smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

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01.28.22
Volume 21 Issue 62

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Winds forecast for mountain regions.
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Officials say no cause for alarm yet.
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Santa Monica hires new Fire Chief from Burbank

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor



DANNY ALVAREZ

Danny Alvarez has been chosen to lead the Santa Monica Fire Department.

Former Fire Chief Bill Walker departed in May of 2021 to the Bedford Fire Department in Texas and Wolfgang Knabe has been Interim Fire Chief since June of last year.

City Manager David White announced the appointment on Thursday.

"We had an exceptionally strong talent pool for our next Fire Chief, but ultimately, Chief Alvarez rose to the top due to his well-rounded experience, data-driven approach to management, and his commitment and track record to improving diversity, equity, and inclusion," said White in a statement. "He also brings a deep love of the fire service and is focused on building meaningful relationships with the community and employees he serves. We are extremely excited to have Chief Alvarez join our Santa Monica team."

Alvarez was born in Santa

SEE **CHIEF** PAGE 11

City workers report progress to advance racial equity

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

The City's Racial Equity Committee is entering its second year of existence, and while staff admit that the City and broader Santa Monica community still has a lot of work to do, important progress has been made towards six key goals identified by staff.

The Racial Equity Committee is charged with advancing diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) and is staffed by Equity and Inclusion Officers from each City department. While DEI work has been a part of City policies for several years, the outcry against systemic racism in 2020 demonstrated the need to double down on these efforts and led to the committee's establishment.

The committee strives to improve racial equity within all aspects of the City's work environment including the hiring and recruitment process, staff training, staff interaction with the community, career development and staff wellbeing.

In a Jan. 25 Council meeting, committee co-leaders Delana G. Gbenekama, equity and communications coordinator, and Lisa Parson, special assistant to

SEE **RACIAL EQUITY** PAGE 11

SMFD 2021 activity shows signs of life returning to normal



File photo

FIRE: Calls to the fire department have increased from pandemic lows.

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

The Santa Monica Fire Department (SMFD) responded to thousands of emergency calls in 2021, with "rescue & emergency medical service incidents" making up the largest share of the department's activities for the year.

SMFD Fire Captain Patrick Nulty said calls in were beginning to pick up from the 2020 lull.

"Our call volume dropped significantly during 2020 in the height of the pandemic, which is a trend seen across the area," Nulty wrote in an email to the Daily Press. "Normally we average 17,000 calls per year, and in 2020 we had a little over 14,000. We have steadily picked back up since then, but are not completely back to normal, although for 2021 we are on pace to return to pre-pandemic incident numbers."

Over the course of the calendar year, a total of 16,171 calls went out to the SMFD, with the majority — 10,907 — being rescues and EMS incidents. There were also 2,141 "good intention" calls.

"'Good Intent Call' refers to many things but the simplest way to describe them is — nothing was found upon our arrival, such as a smell of smoke with no known source which might dissipate before the fire engine arrives," Nulty explained.

Over the course of the year, 1,331 false alarms and false calls were reported. Another 987 were calls for service, meaning anything from a water leak to a stuck elevator to a fire hydrant struck by a vehicle.

SMFD responded to 343 fires, 403 hazardous condition reports (excluding fires), 17 "overpressure rupture, explosion, overheat" calls (excluding fires) and just one severe weather call, which went out in December.

The month with the most incident reports was October, when a total of 1,500 calls came into the fire department. The quietest month was February, with 1,103 calls for service.

Nulty also shared that there were several significant events in

SEE **SMFD STATS** PAGE 4



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Four Indicted in Connection with Fatal Shooting of Off-Duty LAPD Officer

City News Service

A federal grand jury Thursday returned an indictment against three gang members and one associate for the fatal shooting of an off-duty Los Angeles Police Department officer.

The three men and the 18-year-old girlfriend of one defendant were charged with violating a federal racketeering statute for their roles in the robbery and fatal shooting of Los Angeles Police Department Officer Fernando Arroyos on Jan. 10, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

The charge of violent crime in aid of racketeering carries a potential death penalty and a minimum sentence of life in federal prison without the possibility of parole because the fatal shooting occurred during a robbery, prosecutors said.

Charged with violent crime in aid of racketeering to increase and maintain position within the Latino gang based in South Los Angeles were:

— Luis Alfredo De La Rosa "Lil J" Rios, 29;

— Ernesto "Gonzo" Cisneros, 22;

— Jesse "Skinny Jack" Contreras, 34; and

— Haylee Marie Grisham, 18, Rios' girlfriend.

Rios and Contreras are set to be arraigned on Feb. 3, Grisham on Feb. 7, and Cisneros on Feb. 10 in Los Angeles federal court.

Los Angeles County Sheriff Alex Villanueva indicated he directed detectives to take the case to the U.S. Attorney's Office because of his opposition to District Attorney George Gascón's decision to no longer pursue sentencing enhancements in gang cases.

Those enhancements in a murder case can mean the difference between a life term with the possibility of parole and never being released from prison.

The shooting occurred about 9:15 p.m. Jan. 10 in the 8700 block of Beach Street, near Firestone Boulevard, in the unincorporated Firestone- Florence area, authorities said.

According to a complaint filed Jan. 13 by FBI Special Agent Seamus Kane, Rios admitted in an interview with sheriff's detectives his involvement in the killing, saying he and the other defendants were driving around looking to "make money," which he further explained meant to rob a person of property or money.

Federal prosecutors allege that Rios and Cisneros exited a black pickup and confronted Arroyos, a three-year veteran of the LAPD, and his girlfriend as they were searching for a home to purchase in the area.

The two allegedly pointed guns at the victims and removed property from both, including a wallet and two silver chains from Arroyos' neck, said sheriff's Capt. Joe Mendoza

"At some point after Cisneros removed (Arroyos') chains, (Arroyos) and the two suspects exchanged gunfire," according to court documents.

Arroyos sustained a single gunshot wound, ran from the area and collapsed in an alley as the two suspects fled the scene in the truck.

Responding sheriff's deputies arrived at the scene and found bystanders performing CPR on Arroyos, Mendoza said. The deputies loaded Arroyos into a patrol car and took him to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Detectives retrieved a loaded handgun from the scene belonging to one of the suspects, and the sheriff's department received a about 9:25 p.m. Monday of a man suffering a gunshot wound in the area of Junction Street and East 60th Street about a mile-and-a-half from the site of the shooting, Mendoza said.

Investigators later determined the wounded man was Cisneros and he had sustained the gunshot during the shootout with Arroyos. Contreras was also found in the area hiding inside the garage of his residence in the 5900 block of Junction Street.

A second handgun was retrieved from Contreras' residence and will be tested to determine if it was used in the shooting, Mendoza said.

Rios and Graham were later found and taken into custody at their residence.

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More Santa Ana Winds Return to Southland

City News Service

More Santa Ana winds began blowing across the Southland Thursday, with gusty conditions expected to continue into Friday, prompting warnings of possibly hazardous driving conditions and the potential for downed tree limbs and blowing debris.

A wind advisory will be in effect through 4 p.m. Friday for the Los Angeles County Mountains, Santa Clarita and San Fernando valleys, the Santa Monica Mountains and the coastal area including downtown.

According to the National Weather Service, winds were gusting at 25-35 mph in some areas by Thursday afternoon, with some traditionally windy areas — such as the Magic Mountain Truck Trail — seeing gusts of 40 to 50 mph. The strongest winds of the Santa Ana event, however, are not expected until Friday morning.

Although the wind advisories are scheduled to expire at 4 p.m. Friday, forecasters warned that current conditions show the potential for winds continuing into Saturday morning.

"Therefore may need to extend the advisories, but will wait until (Friday) to make that call," according to the NWS.

Forecasters said earlier that mountain and higher valley areas are likely to have the strongest winds, gusting up to 55 mph, while other locations will have winds of 30-50 mph.

In Orange County, a wind advisory will be in effect until 10 p.m. Friday for inland areas and the Santa Ana Mountains and foothills. Forecasters said the areas could see winds of 15 mph to 25 mph, with gusts of 45 to 55 mph.

Forecasters urged motorists in all advisory areas to use extra caution when driving, "especially if operating a high-profile vehicle."

"Gusty winds could blow around unsecured objects," according to the NWS. "Tree limbs could be blown down and a few power outages may result."

Southern California Edison crews will be on alert during the wind event, and the utility reminded customers that outage information is available on its website at SCE.com and on Facebook and Twitter. SCE noted that the winds are not expected to be as severe as last week's Santa Ana event, which saw gusts of up to 90 mph in some mountain and foothill areas, knocking down trees that brought down power lines.

The utility recommended that residents in wind-prone areas take precautions to prepare for possible outages, including:

— check emergency supplies, such as a battery-operated radio, flashlight and batteries;

— secure temporary structures, backyard furniture, tents or other items that can be blown away;

— avoid downed power lines;

— don't try to remove broken tree limbs or branches that may have touched power lines;

— use caution when driving and treat intersections with inoperable traffic signals as four-way stops;

— use flashlights instead of candles in an outage.

A full list of safety tips is available at sce.com/safety-.

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JPL Names Laurie Leshin Its First Woman Director

City News Service

Laurie Leshin, president of Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts, has been named the new director of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and vice president of Caltech — becoming the JPL's first woman director, it was announced Thursday.

Leshin, a geochemist and space scientist, succeeds Michael Watkins, who stepped down in August. Retired Air Force Lt. Gen. Larry D. James has been serving as JPL interim director.

JPL is a federally funded research and development center managed by Caltech for NASA.

Leshin, who was named WPI's first woman president in 2014, will assume her new positions on May 16, the JPL and Caltech said Thursday in announcing the appointment.

Raised in Arizona, Leshin earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Arizona State University, and received her master's and doctoral degrees in geochemistry from Caltech.

"Laurie Leshin stood out in an exhaustive international search because of her profound commitment to people, her strategic approach to scientific and technological opportunities, her deep appreciation of NASA's leadership in space exploration and Earth science, her mastery of complex organizations and her ability to inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers," said Caltech President Thomas F. Rosenbaum.

"We are so pleased to be able to welcome Laurie back to campus and to JPL."

Leshin's career has spanned both academia and senior positions at NASA, and included two White House appointments.

In 2005, she became director of science and exploration at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, and in 2008, she was named Goddard's deputy director for science and technology. In 2010, she became deputy associate administrator of the Exploration Systems Mission Directorate at NASA headquarters, where her work, in part, involved the commercial capabilities of space flight.

Leshin left NASA in 2011 to join Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York State as dean of the School of Science.

In 2004, Leshin served on President George W. Bush's Commission on Implementation of United States Space Exploration Policy. In 2013, President Barack Obama appointed her to the advisory board of the Smithsonian

SEE JPL PAGE 5

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 277 CALLS ON JANUARY 26

Family Disturbance 1900Blk Arizona Ave 12:21 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 100Blk Arizona Ave 1:49 a.m.
Loud Music 100Blk Hart Ave 2:00 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 3100Blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:05 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1500Blk Colorado Ave 3:22 a.m.
Encampment 2400Blk Broadway 6:39 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2400Blk Beverley Ave 7:23 a.m.
Domestic Violence 1100Blk 17th St 7:24 a.m.
Vandalism1500Blk 20th St 7:29 a.m.
Petty Theft 1300Blk Wilshire Blvd 7:31 a.m.
Burglary 800Blk 12th St 7:38 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1400Blk 7th St 8:36 a.m.
General Parking Problem 300Blk Olympic Dr 9:01 a.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 1300Blk 19th St 9:01 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 20th St / Colorado Ave 9:25 a.m.
Burglary 1600Blk 14th St 9:29 a.m.
Traffic Hazard 20th St / Pico Blvd 9:34 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1300Blk 2nd St 9:47 a.m.
Vandalism1300Blk 2nd St 9:49 a.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 2700Blk Olympic Blvd 10:02 a.m.
Fraud 1400Blk 16th St 10:07 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2400Blk Wilshire Blvd 10:08 a.m.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered 1000Blk 18th St 10:28 a.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 2500Blk Wilshire Blvd 10:30 a.m.
Grand Theft 1800Blk Wilshire Blvd 10:36 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1500Blk 14th St 10:38 a.m.
General Parking Problem 1000Blk Cedar St 10:41 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 800Blk Stanford St 10:44 a.m.
Burglary 1500Blk Broadway 10:56 a.m.
Burglary 1000Blk 21st St 11:17 a.m.
Burglary 1500Blk Wilshire Blvd 11:19 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 900Blk 12th St 11:20 a.m.
Encampment 1500Blk 4th St 11:53 a.m.
Traffic Hazard 5th St / Idaho Ave 11:55 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 800Blk 6th St 12:01 p.m.
Traffic Hazard Lincoln Blvd / Olympic Blvd W 12:12 p.m.
Fight Main St / Pacific St 12:41 p.m.
Auto Burglary 2000Blk 5th St 12:51 p.m.
Found Senile Person 400Blk Wilshire Blvd 12:56 p.m.
Burglary 100Blk Idaho Ave 1:02 p.m.
Encampment 2600Blk Wilshire Blvd 1:12 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 800Blk Bay St 1:16 p.m.
Burglary 400Blk Pico Blvd 1:32 p.m.
Public Intoxication Berkeley St / Wilshire Blvd 1:37 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 300Blk Olympic Dr 1:44 p.m.
Traffic Hazard Lincoln Blvd / Bay St 2:01 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 100Blk Fraser Ave 2:10 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 1700Blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:42 p.m.
Indecent Exposure 1600Blk Ocean Front Walk 2:42 p.m.
Indecent Exposure 200Blk Santa Monica Pier 2:47 p.m.
General Parking Problem 600Blk Georgina Ave 2:51 p.m.
Petty Theft 300Blk Olympic Dr 2:55 p.m.
Identity Theft 1500Blk Stanford St 2:57 p.m.
Burglary 1000Blk 21st St 3:26 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1900Blk 17th St 3:43 p.m.
Found Property 1300Blk 5th St 3:51 p.m.
Battery 200Blk Montana Ave 4:04 p.m.
Indecent Exposure 1300Blk 2nd St 4:18 p.m.
Vandalism1700Blk Ocean Ave 4:32 p.m.
Encampment 800Blk 5th St 4:43 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1900Blk 18th St 4:48 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Ocean Ave / Hollister Ave 4:49 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 800Blk Wilshire Blvd 4:51 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Ocean Ave / Idaho Ave 4:58 p.m.
Petty Theft 1000Blk Wilshire Blvd 5:28 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 17th St / Olympic Blvd 5:42 p.m.
Encampment 500Blk Arizona Ave 5:51 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 5:53 p.m.
Encampment 1500Blk 4th St 6:44 p.m.
Petty Theft 1100Blk Pico Blvd 6:54 p.m.
Speeding 20th St / Wilshire Blvd 7:23 p.m.
Harassing Phone Calls 11th St / Santa Monica Blvd 7:24 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1200Blk 17th St 7:29 p.m.
Burglary 2200Blk Colorado Ave 7:36 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 28 CALLS ON JANUARY 26

EMS 1700Blk Expo Line 2:54 a.m.
EMS 1100Blk 16th St 3:22 a.m.
EMS 2400Blk Beverley Ave 3:41 a.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 1800Blk Olympic Blvd 4:05 a.m.
EMS 800Blk 2nd St 8:28 a.m.
EMS 1200Blk 6th St 11:13 a.m.
EMS 1100Blk 7th St 11:29 a.m.
EMS 2500Blk Pico Blvd 11:34 a.m.
EMS 1200Blk 6th St 12:38 p.m.
EMS 2800Blk Neilson Way 2:20 p.m.
EMS 1100Blk Palisades Park 2:42 p.m.
EMS 1700Blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:44 p.m.
EMS 1900Blk 19th St 3:02 p.m.
EMS 1200Blk 15th St 3:30 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk 17th St 4:30 p.m.
EMS 2400Blk 4th St 4:50 p.m.
EMS 2800Blk Exposition Blvd 5:08 p.m.
EMS 500Blk Colorado Ave 5:20 p.m.
EMS 2000Blk Arizona Ave 6:16 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1700Blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:18 p.m.
EMS 2600Blk Expo Line 8:35 p.m.
EMS 1100Blk Pico Blvd 8:54 p.m.
EMS 2000Blk Pico Blvd 8:59 p.m.
EMS 700Blk Marine St 9:24 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 23rd St / Santa Monica Blvd 10:12 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 2nd St / Marine St 10:14 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk 21st St 10:42 p.m.
EMS 400Blk Broadway 11:18 p.m.

`Cobra Kai' Tops Streaming Ratings; `Encanto' Second

STEVEN HERBERT
City News Service

The release of the fourth season of "Cobra Kai" lifted the sequel to the 1984 film "The Karate Kid" to the top of the streaming ratings, according to figures released by Nielsen Thursday.

Viewers spent 2.423 billion minutes between Dec. 27 and Jan. 2 watching the series' 40 episodes on Netflix, including the 10-episode fourth season, which was released Dec. 27.

There was a record amount of viewing of streaming programming during the week, with an unprecedented three programs surpassing the 2 billion minutes watched mark.

The animated musical "Encanto" rose one spot to second with 2.198 billion minutes watched in the first full week it was available on Disney+, with 25% of its audience coming from Latino homes and 40% of its viewership from children aged 2-11.

Viewership was up 59.9% from the 1.375 billion minutes watched the previous week when it was available for three days.

"Don't Look Up" was the other program to surpass the 2 billion minutes mark, with viewers spending 2.024 billion minutes watching the dark film comedy in its first full week on Netflix. Viewership was up 30.4% from the 1.552 billion minutes watched the previous week when it was available for three days.

"The Witcher" dropped to fourth after back-to-back first-place finishes with 1.827 billion minutes watched of its 16 episodes, 33.2% less than the 2.734 billion minutes watched the previous week, the first full week the fantasy drama's eight-episode second season was available on Netflix.

Three network series joined "Cobra Kai" as the programs in the latest top 10 that were not in the previous week's, all returning after one-week absences.

The long-running CBS police procedural "NCIS" was seventh with 730 million minutes watched of its 354 episodes of Netflix. The 2005-20 CBS police procedural "Criminal Minds" was eighth with 636 million minutes watched of its 317 episodes on Netflix.

The classic NBC comedy "Seinfeld" was 10th with 561 million minutes watched of its 166 episodes on Netflix.

Dropping out of the top 10 were Disney+ superhero miniseries "Hawkeye," the 2003 Christmas film "Elf," which streams on Hulu, the 1990 film comedy "Home Alone" which streams on Disney+, and the Lucille Ball biographical film "Being The Ricardos," which streams on Amazon Prime Video.

There were eight Netflix programs in the top 10 and one each from Disney+ and Amazon Prime Video, the epic fantasy series, "The Wheel of Time," ninth with 630 million minutes watched of its eight episodes. Nielsen

SEE **STREAMING** PAGE 5

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Design-Builders to complete and submit electronic bids for the:

Diesel Fuel Tank at Colorado Yard
SP2393

Bids will only be accepted through the CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL, ProcureNow or https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca. They must be received by the specified date and time. 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 ProcureNow immediately after bid close time.

NON-MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK:
Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 8:00 AM
Colorado Yard, 1601 14th Street, Parking available on-site

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $82,500.00
CONTRACT DAYS: 180 Calendar Days
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $500.00 Per Day

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca. The Contractor is required to have a **Class A, C10, C34, and C36** 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.

Santa Monica Daily Press
Classifieds

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Announcements	Pets	Rent	Storage Space	Business Opportunities	Lost and Found
Creative	Boats	Houses for Rent	Vehicles for Sale	Yard Sales	Personals
Employment	Jewelry	Roommates	Massage	Health and Beauty	Psychic
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	Apartments/Condos	Real Estate Loans	Attorney Services		

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER:File Number 2021271559 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 12/15/21. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as 1. CORECBRE 2. INN HOUSE HOSPITALITY 12341 Semora Pl Cerritos, CA 90703. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are Nagarajan Kapali 12341 Semora Pl Cerritos, CA 90703. 2. Ananthalakshmi Kapali 12341 Semora Pl Cerritos, CA 90703.If corporation or LLC- Print State of Incorporation/ Organization This Business is conducted by: A Married Couple The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date) N/A Registrant/Corp/ LLC Name /s/: Nagarajan Kapali title: Owner Nagarajan Kapali This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 12/15/21 NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish, 1/14/22 1/21/22, 1/28/22, 2/4/22

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WINNER

Los Angeles To Receive $53 Million Through California Youth Job Corps Program

City News Service

Mayor Eric Garcetti Thursday joined mayors across the state virtually Thursday to launch the $185 million #CaliforniansForAll Youth Job Corps program, which includes $53 million for Los Angeles to provide jobs for underserved youth.

The program is aimed at increasing youth employment and giving them meaningful career paths. It will employ thousands of young Californians between 16 and 30 years old, with intentional hiring of populations identified as being underserved, including low-income and unemployed individuals and people transitioning from foster care, according to California Chief Service Officer Josh Fryday.

Participants will be put to work in fields tackling climate change, food insecurity, COVID-19 recovery and other areas aimed at helping the state navigate some of its biggest challenges.

"Over the course of this pandemic, I think we've all seen high unemployment, and we've seen our vulnerable communities, especially our communities of color, hit extremely hard," Fryday said. "And we've also seen between all of us a collective reexamination, a reevaluation about what it means not just to have a job, but to have a job and a career and a life filled with meaning and dignity and purpose."

The first phase of the program will give $150 million to the 13 largest cities in California, with funding determined based on the city's population. Los Angeles, the state's biggest city, will receive $53 million, Garcetti said. Phase two will give $35 million to counties and smaller cities.

Cities will recruit thousands of residents between 16 and 30 to either build on a youth workforce already developed to create a new youth workforce with jobs that help serve the community. The program's participants will receive a minimum of $15 an hour, but cities can raise the rate to adjust the needs of the area.

Many of the program's participants will be given wraparound services, including case management, resume preparation, job training and other benefits, Fryday said.

"California's dream rests on the shoulders of our talented, brilliant young people who have in the last two years carried a lot of trauma and had to shoulder a lot of burdens. They're disconnected from their communities, they haven't spent what we would have experienced with social time with friends. I think there's a lot for all of us in the last few years that's taken us off track between the COVID, the economy and so much more," Garcetti said.

"We are so excited in Los Angeles to be a recipient of $53 million of these funds, and I assure you, Mr. Fryday, that we will put them to work and leverage them, adding our own funds that have allowed us to grow from 5,000 jobs a year for young people to over 20,000 jobs, a fourfold increase just in the time that I've been lucky enough to be mayor."

People can sign up to receive more information about the program at californiavolunteers.ca.gov/youth-jobs-corps.

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SMFD STATS

FROM PAGE 1

the course of the year, including an Oct. 3 traffic collision at the 1100 block of Pacific Coast Highway (near the entrance to Beach Parking Lot 4 North) in which there were 13 patients. Fortunately, no fatalities were reported in that accident.

The collision occurred at about 3 a.m. on Oct. 3, when a party bus crashed into another vehicle, according to Daily Press reporting at the time. The crash sent one passenger from the other vehicle to the hospital, while several passengers in the bus sustained minor injuries. That incident closed the freeway at 4th Street for the duration of the investigation. SMPD said at the time that the driver of the bus had fled the scene prior to officers arriving and the passengers provided very little information regarding the driver.

There were fatal traffic collisions reported on Aug. 14 and May 5. On Sept. 22, SMFD responded to a drowning at the Pier.

An April 29 gas main break at the 1100 block of Stanford Avenue lasted approximately three days and displaced about 400 households, Nulty reported.

According to Daily Press reporting at the time, at about noon on April 29, a private contractor struck a 16-inch natural gas main on Stanford Street near Washington Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard while trying to install fiber optic lines. Because of the danger of electric transformers creating sparks that could ignite the gas, power was cut to the neighborhood until repairs were completed.

Nulty also highlighted a significant structure fire at the Goodwill store at Santa Monica Boulevard and 26th Street on Oct. 4. Though firefighters were able to save a residential building located next door to the Goodwill store, but the business was a complete loss, according to Daily Press reporting at the time.

Santa Monica firefighters were also deployed in mutual aid strike teams to large-scale wildland fires elsewhere in California, Nulty described, including the Clador, Dixie, River, Beckworth and Salt fires.

emily@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.

Lions Among Us: Study Shows Mountain Cats Successfully Avoid Residential Areas

City News Service

They live and roam in one of the most densely populated areas of the country — Los Angeles — yet mountain lions studied over the past 15 years in the Santa Monica Mountains rarely venture into residential areas, thriving instead in the cover of chaparral and scrub brush, according to a National Park Service study.

But that doesn't mean they're always far from humanity, as evidenced by location data collected by GPS collars fitted on nearly 30 of the cats.

"We found that it is very rare for mountain lions to venture into neighborhoods," biologist Jeff Sikich, co-author and the lead NPS field scientist, said in a statement. "Overall, only about 1% of locations were actually in urban areas. However, it was interesting to see that in our analysis of habitat selection, mountain lions were consistently closer to urban development than expected by chance. This could be because mule deer, their main prey, may be benefiting from being around people."

The comprehensive on movements of mountain lions in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area was released in the final 2021 issue of the Journal of Wildlife Management. The study — titled "Big Cats in the Big City: Spatial Ecology of Mountain Lions in Greater Los Angeles" — used more than 128,000 GPS locator signals to evaluate how the lions roam about the landscape, noting which areas they tend to frequent, and which they generally avoid.

Data indicated that lions rarely enter residential developments, even avoiding landscaped areas such as golf courses and cemeteries. They tended to prefer "shrub vegetation," notably chaparral, highlighting the importance of maintaining such environments for the lions to thrive.

"Past studies, elsewhere and even in southern California, have often focused on the importance of forested areas for the species," Seth Riley, lead author and wildlife branch chief at SMMNRA, said. "While riparian and oak woodlands were also selected, our results show that mountain lions, North America's largest felid, can thrive in shrublands and can persist even in intensely developed Southern California."

On average, adult male lions in the study had a "home range" of about 144 square miles, vastly larger than adult females, who roamed a range of about 52 square miles.

The exceptions to the rule were a male lion named P-41, who confined himself to about 21 square miles in the Verdugos, while the most famous lion in the study — P-22 — roams the roughly nine-square-mile, freeway- and development-enclosed environs of Griffith Park. But even those two cats limit their movements primarily to natural areas, avoiding residential developments.

The study results indicate that despite Los Angeles being vastly populated and developed area, there appears to be sufficient open space remaining for the lions to persist in the region.

However, multiple other dangers still threaten the population — continued development, rodent poisons that can be ingested by the lions and freeways that divide and separate open space area, restricting movement of wildlife and leading to inbreeding that could endanger the lions' long-term survival.

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JPL

FROM PAGE 2

Institution's National Air and Space Museum.

Throughout, Leshin has also continued her scientific work, with a focus on examining the record of water on objects in the solar system.

"I am both thrilled and humbled to be appointed the director of JPL," Leshin said.

"In many ways, this feels like a homecoming. Some of the most impactful experiences of my career have taken place on the Caltech campus and at JPL — lessons learned and goals achieved that have shaped me as a leader and a space scientist. The opportunity to return to working closely with so many colleagues across Caltech — at the Lab and on campus — and at NASA is a dream come true."

She also said she was "especially honored to be the first woman to hold the title of director of JPL."

"I kfrom personal experience that diverse teams make greater impact, and I will work every day to ensure that JPL is a place where all belong and thrive," she said. "We will dare mighty things, together."

Watkins, the former director, announced in August he was stepping down to resume his academic and research career in aerospace and geophysics at Caltech.

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STREAMING

FROM PAGE 3

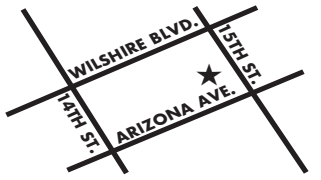
also announces streaming viewership of Apple TV+ and Hulu programming.

The top 10 consisted of four original streaming series, three series that originally aired on a U.S. broadcast network, two movies and "CoComelon," the 15-episode 3D animated series of videos of traditional nursery rhymes and original children's songs that originated on YouTube.

The top 10 programs were "Cobra Kai"; "Encanto"; "Don't Look Up"; "The Witcher"; "Emily in Paris"; "CoComelon," "NCIS"; "Criminal Minds"; "The Wheel of Time"; and "Seinfeld."

The figures reflect only television-set viewing, including such television-connected devices as Roku and Apple TV. Mobile-only viewing is not included in Nielsen's streaming measurement systems.

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4 Cases of Omicron Sub-Variant Detected in LA County, but No Alarms Yet

City News Servic

While the winter surge of COVID-19 infections fueled by the Omicron variant appears to be easing, authorities are watching the emergence of an Omicron "sub-lineage" that has spread rapidly in some countries, with Los Angeles County's health director saying Thursday four cases have been found locally.

Barbara Ferrer told reporters in an online briefing that the original Omicron variant, technically known as BA.1, remains the dominant variant circulating in Los Angeles County, representing more than 98% of sequenced cases as of early January. But with four cases of the Omicron "sub-lineage" known as BA.2 identified, she said officials will be awaiting answers from researchers about whether it could potentially lead to another surge.

"We don't yet how BA.2 might be different than other Omicron lineages, and scientists will be working rapidly in the coming weeks to learn more about immune evasion, severity and transmissibility," Ferrer said. "In places that have already passed their peak of Omicron cases, it does appear that BA.2 is causing a new surge. In places at their peak of the Omicron surge that have significant BA.2 prevalence, it doesn't appear that BA.2 is behaving dramatically different than other Omicron lineages. And compared with other Omicron lineages, BA.2 does not really have many unique mutations that would be impacting the part of the virus that's targeted by our immune system."

Ferrer said it's too early to sound any alarms over the BA.2 variant, since too many questions about its impact still need to be answered, but it should serve as a reminder to people that more COVID-19 variants could develop as long as the virus continues to spread. And that means continued adherence to infection-control measures — and vaccinations.

"It's very possible there could be another variant of concern in the future that can spread easily and contribute to another surge," Ferrer said. "Given the effectiveness of the FDA-authorized vaccines against at least four different known strains of the virus — we've had Alpha, Epsilon, Delta and Omicron — vaccines do remain our best tool for preventing COVID-19. Getting as many people vaccinated as soon as possible can help us sustain the declines we're seeing and limit opportunities in the future for new variants to arise."

Ferrer noted again that the county is seeing declines in case rates and hospitalizations, indicating the peak of the Omicron case surge has passed.

"While the case and hospitalization declines give us cause for much- welcomed hope, we should not take them as a sign to forgo the common-sense protective measures that help to slow COVID-19 transmission in our county," she said. "Continuing these safety measures is needed to drive down cases to a much smaller number, which will ultimately end staffing shortages, reduce workplace and school outbreaks, and most importantly keep residents from becoming seriously ill and dying."

Ferrer noted that COVID-19 deaths remain relatively high, averaging about 59 per day in the county. On Thursday, the county reported 85 new virus- related deaths.

Another 26,010 new COVID cases were reported Thursday, and the rolling daily average rate of people testing positive for the virus fell to 12.7%, down from around 20% earlier this month.

According to state figures, there were 4,323 COVID-positive patients in county hospitals as of Thursday, down from 4,534 on Wednesday. The number of those patients being treated in intensive care was 746, a drop from 780 a day earlier.

According to the county, 81% of eligible county residents aged 5 and above have received at least one dose of vaccine, and 72% are fully vaccinated. Only 32% are fully vaccinated with a booster shot. Of the county's overall 10.3 million population, 77% have received one dose, 69% are fully vaccinated, and 31% are vaccinated and boosted.

The vaccination rate among children aged 5-11 remains low, with only 31% having received at least one dose, and only 21% fully vaccinated. Ferrer said the low vaccination rate among children "creates significant vulnerability for spread" of the virus.

Of the more than 6.5 million fully vaccinated residents in the county, 580,942 have subsequently gotten infected with COVID, for a rate of 8.9%. That's a notably higher rate than December, when it was 2%, an increase Ferrer attributed to the highly transmissible Omicron variant. But the number of fully vaccinated residents who have been hospitalized was 6,998 as of this month, for a rate of 0.1%. The number who have died is 886, for a rate of 0.01%.

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Funeral Held for 16-Year-Old Girl Found Dead Near South LA Freeway

City News Service

One day after a reward fund swelled in hopes of generating tips leading to the killer of Tioni Theus, funeral services were held Thursday for the 16-year-old girl who was shot and left alongside a South Los Angeles freeway.

Tioni's body was discovered Jan. 8 on the side of the Harbor (110) Freeway on the Manchester Avenue on-ramp near South Figueroa Street. Tioni was last seen Jan. 7 after telling a family member she was going to meet a friend to go to a party, officials said.

No suspect description was available.

The state on Wednesday added $50,000 to a growing reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person responsible for the teen's death. The county Board of Supervisors on Tuesday approved a $10,000 reward in the case. Los Angeles City Councilmen Marqueece Harris-Dawson and Curren Price have introduced a motion for the city to offer another $50,000. That motion is expected to be approved in the next week.

A host of elected officials, including District Attorney George Gascón, had a news conference Wednesday reaching out for public help tracking down the girl's killer or killers.

The district attorney said there is evidence indicating that "this young girl may have been the victim of human trafficking," and noted that the investigation into her death is ongoing.

"We need the public's help," Gascón said. "Please help bring Tioni's murderer to justice, and if you have any information, please contact the California Highway Patrol."

Gascón did not elaborate on the human-trafficking allegation. The girl's cousins told the Los Angeles Times last week that Tioni had been pulled into prostitution and theft by a man she met on Instagram.

"We're definitely not pretending that Tioni was an angel," cousin Nafeesah Kincy told the paper. "She faced trauma. I want to humanize her. I don't want her to be seen as a prostitute or a runaway or somebody that people feel like `Oh, well, they live that lifestyle.'

"It's so many young women out here being victimized and being taken advantage of physically and sexually. So, it's my cousin today. But it could be your cousin, your daughter, your friend tomorrow," Kincy added.

Speaking to reporters prior to Thursday's funeral service at the Winston Mortuary in Los Angeles, relatives again called out for public help finding her killer.

"I don't want anybody else to have to go through this," Tioni's father, Darien Jackson, said. "And we kthey will, but I hope that we can do something to eliminate some of the things that are happening to our babies — boys and girls. It's just not girls."

In response to Tioni's death, Harris-Dawson and Price introduced a motion Wednesday asking for an equity analysis of violence and crime targeting Black women and girls, how the cases are handled and the rate at which they are solved.

Their motion asks that the city's Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department and police department to make recommendations to improve equity and justice for all crime victims.

The equity analysis would include information on violence and crime experienced by Black women and girls in Los Angeles, the rate at which homicides and violent crime against Black women and are girls are solved, how missing persons cases involving Black women and girls are handled and policy recommendations to increase equity and justice for Black victims and their families.

They note in their motion that it took nearly two weeks after Tioni's death before any requests were made for public help finding her killer.

"...While violent crime against any individual, regardless of race or gender, is a terrible tragedy, deep inequities exist in the violence and crime Black women and girls face, the way in which those crimes are covered in the media, and in turn, the way in which society perceive sand responds to the problem," according to the motion. "Tioni Theus, and all Black women and girls who have been the victims of violent crime, deserve our attention, compassion and the swift and urgent pursuit of justice."

The motion cited a 2016 Northwestern Law Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology study that found that missing-person cases involving Black people make up about one-fifth of such reports in the mainstream media, even though they make up one-third of all missing-person cases reported to the FBI. About 34% of missing girls and women in 2020 were Black, despite Black girls and women being only about 15% of the U.S. female population, the motion added, citing the National Crime Information Center.

Last Saturday, a group of activists gathered and pushed for elected officials to offer a reward for information in the girl's killing. They said then that the absence of a reward in the killing of the young Black girl stood in stark contrast to the reward of up to $250,000 that was quickly offered in the search for the killer of 24-year-old Brianna Kupfer, a white Pacific Palisades resident and UCLA grad student who was fatally stabbed Jan. 13 inside a boutique furniture store in Hancock Park. Her alleged killer was arrested days later.

According to Los Angeles County Supervisor Holly Mitchell's motion to authorize the county's $10,000 reward offer in the search for Tioni's killer, the girl "lived in Compton and was a student at Centennial High School. She was reportedly living with her father as her mother recovered from a serious hit-and-run accident. Family members say she was a straight-A student and enjoyed dance and golf.

"Investigators are urging anyone with information about this incident to contact the California Highway Patrol."

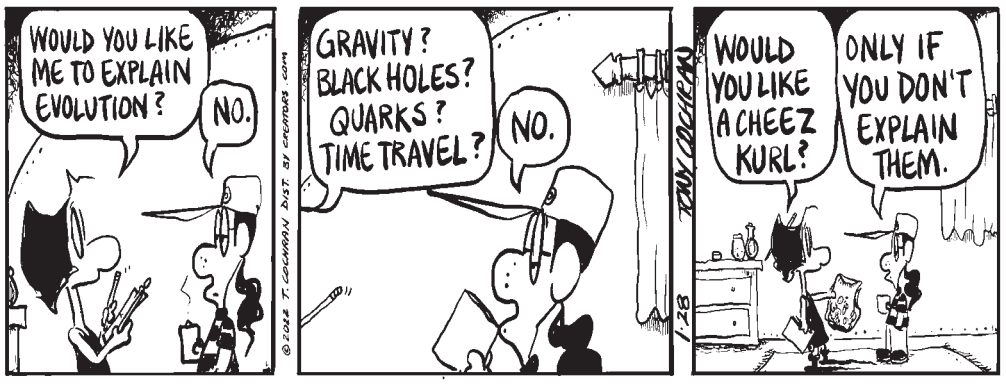
The CHP asked anyone with information about her killing to call the agency at 323-644-9557.

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Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



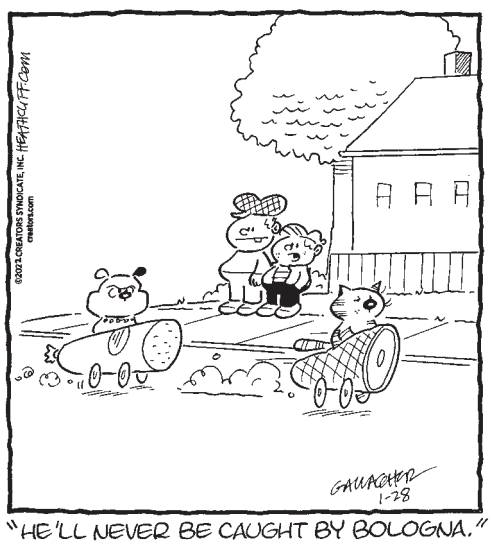
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

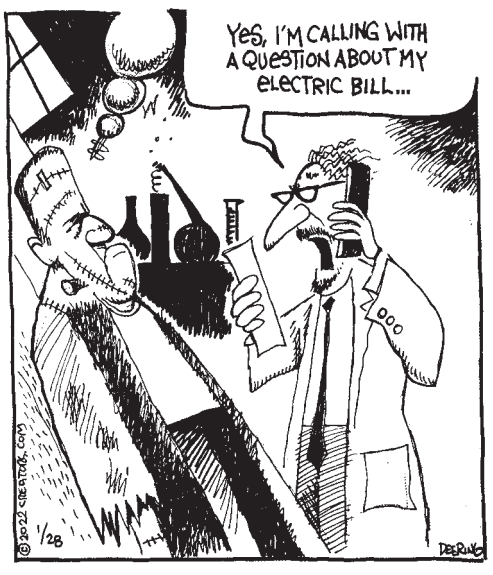
By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE'LL NEVER BE CAUGHT BY BOLOGNA."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 58.5°

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft Thigh to waist high
Breezy AM offshore flow with easing and smaller surf. Deep high tide early morning slows things down - most spots improve with the dropping tide through the AM.

SATURDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high occ. 3 ft
Clean but small. WNW swell easing. Deep high tide early AM swamps most spots. Look for improvement later morning on the ebbing tide. Mainly favorable winds due.

WEATHER

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 73. North northeast wind around 10 mph.
Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 53. North northeast wind around 10 mph.
Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 71. North wind around 10 mph.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2022/01/28	Fri	05:29 AM	5.95	H
2022/01/28	Fri	1:06 PM	-0.97	L
2022/01/28	Fri	7:46 PM	3.41	H
2022/01/28	Fri	11:55 PM	2.27	L
2022/01/29	Sat	06:24 AM	6.39	H
2022/01/29	Sat	1:52 PM	-1.51	L
2022/01/29	Sat	8:26 PM	3.71	H
2022/01/30	Sun	12:54 AM	2.07	L
2022/01/30	Sun	07:15 AM	6.73	H
2022/01/30	Sun	2:35 PM	-1.82	L
2022/01/30	Sun	9:04 PM	3.95	H
2022/01/31	Mon	01:46 AM	1.80	L
2022/01/31	Mon	08:02 AM	6.88	H
2022/01/31	Mon	3:16 PM	-1.88	L
2022/01/31	Mon	9:40 PM	4.14	H
2022/02/01	Tue	02:35 AM	1.57	L
2022/02/01	Tue	08:48 AM	6.79	H
2022/02/01	Tue	3:55 PM	-1.72	L
2022/02/01	Tue	10:18 PM	4.29	H
2022/02/02	Wed	03:23 AM	1.41	L
2022/02/02	Wed	09:32 AM	6.45	H

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 1/26
4 11 38 49 69
Power#: 16
Jackpot: 104 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 1/25
3 12 38 53 58
Mega#: 13
Jackpot: 421 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 1/26
6 7 17 31 44
Mega#: 12
Jackpot: 12 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/26
5 8 17 35 37

Daily 3
Draw Date: 1/26
EVENING: 9 3 1
Draw Date: 1/26
MIDDAY: 2 4 5

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 1/26
1st: 06 - Whirl Win
2nd: 05 - California Classic
3rd: 07 - Eureka
Race Time: 1:47.45

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (JANUARY 28)

You'll raise your energy with ease as you tend to your body like an animal, listening to what makes it happy and responding quickly when it's not. Though you will have luck with a program or other new things you try, the best care isn't rational, but intuitive. A professional breakthrough introduces you to a fun social circle. Aries and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 10, 3, 33 and 38.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You are not just one person. You are many people at once. You identify with several groups and even see yourself in these groups' opposing groups. There's freedom in accepting your complexity.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). "If you can't be a good example, you'll just have to be a horrible warning," said novelist Catherine Aird. Today's ambition will be served by such warnings. Research to get a better understanding of what could go wrong.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The veil of time conceals many facts. This will be an entry point for your imagination. Be careful not to fill in someone's backstory in such a way that it glorifies and elevates them. Pedestals have a way of eventually toppling.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Someone who's easy to be around will instantly relax you. All worry, resistance and thought will dissolve as you become absorbed into a natural shared rhythm.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll do for others what you wish someone had done for you. You'll be generous when you don't have to be and tend to those who have nothing to give you back. If you ever need evidence of your goodness, that last bit will do.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The words you long to hear represent a truth you wish was so. Perhaps it already is so. In that case, it will be just as true whether you hear the words or not.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll get encouraging signs that your investment is paying off. Chances are this isn't a financial investment; rather, it deals in something much more precious, like your energy and time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There's something you've enjoyed numerous times, never losing your enthusiasm, only to show it to another person and see, for the first time, its flaws. There's no teacher like sharing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Commitment is not merely an agreement, it's a mindset. Cost-benefit analysis, speculation and negotiation have no place in the attitude of commitment, which is based in one idea: The thing will be done, whatever it takes.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). While you'd love to come off smart, appropriate and attractive, any attempt to do this indicates your disbelief that you actually are these things. No need to sweat, stumble, cry or try. You're fine as-is.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There are benefits to analyzing a past relationship as objectively as possible. Understanding why you made the choices that led you here will remind you of who you are and why you're deserving of your own respect and compassion.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Just like all the imaginary things in the world, the monsters under the bed are only as real as you make them. Use the principle to your advantage today by mentally constructing the friends and environments you wish for.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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.

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

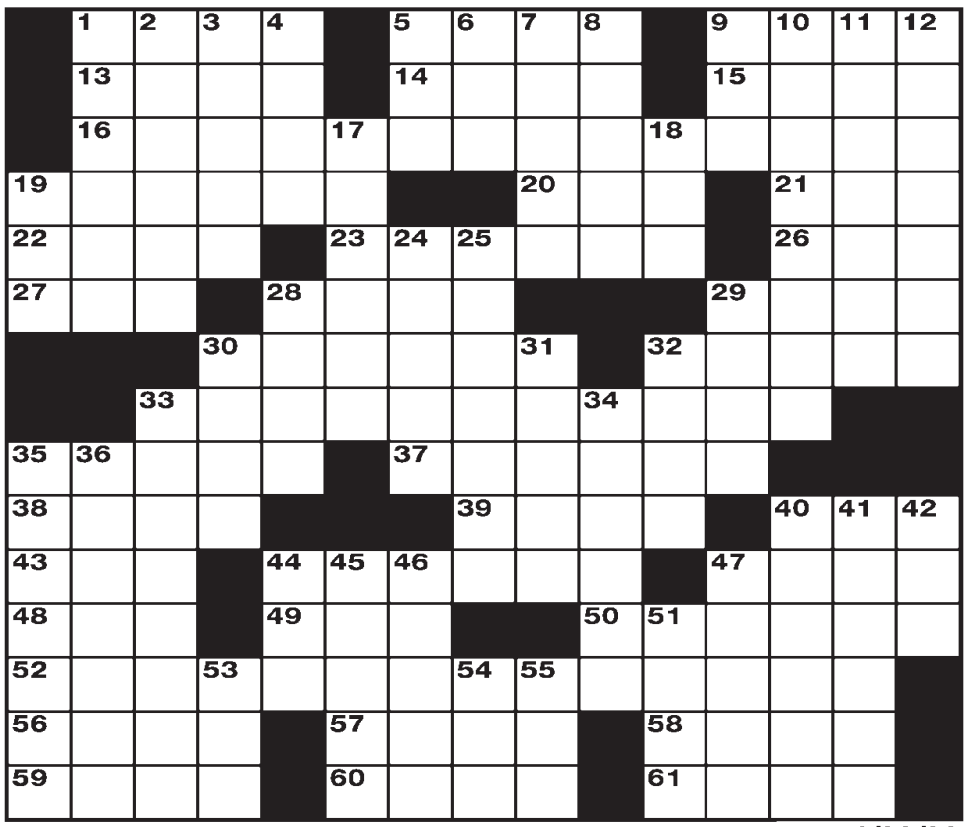
6	7	9	2	1	8	4	5	3
4	2	8	3	5	7	1	6	9
3	5	1	4	6	9	2	7	8
8	6	7	5	9	1	3	2	4
5	1	4	6	2	3	8	9	7
9	3	2	8	7	4	6	1	5
2	8	6	9	4	5	7	3	1
1	9	3	7	8	6	5	4	2
7	4	5	1	3	2	9	8	6

Newsday Crossword

STEP BY STEP by S.N.
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Squeak past
5 Fridge staple
9 Fridge staple
13 Ground grain
14 Windmill blade
15 Wisdom of the ages
16 Start of a 58 Across/ 25 Down quote, describing his craft
19 Jacket of a school uniform
20 Org. behind the AirNOW app
21 *On the Road* narrator
22 Augustan Age historian
23 Dublin-born dramatist
26 Long-running CBS series
27 End of a song at parties with candles
28 Small teams
29 Carries out
30 Tourist destinations
32 South African grassland
33 Middle of quote
35 Spanish side dish
37 Over any Interstate limit
38 Sign of healing
39 Winning streaks
40 Quaint plaint
43 *Henry IV* nickname
44 Nothing to brag about
47 Compact, for example
48 End for block or stock
49 Eroded
50 Account for a home buyer
52 End of quote
56 Send forth
57 Geologic spans shorter than eons
58 With 25 Down, source of quote
59 Secluded spots
60 Offense to a sense
61 Petroleum products

DOWN
1 Designer Pucci
2 Eerie feeling
3 Diaphanous
4 Choice lead-in
5 Honor in the NBA
6 *Fontaine* filler
7 Entry fees of a sort
8 Arizona State site
9 Snap, Crackle, or Pop
10 Ends a winning streak
11 No longer noisy, perhaps
12 What a band plays through
17 Farm feeder
18 Cry of joy
19 Fogg emulator
24 Inspector portrayer in *Hugo*
25 See 58 Across
28 Bubblehead
29 Say no to
30 Smug expert
31 Congestion locale
32 Big tanks
33 *Rosemary's Baby* author
34 Seasonal resident, often
35 Much more than sorry
36 Former Indiana NFL field
40 Spy's cell phone
41 In contention
42 "What's your methodology?"
44 Exerciser's accessory
45 Different
46 Big name in excavators
47 Audi alternative
51 Mushy
53 Comics convention costumes
54 Jemison in the Space and Women's Halls of Fame
55 Burdensome request, these days



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What's Up Westside
out and about in Santa Monica

FRIDAY | JAN 28

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) CONVERSATION, LOW
Santa Monica Public Library hosts an ongoing series of English as a Second Language (ESL) classes taught by Adult Education Center instructors. Classes are free and students must be 18 years or older to attend. Enrollment is through the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Adult Education Center, located at 2510 Lincoln Blvd., Room 203. Visit smmusd.asapconnected.com or contact Olga Saucedo at osaucedo@smmusd.org or (310) 664-6222, ext.76203 to enroll. Classes will begin in a virtual format. If live classes become possible, they will take place at Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

SATURDAY | JAN 29

MANOS A LA OBRA POP-UP ARTISAN MARKET
A community celebration of craft and art at the Manos a la Obra pop-up Artisan Market. The market will feature different products produced and/or sourced by local artisans who have been collaborating with artists Cog•nate Collective to establish a community-led public market in Santa Monica. Purchase handmade artisanal crafts and view the exhibition Manos a la Obra in 18th Street Arts Center's Propeller Gallery. 3026 Airport Avenue, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

THE SHOWCASE AT ST. MONICA
Inviting the greater Westside community to St. Monica's kickoff to Catholic Schools Week. The arts appreciation night will feature food trucks, refreshments and performances direct from its innovative TK-12 classrooms. St. Monica elementary and high school student hosts will introduce classmates' song and dance numbers from solos to quartets and from tap to jazz to liturgical dance. On stage there will be improv comedy and even some drama in skits and a special poem/rap – plus a violin performance you won't want to miss. An Art Walk display will Showcase selections from the TK class through advanced high school art classes. Food trucks start serving at 5 pm and the show premieres at 6:30 pm. St. Monica Catholic Schools, 1039 7th St., Santa Monica (enter Hilton Schoolyard via parking driveway on California Ave.)

SUNDAY | JAN 30

COURTYARD & SPLASH PAD OPEN
The Annenberg Community Beach House gated area, including the courtyard and splash pad, are open to the public daily. Please note, from September - May hours are subject to change with short notice. Check the Beach House website calendar or call 310-458-4904 to confirm. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

MONDAY | JAN 31

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) CONVERSATION, HIGH
Santa Monica Public Library hosts an ongoing series of English as a Second Language (ESL) classes taught by Adult Education Center instructors. Classes are free and students must be 18 years or older to attend. Enrollment is through the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Adult Education Center, located at 2510 Lincoln Blvd., Room 203. Visit smmusd.asapconnected.com or contact Olga Saucedo at osaucedo@smmusd.org or (310) 664-6222, ext.76203 to enroll. Classes will begin in a virtual format. If live classes become possible, they will take place at Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m

TUESDAY | FEB 1

BUILD UP LOVE INTERACTIVE DISPLAY
February 1-28 in the Main Library, Lobby Write down or draw something you love on a sticky note to become part of a month-long interactive display.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH: ONLINE CHALLENGE
Celebrate Black History Month. Learn about the history of Black health and wellness in the U.S. through resources created by and for the Black community. For further reading, check out book recommendations honoring the Black experience. Log your reading and activities to earn badges all month long. Register here: smpl.beanstack.org.

WEDNESDAY | FEB 2

STORYTIME: WORLD READ ALOUD DAY
10:30 to 11 a.m. Celebrate World Read Aloud Day with a virtual Zoom storytime, including early literacy tips for caregivers and stories that you can sing. For ages 2 & up. Space is limited. Register at https://bit.ly/YouthProgramSignUps

For help submitting an event, contact us at
310-458-7737 or submit to events@smdp.com

FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 18 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

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Famous in Australia

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

Agog	Cars	Fish	Plain	Snow
Alps	Chook	Hike	Rare	Steps
Arid	Coach	House	Rest	Sunny
Axes	Coogee	Idea	Roma	Theme
Bega	Crab	Lalor	Rush	Trek
Big	Derby	Laze	Ryde	Trip
Pineapple	Devils	Lost	Sail	Trout
Botany	Dive	Maps	Sharks	View
Bay	Dunk Is	Maya	Shell	Water
Break	Echuca	Olgas	Shop	Weir
Bronte	Eden	Omeo	Site	Yass
Bull	Eucla	Perth	Skiing	Zoos

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
They're going up again

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RACIAL EQUITY

FROM PAGE 1

the city manager for equity and community recovery, provided an update on what the committee accomplished in 2021 and what its new goalposts are for 2022.

Committee members have successfully worked with the HR department to integrate DEI questions into the hiring process, which have already been applied for the positions of City Manager and Police Chief.

Additionally, training on implicit bias and cultural competency have been developed and carried out across City departments. Performance evaluations have direct questions and standards revolving around advancing DEI, which are designed to ensure that employees see this as part of their role with the City.

Part of the committee's work in the past year has also included interviewing City staff about microaggressions they have experienced during the course of their work. These findings have been used to develop staff trainings on how to identify and interrupt microaggressions as well as how to handle difficult conversations around race, culture or identity.

City Councilmember Kristin McCowan was moved by the internal research conducted on microaggressions and took time during the Council meeting to acknowledge and thank staff.

"I fear that for the majority of staff that submit issues of microaggressions it's not peer to peer; these are experiences they're having in the community in their roles as City staff and it breaks my heart," said McCowan. "I want you to know, for any staff that are listening, that the overwhelming majority of Santa Monica deeply appreciates everything that you do to make this an exceptional city to live in…Thank you for what you're doing. Thank you for raising awareness. Thank you for elevating the caliber of what a city staff is capable of."

On the horizon is the launching of an internal mentoring program that will connect new staff members with experienced staff members for professional and personal development. The goal of the program is to support retention and career advancement for staff of all backgrounds.

In 2022, the committee will be staffed by a fresh group of Equity and Inclusion Officers with a goal of spending more time focusing on specific actions that can be taken within each City department to advance DEI.

"I really applaud that we are identifying those areas that we need to work on," said Councilmember de la Torre. "The planning department, for example, there isn't one African American or one Latino Mexican American in the organization right in 2022, and yet this is the department that is making a lot of decisions around development, around gentrification and so forth."

De la Torre also said that he would like to spend time in 2022 actively engaging with his fellow Councilmembers in conversations around DEI as he believes that change needs to happen from the top down and that this particularly diverse council has a unique opportunity and opportunity to make a difference.

Other upcoming plans for the Racial Equity Committee include making City bathroom signage more gender inclusive, to expand the availability of language interpreters and to translate more City information into languages spoken by the local community.

Clara@smdp.com

CHIEF

FROM PAGE 1

Monica and grew up in the San Fernando Valley. He has spent over 24 years with the Burbank Fire Department rising from firefighter to Deputy Fire Chief.

"I am deeply honored to be selected as the next fire chief for the City of Santa Monica and to be joining the City's leadership team," said Chief Danny Alvarez in a statement. "The Santa Monica Fire Department has earned an excellent reputation as a premier fire agency that delivers unparalleled service to the community. I look forward to serving the City of Santa Monica and working alongside the dedicated employees of this great organization to continue the forward progression of the Santa Monica Fire Department."

In the hiring announcement, officials said Alvarez has been an integral part of Burbank's leadership team since 2018. In this capacity, he provided oversight of 120 sworn personnel, 16 civilian staff, and directly supervised five battalion chiefs. Alvarez led equity and inclusion initiatives for the department, including through the recruitment and training process. Well versed in budget and personnel management and policy development, Alvarez has experience leading a complex department across ranks of the fire service during his quarter-century in Burbank. Other roles include acting fire chief, battalion chief, fire captain, fire engineer for both hazmat and fire prevention inspection, recruitment academy instructor, urban search and rescue, and, of course, firefighter.

Alvarez has a bachelor's degree in fire and emergency management from Waldorf University and has engaged in extensive education and training throughout his career, including certifications from the Center for Public Safety Excellence, LAFD Leadership Academy, and has been accepted into the Executive Fire Officer Program through the National Fire Academy.

"I'm proud to have earned certification as an executive Chief Fire Officer through the State of California and Chief Fire Officer designation from the Commission on Professional Credentialing," said Alvarez in an introduction video. "I'm also a graduate of the Los Angeles Fire Department Leadership Academy."

Alvarez will start on Feb 28 with an annual salary of $282,048.

The Santa Monica Fire Department currently has two Deputy Chiefs, Training Chief, Fire Marshal, and three Battalion Chiefs are supported by over 136.9 personnel (122 sworn and 14.9 non-sworn). The Department has a total operating budget of $44,514,250 and responds to approximately 19,000 calls annually.

editor@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press
Classifieds
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CLASSIFICATIONS					
Announcements	Pets	Rent	Storage Space	Business Opportunities	Lost and Found
Creative	Boats	Houses for Rent	Vehicles for Sale	Yard Sales	Personals
Employment	Jewelry	Roommates	Massage	Health and Beauty	Psychic
For Sale	WantedvvTravel	Commercial Lease	Services	Fitness	Obituaries
Furniture	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Wealth and Success	Tutoring
	Apartments/Condos	Real Estate Loans	Attorney Services		

Summons

STATE OF ILLINOIS, COUNTY OF COOK, ss. – In the Circuit Court of Cook County, County Department, Chancery Division. AmericanGrading Co., Plaintiff, vs. The Estate of Dorothy De Smidt and Ralph F. Stepp, Jr. as Co-Trustees u/t/a dated May 31, 1955 known asTrust number 152, Defendant. No. 20 CH 6001. The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you,Estate of Dorothy De Smidt and Ralph F. Stepp, Jr.,defendants in the above entitled suit, that the said suit has been commenced in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Chancery Division,Room 802, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago, IL, by the said plaintiff and thereafter a Verified First AmendedComplaint was filed against you and other defendants, praying to remove Cloud and Quiet Title in and to the premises described asfollows, to-wit:Tract 3: PIN: 18-14-200-007-0000, with a legal description of: THAT PART OF THE NORTHWEST FRACTIONAL 1/4 OF THENORTHEAST FRACTIONAL 1/4 OF SECTION 14, TOWNSHIP 38 NORTH, RANGE 12 EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN,DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID NORTHEAST FRACTIONAL 114 OF SECTION 14,THENCE SOUTH 0 DEGREES 36 MINUTES 37 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID NORTHEAST FRACTIONAL 114 OFSECTION 14, A DISTANCE OF 1155.86 FEET, THENCE NORTH 26 DEGREES 38 MINUTES, 45 SECONDS EAST TO THE NORTH LINE OFTHE SAID NORTHEAST FRACTIONAL 114 OF SECTION 14, THENCE WEST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID NORTHEASTFRACTIONAL 114 OF SECTION 14, TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING (EXCEPT FROM SAID PREMISES THAT PART LYING NORTH OF ALINE 27.241 FEET NORMALLY DISTANT FROM THE NORTH LINE OF SAID NORTHEAST FRACTIONAL 114 OF SECTION 14) IN COOKCOUNTY, ILLINOIS. Commonly known as: 5101 S. Lawndale Avenue, McCook, Illinois 60525.Notice is also hereby given you that the said Verified First Amended Complaint prays for other relief, that summons was duly issuedout of said Court against you as provided by law, and that the said suit is pending. Now, therefore, unless you, the said above named defendants, file your answer to the Verified First Amended Complaint in the saidsuit or otherwise make your appearance therein, on or before February 24, 2022, default may be entered against you at any time afterthat day and a Judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said Verified First Amended Complaint. E-filing is mandatoryfor documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visithttp://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or havetrouble e-filing, visit http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp.The form: "Declaration Under Penalty of Perjury for State of Illinois Executive Order 2020-72" is available at www.IHDA.org or athttps://df7qosnywqs6g.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Tenants-Declaration-Form.pdf for any resident of the propertyto notify the bank and plaintiff's attorney if the resident qualifies as a Covered Person under the Governor's Executive Order 2020-72(Nov. 13, 2020). Iris Y. Martinez, Clerk. LTS3185667

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