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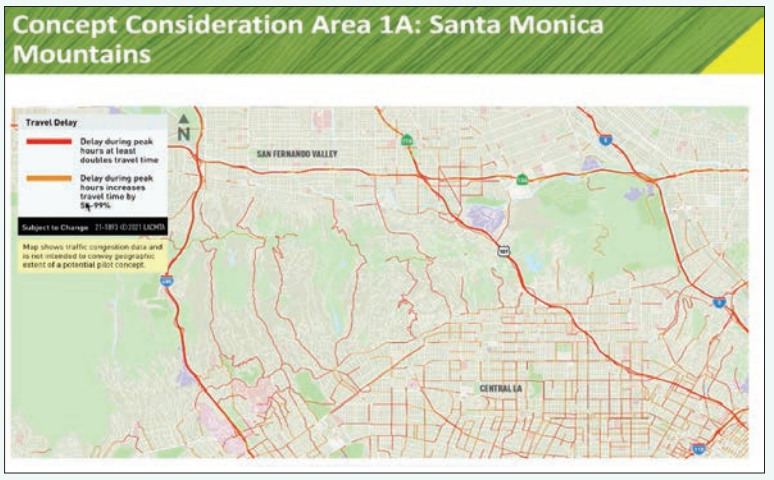
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Hat thief.
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Police and Fire logs
See the calls for service.
Page 3

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L.A. Metro explores congestion pricing as a tool to reduce traffic

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer



Courtesy photo

MAP: Metro officials are considering several possible areas.

L.A. Metro is researching roadways around the Santa Monica Mountains as a potential site for a congestion pricing pilot program designed to reduce rush hour traffic.

Congestion pricing decreases the number of cars on the road during peak travel times by charging a fee for entering high density areas. By combining this tool with more public transportation options, Metro seeks to improve the mobility and the quality of life for all Angelenos.

The L.A. County Metropolitan Transportation Authority is currently conducting a two-year feasibility study with the goal to roll out a congestion pricing pilot by 2025.

The Santa Monica Mountain area that connects North-South traffic between the San Fernando Valley and LA Basin is being researched as one of four potential pilot locations.

"There is lots of congestion in those roadways from the I-405 to I-5," said Tham Nguyen, senior director, Office of Extraordinary Innovation. "All of the different corridors and roadways between those interstates are also heavily congested, so we would look at how we can help distribute traffic across those different corridors to manage congestion and provide other high-quality options for people to get around."

Traffic is a problem of supply and demand. While past Metro

SEE **METRO** PAGE 7

SMMUSD expects students back by fall

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

With a greater percentage of the general public set to receive COVID-19 vaccinations in the coming weeks, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District leaders said they expect students to be back on campus, participating in-class activities by the start of the 2021-2022 academic year.

Superintendent Ben Drati confirmed the local K-12 school district is currently planning for the upcoming school year with the expectation that students will be back on campus this coming August in an email Tuesday.

"We say this with the understanding that unforeseen events have altered our plans in the past," Drati said. "However, we are committed to in-person instruction as our priority for the fall."

The plans assume that educators will be fully inoculated in the next distribution of COVID-19 vaccinations, Drati said as he explained how education workers

SEE **SMMUSD** PAGE 7

Santa Monica residents featured in Super Bowl weekend



Courtesy image

TV: John Marceri was part of the Puppy Bowl during Super Bowl weekend.

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica was well represented on television over Super Bowl weekend.

Amanda Gorman, the 22-year-old poet who has been the talk of America since the inauguration of President Joe Biden last month, read an original poem Sunday during the pregame festivities in Tampa, Florida. The taped message of Gorman's reading was one of three times the world laid eyes on Santa Monica on-screen.

SEE **SUPER BOWL** PAGE 11

Innovative teaching and tech lets Samohi Jazz Band perform live and online

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer



Courtesy image

MUSIC: Local students have taken to the internet to continue live performances while remote learning.

On Friday the Santa Monica High School Jazz Band will host its first live concert in almost a year, and thanks to an open source software called Jamulus, it will be entirely online and perfectly in-time.

The students are beyond jazzed to be performing together again and the program directors are thrilled that they've been able to accomplish a feat they previously

SEE **JAZZ BAND** PAGE 11


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California panel calls for overhaul of sentencing laws

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

California should allow all but death row inmates and those spending life behind bars without the chance of parole to request lighter sentences after they serve at least 15 years, one piece of a dramatic overhaul of the state's sentencing laws that an advisory committee to Gov. Gavin Newsom recommended Tuesday.

The nation's most populated state also should limit sentencing enhancements that can add years to prison terms and are imposed with "extreme racial disparities," the committee said. For example, it said 99% of those given a gang enhancement in Los Angeles County are people of color.

To take effect, the recommendations would need to be translated into legislation that passes the Democratic-led Legislature and signed into law by Newsom. Two lawmakers on the committee immediately announced some measures.

"If all 10 recommendations were adopted, they would impact almost every area of California's criminal legal system, from driving infractions to life in prison, and probably everybody behind bars would be affected in some way," committee chairman Michael Romano told The Associated Press.

"We can improve public safety and reduce incarceration at the same time," said Romano, who directs Stanford Law School's Three Strikes Project, which helped persuade California voters to ease a three strikes law that was considered the nation's toughest law targeting repeat offenders.

The committee, made up of current and former lawmakers, judges and academics, aimed for broad impact with its unanimous proposals, including addressing racial and economic disparities in traffic tickets, where unpaid fines can turn into a mountain of debt and eventually a jail sentence.

Members recommended driving without a license and driving with a suspended license based on unpaid fines be reduced from misdemeanors to infractions, with

SEE **CALIFORNIA** PAGE 4

US officials: pilot error caused Kobe Bryant chopper crash

STEFANIE DAZIO, BRIAN MELLEY AND DAVID KOENIG
Associated Press

The pilot who crashed the helicopter carrying Kobe Bryant, killing all nine aboard, made a series of poor decisions that led him to fly blindly into a wall of clouds where he became so disoriented he thought he was climbing when the craft was plunging toward a Southern California hillside, federal safety officials said Tuesday.

The National Transportation Safety Board primarily blamed Ara Zobayan in the Jan. 26, 2020 crash that killed the pilot along with Bryant, his daughter and six other passengers heading to a girls basketball tournament.

Zobayan, an experienced pilot, ignored his training, violated flight rules by flying into conditions where he couldn't see and failed to take alternate measures, such as slowing down and landing or switching to auto-pilot, that would have averted the tragedy. The NTSB said it was likely he felt pressure to deliver his star client to his daughter's game.

The agency announced the long-awaited findings during a four-hour hearing pinpointing probable causes of what went awry in the 40-minute flight. The crash led to widespread public mourning for the retired basketball star, several lawsuits and prompted state and federal legislation.

The agency also faulted Island Express Helicopters Inc., which operated the aircraft, for inadequate review and oversight of safety matters.

When Zobayan decided to climb above the clouds, he entered a trap that has doomed many flights. Once a pilot loses visual cues by flying into fog or darkness, the inner ear can send erroneous signals to the brain that causes spatial disorientation. It's sometimes known as "the leans," causing pilots to believe they are flying aircraft straight and level when they are banking.

Zobayan radioed air traffic controllers that he was climbing when, in fact, he was banking and descending rapidly toward the steep hills near Calabasas, NTSB investigators concluded.

Flying under visual flight rules, Zobayan was required to be able to see where he was going. Flying into the cloud was a violation of that standard and probably led to his disorientation, NTSB said.

"What part of cloud, when you're on a visual flight rules program, do pilots not understand?" NTSB Vice Chairman Bruce Landsberg said.

NTSB member Michael Graham said Zobayan ignored his training and added that as long as helicopter pilots continue flying into clouds without relying on instruments, which requires a high level of training, "a certain percentage aren't going to come out alive."

There were 184 aircraft crashes between 2010-2019 involving spatial disorientation, including 20 fatal helicopter crashes, the NTSB said.

The Sikorsky S-76B helicopter was flying at about 184 mph (296 kph) and descending at a rate of more than 4,000 feet (1,219 meters) per minute when it slammed into the hillside and ignited, scattering debris over an area the size of a football field. The victims died immediately.

Bryant, his 13-year-old daughter Gianna and six others were headed to his Mamba Sports Academy in Ventura County. There was no sign of mechanical failure and the pilot was not under the influence of drugs or alcohol, investigators said.

The helicopter did not have so-called "black box" recording devices, which were not required, that would have given investigators a better understanding of what happened.

The NTSB report reiterated a previous recommendation requiring flight data and cockpit voice recorders on choppers.

The NTSB is an independent federal agency that investigates transportation-related crashes but has no enforcement powers.

It submits suggestions to agencies like the Federal Aviation Administration or the Coast Guard, which have repeatedly rejected some board safety recommendations after other transportation disasters.

Over the past year, experts speculated that the crash could lead to a recommendation for requiring helicopters to have Terrain Awareness and Warning Systems, which signal when aircraft are in danger of crashing.

But NTSB investigator-in-charge Bill English said the system, which was not on the helicopter, would probably not have prevented the crash.

The hilly terrain, combined with the disorientation, would have made the warning system "a confusing factor," English said.

"The pilot doesn't know which way is up," English said.

The crash generated lawsuits and countersuits, with Bryant's widow suing Island Express and the pilot for wrongful death on the day a massive public memorial was held almost a year ago at Staples Center, where the Lakers all-star played most his career.

Vanessa Bryant said Island Express Helicopters Inc., which operated the aircraft, and its owner, Island Express Holding Corp., did not properly train or supervise Zobayan. She said the pilot was careless and negligent to fly in fog and should have aborted the flight.

Zobayan's brother, Berge Zobayan, has said Kobe Bryant knew the risks of flying in a helicopter and that his survivors aren't entitled to damages from the pilot's estate. Island Express Helicopters Inc. denied responsibility and said the crash was "an act of God" that it could not control.

A lawyer for Berge Zobayan, Arthur Willner, said they had no comment on the NTSB findings. Laywers for Island Express did not immediately return messages seeking comment.

Families of other victims sued the helicopter companies but not the pilot.

The others killed in the crash were Orange Coast College baseball coach John Altobelli, his wife, Keri, and their daughter Alyssa; Christina Mauser, who helped Bryant coach his daughter's basketball team; and Sarah Chester and her daughter Payton. Alyssa and Payton were Gianna's teammates.

The company has countersued two FAA air traffic controllers, saying the crash was caused by their "series of erroneous acts and/or omissions."

While air traffic controllers failed to report the loss of radar contact and radar communication with the flight, which was inconsistent their procedures, it did not contribute to the crash, the NTSB said.

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DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 217 CALLS ON FEBRUARY 8

Exhibition Of Speed 2100blk Ocean Ave 12:19 a.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop Lincoln Blvd / Pier Ave 2:40 a.m.
Report Of Shots Fired 500blk Colorado Ave 3:56 a.m.
Petty Theft 1000blk 21st St 4:33 a.m.
Battery Ocean Ave / Wilshire Blvd 4:55 a.m.
Encampment 1800blk Main St 5:52 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Berkeley St / Santa Monica Blvd 5:59 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 600blk Kensington Rd 7:02 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 5th St / Olympic Blvd W 7:50 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1300blk Ocean Ave 8:22 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 2700blk 7th St 8:59 a.m.
Traffic Hazard 1100blk 3rd St 9:09 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1900blk 22nd St 9:34 a.m.
Traffic Hazard 5th St / Colorado Ave 9:47 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 700blk Ozone St 9:47 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 800blk Grant St 9:49 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 1500blk Franklin St 9:54 a.m.
Petty Theft 1900blk Lincoln Blvd 10:18 a.m.
General Parking Problem 1300blk Ocean Ave 10:29 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 400blk Olympic Blvd E 10:34 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 2300blk 28th St 10:38 a.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 1500blk 9th St 10:47 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1100blk Bay St 10:50 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1700blk 16th St 10:57 a.m.
Petty Theft 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 11:16 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1700blk Lincoln Blvd 11:17 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1200blk 26th St 11:34 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 200blk Montana Ave 11:44 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1100blk 22nd St 11:53 a.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 12:09 p.m.
Indecent Exposure 800blk California Ave 12:15 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 2600blk Cloverfield Blvd 12:16 p.m.
Encampment 800blk Interstate 10 12:35 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1100blk 23rd St 12:35 p.m.
Encampment 1600blk 9th St 12:46 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1300blk 19th St 12:48 p.m.
Lost Property 1700blk Wilshire Blvd 12:56 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 900blk 6th St 1:00 p.m.
Stalking Suspect Just Left 200blk Broadway 1:37 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1400blk Wilshire Blvd 1:40 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 2600blk 3rd St 1:40 p.m.
Fraud Report 2300blk Wilshire Blvd 1:44 p.m.
Prowler Report 1900blk Washington Ave 1:46 p.m.
Assault Now 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 1:47 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 2800blk Neilson Way 1:57 p.m.
Domestic Violence 1600blk Ocean Ave 2:08 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2400blk Oak St 2:27 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1400blk 23rd St 2:34 p.m.
Missing Person 1200blk 6th St 2:36 p.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 900blk Wilshire Blvd 2:52 p.m.
Petty Theft 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 2:58 p.m.
Red Zone Violation 1100blk 7th St 3:10 p.m.
Out Of Order Traffic Signals Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 3:33 p.m.
Found Property Ocean Ave / California Incline 3:50 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 900blk 20th St 3:59 p.m.
Fraud Report 2700blk 11th St 4:03 p.m.
Fraud Report 1500blk 11th St 4:20 p.m.
Petty Theft 5th St / Arizona Ave 4:34 p.m.
Burglary Report 2000blk Lincoln Blvd 4:43 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2800blk 3rd St 4:58 p.m.
Traffic Hazard Yale St / Wilshire Blvd 5:15 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 1600blk 16th St 5:40 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 800blk 18th St 5:44 p.m.
Loud Music 900blk 12th St 5:49 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1000blk Euclid St 5:49 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 800blk 16th St 6:00 p.m.
Arson 1200blk 4th St 6:00 p.m.
Elder Abuse 1300blk Franklin St 6:04 p.m.
Loud Music 900blk Ocean Ave 6:15 p.m.
Loud Music 2000blk Ocean Ave 6:19 p.m.
Malicious Mischief 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 6:21 p.m.
Strongarm Robbery Moomat Ahiko Way / Ocean Ave 6:29 p.m.
Assault 3200blk Wilshire Blvd 6:30 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 300blk Santa Monica Pier 6:44 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 5th St / Washington Ave 7:02 p.m.
Loud Music 2400blk Ocean Front Walk 7:19 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 400blk Washington Ave 7:21 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop Cloverfield Blvd / Colorado Ave 7:47 p.m.
Public Intoxication 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 7:53 p.m.
Petty Theft Now 1900blk Main St 7:55 p.m.
Domestic Violence Now Stanford St / Nebraska Ave 8:13 p.m.
Petty Theft 2900blk Main St 9:09 p.m.
Burglary Report 1100blk 6th St 9:13 p.m.
Found Property 1200blk 6th St 9:29 p.m.
Grand Theft 700blk Marine St 9:37 p.m.
Encampment 2600blk Ocean Park Blvd 9:38 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 1500blk Ocean Ave 9:55 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 11th St / Ocean Park Blvd 10:16 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 600blk Olympic Blvd E 10:26 p.m.
Lost Property 20th St / Wilshire Blvd 10:28 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1300blk 20th St 10:36 p.m.
Overdose 700blk 14th St 10:39 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 30 CALLS ON FEBRUARY 8

EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 2:40 a.m.
EMS 1100blk Pico Blvd 3:49 a.m.
Public Assist 400blk 20th St 5:51 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Berkeley St / Santa Monica Blvd 5:59 a.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 1500blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:38 a.m.
EMS 9th St / Pico Blvd 9:49 a.m.
EMS 900blk 3rd St 11:11 a.m.
EMS 2800blk 6th St 12:19 p.m.
EMS 1100blk Harvard St 12:21 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 100blk California Ave 12:40 p.m.
EMS 2800blk 6th St 12:59 p.m.
EMS 2900blk Arizona Ave 1:02 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 16th St 1:14 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200blk Ocean Ave 3:10 p.m.
EMS 800blk Pico Blvd 3:21 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 4th St 4:50 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 7th St 4:56 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Washington Ave 5:37 p.m.
EMS 100blk Ocean Park Blvd 6:01 p.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 1200blk 4th St 6:02 p.m.
EMS 15th St / Michigan Ave 6:03 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Berkeley St 6:08 p.m.
EMS 700blk Pico Blvd 6:23 p.m.
EMS 2000blk 20th St 6:34 p.m.
Elevator Rescue 1200blk 10th St 7:03 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1500blk 5th St 8:18 p.m.
Electrical Fire - No Fire Visible 1400blk Stanford St 8:53 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 20th St 8:57 p.m.
EMS 2100blk Stewart St 9:17 p.m.
EMS 700blk 14th St 10:39 p.m.

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) will receive sealed bids from contractors holding a type **"B"** license, on the following: **Bid #21.14.SMS – DSA #03-121081 – Roosevelt Elementary School – HVAC Project at Roosevelt Elementary School.** This scope of work is estimated to be between **$4,000,000.00 - $4,200,000.00** and includes the following HVAC upgrades to buildings A, B, C, D, E, G, H, J, and K. Electrical service upgrade to support the HVAC upgrades. New exhaust fans in restroom annexes. New landscape screening for street side condensers. New concrete pads, chain link fencing, and cages as required for new exterior condensers. Hazardous materials abatement at areas of work and other associated improvements per bidding documents. All bids must be submitted electronically as per the instructions included in the bidding documents on or before 3/11/2021 no later than 2:00 PM. Bidders must attend a Mandatory Job Walk to be held at the site, on 2/18/21 at NOON. All General Contractors and Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (M/E/P) Subcontractors must be pre-qualified for this project per bidding documents. To view the projects bidding documents, please visit ARC Southern California public plan room www.crplanwell.com and reference the project Bid #.

Prequalification Due Date & Instructions for Application Submission: All applications are due no later than 2/25/21 - Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has contracted with Colbi Technologies, Inc. to provide a web-based process for prequalification called QualityBidders. To submit an application at no cost please visit www.qualitybidders.com. Once you have been approved, you will receive an email indicating your approval expiration date and approval limit. The Districts approved contractors listing can be obtained via the FIP website at https://www.smmusd.org/domain/4172.

Mandatory Job Walk: 2/18/21 at NOON

Job Walk location: Roosevelt Elementary School located in Santa Monica, CA – **All Attending Contractors MUST meet the District representatives at the front of the school located at 801 MONTANA AVE, SANTA MONICA, CA 90403. Bidders will be escorted onto the campus from that location.**

Due to COVID-19 all attending contractors must bring and wear face masks/coverings at all times while on the site and adhere to social distancing safety requirements during the meeting or they will be asked to leave the property. In addition, only one person from each firm will be allowed to attend as groups can't be larger than 6 people, when the walk starts. Temperature checks will be taken and all attending must not have a temperature or they will be asked to leave.

Electronic Bid Submittal Deadline: 3/11/21 at 2:00pm

Any further questions or clarifications to this bidding opportunity, please contact Sheere Bishop-Griego at smbishop@smmusd.org directly. In addition, any pre-qualification support issues relative to Colbi Technologies, Inc., website or for technical support please contact support@qualityBidders.com directly.



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CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Crime Watch is culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 31 AT 4:16 P.M.

Downtown Services Unit Officers were dispatched to a Shoplifting call that had just occurred at the Lids store. The reporting party had flagged down a Public Services Officer and they were following the suspect. The suspect was located at the train station platform on 4th Street/Colorado, where a search of his person found a hat with the security sensor belonging to the Lids store. A further search found two pairs of sunglasses that had been taken from the Oakley store. Tajon Wright Freeman was arrested for a 459.5 PC-Shoplifting. A records check later found that he was registered as a transient sex offender in Lancaster and had failed to re-register within the 30 day period, therefore being charged with a 209.018(g)PC. A stay away order from the Santa Monica business district and Third Street Promenade were further requested.

CALIFORNIA
FROM PAGE 2

reduced fines and fees.

Some of California's largest counties and state lawmakers already have moved in that direction, and former Gov. Jerry Brown in 2017 ended the suspension of licenses for people who didn't pay court fees.

The committee heard from major law enforcement groups during eight public hearings.

San Mateo County District Attorney Stephen Wagstaffe, who spoke on behalf of the state prosecutors' association, said some recommendations like the traffic offense reductions would be "a positive step forward." Others, like limiting judges' discretion on gang enhancements, "could be steps in the wrong direction."

Glen Stailey, president of the California Correctional Peace Officers Association, said in a statement that the group is concerned "about potential negative impacts on public safety" from some recommendations, while the California Police Chiefs Association took no immediate position.

"I think they're placing the citizens of California in jeopardy with the weakening of everything," said Nina Salarno, president of Crime Victims United of California, adding that the recommendations ignore victims.

The recommendations come in the first report from the California Committee on the Revision of the Penal Code created last year. Members stuck to proposals that Democratic lawmakers could pass with a simple majority. They looked for areas where there was broad recognition of problems with the law, said Romano, the committee chairman.

They recommended allowing anyone who has served more than 15 years to request their sentence be reconsidered if they can show "continued incarceration is no longer in the interest of justice."

Nearly 30,000 of California's 114,000 prisoners had served more than 15 years as of last June, according to the report. The committee stopped short of saying the proposal should apply to those on death row or those serving life without parole, which would require legislative supermajorities and approval by voters.

Resentencing would be automatic if law enforcement recommends it because the original sentence was unjust or they say the person demonstrated "exceptional rehabilitative achievement."

The committee advised sentences of less than a year be served in county jails rather than state prisons, because research shows offenders tend to do better if they stay closer to home and benefit from more rehabilitation programs.

About 14,000 people serve less than a year in a state prison annually and sending them to local jails would be a burden, said Cory Salzillo, spokesman for the California State Sheriffs' Association.

"Many jails don't have the capacity to take on more offenders," Salzillo said.

Committee members reported that their review of the criminal code found laws that were "badly outdated" or "incoherent." The state's robbery law hasn't been updated since 1872, for instance, while several conflicting provisions govern which inmates should be considered for parole.

Democratic Sen. Nancy Skinner introduced legislation updating the robbery statute to create separate misdemeanor charges with lesser penalties for petty thefts unless they involve serious injury or a weapon.

The committee isn't trying to do away with California's more than 150 sentence enhancements. But it says judges should consider dismissing them if the offense isn't violent; is related to mental health issues, childhood trauma or prior victimization; or is triggered by an old conviction, particularly if the offender was a juvenile at the time.

Skinner and Democratic Assemblywoman Sydney Kamlager each introduced bills limiting enhancements. Skinner's bill includes the recommendations to judges, while Kamlager's follows the committee's recommendation that gang enhancements should be restricted to organized, violent criminal enterprises.

Kamlager said she learned during her time on the committee that gang enhancements are often used to boost what otherwise would be misdemeanor charges against people of color.

She said her proposal would limit them to what she said would be "the most serious offenses" and ensure they "are only used when necessary and fair."

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WINNER

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.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Public Health Officials Advise Against Holiday Travel to Prevent Another Surge as Additional Variant Cases Confirmed

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) has confirmed 227 new deaths and 3,353 new cases of COVID-19. To date, Public Health identified 1,152,239 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County and a total of 18,360 deaths. There are 4,079 people with COVID-19 currently hospitalized and 29% of these people are in the ICU.

Of the 227 new deaths reported today, 66 people who passed away were over the age of 80, 95 people who died were between the ages of 65 and 79, 51 people who died were between the ages of 50 and 64, and four people who died were between the ages of 30 and 49. Eight deaths were reported by the City of Long Beach and three deaths were reported by the City of Pasadena.

Public Health has confirmed five additional cases of COVID-19 variant B.1.1.7. (U.K. variant), totaling eight cases in Los Angeles County. The B.1.1.7 variant is more easily transmissible, and verification of the variant in L.A. County means residents and businesses must be extremely diligent adhering to all public health safety measures, including wearing face coverings, distancing from others, and handwashing; these measures protect against transmission of the virus and known variants.

Despite recent decreases in the current COVID-19 surge of cases and hospitalizations, COVID-19 transmission remains widespread here in L.A. County and in many states and countries.

Travel increases the risk of getting and spreading COVID-19. Additionally, the risk may be greater with the prevalence of the more easily transmissible B.1.1.7 variant.

With the upcoming Lunar New Year, Valentine's Day, and Presidents Day, Public Health advises against non-essential travel and gatherings with people not from your household. COVID-19 surged after Thanksgiving and Christmas travel in November and December. The more people travel, the more interactions they have with individuals outside of their household, the greater the risk of getting and spreading COVID-19. Shared transportation, including travel by air, bus, or rail, can not only put travelers at risk but also all members of the community if infected travelers spread COVID-19 to others after returning to Los Angeles County.

A travel advisory remains in effect for L.A. County. Anyone who is arriving to Los Angeles County must self-quarantine for 10 days; please remain at your home or lodging for the 10 days and avoid contact with others. If you must travel, please plan ahead. Know how widespread COVID-19 is in the area you must travel to. It is critical to not travel if you are sick. Residents should stay home if they are experiencing symptoms of illness, have not finished their isolation period after testing positive for COVID-19, or have not finished their quarantine period after being exposed or likely to have been exposed to someone who is positive for COVID-19. More guidance and information regarding the travel advisory can be found at www.publichealth.lacounty.gov.

"To the families and friends experiencing the sorrow of losing of a loved one due to COVID-19, I send my sincere condolences," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "We are only weeks away from reducing transmission in L.A. County to a level where elementary schools will be allowed by the state to offer in-class instruction, provided they adhere to all State and County directives. Schools that decide to open will need to require masking, distancing and routine testing. Please do your part to continue to slow the spread so that our recovery journey does not suffer a setback."

Public Health inspectors are inspecting businesses to ensure compliance with the Los Angeles County Health Officer Order. During Public Health's recent business compliance checks, inspectors noted that many newly re-opened restaurants were not in compliance with employee face-covering and shelter structure requirements. To remain open, all businesses are required to adhere fully with their sector specific protocols. From January 27 through February 3, a total of 61 citations were issued to businesses including restaurants, gyms, personal care salons, hair salons/barbershops, and shopping malls for noncompliance with Health Officer Orders. Since the end of August, a total of 874 citations have been issued.

It is very important businesses understand, implement, and comply with protocols and directives; non-compliance can contribute to increased community transmission when COVID-19 spreads among employees and customers. A list of non-compliant businesses that received citations can be found online.

Testing results are available for more than 5,622,000 individuals with 19% of people testing positive.

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

SUBMITTED BY THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



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Curious City

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Don't Be Gaslighted

LET'S GET SOME THINGS STRAIGHT

Do you see arguments thrown back against your important local causes that make you think, maybe I am wrong after all? Well, think twice, and don't be intimidated by bully tactics and intentional disinformation. I encounter this all the time, so let's start here.

This is a newspaper column you're reading. Not a news story. Not investigative reporting.

I can do those things. I have, in the past. But now I choose to be a columnist. Whole different ball game. I've been writing music opinion columns since college. A column is by definition an opinion piece. I write a political (/ philosophical) column (this one), and a music column (NOTEWORTHY, on Thursdays), and I have too many decades to mention of experience in both.

An opinion column must be grounded in fact, but you choose the factual arguments that best make your case. You are trying to convince readers to see things the way you see them. I rely heavily on community history, observation from many sides, common sense, and the big picture as best I can figure it out. Conclusions are drawn, that hopefully are of use to the reader.

But I get challenged (by people who know better) as though something I wrote was a news article or investigative reporting. Don't defend, just discredit.

I hear, did you analyze all the documents from the last 10 years? Go to all the meetings? Did you call all these people to get their side of the story? No, that's what an investigative reporter does. They expose so much information not previously known that you have difficulty not agreeing with their conclusions.

I have always tried to write from the viewpoint of Jane and Joe Doe. A lot of music columnists are musicians, and it creeps in that whatever their instrument is, that's where their bias goes. I have always tried to write about the overall impact of the music you're listening to, if all you can play is Pandora or iTunes, and the impact of a local issue when you are not the professional who has the time or resources to go to all those meetings for years, and read through all those professional documents. What is the context, the big picture?

Let's take a current hot topic, a textbook example if you will.

You have a plan for 21st century education in Santa Monica? And you say it requires tearing down almost our entire Samohi campus and constructing new buildings? Including the History Building so many find precious?

THE HISTORY BUILDING AT SAMOHI

Is slated for demolition in a few months by the school district, enthusiastically approved by the school board. Both are pushing the issue along like there's no tomorrow and no other path.

Conflicts like these almost always could be resolved with some patience and common sense on both sides, and less intractability. In this case, those opposed to demolishing what many think of as the heart, soul and symbol of our century-old high school, are merely asking, can we take a pause, and see if there is another way? SMMUSD says no, impossible.

A lot of folks just found out about this a few weeks ago; even many Samohi alumni still aren't aware. There is a lot of anger and opposition. How could that happen?

DEVELOPMENT, DEMOLITION

Here's where this issue epitomizes the tack often taken on these types of issues in Santa Monica, usually involving development, often including demolition.

We hear, these plans were launched years ago. Where were you? Why are you waiting until the last minute? Why didn't you show up at all the meetings held for community input? There's a master plan -- OK, it is 800-pages, doesn't really cover everything, and you won't understand it -- but did you bother to read it all? Look at the last meeting -- those in favor of demolition outnumbered those opposed by 15 to 1. You're only a tiny, noisy, troublemaking minority.

But how is it that, time after time, we're always finding out too late? Could it be that the information is hidden in plain sight, for example deep in the SMMUSD website where common folk would rarely venture? Could it be that the claims of "wide community notification" are inflated and misleading?

And as for those large numbers who do show up at certain meetings to back one side, which that side says proves community support, even though we are talking about fewer than 50 or 100 people total, does that seem fair? Sometimes such a show of support for one side is also accompanied by the ignoring or misplacing of hundreds of emails, or a petition with more than 5,000 signatures. Makes me wonder.

THOSE POSTING COMBATIVE ARGUMENTS

Online, might be using their paid workday time, for a cause their employer supports. Some entities do spend an awful lot of time in Santa Monica-oriented Facebook pages, pushing their cause. Hard for ordinary residents to keep up with that, parents with jobs and families, who have to use precious personal time to combat the organized opposition.

What's this Wall of Lincoln going up, all these large buildings lining an already traffic-jammed main thoroughfare, right near a main freeway exit? They're still adding to it! When did all that get approved? That mammoth hotel at Seventh and Wilshire? 271 rooms. But no tourists now. Did we need that? How about our $140,000,000 city offices building, now nearly unusable under pandemic conditions?

So you missed the meetings, eh? Many say emphatically that they had no idea, had not heard a word. How many times have we heard, "too late, don't even ask, it's a done deal."

Why wouldn't our appointed and elected officials, supposedly working for us, want to know how we feel about all these things? If their plans are so good for us, let's hear it. Before it's "too late."

PATERNALISM

In my opinion, is rampant here, from the school board, City Council, City staff. We

SEE **CURIOUS CITY** PAGE 7

CURIOUS CITY

FROM PAGE 6

hear, and I am drawing inferences here -- we are in these positions, obviously, because we know better. You may have an opinion but it is uninformed. It lacks the knowledge, experience and wisdom we have applied so, please just hush up. This is your town, but we obviously know better than you do, kids, so just let the adults do their job."

We now have three new members of our City Council who so far do not seem to exhibit that sense of privilege. There is hope. (But keep an eye on the Kool-Aid pitcher.) The school district and school board, however -- perhaps need to pull that steamroller over and do some more listening to their constituents.

Charles Andrews has lived in Santa Monica for 34 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmr-music@gmail.com

SMMUSD

FROM PAGE 1

are scheduled for Phase 1B under the state's priority for vaccines, and the county is currently finalizing Phase 1A3, which is a group that includes SMMUSD nurses, health aides and special education staff who need to be in close contact to students for health purposes.

"And I'm happy to report that most, if not all, have received their first and, in some cases, second round of vaccines," he said.

Those who haven't will soon because Phase 1B vaccinations are expected to start within the next two to three weeks, according to the local superintendent, who added the federal government has recently mentioned that members of the student body may be vaccinated by the start of fall. None of the available vaccines are approved for students under age 16, but Drati said the district is still looking to finalize plans with St. John's Medical Center so SMMUSD can offer vaccination clinics to anybody who is eligible for vaccinations in the future.

Children in grades TK through fifth could return to school under new state regulations when Los Angeles County case counts reach 25 per 100,000 residents, which is a threshold the region is likely to surpass soon. This means Santa Monica schools would be allowed to reopen for on-campus learning but Drati has said SMMUSD does not currently intend to reopen for live instruction without a teachers union agreement.

"I will be meeting with parent representatives, PTA and school site council, and staff representatives — faculty advisory council and site leadership team — from each site this week in two meetings, one for elementary and one for secondary," Drati said. "The goal of these efforts is to establish agreements with our bargaining units in the following two weeks."

Brennon@smdp.com

METRO

FROM PAGE 1

programs have focused on building the supply of roads, congestion pricing tackles the problem from a different angle — by reducing demand.

Although the Metro program is currently in its infancy, congestion pricing has been utilized with great success in major cities including London, Stockholm, and Seattle.

"As our economy continues to grow we anticipate a rebound in traffic and we have to look at new ways we can address that," said Nguyen. "When used as part of a comprehensive strategy, congestion pricing can encourage just enough people to change the way they travel to achieve the small shift in the demand needed to get everyone moving and get to free flowing traffic."

This shift can occur through people traveling at a different time, on a different route, or using a different mode like carpooling, bicycling, walking, or riding the bus. Congestion pricing can also encourage people to telecommute or choose a different destination to travel to.

Metro is currently engaging in a series of stakeholder discussions to gauge people's interests and apprehensions about the program.

One key question is how congestion pricing will impact low-income individuals.

"While there is recognition that less traffic will save people time, reduce stress, and have other benefits, there is a real concern about potential costs, especially for households and individuals who may need to drive but may not be able to afford to do so under a pilot program," said Nguyen.

Metro is planning to address this by studying how reducing traffic will improve bus reliability and what low-income assistance programs would be beneficial under a congestion pricing pilot.

Once a program is in place, potential excess revenues would be available for investment in public transportation development.

By summer 2021, the Metro Board intends to select a preferred pilot program location. In addition to the Santa Monica Mountains region, Metro is also researching East-West traffic along the 1-10 corridor West of Downtown LA and traffic in 110, 101, and I-10 circle of central Downtown.

By spring 2022, the research team plans to bring its pilot program plan to the Metro Board for approval. Following environmental clearance, city, state, and federal approval, the pilot is scheduled for a 2025 rollout.

"LA is not just one of the most congested areas in America, but it's one of the most congested areas in the world," said Metro CEO Phillip Washington. "We have a dream of this metamorphosis of the L.A. County region from a car capital of the world to a center for greater mobility, innovation and equity in transportation for everyone."

Clara@smdp.com



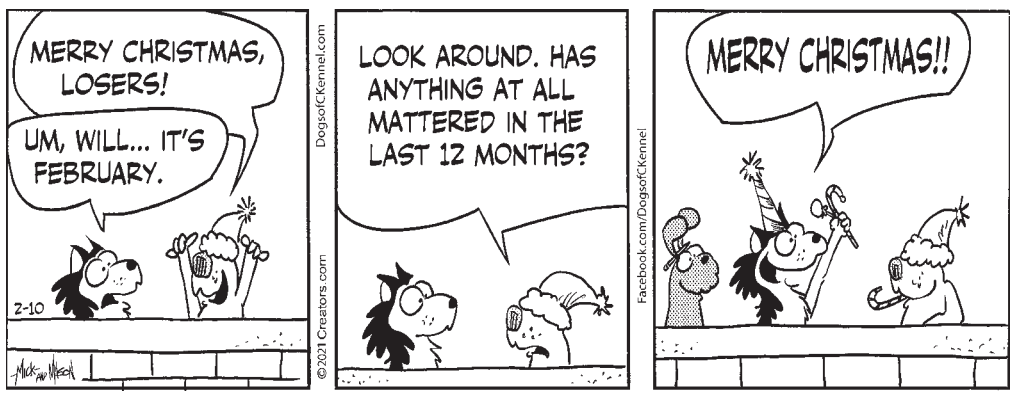
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



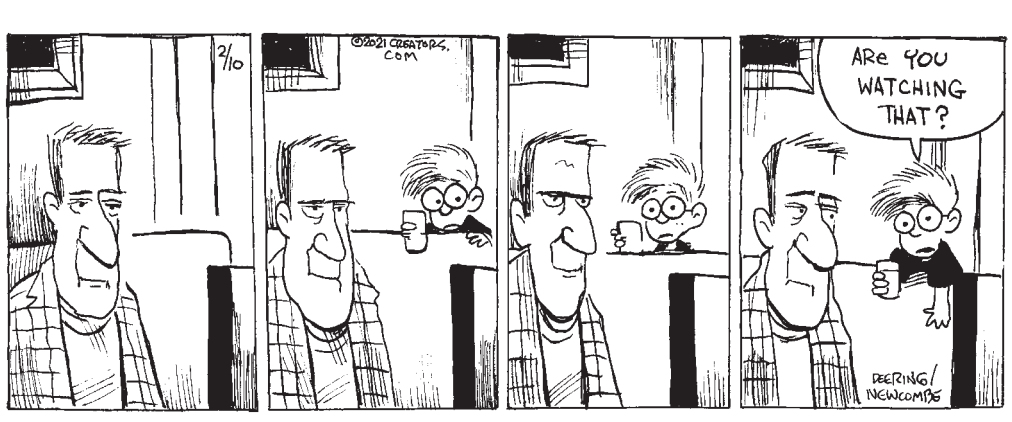
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

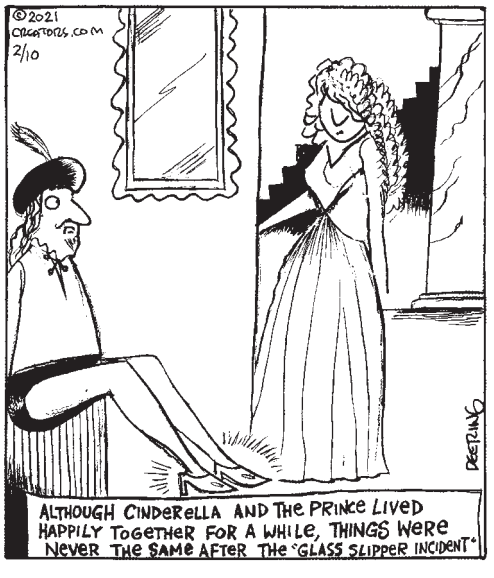
By PETER GALLAGHER



"IT MUST BE NICE TO BE A CAT PERSON."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 57.9°

WEDNESDAY - **POOR** - SURF: 0.5-1ft Shin to knee high
Small surf with ok conditions but looking marginally rideable. Early AM high tide swamps out the weak waves.

THURSDAY - **POOR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high
May see fresh NW swell bump size slightly in the PM. Mid AM high tide slows the small surf.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Patchy fog before 10am.
Wednesday Night: Patchy fog after 10pm.
Thursday: Partly sunny, with a high near 61.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/02/10	Wed	01:46 AM	1.80	L
2021/02/10	Wed	07:56 AM	6.32	H
2021/02/10	Wed	3:03 PM	-1.42	L
2021/02/10	Wed	9:26 PM	4.11	H
2021/02/11	Thu	02:27 AM	1.58	L
2021/02/11	Thu	08:35 AM	6.24	H
2021/02/11	Thu	3:37 PM	-1.25	L
2021/02/11	Thu	9:57 PM	4.21	H
2021/02/12	Fri	03:07 AM	1.43	L
2021/02/12	Fri	09:13 AM	5.97	H
2021/02/12	Fri	4:08 PM	-0.94	L
2021/02/12	Fri	10:27 PM	4.27	H
2021/02/13	Sat	03:46 AM	1.36	L
2021/02/13	Sat	09:49 AM	5.56	H
2021/02/13	Sat	4:38 PM	-0.54	L
2021/02/13	Sat	10:57 PM	4.30	H
2021/02/14	Sun	04:26 AM	1.37	L
2021/02/14	Sun	10:25 AM	5.02	H
2021/02/14	Sun	5:05 PM	-0.04	L
2021/02/14	Sun	11:27 PM	4.30	H
2021/02/15	Mon	05:08 AM	1.42	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL calottery
Draw Date: 2/6
1 16 48 49 65
Power#: 8
Jackpot: 42 M

MEGA MILLIONS calottery
Draw Date: 2/5
14 17 28 29 44
Mega#: 2
Jackpot: 68 M

SuperLotto PLUS calottery
Draw Date: 2/6
4 16 34 35 45
Mega#: 17
Jackpot: 19 M

Fantasy 5 calottery
Draw Date: 2/8
4 8 22 25 35

Daily 3 calottery
Draw Date: 2/8
EVENING: 8 7 0

Draw Date: 2/8
MIDDAY: 7 5 5

Daily Derby calottery
Draw Date: 2/8
1st: 06 - Whirl Win
2nd: 01 - Gold Rush
3rd: 10 - Solid Gold
Race Time: 1:41.18

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

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (FEBRUARY 10)

You know what you want, who you love and who you're willing to make sacrifices for. With these three cornerstones as the guiding principles of your schedule, your year goes off like sparklers. You'll be saying no a lot. Through honesty, focus and self-possession, a positive and effortless transformation is underway. Leo and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 2, 14, 18 and 39.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Because your pet peeves include things like lateness, last-minute cancellations, the untimely return of calls and texts ... you make special efforts not to commit such offenses yourself. It will be harder to stick with today.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll be wise to let people know what you can really make happen, because you don't want anyone to have unrealistic expectations that involve you. It's bad Karma.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). One of the best ways to build your relationship with yourself is to take on exciting challenges. You'll be attracted to one today, and it is guaranteed to increase more than just your self-esteem.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You have a big attitude today, pulsing with promise and potential. The best part is it's all respectfully contained. You don't need to posture or be louder than anyone else. You're a quiet but powerful magnet for all you desire.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Try not to hold yourself to impossibly high standards. It's a rejection of where you're at right now, which is as good a place as any. Change usually executes many small steps before it leaps.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's appropriate to channel the energy of other people before you find that groove that's all you. It takes more than time to find your voice; it also takes action, mistakes and lots of "Not that... How about this?"

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You've been shaped by wonderful, terrible, trying, fortunate and unusual happenings. You'll be inspired to think about your story differently and learn to tell it to yourself and others in more empowering terms.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're starting to understand the role that could fit you better. You see it in your mind's eye. One small action leads to the next, and soon you'll be leaning and living in such a way that makes your vision an inevitability.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). React a little slower than you think you should. It will give you a chance to really get what you're reacting to, which is the underlying meaning, not the misdirection that's going on at the surface level.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your choices are getting better aligned with the picture you hold for your future. A deadline of some sort will help you follow through with the trend.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Sometimes the action just gets stuck. It's no one's fault; it just happens. There's no point in wondering what happened. Just get out of the mud. Let go of something; add more throttle; or throw in a new topic for traction.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You'll expand an idea in a hyperreal direction -- so beyond what's normal that it's almost a caricature. This eliminates some of the complexity and makes it easy for people to understand and connect.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

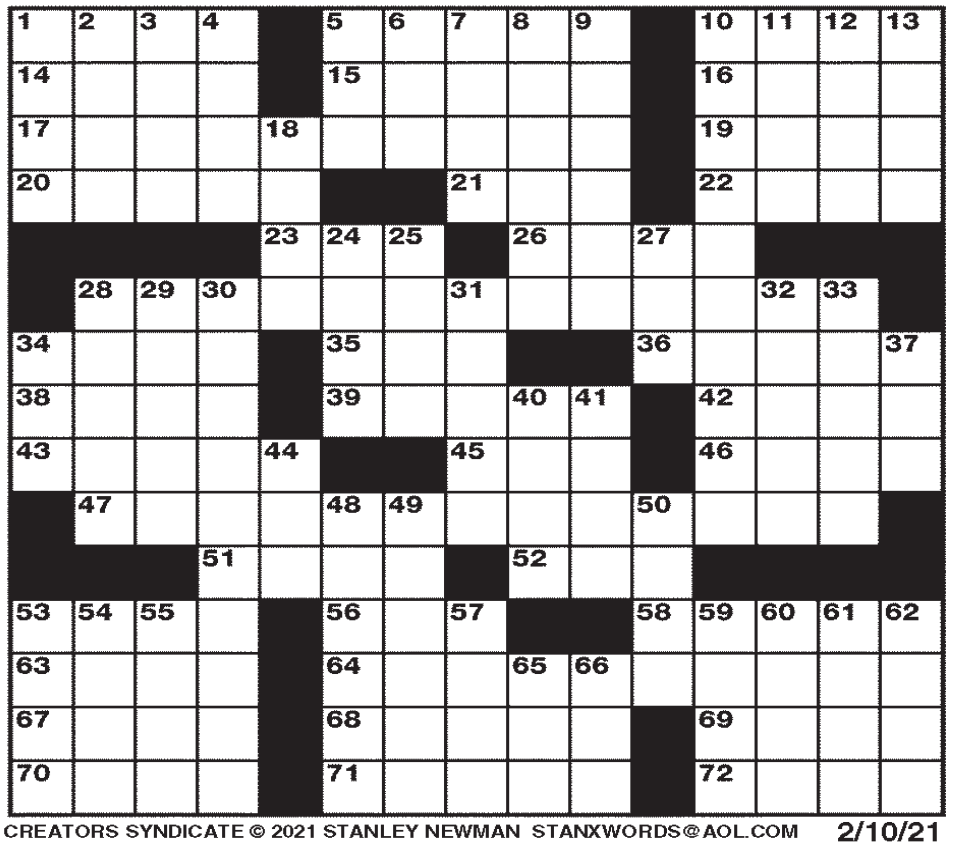
	8	1			7			
	7			5		4		2
	2	4		8			5	
		9			2			4
			9		3			
7			6			2		
	1			3		9	2	
4		8		6			3	
			8			1	4	

Newsday Crossword

FOLLOWING A PATTERN by Fred Ohles
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Officeholders, for short
5 Wild guesses
10 Up to the task
14 Z __ "zebra"
15 Magazine edition
16 Try to persuade gently
17 Woman's checked-pattern garment
19 __ d'état
20 Major blood vessel
21 PC key near the space bar
22 Open up, as shoelaces
23 Fuel efficiency stat.
26 Grad
28 Man's thin-line pattern office attire
34 Fancy party
35 Be of help to
36 Firstborn of two
38 Right-angle shapes
39 Hold (off)
42 Jai __ (ball game)
43 Pull on
45 Barnyard cackler
46 Semester
47 Woman's circle-pattern garment
51 Ripped (up)
52 Buckeye State sch.
53 Prepare, as tea
56 Explosive initials
58 Speaks unclearly
63 Volcanic outpouring
64 Man's droplet-pattern neckwear
67 Baking chamber
68 First Greek letter
69 Clock dial
70 Icy navigation hazard
71 Gossip-filled, informally
72 Those others

DOWN
1 Bear seen by Goldilocks
2 Capital of Norway
3 Untruthful one
4 Sour mood
5 Bro's sibling
6 Scolding sound
7 India's continent
8 Sack fabric
9 Reach an agreement
10 Gather gradually
11 Unexpected benefit
12 Speak highly of
13 Trade show, for short
18 River blockers
24 Grade-school support orgs.
25 Sand particles
27 Do something with
28 Get chummy (with)
29 Volunteer's offer
30 Country singer's accent
31 Potato-growing state
32 Runs in neutral
33 Signs of sorrow
34 Receive or retrieve
37 Edge of a glass
40 Reject, as legislation
41 Comes to a close
44 Boxing-stopping letters
48 Sketcher's tablet
49 America's highest peak
50 Deception
53 Drop of paint
54 Glowing review
55 At any time
57 Helpful hints
59 Uber competitor
60 Nevada neighbor
61 Starch in sushi
62 Appear to be
65 "Quiet!"
66 __ aside (abandon)



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2021 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 2/10/21

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	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0
0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1
0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
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"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 13 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5020

The election

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

Abbott
Aims
Bishop
Bound
Carr
Challenging
Compulsory
Conroy
Coonan
Cost
Crean
Debit
Decide
Dues
Fine
Force
Gavel
Hodgman
Laws
Lists
Local
Macklin
Made
News
Notes
Order
Past
Plan
Pyne
Queen
Rann
Result
Roll
Rules
Runs
Sausage
sizzle
School
Senate
Sign
Skill
Stand
Swan
Talks
Term
Tonics
Urge
Venue
Veto
Wong
Writ

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
And they're off!

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SUPER BOWL

FROM PAGE 1

City Hall appeared very briefly in a video prior to the Super Bowl, and a "Pup Close" segment during the Puppy Bowl focused on veterinarian Kwane Stewart, who is popularly known as The Street Vet, and The People Concern, a local homeless service provider.

"We got connected to Dr. Kwan by providing free veterinary care for residents in our programs as well as some of our outreach clients for several years," The People Concern CEO John Marceri said Tuesday. "We started off at one of our interim housing sites in Santa Monica and then expanded to help and assist residents in our other facilities before we started doing some pop-up clinics to provide veterinary care."

It's been a treasure working alongside Steward over the years, Marceri said, so it was a no-brainer when The People Concern was asked to accompany him on television to speak on the importance of pets in the lives of people who are experiencing homelessness.

"They were taping a segment at one of our housing sites on Michigan and Cloverfield in Santa Monica so they invited us to do a segment where they interviewed me and a couple of clients," Marceri said. "It was fun to be a part of the Puppy Bowl, especially this year, because you know it will make people smile; you can't help but feel happy when you see those cute little puppies running around, but I think it felt just as good to highlight the challenges that people experiencing homelessness with pets face every single day — because they're very real."

Everybody who is fortunate to have an animal in their lives knows how therapeutic a pet's unconditional love can be, Marceri added. "And I completely appreciate people who are living on the streets who won't give up their animals because that's often the only thing in their life that gives them unconditional love, so anything that we can do to help them stay together is really important. That's why, as I said earlier, we're really grateful to Dr. Kwan for his ongoing commitment to this work. We really feel like it was a privilege to be part of the Puppy Bowl and really bring light to the importance of why we should care for these animals."

Marceri invited residents who wish to get involved in the efforts to care for homeless individuals and their pets can visit www.thepeopleconcern.org.

"There are plenty of volunteer opportunities listed there under our program 'Canine Connections,'" he said. "And if you're a person experiencing homelessness that needs some help, then you can send an email to customerservice@thepeopleconcern.org, and then we'll direct that to the appropriate staff member to follow up."

Brennon@smdp.com

JAZZ BAND

FROM PAGE 1

believed was impossible.

Live virtual performances were initially ruled out due the time lag between devices, so for months students were recording their musical sections separately and sorely missing the ability to jam, improvise, and play with their peers.

"If you've ever been on Zoom and tried to sing happy birthday to somebody, it's hilarious because everybody is way off with their timing," said Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator Tom Whaley. "So when we first had that experience of being on Jamulus and counting off 1-2-3-4: 'bam' and everybody played together on the first note it was incredible. We haven't experienced that in a year and we were really craving it."

The Jamulus software mixes and equalizes input and sends it back to each musician with minimal lag. Jazz Band President Lydia Muraro discovered the program and worked hard to get access to a high speed server and provide cables, computers, and microphones to all students.

It is thanks to her time and effort and the support of Samohi's music and IT departments that students are able to play together again.

"Music is a way to express yourself. All these kids want to do is get together; they want to trade chords, they want to interact, and they haven't had that, so they've been dying on the inside," said Muraro. "They all have said thank you profusely and how this year jazz band has been basically the highlight of their week."

Friday's concert will be directed by Tom Whaley and Ryan Rowles and streamed live on Youtube at 5 p.m. The performance will kick off with the intermediate Jazz 2 group and be followed by the advanced Jazz 2 group. Students will get to introduce their pieces and improvise live to their audience.

"I'm really proud of their preparation and how they still get the chills in them when they give an introduction live just like a real performance," said Whaley.

Even with Jamulus, performing online is challenging but Whaley isn't cutting the players any slack and said they've truly risen to the occasion.

"One of the songs is Superstition and it's got really complicated syncopated rhythms alongside very fast 16th notes," said Whaley. "They're doing an incredible job with it, even though I pushed them on it."

Santa Monica High School has a renowned and award winning music program. It is one of the only high school's incorporating Jamulus into it's arts education and recently hosted UCLA professors in the Jazz Band practice so they could learn from the Samohi model.

Whaley plans on bringing famous jazz performers like trumpet player Wayne Bergeron into the jazz band's virtual practices, ensuring that students still get the same high-level exposure they would in person.

Through the creative and dedicated work of the entire music department team, the seemingly impossible challenge of virtual band practice has become a delight for all the students.

"Every single kid has showed up 100 percent of the time 100 percent online," said Muraro. "They've been really engaged and we've seen great growth in their music education."

Clara@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press
Classifieds

Help Wanted

Creative Director - Citrusbyte LLC (DBA Theorem), job site: 21550 Oxnard St., Fl 3, Ste. 11, Woodland Hills, CA 91367. Identifying user needs, defining product strategy, presenting a product/experience vision to internal stakeholders and clients, turning vision into outstanding designs and prototypes. Mail resume to job site, attn: Brady Brim-DeForest.

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HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm **LOCATION** 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401

SMMUSD
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) will receive sealed bids from contractors holding a type **"B"** license, on the following: **Bid #21.13.SMS – DSA #03-121129 – Rogers Elementary School – HVAC Project at Rogers Elementary School.** This scope of work is estimated to be **between $3,500,000.00 - $3,800,000.00** and includes the following HVAC upgrades to buildings A, B,D, E, F , G, H, J,K , L, M , N and P. Electrical service upgrade to support the HVAC upgrades. New concrete pads, chain link fencing, and cages as required for new exterior condensers and electrical equipment. Hazardous materials abatement at areas of work and other associated improvements per bidding documents. All bids must be submitted electronically as per the instructions included in the bidding documents on or before 3/10/2021 no later than 2:00 PM. Bidders must attend a Mandatory Job Walk to be held at the site, on 2/18/21 at 10:30 AM. All General Contractors and Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (M/E/P) Subcontractors must be pre-qualified for this project per bidding documents. To view the projects bidding documents, please visit ARC Southern California public plan room www.crplanwell.com and reference the project Bid #.

Prequalification Due Date & Instructions for Application Submission: All applications are due no later than 2/24/21 - Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has contracted with Colbi Technologies, Inc. to provide a web-based process for prequalification called QualityBidders. To submit an application at no cost please visit www.qualitybidders.com. Once you have been approved, you will receive an email indicating your approval expiration date and approval limit. The Districts approved contractors listing can be obtained via the FIP website at https://www.smmusd.org/domain/4172.

Mandatory Job Walk: 2/18/21 at 10:30 AM

Job Walk location: Will Rogers Elementary School located in Santa Monica, CA – **All Attending Contractors MUST meet the District representatives at the front of the school located at 2434 16th St ,Santa Monica, California 90405. Bidders will be escorted onto the campus from that location.**

Due to COVID-19 all attending contractors must bring and wear face masks/coverings at all times while on the site and adhere to social distancing safety requirements during the meeting or they will be asked to leave the property. In addition, only one person from each firm will be allowed to attend as groups can't be larger than 6 people, when the walk starts. Temperature checks will be taken and all attending must not have a temperature or they will be asked to leave.

Electronic Bid Submittal Deadline: 3/10/21 at 2:00pm

Any further questions or clarifications to this bidding opportunity, please contact Sheere Bishop-Griego at smbishop@smmusd.org directly. In addition, any pre-qualification support issues relative to Colbi Technologies, Inc., website or for technical support please contact support@qualityBidders.com directly.

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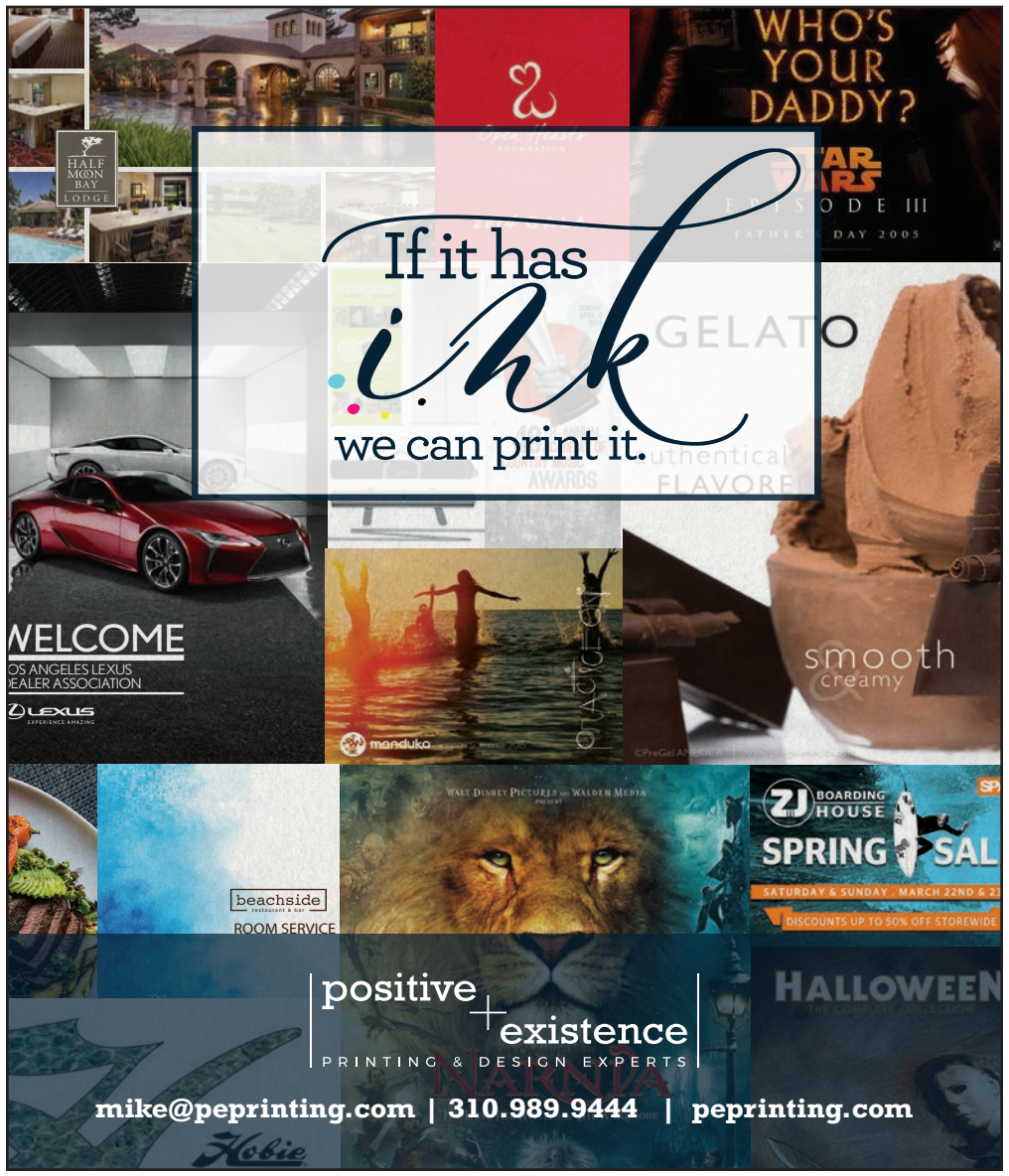
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For local business specials, ideas for outdoor and virtual activities visit **SantaMonicaShines.com**.

*Civic Economics, 2008

SANTA MONICA SHINES