas and oil production and weakened regulation on fossil fuel emissions. Experts say these emissions are heating the Earth's climate dangerously and worsening floods, droughts and other natural disasters.

Currently, 61% of the nation's electric power comes from natural gas and coal, 20% from nuclear and 17% from wind, solar and other renewable energy, the U.S. Energy Information Administration says.

Georgia Tech climate scientist Kim Cobb said that "if this Day 7 momentum is representative of this administration's 4-year term, there is every reason to believe that we might achieve carbon neutrality sooner than 2050," even as key roadblocks lie ahead.

Biden's actions came as his nominee for energy secretary, former Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm, faced deep skepticism from Republicans as she tried to pitch the president's vision for a green economy.

"The last Democratic administration went on a regulatory rampage to slow or stop energy production," said Wyoming Sen. John Barrasso, a leading Republican on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. "I'm not going to sit idly by ... if the Biden administration enforces policies that threaten Wyoming's economy.''

Granholm, whose state was devastated by the 2008 recession, promoted emerging clean energy technologies, such as battery manufacturing, as an answer for jobs that will be lost as the U.S. transitions away from fossil fuels.

Former Secretary of State John Kerry, now Biden's climate envoy, said oil, gas and coal workers "have been fed a false narrative'' that "somehow, dealing with climate is coming at their expense. No, it's not. What's happening to them is happening because of other market forces already taking place.''

Instead of possible black lung disease, a miner would have a brighter future as a solar power technician, Kerry said. "The same people can do those jobs, but the choice of doing the solar power one now is a better choice.''

The oil industry said curtailing domestic production will lead to an increase in imported oil.

"I don't think any American wants to go back to the days of being held hostage to foreign entities that don't have America's best interest at heart as we lose American energy leadership," said Mike Sommers,

SEE **CLIMATE** PAGE 4

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 212 CALLS ON JANUARY 26

Living In A Vehicle 1500blk 17th St 12:03 a.m.
Encampment 1900blk Lincoln Blvd 1:32 a.m.
Domestic Violence Report 800blk Pico Blvd 3:01 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 800blk Interstate 10 4:36 a.m.
Encampment 1800blk Main St 5:36 a.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 300blk California Ave 5:46 a.m.
Municipal Code Violation 1300blk Lincoln Blvd 6:17 a.m.
Identity Theft 900blk 2nd St 6:48 a.m.
Citizen Flag 1100blk 4th St 6:51 a.m.
Construction Noise 1700blk Franklin St 7:42 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2600blk Barnard Way 7:48 a.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 2600blk Barnard Way 8:09 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 23rd St / Pearl St 8:17 a.m.
Burglary Report 1000blk 11th St 8:31 a.m.
Burglary Report 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 8:45 a.m.
Burglary Report 2900blk Pico Blvd 8:55 a.m.
Burglary Report 1100blk 3rd St 8:57 a.m.
Battery Now 400blk Wilshire Blvd 9:10 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1400blk 14th St 9:14 a.m.
Scar Investigation 2200blk Colorado Ave 9:27 a.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 900blk 3rd St 9:35 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1200blk Harvard St 9:39 a.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 700blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:47 a.m.
Death Investigation 600blk Ocean Ave 10:28 a.m.
Encampment 1600blk 14th St 10:44 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 3000blk 4th St 10:54 a.m.
Person With A Gun 300blk Santa Monica Pl 11:39 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 10th St / Pico Blvd 11:54 a.m.
Drinking In Public 800blk Broadway 11:58 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1600blk 9th St 12:14 p.m.
Burglary Report 2900blk Pico Blvd 12:15 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1600blk 9th St 12:17 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 12:19 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved Euclid St / Maple St 12:36 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 3100blk 17th St 12:37 p.m.
Death Investigation 1100blk 12th St 12:37 p.m.
Bomb Threat 1500blk California Ave 12:46 p.m.
Violation Of Temporary No Parking Signs 800blk 5th St 1:05 p.m.
Municipal Code Violation 11th St / Pearl St 1:08 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1300blk 18th St 1:13 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1300blk 14th St 1:21 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 2000blk 14th St 2:00 p.m.
Burglary Report 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 2:09 p.m.
Grand Theft Just Occurred 1000blk Georgina Ave 2:12 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1200blk California Ave 2:13 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries I10 Fwy / Fair 2:15 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1800blk 7th St 2:16 p.m.
Health & Safety Code Violation 300blk 12th St 2:24 p.m.
Fight 600blk Wilshire Blvd 2:40 p.m.
Citizen Flag 2000blk Ocean Ave 2:47 p.m.
Lost Property Main St / Ocean Park Blvd 3:01 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1500blk Berkeley St 3:05 p.m.
Lewd Activity 1600blk 17th St 3:37 p.m.
Harassing Phone Calls Report 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 3:42 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 500blk Pier Ave 3:57 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1300blk Pine St 3:58 p.m.
Health & Safety Code Violation 1100blk Palisades Park 4:03 p.m.
Found Property 1900blk The Beach 4:03 p.m.
Injured Person 3100blk Lincoln Blvd 4:11 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Just Occurred 800blk Montana Ave 4:14 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1600blk Appian Way 5:08 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 200blk Bicknell Ave 5:18 p.m.
General Parking Problem 800blk Maple St 5:24 p.m.
Loud Music 2600blk Ocean Front Walk 6:08 p.m.
Found Property 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 6:12 p.m.
Municipal Code Violation 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 6:16 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 2200blk Wilshire Blvd 6:38 p.m.
Vehicle Cite & Tow (Parking Problem) 2500blk 28th St 7:08 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1000blk 2nd St 7:22 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 2500blk Main St 7:23 p.m.
Person Down 2500blk 17th St 7:44 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 800blk 20th St 7:49 p.m.
Health & Safety Code Violation 2400blk Lincoln Blvd 7:51 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1700blk 18th St 7:59 p.m.
Bike Theft Report 1300blk Yale St 8:09 p.m.
Construction Noise Yale St / Santa Monica Blvd 8:11 p.m.
Panic Alarm 14th St / Santa Monica Blvd 8:21 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 800blk 4th St 8:22 p.m.
Fire 1500blk Princeton St 8:40 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1700blk 12th St 9:34 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1300blk 2nd St 9:53 p.m.
Loud Music Ocean Way / Bay St 10:47 p.m.
Death Investigation 2200blk Colorado Ave 11:02 p.m.
Construction Noise 500blk Wilshire Blvd 11:47 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 36 CALLS ON JANUARY 26

EMS 2900blk Wilshire Blvd 12:12 a.m.
EMS 500blk Colorado Ave 12:51 a.m.
EMS 400blk Expo Line 1:16 a.m.
EMS 600blk Bay St 2:32 a.m.
Carbon Monoxide Alarm 1400blk Franklin St 2:47 a.m.
EMS 800blk Broadway 4:13 a.m.
EMS 1100blk 6th St 5:43 a.m.
EMS 23rd St / Pearl St 8:17 a.m.
EMS 1100blk 11th St 8:43 a.m.
Wires Down 2900blk Pico Blvd 9:30 a.m.
Elevator Rescue 100blk California Ave 9:40 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Euclid St 10:14 a.m.
EMS 600blk Ocean Ave 10:19 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 6th St 11:13 a.m.
EMS 11th St / Pearl St 11:36 a.m.
EMS 200blk Montana Ave 12:25 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 12th St 12:33 p.m.
Hoover Assignment 1500blk California Ave 12:46 p.m.
EMS 1800blk Ashland Ave 1:26 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Cloverfield Blvd 1:44 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 2:10 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 6th St 2:15 p.m.
EMS 400blk Ocean Ave 3:01 p.m.
EMS 3100blk Lincoln Blvd 4:07 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 2nd St 4:36 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200blk Broadway 5:15 p.m.
EMS 400blk 18th St 5:51 p.m.
EMS 4th St / Santa Monica Blvd 6:59 p.m.
EMS 2500blk 17th St 7:44 p.m.
EMS 700blk Ocean Ave 7:47 p.m.
EMS Lincoln Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 8:30 p.m.
Structure Fire 1500blk Princeton St 8:39 p.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 8:41 p.m.
EMS 5th St / Arizona Ave 9:01 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 2nd St 9:13 p.m.
EMS 2200blk Colorado Ave 10:59 p.m.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit sealed bids for ***(selected contractor shall be awarded both projects under one contract):***

Tongva Park Pedestrian Improvements SP2393 &
Palisades Park Petanque Courts Repurposing SP2583

Bids will only be accepted through the CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL, PlanetBids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica. Bids must be received by **2:30 PM, Wednesday, February 17, 2021.** Late bids will not be accepted. Please allow sufficient time for uploading of documents. The bid opening will be electronic, all submitted bids will be viewable by the public via Planet Bids

NON-MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK:
Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 10:00 AM
Start at Tongva Park Project Site

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $365,000.00
CONTRACT DAYS: 90 Calendar Days
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $100.00 Per Calendar Day

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: http://www.smgov.net/planetbids/. The Contractor is required to have a **Class A and/or B** license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.





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WINNER

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Santa Monica Ed Foundation Announces $15,000 Match from MSD Partners, L.P. and the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows

Donors to the Santa Monica Education Foundation now have the chance to double their support for students, thanks to a $15,000 match offered by MSD Partners, L.P. and the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows.

The hotel, a longstanding Ed Foundation Community Hero, will match all donations made, up to $15,000, through Jan. 31.

"We are extraordinarily grateful to MSD Partners, L.P. and the Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows for their ongoing commitment to our students," said Linda Greenberg, Executive Director of the Ed Foundation. "Even in this very challenging year, they are staying true to their dedication to our children. I know that our parents and community members will once again be inspired by their leadership in supporting our local public schools."

Like all donations to the Ed Foundation, funds raised during the matching drive will directly support elementary instructional aides, elementary arts programs and stretch grants for each Santa Monica public school next year. Each school decides how to spend their stretch grant.

Many schools use these funds for student wellness, STEM programs, more arts programs and teacher training.

"One of our core values is our commitment to being actively involved in our community," said Ellis O'Connor of MSD Partners. "These values become even more important during stressful times like we are experiencing now. We are proud to help keep Santa Monica schools strong.

Strong schools benefit all of us - everyone who lives and works in Santa Monica. We hope that many community members join us in supporting Santa Monica's public schools, teachers and students by donating to the Ed Foundation."

Due to the pandemic, overall donations to the Ed Foundation are about 15% lower than this time last year. Foundation officials encourage all community members to contribute to help ensure that important staff and excellent art and STEM programs are available for students next year.

"We realize this is a difficult time for many of our school families and other community members," said Linda Greenberg. "Many people cannot contribute at the same level as last year or at all, while students are still counting on donations to fund the programs they love. If you are able to contribute, even a small amount, please do. Each donation directly helps our students."

Fundraising for next year's programs will continue through June 30 with individual donations to the Foundation and events, as well as corporate and foundation giving.

For more information or to make a donation to support Santa Monica students, go to http://smedfoundation.org.

SUBMITTED BY ANN CONKLE, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND EVENTS

CLIMATE

FROM PAGE 2

president of the American Petroleum Institute.

Sommers and other industry leaders warned that states could lose hundreds of thousands of jobs and critical funding. Nearly one-third of New Mexico's state budget comes from oil and gas, said Ryan Flynn, president of the New Mexico Oil and Gas Association.

Biden's directive to double energy production from offshore wind comes after the Trump administration slowed permit review of some giant offshore wind turbine projects. Significantly, he is directing agencies to eliminate spending that acts as subsidies for fossil fuel industries.

The pause in onshore leasing is limited to federal lands and does not affect drilling on private lands, which is largely regulated by states. It also will not affect existing leases and could be further blunted by companies that stockpiled enough drilling permits in Trump's final months to allow them to keep pumping oil and gas for years.

The order exempts tribal lands, mainly in the West, that are used for energy production.

Biden also directed U.S. agencies to use science and evidence-based decision-making in federal rules and announced a U.S.-hosted climate leaders summit on Earth Day, April 22.

Associated Press writers Alexandra Jaffe and Brian Slodysko in Washington and Cathy Bussewitz in New York contributed to this report.

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

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

States lift restrictions gradually amid fears of new variant

DAVID EGGERT AND DON BABWIN
Associated Press

States are loosening their coronavirus restrictions on restaurants and other businesses because of improved infection and hospitalization numbers but are moving gradually and cautiously, in part because of the more contagious variant taking hold in the U.S.

While the easing could cause case rates to rise, health experts say it can work if done in a measured way and if the public remains vigilant about masks and social distancing.

"If the frequency goes up, you tighten it up. If the frequency goes down, you loosen up. Getting it just right is almost impossible," said Dr. Arnold Monto, a public health professor at the University of Michigan. "There's no perfect way to do this."

As Michigan's coronavirus rate dropped to the nation's fifth-lowest over the last two weeks, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said bars and restaurants can welcome indoor customers next week for the first time in 2 1/2 months. But they will be under a 10 p.m. curfew and will be limited to 25% of capacity, or half of what was allowed the last time she loosened their restrictions, in June.

The state previously authorized the resumption of in-person classes at high schools and the partial reopening of movie theaters.

"We're in a stronger position because we've taken this pause," Whitmer said. "But we are also very mindful of the fact that this variant is now here in Michigan. It poses a real threat."

The COVID-19 death toll in the U.S. has climbed past 425,000, with the number of dead running at close to all-time highs at nearly 3,350 a day on average.

But newly confirmed cases have dropped over the past two weeks from an average of about 248,000 per day to around 166,000. And the number of people in the hospital with COVID-19 has fallen by tens of thousands to 109,000.

At the same time, health experts have warned that the more contagious and possibly more lethal variant sweeping Britain will probably become the dominant source of infection in the U.S. by March. It has been reported in over 20 states.

Other mutant versions are circulating in South Africa and Brazil. The Brazil variant has been detected for the first time in the U.S., in Minnesota.

Chicago and surrounding suburbs allowed indoor dining over the weekend for the first time since October. Major cultural attractions including the Field Museum and Shedd Aquarium reopened with crowd limits.

Steve Lombardo III, an owner of a Chicago-area restaurant group, called being able to seat customers indoors a "huge boost." One of its most famous restaurants, Gibsons Bar & Steakhouse, has been using hospital-grade air filtration systems in the hopes of staying afloat, he said.

"Will we be making money? Probably not," Lombardo said. "But we won't be hemorrhaging money like we have the last three months."

Washington, D.C., also recently ended its month-long ban on indoor dining, but one in New York City remains in effect.

California Gov. Gavin Newsom this week lifted stay-at-home orders he imposed last month when hospitals were so overwhelmed with virus patients that they were on the verge of rationing lifesaving care. Restaurants and places of worship will be able to operate outdoors, and many stores will be able to have more shoppers inside.

Jen Diaz, a 38-year-old technical writer from Santa Clarita, California, who works remotely and has not left her home since a trip to the supermarket in March, said she was "horrified" when she heard the governor's announcement. She has rheumatoid arthritis, and her treatments suppress her immune system, but she has yet to receive a vaccination because she is under 65.

"I was really, really proud of California's response at first" in the early months of the pandemic, she said. "Suddenly we're just opening everything. `Let's go to the mall!'"

She added: "The government doesn't seem to be taking this as seriously as it once did, on a state level."

In Oregon, Gov. Kate Brown announced that some indoor operations such as gyms and movie theaters can reopen Friday with limited capacity. Indoor dining is still banned in the hardest-hit counties.

Not all places are taking as cautious an approach.

After North Dakota dropped to the nation's second-lowest case rate, Republican Gov. Doug Burgum this month not only relaxed limits on the number of people who can gather at restaurants and bars but also allowed a statewide mask mandate to expire last week.

"The fight is far from over, but we can certainly see the light of the end of the tunnel from here," Burgum said.

Dr. Joshua Sharfstein, vice dean for public health practice and community engagement at Johns Hopkins University and Maryland's former health department chief, cautioned such a step can carry heavy risk.

"I don't think it's unreasonable to start to reopen, but if people think that's the green light to pretend the virus doesn't exist, then we're going to be right back to where we were," Sharfstein said. "If you do restrictions, the virus goes down. You can open up and see how it goes. But if the variants really take hold, that may not be so easy."

Many restaurants say they cannot survive offering only takeout during the winter, when the cold makes it difficult if not impossible to offer outdoor dining.

Rick Bayless, one of the most decorated chefs in the U.S., said allowing indoor dining at his Mexican restaurants in Chicago may buy him some time.

"With 25% indoor we might be able to make it to the spring, when people will want to go outdoors," he said.

Bayless said the business survived a previous shutdown only because his landlord allowed him to stay rent-free for three months. The uncertainty has taken a toll on his workers, he said.

"It's been touch-and-go. When they allowed us to open up on Saturday, we had staff in here that were literally in tears," Bayless said.

Babwin reported from Chicago. Associated Press writer Sophia Tareen in Chicago contributed to this report.

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Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Best Concerts of the Year! II



Courtesy photo

LIVE: Madama Butterfly at the Pacific Opera Project was a highlight.

AND THE YEAR IS... 2019!

Four weeks ago I listed the best local concerts of the previous year. But it was a pretty short list: five shows, in a COVID-crippled year. NICOLE RECOMMENDS added nine more, and six of them were in one long weekend.

But the year before that — boy howdy! "What a banner year 2019 was," I wrote. "A cornucopia of amazing performances, large and small." There were too many great shows I missed, but here are more of the ones I caught, that caught my imagination, in 2019. (List started last Thursday, at the beginning of the year.)

LIVE MUSIC, COME BACK!

It will, but will all the venues be able to hang in there? I sure hope so. Some of our LA clubs and halls are known worldwide, part of the essential history of rock and roll, folk and other genres of music. A few weeks ago my trusty sidekick (and daughter) Nicole wrote about a book she contributed to about iconic music venues all over the country, the 400-page "Bring Music Home." It should be out within a couple of weeks, and I can't wait to see it. You can order it here: bringmusichome.com/store/p/bring-music-home-book

This same group, working with NIVA and Save Our Stages, successfully lobbied Congress (more than 2 million emails!) to include some funds for live music and theatre venues in the most recent COVID relief package. Good job!

You might also want to check in on your favorite live music watering holes, their websites, to see how they're doing, and maybe drop a contribution if you can. Tell them you miss them! And so does NOTEWORTHY.

MORE BEST LIVE SHOW MEMORIES FROM 2019

Mar. 2, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion — Just to remind you what a Dude MOZART was, this gripping story, "THE CLEMENCY OF TITUS," with fantastic music and singing was his last opera, very near the end of his life, and — he wrote it at the same time as his masterpiece "The Magic Flute," using some of the same music in both. Simultaneously. Dude. Shows what you can do under pressure of deadline, I guess.

Mar. 8, The Broad Stage — ALASH, Tuvan throat singers! Simultaneous different pitches and notes! Fascinating, mind-blowing even, I'd seen such groups before but this trio was a real treat, playing authentic instruments, wearing their native dress, and taking you a few centuries back, straight to the Siberian-Mongolia border but without the freezing temperatures.

Mar. 9, First Presbyterian Church — Santa Monica's cutting edge classical music series JACARANDA has been gifting us for years now with performances you won't find anywhere else, by world class players, and FLYING DREAM, with compositions by DUKE ELLINGTON and William Grant Still, plus Florence Price's "Piano Sonata" and George Walker's "Lyric for String Quartet" (of course featuring their superb, resident LYRIS QUARTET), was riveting, and fun.

Mar. 23, LA PHIL presents OSCAR, WITH LOVE — oh man, this one just might make my All-Time Top 20. I have never seen such a lineup of so many of the best jazz pianists of our generation, and it was thrill after big-grin thrill, though mostly ballads. This was the road show of the 2016 tribute album to the great Oscar Peterson, the man Duke Ellington called "the maharajah of the keyboard," and a pretty decent songwriter to boot, with many of the players from that album. Monty Alexander, Kenny Barron, m'man Benny Green, Renee Rosnes and Bill Charlap, Gerald Clayton (with his dad John on bass), this would have been great even if it were only Benny Green. Peterson was beloved by jazz and classical audiences alike for his virtuosity, equally influenced by his classical training and jazz icon Art Tatum, and this all-star crew did him justice.

Mar. 29, The Cinema Bar — RICK SHEA, I SEE HAWKS IN L.A., two of my favoritest California country groups, together, at a cool little watering hole just outside SM, no cover charge and sanely priced drinks, a friendly crowd, it was a great night.

Apr. 6, Japanese American Cultural Center — do you even know about PACIFIC OPERA PROJECT? Enough do that it's hard to get tickets, but it's still a bit of a precious secret. They started on a shoestring and still have only sneakers, putting together an entire costumed, orchestrated, well-sung opera with only a couple of rehearsals in a couple of weeks, and in six years they have gotten a lot of critical praise and quite a following. Most of their first shows were

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 11

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Summons

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locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of $10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Summons

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de $10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, Central District-Stanley Mosk111 North Hill St. Los Angeles , CA 90012 The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Michael A. Abramson , Esq 8918 W. Pico Blvd #102 Los Angeles, CA 90035 DATE (Fecha): March 03, 2020Sharron R Carter of the Court, Clerk (Secretario), by M. Barel

Public Notice

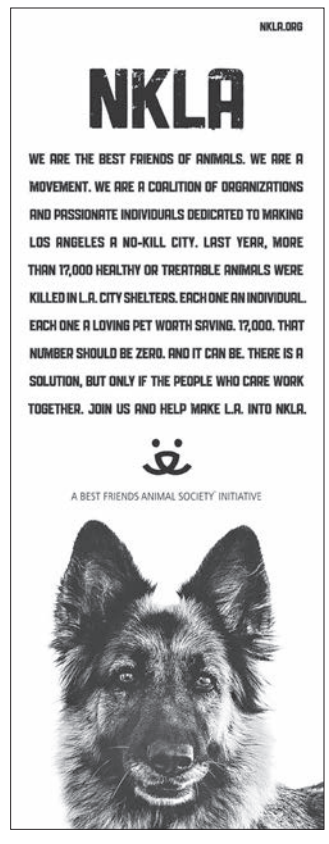
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING WITH RESPECT TO THE ISSUANCE OF OBLIGATIONS BY THE CALIFORNIA INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE RAND CORPORATION NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, on February 8, 2021, the California 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

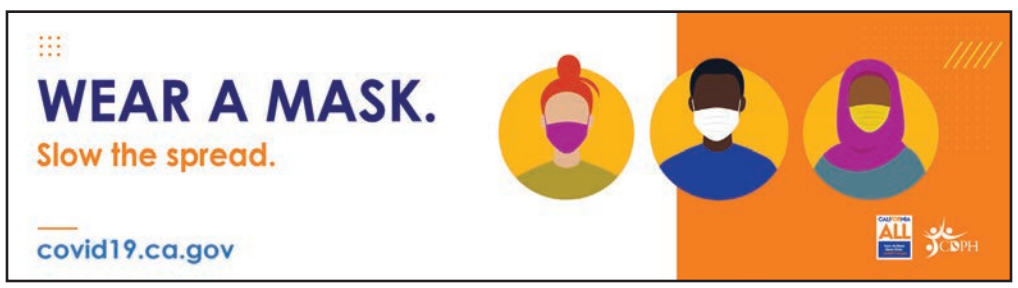
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Main Street, Santa Monica, California 90401, consisting of approximately 3.7 acres of land with a five-story office building containing approximately 310,000 square feet of office space and a three-story underground parking garage (collectively, the "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

Public Notice

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, 2021 CALIFORNIA INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK By /s/ William D. Pahland, Jr. General Counsel





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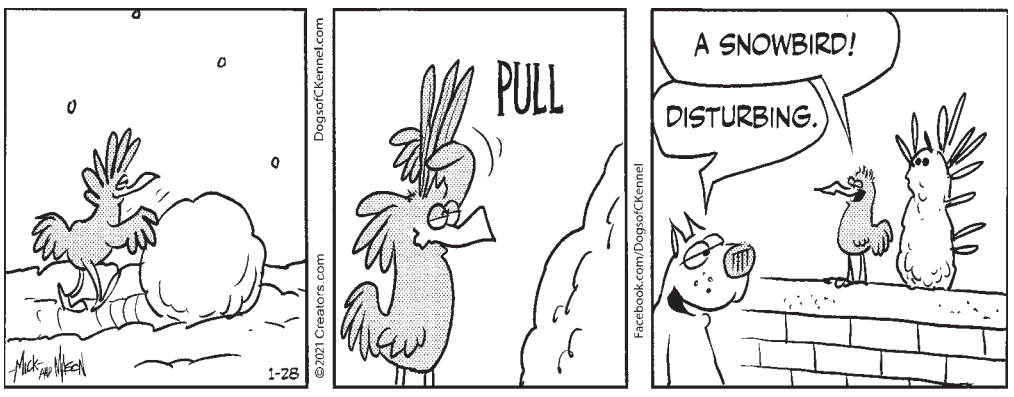
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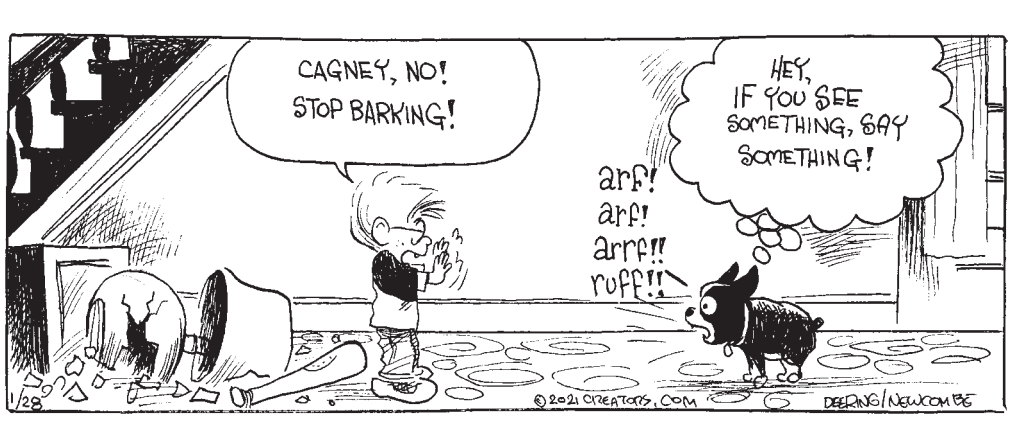
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FRIDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft Waist to chest high
WNW/NW swell due to fade. Light AM winds expected trending to breezier WNW in the afternoon.

WEATHER

Thursday: Rain likely, mainly after 10am. Cloudy, with a high near 60.
Thursday Night: Rain, with thunderstorms also possible after 10pm. Low around 49.
Friday: High near 55. West southwest wind 10 to 15 mph.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2021/02/01	Mon	11:10 AM	5.03	H
2021/02/01	Mon	5:54 PM	-0.13	L
2021/02/02	Tue	12:31 AM	4.48	H
2021/02/02	Tue	06:19 AM	1.55	L

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5 8 17 27 28
Power#: 14
Jackpot: 20 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 1/26
29 49 56 66 67
Mega#: 24
Jackpot: 25 M

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Draw Date: 1/23
15 25 37 43 45
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Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/26
2 6 8 10 28

Daily 3
Draw Date: 1/26
EVENING: 4 4 2
Draw Date: 1/26
MIDDAY: 4 1 9

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 1/26
1st: 04 - Big Ben
2nd: 08 - Gorgeous George
3rd: 09 - Winning Spirit
Race Time: 1:44.21

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (JANUARY 28)

You read people exceptionally well – a superpower to apply often. You'll sense what they want, know when to apply pressure and when to back off. These instincts combined with a solid understanding of your own agenda make a powerful combination. You'll forward the aims of a group while fulfilling your destiny. Virgo and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 5, 13, 20 and 16.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Every day you wake, eat, dress, care for your dearest responsibilities and do it without a second thought. This is because, when it comes to behavior, dailiness wins out. You're in the process of adding a new habit to your days.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). We don't see the world how it is; we see the world how we are. Even so, the closer you can get to understanding the actuality of the world, the more effective your day-to-day actions will be. It's a day for vision tune-up.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Take precautions to guard your time against invaders. The robbers will not come with masks and guns; rather, they have the faces you adore as they offer entertaining distractions and ego-involving dramas.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Language can enhance your understanding or impede it. To see the situation differently, lift the words out and observe only the action. What's your new interpretation?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There is usually something absurd lurking in the normalcy of daily things that everyone takes for granted. It's a fun thing to see and point out to kindred souls who share your sense of humor.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Do not underestimate the power of belonging. People will do the most illogical things to fit in. They will stick with their crew when it makes no sense and has no clear benefit to them. Plan for this.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You can see the merit in a thing, admire what it took to build and support what the thing stands for — all while knowing it's not for you. You like what you like. Arguing with anyone's sensibility is both futile and unnecessary.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Are you starting to think of your consciousness and mental space as a precious commodity? The world would not be clamoring for your attention were it otherwise. Precious commodities need protection.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Discovery brings you a particular kind of thrill that can be found nowhere else. Follow your desire to leave what you know and let your curiosity wrap its fingers around a new form.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're no stranger to wielding power, and your approach has matured through the years. If you're going to be relentless at anything, you want to be relentlessly charming.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). If ever there was a day in which you could do only what you felt like doing, you do not remember it. Your duties become you and vice versa. Only take on responsibilities you wish to become.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Beliefs are often more social than factual. If you want to understand a person whose creed doesn't make sense to you, perhaps you will be enlightened with a look into their family, friends and community.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

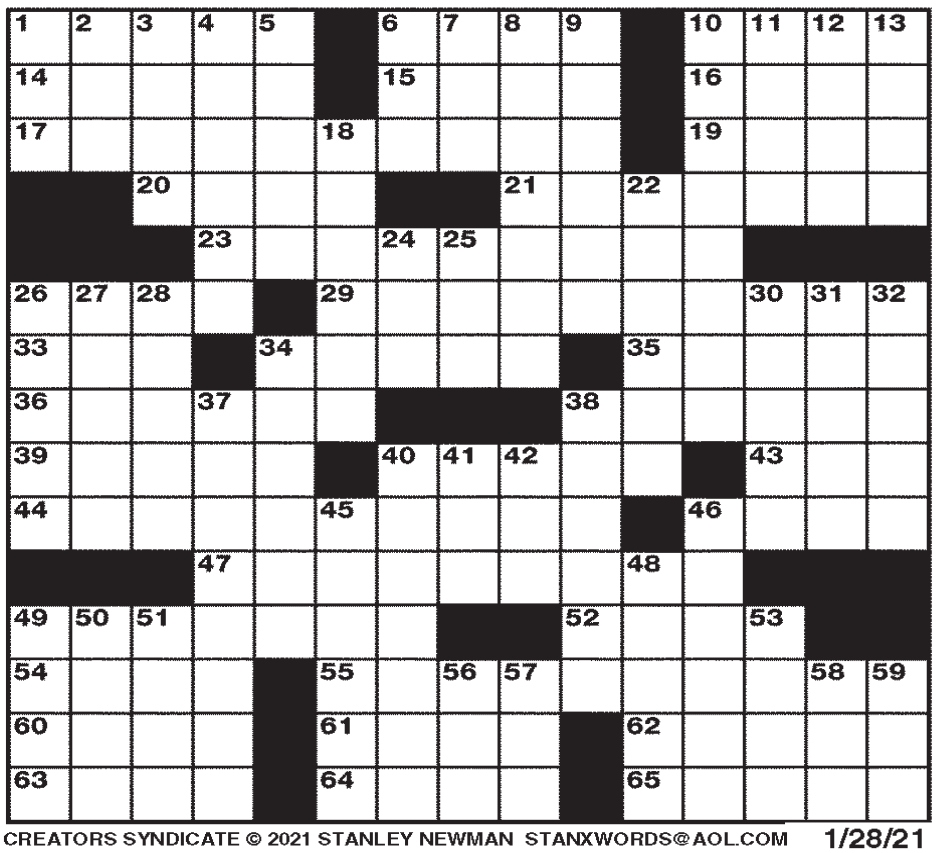
	3		4	8	6			
1		4		7		3		
	2				9		5	
9			7			2		6
	8		2	6	3		9	
2		6			4			3
	7		8				3	
		8		2		7		1
			6	9	7		4	

Newsday Crossword

WARNINGS by Greg Johnson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 He may be a rep protector
6 Concert boosters
10 Auburn U's football rival
14 Giraffe cousin
15 Smallish songbird
16 "In your dreams!"
17 With 55 Across, crime scene warning
19 Nickname similar to Kristy
20 Rude gaze
21 What some couches collect
23 Seafood served in Maryland
26 First pot payment
29 Guardhouse warning
33 "Well, ___-di-dah!"
34 Nuisances
35 Bring up, verbally or otherwise
36 Earth shaker
38 Mountain climber's descent
39 Be part of, with a cast
40 It's south of Atlanta
43 Notable period
44 Warning near a detour
46 William (Bill) Gates III's family nickname
47 Unappreciated
49 Park perchers
52 Alternative to a kid's timeout
54 Poet Khayyám
55 See 17 Across
60 Oil source
61 Too-long wait on hold
62 Couric or Holmes
63 Marks that cross
64 Catch ___ (figure out)
65 Exhausted

DOWN
1 Minor explosion
2 Golden Age of Hollywood studio
3 Place with much parking
4 For just one
5 Comparatively friendly
6 Leather belt piercer
7 Test ordered in ERs
8 Stoppers of ink stains
9 Untrustworthy ones
10 Bar in the house
11 It's got Seoul
12 Much less than mammoth
13 In the distance
18 Icon for removal
22 World capital alphabetically following Tegucigalpa
24 Divinity degs.
25 Rollable bed
26 Sacred setting
27 "Sleep" starter
28 Frat letter
30 Car's squeegee
31 River at Grenoble
32 Put off
34 It's donned over your head
37 Some 2022 elections
38 One of the gnawers
40 Rainy season wind
41 How to find stuff out
42 Collectible from Walt Disney's day
45 Shipboard shout
46 Sandal style
48 Sandals don't go with them
49 Vatican leader
50 Immersive movie experience
51 Dorothy's last name in . . . *Oz* (coincidence?)
53 Show of hands, say
56 Granola morsel
57 Spanish gold
58 Stray from saintliness
59 Solidified



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2021 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 1/28/21

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

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



"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 30 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5007

Sydney suburbs

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

Abbotsford	East	Pymble
Airds	Freshwater	Pyrmont
Allawah	Gymea	Queenscliff
Auburn	Lane Cove	Roads
Avalon	Lidcombe	Ruse
Balmain	Malabar	Ryde
Bondi	Manly	Tempe
Busby	Maps	Tregear
Cattai	Miller	Ultimo
Cowan	Minto	View
Cromer	Narwee	Waverley
Dural	Newtown	West

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
They have a proud family heritage

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DIRECTOR

FROM PAGE 1

"The decision to launch something was born out of the shock, frustration and horror that young people were living in the streets and not receiving the services that they needed," said Hurst. "In my wildest dreams I never imagined that it would be the organization that it is today."

On Jan. 12, Hurst announced that she and her husband will be moving back to the UK in August to be closer to family and is looking for a suitable replacement to spearhead the next era of leadership at SPY.

While the organization has transformed over the past decade the principles of "care and connection" and a "low barrier approach" have always been at the core of SPY's work.

Under this philosophy, outreach workers forge relationships with homeless youth and place them as leaders in building their own pathway off the street and into stable and prosperous lives. SPY also employs many formerly homeless individuals to support young people currently going through their programs.

Hurst's work has not always been met with thanks. Many community members strongly oppose the expansion of homeless housing units in the neighborhood and believe they increase crime and attract more encampments.

"I've always lived in Mar Vista, and the whole time I've been here for 20 years the pushback and the NIMBYism against any kind of resources in this community has been incredibly painful," said Hurst. "But every time I get to sit with a young person whose life has been transformed because of their own resilience and access to our services it makes it all worth it."

SPY has recently come under criticism for its role as a service provider at the Venice Bridge Home — a 154 bed transitional housing project operated by the City of Los Angeles, which opened in late February 2020.

In its first nine months of operation, LAPD reported an 88 percent increase in violent crime in the area around the shelter, and statistics provided by CD-11 Venice Field Deputy Nisa Kove reported that only seven residents transitioned into permanent housing during the shelter's first six months of operation.

While these numbers paint a stark picture, Hurst does not feel like the home is a failure and said there is much more to the story.

"I think it's a huge success," said Hurst. "We launched the bridge and the pandemic happened literally two weeks afterwards, so I think it's remarkable what we've been able to do."

Hurst said that while SPY provides services to people living in the home, it has no authority over encampments outside the shelter. The City of LA promised increased security and sanitization enforcement would be provided by specially trained LAPD officers in the four block radius of the shelter, but this has not occurred.

In response to the increase in crime surrounding the shelter, Hurst pointed to the lack of enforcement services and the reduction of police presence. She said crime has been on the rise all around Venice during the pandemic and that it cannot be directly attributed to the Bridge Home.

"I firmly believe that the Bridge is a positive thing for the community," said Hurst. "If you're lucky like me to visit and meet and speak with the residents, you'll know immediately that people are thriving."

Through the Bridge Home and SPY's expansion of its pregnant and parenting housing program, the organization has been able to increase the number of youths it houses by 115 percent in the last year.

Hurst hopes that going forward SPY will continue expanding the number of beds it can provide to homeless youth. Hurst is looking for a replacement who will understand the importance of having the community build homeless solutions together and will be focused on racial equity and inclusion.

"It's been an incredible honor and privilege to do this work for the last 10 years," said Hurst. "The people that I've met along the way that show up day in and day out, because they care so deeply about folks experiencing homelessness just blow me away. The young folks that we serve and their resiliency overcoming trauma just blow me away."

Clara@smdp.com

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

step down if his wife were suing the city and proposed that de la Torre voluntarily recuse himself from the matters.

De la Torre refused though, stating he would do so if the Fair Political Practices Commission or courts ruled he should.

Councilmember Phil Brock said he wished de la Torre would voluntarily recuse himself but Brock refused to cast a vote.

"I'm confused. I can't figure out how he should have to make a decision in this manner because all of us have some sort of implicit bias in this particular matter."

Himmelrich took issue with the phrasing, but Councilmember Christine Parra, who was the only other no-vote Tuesday besides de la Torre, agreed with Brock.

"I'm saddened and I'm confused and conflicted by everything that I've heard tonight, in terms of conflict of interest, because I'm in agreement," Parra said. "If you really look at it holistically, every city councilmember has a conflict here."

De la Torre asked shortly after Parra's statement if certain councilmembers should be excluded from conversations relating to law, the environment and the city's Black Agenda since they have worked on these subjects in the past.

But a majority of council was ready to take Cardona's suggestion that it could elicit a Superior Court decision to settle the issue by voting to bar de la Torre from closed sessions, which would then allow the councilmember to file a lawsuit challenging the decision.

Cardona added the City has already sought the advice of the Fair Political Practices Commission and the California Attorney General but neither are able to provide a decision on the matter. "There has to be some action taken by the Council and challenge to that action," Cardona said before Brock asked how long would it take to receive a court's opinion on the matter.

"I think that is impossible to predict," Cardona said before Interim City Manager Lane Dilg reminded councilmembers of their fiduciary duty to the city.

On Wednesday, McKeown said, "My motion provided the option for voluntary recusal, but it was declined, and the Council then acted in accordance with common sense."

De la Torre disagreed in a statement.

"Residents who elected me are aware of the CVRA lawsuit and my position in stopping the wasteful spending of public dollars to protect the seats of those Councilmembers and staff who disagree with me," de la Torre said. "I don't have a conflict, I have a mandate."

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COVID

FROM PAGE 1

said Ferrer. "We're at 48 cases per 100,000 residents. I do believe it will take us two to three weeks to reduce that rate."

If cases hit this threshold elementary schools will still need to meet stringent safety protocols and reach agreements with teachers' unions in order to reopen. Under state guidelines secondary schools are not allowed to reopen until the County has less than 7 new cases per 100,000 residents.

On Monday L.A. County was released from the state stay-at-home order, giving the Public Health Department the ability to lift the ban on outdoor dining. According to Ferrer, directives on outdoor dining will be released late in the day on Thursday outlining the regulations restaurants must follow to reopen on Friday.

On Wednesday health officials reported 6,917 new cases and 307 additional deaths in L.A. County. The seven day new case average was 6,564 on Jan. 22, down from a peak of over 15,000 cases on Jan. 8.

Hospitalizations and death rates also continue to trend in a positive direction.

Hospitalizations peaked at 8,065 on Jan. 6 and dropped to 6,200 on Wednesday. Daily average deaths reached 151 on Jan. 19, down from 194 on Jan. 7.

In order to further bend the curve and reopen more sectors of the economy, health officials urged residents to continue following health directives and to especially avoid gathering for the Super Bowl.

"It will be tragic if the Super Bowl becomes a super spreader of Coronavirus for sports fans," said Ferrer. "Please start planning now to find ways to enjoy the Super Bowl without putting your friends, your family, your neighbors and our community at risk."

Recent data shows that even as cases decrease, Los Angeles' Latino community continues to be disproportionately impacted by Covid-19.

On Jan 18. the seven day cumulative rate of new cases for Latinx residents was nearly 1,900 per 100,000 people compared to 795 for Black residents, 651 for Asian residents, and 616 for white residents.

Since the beginning of winter surge the 14 day average daily deaths for Latinx residents increased by over 1000 percent — from 3.5 deaths per 100,000 people in early November to 240 deaths per 100,000 people on Jan. 15.

"While every single race and ethnicity group in L.A. County has seen a horrendous increase in mortality rates, the gap between the experiences of those in our Latinx community and all others is frankly horrifying," said Ferrer.

Disproportionate impacts also persist between socioeconomic groups. As of Jan. 18 people living in high poverty areas experienced roughly double the case rates as those in the highest resource areas and more than three times the death rates.

The Public Health Department is currently stepping up its efforts to provide medical support and vaccinations to individuals in the hardest hit communities.

"We have pockets where small numbers of people only have been vaccinated," said Ferrer. "We use this information so that we modify our plans and make sure that we're getting vaccines to communities that have lower vaccination rates and have experienced high rates of cases, hospitalizations and deaths."

As of Monday 662,963 vaccine doses had been administered in L.A. County including roughly 544,000 first doses and 119,000 second doses. Ferrer said all residents are guaranteed a second dose and most people will be able to receive both doses at the same location.

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NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 6

at Miles Playhouse here in SM, now all over LA including Forest Lawn Cemetery and the South Pasadena Library. This one was another appropriate site choice because this was the first time the beloved MADAMA BUTTERFLY was sung in both English and Japanese. Risky, ambitious as heck, but will it work? It did! Perfectly. They take chances and sometimes it doesn't quite work, but usually it does, and then you've had an evening as memorable as this one.

NICOLE RECOMMENDS:

EXCAVATED SHELLAC: AN ALTERNATE HISTORY OF THE WORLD'S MUSIC — is a brand new 100-track album featuring largely never-before-released songs from 89 different countries, all recorded between 1907-1967.

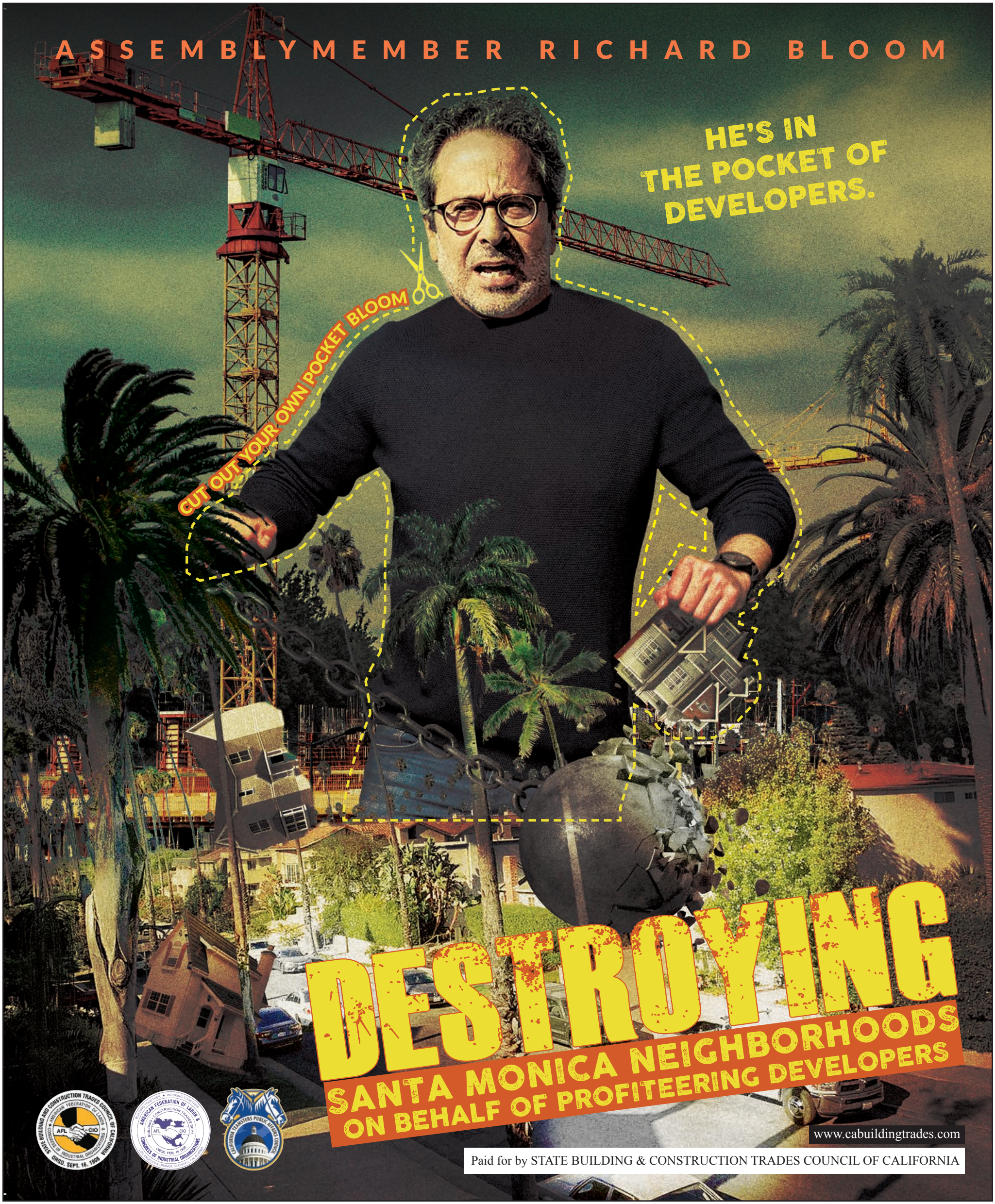
The album is accompanied by an extensively detailed 186-page PDF contextualizing each track's history and significance, as well as touching on the complexities of colonialism, economic agendas, and cultural tourism.

The album is being released exclusively by our friends at Dust-to-Digital, who have lovingly and expertly-restored each track thanks to the help of Michael Graves at Osiris Studio. I have listened to every track available for preview multiple times — "Los Chinacos - Zacamandú (Mexico)" and "Ishmulla Dilmukhametov - Hyr (Bashkortostan, (Russia)" — are so far tied for my favorites, and I am already getting my wallet out to order.

You can purchase (or preview a few tracks) here: https://dusttodigital.bandcamp.com/album/excavated-shellac-an-alternate-history-of-the-worlds-music

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 34 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com




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