smdp
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SMMUSD preparing students for changes to college sports



Courtesy photo

SIGNING DAY: Samohi soccer goalkeeper Cassidy Van Cott has signed to play at Regis College.

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

Top student athletes from Santa Monica and Malibu's public schools could soon be receiving a helping hand as they navigate the prospect of competing at the collegiate level.

Beginning in 2021, the NCAA amended its rules to allow individual student athletes "the opportunity to benefit from their name, image and likeness," as they compete for colleges and universities, according to an article published by the NCAA in June of that year. Previously, college athletes had been barred from accepting payments, despite many students generating huge sums of money for their respective schools thanks to sponsorships and marketing materials.

On top of navigating new, more intense practices and training schedules, tougher classes, being away from home and living in dorms or apartments, and all that comes with being a college athlete, NCAA players may now also be negotiating sponsorship deals, social media campaigns, personal branding, and financial management.

That's where the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) comes in. During the Thursday, Feb. 17, SMMUSD Board of Education meeting, School District leaders will consider a program that will see student athletes partner with a foundation called Athletes to Entrepreneurs, or A2E.

"The mission of the A2E Foundation — a non-profit, non-business affiliated organization focused solely on the total development of the high school athlete — is to empower young athletes by preparing them for the new world of college athletics," according to a staff report prepared for the Thursday meeting. "Working with school administrators, athletic directors, parents, and the students themselves, A2E will prepare student-athletes to understand and then develop their unique opportunity."

The contract, at no cost to the District, involves a six-week period of short presentations and interactive lessons designed to educate student athletes on their rights and their opportunities as they move on toward collegiate athletics.

A2E is funded through municipal, state and federal grants, according to the SMMUSD report, meaning there is no cost to the School District and no out-of-pocket expenses for athletes or

SEE **NCAA** PAGE 7

HCD rejects City's Housing Element, demands revisions

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica has a state mandated requirement to build 8,895 new housing units by 2029, but the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) says the City's plan to do so is not up to par.

As a result, HCD has declined to certify the City's 6th Cycle Housing

SEE **HOUSING ELEMENT** PAGE 11

Man arrested for felony hit and run



Courtesy photo

ACCIDENT: The victim in a late-night crash was riding an e-bike.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica Police Department has arrested a Los Angeles man following an early morning hit-and-run that has left a 16-year-old girl in critical condition.

According to SMPD, officers were dispatched to the intersection of Chelsea Avenue and Santa Monica Blvd. at about 2:08 a.m. on

SEE **BIKE** PAGE 7

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West megadrought worsens to driest in at least 1,200 years

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

The American West's megadrought deepened so much last year that it is now the driest in at least 1,200 years and is a worst-case climate change scenario playing out live, a new study finds.

A dramatic drying in 2021 — about as dry as 2002 and one of the driest years ever recorded for the region — pushed the 22-year drought past the previous record-holder for megadroughts in the late 1500s and shows no signs of easing in the near future, according to a study Monday in the journal Nature Climate Change.

The study calculated that 42% of this megadrought can be attributed to human-caused climate change.

"Climate change is changing the baseline conditions toward a drier, gradually drier state in the West and that means the worst-case scenario keeps getting worse," said study lead author Park Williams, a climate hydrologist at UCLA. "This is right in line with what people were thinking of in the 1900s as a worst-case scenario. But today I think we need to be even preparing for conditions in the future that are far worse than this."

Williams studied soil moisture levels in the West — a box that includes California, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, most of Oregon and Idaho, much of New Mexico, western Colorado, northern Mexico, and the southwest corners of Montana and Texas — using modern measurements and tree rings for estimates that go back to the year 800. That's about as far back as estimates can reliably go with tree rings.

A few years ago, Williams studied the current drought and said it qualified as a lengthy and deep "megadrought" and that the only worse one was in the 1500s. He figured the current drought wouldn't surpass that one because megadroughts tended to peter out after 20 years. And, he said, 2019 was a wet year so it looked like the western drought might be coming to an end.

But the region dried up in late 2020 and 2021.

All of California was considered in official drought from mid-May until the end of 2021, and at least three-quarters of the state was at the highest two drought levels from June through Christmas, according to the U.S. drought monitor.

"For this drought to have just cranked up back to maximum drought intensity in late 2020 through 2021 is a quite emphatic statement by this 2000s drought saying that we're nowhere close to the end," Williams said. This drought is now 5% drier than the old record from the 1500s, he said.

The drought monitor says 55% of the U.S. West is in drought with 13% experiencing the two highest drought levels.

This megadrought really kicked off in 2002 — one of the driest years ever, based on humidity and tree rings, Williams said.

"I was wondering if we'd ever see a year like 2002 again in my life and in fact, we saw it 20 years later, within the same drought," Williams said. The drought levels in 2002 and 2021 were a statistical tie, though still behind 1580 for the worst single year.

Climate change from the burning of fossil fuels is bringing hotter temperatures and increasing evaporation in the air, scientists say.

Williams used 29 models to create a hypothetical world with no human-caused warming then compared it to what happened in real life — the scientifically accepted way to check if an extreme weather event is due to climate change. He found that 42% of the drought conditions are directly from human-caused warming. Without climate change, he said, the megadrought would have ended early on because 2005 and 2006 would have been wet enough to break it.

The study "is an important wake-up call," said Jonathan Overpeck, dean of environment at the University of Michigan, who wasn't part of the study. "Climate change is literally baking the water supply and forests of the Southwest, and it could get a whole lot worse if we don't halt climate change soon."

Williams said there is a direct link between drought and heat and the increased wildfires that have been devastating the West for years. Fires need dry fuel that drought and heat promote.

SEE **DROUGHT** PAGE 5

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Rams bask in Super Bowl win, hope McVay, Donald want another

GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

Sean McVay looked and sounded very much like somebody who had been up all night celebrating his first Super Bowl victory when the coach showed up early Monday morning to discuss his Los Angeles Rams' hometown coronation.

"It's an incredible honor to be here," McVay said, his sandpaper rasp accentuating his sarcasm. "It's also torturous to have a team win a championship and then make you come the next morning to a press conference this early."

With the Rams' 23-20 victory over the Cincinnati Bengals, McVay has finally reached the culmination of a journey he began in early 2017 as the youngest head coach in modern NFL history. Just over five years later, the 36-year-old is also the youngest coach to win a Super Bowl — and the trip left him exhausted, but thrilled.

McVay said nothing Monday about the possibility of walking away from football soon, as the burnout-prone coach has suggested when asked about it over the years. But he didn't sound like he was finished with his work on a team he built into a champion.

"I've been surrounded by great people," McVay said. "When you get around great players, great coaches that are all committed and working in the same direction, pulling that rope in the same direction, good things can happen. When you have the right foundational pieces ... because of those guys' success, other people get opportunities to grow."

Aaron Donald also hit his career's peak by making the decisive defensive play on Cincinnati's final snap, harassing Joe Burrow into a fourth-down incompletion to finish a Super Bowl performance that included two sacks. The three-time AP Defensive Player of the Year finally has his first ring — and the 30-year-old star also sidestepped questions about early retirement immediately after the victory.

Rams chief operating officer Kevin Demoff says the team will wait until its celebrations die down to figure out how serious McVay and Donald are about starting life after football, but he is optimistic they'll both be back.

"I think all of these guys are wiped," Demoff said. "When you get to this point, the gas tank is empty and you're sitting there holding a trophy. I think that's daunting to some degree when you wake up this morning and realize you've got to go do it all over again, and you don't have the energy. So I think the talk is actually natural.

"And I would agree. I don't think Sean's current pace is sustainable in terms of how much work he puts in if you want to have a family. But I think the one thing, these guys all love football. They love being around each other. ... These are all natural questions that are hard to answer in the moment. A month away, two months away from everybody, and I think things will feel a lot better."

Not even a Super Bowl championship affected Rams owner Stan Kroenke's career-long reluctance to speak publicly about his many sports teams, but Demoff said the billionaire who built SoFi Stadium was "happier than I've ever seen him" after raising his first Lombardi Trophy.

"He took the two biggest risks in the NFL that I can think of in the last decade," Demoff said. "Buying land to build a stadium, hoping to get the opportunity to become the Los Angeles Rams again, and hiring a 30-year-old head coach when everybody wanted a major name. Those two risks culminated last night with unbelievable reward."

The Rams have done everything big since Kroenke relocated them to Los Angeles from his native Missouri six years ago. Landing in a glamorous town that had largely forgotten them, the Rams got everybody's attention again by developing an appetite for risks and stocking their roster with veteran stars.

Many of those stars played key roles in the Rams' 16th and final victory. From Donald and Von Miller to Matthew Stafford and Super Bowl MVP Cooper Kupp, Los Angeles' big names loomed large in the grand finale.

"There were so many guys on this team that have just respected this game, have put in the work and the time," said Kupp, who looked less annoyed than his boss to be awake shortly after sunrise. "That was a huge thing coming into this. So many guys just said, 'Hey, we've got guys here that deserve a Super Bowl. We've got to win this for them.'"

It happened one last time in the Super Bowl when Cincinnati scored 17 consecutive points to take a 20-13 lead several minutes into the third quarter. The Rams' offense managed just three points from seven consecutive possessions before its final drive — a 15-play, 79-yard imperfect masterpiece ending in Kupp's 1-yard TD catch.

"We talk a lot about just being able to do your job," Kupp said. "We went through a little bit of a lull there leading into halftime and through that third quarter. We just needed to keep pushing and keep trusting in the details of things."

The Rams kept the party going at Disneyland later Monday, and they'll get a victory parade in Los Angeles on Wednesday.

Free agency is only four weeks away, and the Rams must make decisions on several key players: Miller, receiver Odell Beckham Jr., starting cornerback Darious Williams, offensive linemen Brian Allen and Austin Corbett, and defensive lineman Sebastian Joseph-Day. They're also waiting for Andrew Whitworth's decision on retirement.

But Kupp had a confident answer when asked if he thought the Rams could become the first NFL team in nearly two decades to repeat.

"Certainly," he said. "If you're going into a season and didn't think you could win it all, it would be a pretty depressing place to play from."

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

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 254 CALLS ON FEBRUARY 13

Loud Music 2600Blk Main St 12:55 a.m.
Loud Music 1200Blk 9th St 1:10 a.m.
Loud Music 900Blk Wilshire Blvd 1:12 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Main St / Olympic Dr 1:43 a.m.
Loud Music 1000Blk 6th St 1:54 a.m.
Party Complaint 1300Blk Yale St 2:01 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Chelsea Ave / Santa Monica Blvd 2:09 a.m.
Public Intoxication 1200Blk Harvard St 2:50 a.m.
Encampment 500Blk California Ave 2:56 a.m.
Malicious Mischief 1500Blk 4th St 3:14 a.m.
Party Complaint 1000Blk 7th St 3:18 a.m.
Party Complaint 1900Blk 20th St 3:26 a.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 2400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 5:25 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 2400Blk Lincoln Blvd 5:41 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now Dorchester Ave / Urban Ave 7:44 a.m.
Missing Person 1600Blk The Beach 7:53 a.m.
Prowler Just Left 1700Blk Pine St 7:53 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1700Blk Ocean Front Walk 8:05 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1700Blk Appian Way 8:08 a.m.
Burglary Now 400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:39 a.m.
Petty Theft 400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:41 a.m.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered 1700Blk Ocean Park Blvd 8:43 a.m.
Assault 400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:11 a.m.
Burglary 800Blk Ocean Ave 9:29 a.m.
Red Zone Violation 1800Blk Appian Way 9:47 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 2000Blk Ocean Front Walk 9:53 a.m.
Identity Theft 1100Blk 5th St 10:18 a.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 1500Blk Stanford St 10:25 a.m.
Battery 400Blk Wilshire Blvd 10:34 a.m.
Person With A Gun 1800Blk 12th St 10:38 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2900Blk Colorado Ave 10:40 a.m.
Battery 1100Blk 16th St 10:41 a.m.
Petty Theft 700Blk Broadway 10:46 a.m.
Construction Noise 2400Blk 3rd St 10:47 a.m.
Person Down 1100Blk Wilshire Blvd 10:59 a.m.
Encampment 1600Blk Appian Way 11:02 a.m.
Petty Theft 1000Blk Euclid St 11:04 a.m.
General Parking Problem 1000Blk 18th St 11:11 a.m.
Critical Missing Person 1500Blk The Beach 11:39 a.m.
Burglary 1000Blk 2nd St 11:42 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2900Blk Pennsylvania Ave 11:45 a.m.
Petty Theft 500Blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:51 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1400Blk 2nd St 11:51 a.m.
Petty Theft 1200Blk 3rd Street Prom 11:55 a.m.
Burglary 900Blk 12th St 11:56 a.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 2100Blk Carlyle Ave 12:09 p.m.
Loud Music 1300Blk Ocean Park Blvd 12:18 p.m.
Petty Theft 400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:29 p.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 1000Blk 10th St 12:38 p.m.
Loud Music 1300Blk Ocean Park Blvd 12:39 p.m.
Burglary 1300Blk Lincoln Blvd 12:45 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2600Blk Euclid St 12:48 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2600Blk Ocean Park Blvd 12:57 p.m.
Panhandling 1000Blk Broadway 1:41 p.m.
Person Down 11th St / Pacific St 1:59 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 2600Blk Barnard Way 2:02 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1300Blk 2nd St 2:28 p.m.
Valet Zone Violation 1500Blk Ocean Ave 3:05 p.m.
Grand Theft 2800Blk Delaware Ave 3:07 p.m.
Encampment 1700Blk 9th St 3:10 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1300Blk 2nd St 3:38 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1300Blk 15th St 3:39 p.m.
Critical Missing Person 1500Blk The Beach 3:46 p.m.
Strongarm Robbery 1400Blk 2nd St 3:56 p.m.
Person Down 1800Blk Colorado Ave 4:03 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1200Blk Princeton St 4:10 p.m.
Overdose Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 4:14 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 4th St / Pico Blvd 4:17 p.m.
Petty Theft 1500Blk 2nd St 4:25 p.m.
Encampment 15th St / Wilshire Blvd 4:37 p.m.
Auto Burglary 800Blk Lincoln Blvd 4:46 p.m.
Rape 1700Blk 9th St 4:59 p.m.
Grand Theft 2800Blk Delaware Ave 5:01 p.m.
Missing Person 300Blk Olympic Dr 5:06 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1200Blk Princeton St 5:13 p.m.
Battery 500Blk Colorado Ave 5:14 p.m.
Rape 1300Blk Abbot Kinney Blvd 5:56 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1400Blk 7th St 6:04 p.m.
Person With A Gun 2100Blk Cloverfield Blvd 6:19 p.m.
Person With A Gun 100Blk Broadway 6:28 p.m.
Grand Theft 1200Blk 4th St 6:33 p.m.
Smoking Violation 1300Blk 3rd Street Prom 6:54 p.m.
Battery 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 7:06 p.m.
Shots Fired 25th St / Montana Ave 7:17 p.m.
Grand Theft 1300Blk 2nd St 7:25 p.m.
Encampment 1400Blk 5th St 7:25 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1200Blk 4th St 7:28 p.m.
Death Investigation 1400Blk 18th St 7:38 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 7:41 p.m.
Shots Fired 3100Blk Neilson Way 7:42 p.m.
Loud Music 2600Blk Main St 7:56 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Ocean Ave / Alta Ave 8:08 p.m.
Attempt Suicide 1500Blk 5th St 8:12 p.m.
Lewd Activity 4th St / Colorado Ave 8:14 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Ocean Ave / Alta Ave 8:21 p.m.
Battery 1800Blk Ocean Ave 8:22 p.m.
Grand Theft 1400Blk 2nd St 8:47 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 700Blk Cedar St 9:21 p.m.
Battery 800Blk Ocean Ave 9:22 p.m.
Loud Music 2700Blk Main St 9:36 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1200Blk 16th St 9:51 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 1300Blk 2nd St 9:54 p.m.
Loud Music 1500Blk 2nd St 11:01 p.m.
Encampment 1400Blk 5th St 11:03 p.m.
Loud Music 1300Blk 2nd St 11:12 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 55 CALLS ON FEBRUARY 13

EMS 2200Blk Cloverfield Blvd 12:53 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Main St / Olympic Dr 1:43 a.m.
EMS 400Blk Colorado Ave 1:51 a.m.
EMS Chelsea Ave / Santa Monica Blvd 2:09 a.m.
EMS 1500Blk 6th St 2:12 a.m.
EMS 1800Blk Lincoln Blvd 2:16 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400Blk Ocean Ave 3:19 a.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 4th St / Colorado Ave 5:26 a.m.
Vehicle Into A Structure 2400Blk Lincoln Blvd 5:41 a.m.
EMS Chelsea Ave / Arizona Ave 6:04 a.m.
EMS 600Blk 11th St 6:40 a.m.
EMS 1100Blk 16th St 6:52 a.m.
EMS 1100Blk Lincoln Blvd 8:40 a.m.
EMS 2300Blk Main St 9:08 a.m.
EMS 300Blk 21st Pl 9:18 a.m.
EMS 2200Blk 23rd St 9:54 a.m.
EMS 1100Blk Lincoln Blvd 10:03 a.m.
EMS 600Blk Idaho Ave 10:29 a.m.
Smoke Investigation 300Blk 20th St 10:56 a.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 1800Blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:57 a.m.
Elevator Rescue 200Blk Montana Ave 11:10 a.m.
EMS 2100Blk 20th St 11:31 a.m.
Lock In/Out 1700Blk Main St 11:35 a.m.
EMS 2300Blk 20th St 11:36 a.m.
EMS 1400Blk 7th St 12:31 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 1:01 p.m.
EMS 1000Blk Wilshire Blvd 1:30 p.m.
EMS 500Blk Colorado Ave 1:47 p.m.
EMS 400Blk Pico Blvd 1:57 p.m.
EMS 11th St / Pacific St 1:59 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 2nd St 2:10 p.m.
EMS 1800Blk Colorado Ave 4:03 p.m.
Flooded Condition 1600Blk Ashland Ave 4:11 p.m.
EMS Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 4:14 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk 7th St 5:04 p.m.
EMS 300Blk Ocean Ave 5:06 p.m.
EMS 1700Blk 9th St 5:33 p.m.
EMS 100Blk Santa Monica Blvd 5:37 p.m.
EMS 800Blk Adelaide Pl 5:49 p.m.
Wires Down 22nd St / Pico Blvd 6:35 p.m.
EMS 400Blk Broadway 7:15 p.m.
EMS 400Blk Broadway 7:15 p.m.
EMS 1100Blk 7th St 7:25 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk 18th St 7:39 p.m.
EMS 1500Blk 5th St 8:11 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Ocean Ave / Alta Ave 8:21 p.m.
EMS 4th St / Colorado Ave 8:24 p.m.
EMS 1100Blk Wilshire Blvd 8:28 p.m.
EMS 1800Blk Ocean Ave 8:34 p.m.
EMS 1800Blk Ocean Ave 8:51 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2200Blk Colorado Ave 8:58 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk Ocean Ave 9:36 p.m.
EMS 1100Blk 17th St 10:06 p.m.
EMS 2200Blk Colorado Ave 11:40 p.m.
EMS 900Blk Ocean Ave 11:43 p.m.

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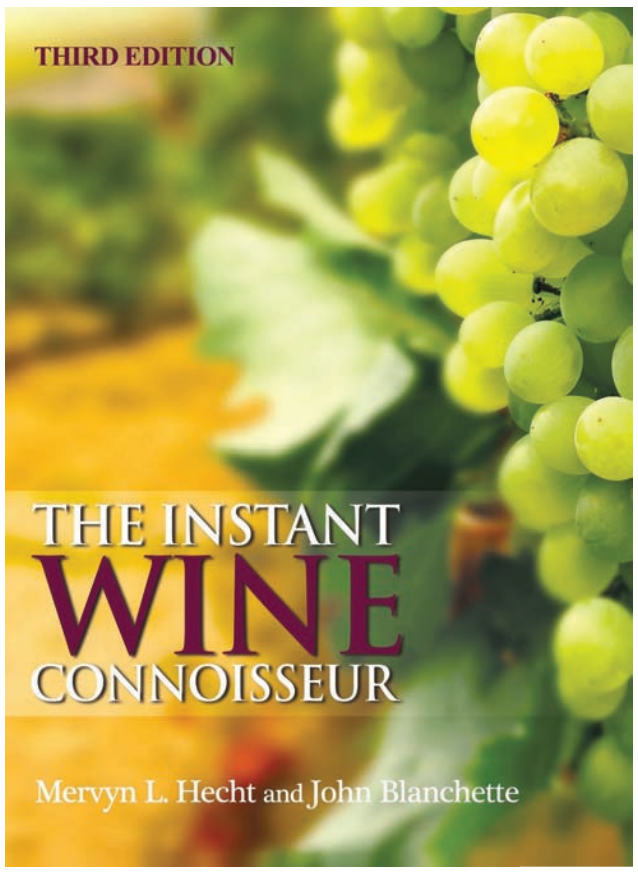
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California delays decision on lifting school mask mandate

JOCELYN GECKER
Associated Press

Gov. Gavin Newsom delayed a closely watched decision on lifting California's school mask mandate Monday, even as other Democratic governors around the country have dropped them in recent weeks.

While many Californians will be able to remove masks in most indoor settings starting Tuesday, schoolchildren and teachers will have to wait. Newsom had flagged Monday as the day to watch for a revision regarding schools, then sent the state's top health official to deliver the message of a delay.

"The message today, which I hope is clear, is today a change isn't being made," California Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly said in an online announcement. Ghaly said his department will reassess on Feb. 28 whether the rule should change.

"This is not a decision we take lightly, it is not a decision that is a hasty one," Ghaly said, noting that California's vaccination rates for children are still low and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention still recommends masks in schools.

The non-announcement came a day before California lifts its mask mandate for most indoor settings for vaccinated people. As of Tuesday, unvaccinated people will still be required to be masked indoors, and everyone — vaccinated or not — will have to wear masks in higher-risk settings like public transit and nursing homes. Local governments can continue their own indoor mask requirements, as Los Angeles County health officials announced they would.

It also comes a week after a half dozen other states controlled by Democrats, including Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey and Oregon, announced plans to end statewide school mask mandates by the end of February or March. They are among a dozen states with such mandates for schools, which have become a lightning rod in districts nationwide.

Newsom, a Democrat, has come under pressure from Republicans and other critics to ease the mandates. He indicated last week that he was ready to ease making rules at schools but the teachers unions were not.

"They just asked for a little bit more time and I think that's responsible and I respect that," Newsom told a news conference last week. "But we also have a date with destiny. We recognize that we want to turn the page on the status quo."

Ghaly said Monday that COVID-19 cases in California have dropped by more than 75% since mid-January, but the state was not yet ready to make masks optional in schools. He declined to answer repeated questions on what role teachers unions played in Monday's decision.

But the teachers' stance was made clear minutes after Ghaly finished speaking, when the powerful California Teachers Association issued a statement praising the "cautious approach to masking."

"We know that masking, strong testing programs and having good school ventilation systems in place have been key to ensuring the stability of in-person learning," the statement from CTA President E. Toby Boyd said, but added that changes "will disrupt and destabilize school communities."

Newsom said last week that one of the sticking points in labor negotiations was the relatively low vaccination rates for children under 12.

Only 28% of 5 to 11-year-olds in California are fully vaccinated, according to the latest state figures, compared to 89% of residents 18 and older.

Ghaly declined to say whether lifting school mask requirements would be tied to specific metrics.

California has had some of the strictest mask and vaccination requirements in the country, with Newsom announcing last October a COVID-19 vaccine mandate for all public and private schoolchildren. That mandate is not expected to take effect until July, pending full federal approval for the shots.

The school mask requirements, in place since July 2020, were key to getting the state's powerful teachers unions to agree to reopen classrooms.

Parents are frustrated, prompting some officials to make their own decisions.

In a suburb of Sacramento, the Roseville Joint Union High School District school board openly defied the state mandate last week with a unanimous vote to start a "mask optional" policy.

At Corona Norco Unified School District in Riverside County, where students and parents recently protested the school mask mandate, the district said it has set up a supervised, outdoor area where students who refuse to mask up can spend the day protesting or doing school work.

Associated Press writer Amy Taxin in Orange County, California, contributed to this report.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Unruly crowds dispersed in Los Angeles after Super Bowl

A crowd celebrating the Rams' Super Bowl victory in downtown Los Angeles set off illegal fireworks, broke into a store, jumped on cars and damaged two transit buses Sunday night.

The Police Department issued dispersal orders and brought in a large number of officers.

The police headquarters Twitter account described the crowd as "violent and destructive."

Officers stopped a car driving in circles in an intersection and arrested a person after a loaded firearm was found, the department said.

Officer Rosario Cervantes told the Los Angeles Times there were more than 20 instances of reported vandalism around the city, including two Metro buses.

At least one driver was still inside a bus while fans climbed onto the roof and spray-painted "Rams House" across the windows, the Times said.

Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies also dispersed a crowd in East Los Angeles, where one person was shot during a gathering at an intersection. The victim, a man, was hospitalized in stable condition, according to sheriff's Lt. Shawn O'Donnell.

There were no arrests in Inglewood, the home of SoFi Stadium, where the Super Bowl was played, according to police in that city.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEVERLY HILLS

Prison for pair who stole $500K watch in Beverly Hills

Two men were each sentenced Monday to 12 years in prison for the brazen armed robbery of a man's $500,000 watch while he was dining outdoors in Beverly Hills, prosecutors said.

The suspects wore hoods and one of them put a gun to the head of the watch's owner as he sat at Il Pastaio restaurant last March, investigators said. A woman was shot in the leg during a struggle over the watch and the gun. She was not seriously hurt.

Malik Lamont Powell, 21, and Khai McGhee, 18, each pleaded guilty in September to three felonies including conspiracy to commit robbery.

The defendants, members of a Los Angeles street gang, were sentenced by U.S. District Judge John F. Walter, who called the crime "outrageous and unacceptable," according to a statement from the U.S. Attorney's Office.

A third defendant, Marquise Anthony Gardon, pleaded guilty in September to two felonies including robbery. Gardon, 41, is scheduled to be sentenced February 28.

Surveillance video showed the suspects scouting the area around the restaurant before the robbery, according to a court statement by an FBI agent involved in the investigation.

The gun was left at the scene but the robbers fled with the watch, a rose-gold Richard Mille RM 11-03 Flyback Chronograph worth approximately $500,000.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Texas

Texas AG sues Facebook parent Meta over facial recognition

The Texas Attorney General is suing Facebook parent Meta, saying the company has unlawfully collected biometric data on Texans for commercial purposes, without their informed consent.

Attorney General Ken Paxton filed the lawsuit Monday a state district court claiming Meta has been "storing millions of biometric identifiers" – identified as retina or iris scans, voice prints, or a record of hand and face geometry – contained in photos and videos people upload to its services, including Facebook and Instagram.

"Facebook will no longer take advantage of people and their children with the intent to turn a profit at the expense of one's safety and well-being," Paxton said in a statement. "This is yet another example of Big Tech's deceitful business practices and it must stop. I will continue to fight for Texans' privacy and security."

The filing of the lawsuit coincided with the first day of early voting in a primary election in Texas, where Paxton faces several GOP challengers in the wake of his top deputies reporting him to the FBI for alleged corruption.

Paxton has been going up against "Big Tech" – a common foe for both Republicans and Democrats even if their criticisms don't always align. He earlier launched an investigation of Twitter over its ban of former President Donald Trump and filed several lawsuits against Google.

Under Texas law, the lawsuit says, companies must obtain "informed consent" from people to use their biometric data. This means people have to be informed before their biometric data is captured and it can only be done if they agree to it. Such data also cannot be disclosed for anyone else, although there are some exceptions, such as law enforcement subpoenas

In a statement, Meta Platforms Inc., which is based in Melo Park, California, called the lawsuit "without merit."

The company said in November that it was shutting down its facial recognition program and deleting its data.

Texas is asking the court to fine Meta $25,000 for each violation of the informed consent rule and $10,000 for each violation of the state's deceptive trade practices act.

Meta, then called Facebook, paid $650 million to settle a similar lawsuit over photo the use of photo face-tagging and other biometric data in Illinois last year.

BARBARA ORTUTAY AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

DROUGHT

FROM PAGE 2

Eventually, this megadrought will end by sheer luck of a few good rainy years, Williams said. But then another one will start.

Daniel Swain, a UCLA climate scientist who wasn't involved in the study, said climate change is likely to make megadrought "a permanent feature of the climate of the Colorado River watershed during the 21st century."

DENTAL
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[1] "Medicare & You," Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2020
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Strictly Business

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

ClearFuze provides tech support above the clouds

Twenty-two years ago or so I was at a Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce networking event (SMCoC). I had just opened my law office about 6 months earlier and was still in the process of becoming a real business. I had a phone system with multiple lines and a FAX MACHINE, and my name on the window, it was all very exciting.

I was told early on in life that you should only trust a computer guy who had a ponytail, it was some secret personal grooming choice they made that told the world they were capable. At this particular meeting of the SMCoC there was a burly man, with a full beard, I think he was wearing shorts and a flannel shirt that betrayed his Massachusetts upbringing. He was exactly the type of man that gets my attention. So of course I was hitting on him and we struck up a friendship.

As those types of networking events go, you cut right to the chase of what do you do, and he was sporting the full ponytail of a computer tech who specialized in security for small businesses. He was hired. I didn't know what I needed him for, but I knew I wanted to know him better.

For years Steve Farvager was my tech savior. He installed computers, updated backup systems, and got me out of the inevitable computer glitches that I wandered into. We became friends and for years we'd do morning bike rides to Playa or Hermosa and he'd go home to his wife and I'd go to the office to start breaking up unhappy families.

In time he moved on to Northern California which suited him and his acupuncturist wife better than the craziness of Venice. He handed my account off to Ben who had shaggy hair and was a bit more conservative, but just as competent. Ben returned after a few years to his native Virginia and I was left techless.

I managed to not destroy computers until one day I updated something and that caused a nightmare. I reached out to the only tech I knew Jeremy Foint who is a master of Apple and PC systems. He also has a shaved head.

So in the 20 years I've been in business, my tech support guys have steadily lost their hair. I've been blessed over all this time to have no major computer issues, no data losses. Which is great for a small two man office like mine.

But for bigger firms, those with 5 or more staff on a network that is open to the internet, there is a local solution. My friend Jason Gilbert started ClearFuze Networks, Inc. as a one man show to help small firms with their needs.

Jason is a modern renaissance man. He's a pilot, who I think has had his pilot's license since before he could drive a car. In a world of black turtlenecks and/or superhero t-shirts, Jason is a snappy dresser of sport coats and loafers. He goes against the grain of what you expect in an IT person.

Jason worked his way through Santa Monica College for a degree in business, taking one course at a time, while building ClearFuze, expanding his reach and its markets. He's continued his education, becoming a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) and leading ClearFuze Networks to becoming a highly regarded local provider of tech services. Today ClearFuze has over 20 engineers locally helping architects, law offices, and hospitals manage the transition from traditional office spaces to remote working from home in the middle of a pandemic.

One of the biggest problems facing any organization today is institutional security. "We think that two-factor log-in provides security, but it's a false sense of protection" Gilbert said. As companies moved to cloud based data storage, the risks of a breach increase, and this is the sort of nightmare that people like me, cannot even conceive of, and certainly don't want to lose sleep over, which is why ClearFuze is growing so rapidly. "We need more helpdesk staff. I'm looking for people who are Level 2 trained and seasoned personnel with over 5 years of experience. I am a big believer in continued education and will pay for people to continue college or industry certifications" Gilbert said.

He values leadership and mentoring, "I think the single greatest thing I've done for my business was joining a Vistage group and surrounding myself with other like-minded individuals who meet regularly to uplift each other and keep the momentum of growth going" Gilbert told me over eggs at Teddy's Café on Pico and Bundy. Sidenote: he's a regular there during the week for breakfast.

Today ClearFuze provides security services to mid-size to large law firms managing the inevitable lost laptop, shutting down access to terminated employees and providing software support to a variety of professional organizations like architects, healthcare and private equity development companies.

Located at the Santa Monica Airport, where Gilbert has his private plane out front under his watchful eye, ClearFuze HR is accepting resumes at HR@ClearFuze.com.

Oh, and Jason is the guy with the close cropped, but full head of, hair.

David Pisarra is a Los Angeles Divorce and Child Custody Lawyer specializing in Father's and Men's Rights with the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or 310/664-9969. You can follow him on Twitter @ davidpisarra

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 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3 AT 1:50 A.M.

Officers were dispatched to the area of Ocean Avenue and Strand Street for a reported armed robbery. Upon arrival, the officers located the victim who relayed that he heard his vehicle alarm and walked out with a bat to look. He found a transient male had broken into his vehicle and was rummaging through it. The victim asked him to leave and the subject proceeded to lunge at him with a knife. The victim stepped back and the subject ran off. Officers were able to locate and arrest Adam Lee White-Youngman and arrest him for Brandishing.

ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3 AT 11:36 A.M.

Officers responded to the intersection of Cloverfield and Broadway regarding a traffic collision. The reporting party relayed that a vehicle had collided into the front of her vehicle and that the driver had walked away. Officers located a subject matching the description given by the reporting party and detained him near Colorado and Yale. The subject initially gave officers a fake name and after being confronted, gave his real identity. Jovanni Quiroz was arrested for hit and run and driving without a license.

BIKE

FROM PAGE 1

Feb. 13 for a report of a car colliding with a bicycle.

When officers arrived, they found the bicyclist, a 16-year-old female, down with severe injuries. Santa Monica Fire Department personnel arrived shortly, rendered first aid then transported the victim to a local hospital where she is currently listed in critical condition.

Following an investigation by the Major Accident and Response Team, officers arrested 29-year-old Maximiliano Ramos Santiago, from Los Angeles, on Feb. 14. He is charged with felony hit and run and driving without a license.

Investigators also towed his vehicle, a black Chevrolet sedan, to be processed for evidence.

Anyone with any additional information pertaining to this incident is strongly encouraged to contact Investigator Evan Raleigh at 310-458-8954 or the Watch Commander (24 hours) at 310-458-8426.

editor@smdp.com

NCAA

FROM PAGE 1

their families.

If accepted, the District's partnership with A2E would carry through to June 30, 2023, and be considered for annual renewal beginning at that time.

So far in 2022, just one SMMUSD senior has signed on to play college athletics: Samohi soccer goalkeeper Cassidy Van Cott, who signed to play at Regis College, a private Roman Catholic university in Massachusetts.

SMMUSD Spokesperson Gail Pinsker said she expected more student athletes from Samohi and Malibu High School to sign on to play NCAA sports in coming months.

The SMMUSD School Board meeting begins at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 17, and can be attended via Zoom (meeting ID: 827 7467 6308 ; passcode: 009651 ; call-in number: 669.900.6833).

emily@smdp.com

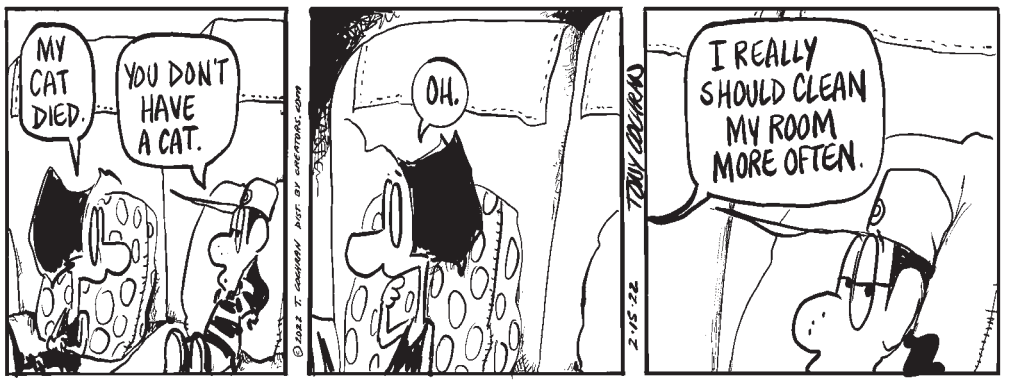
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equity
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value
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resilience
vision
brand
intention
zoom
collaboration
thought
hyperpersonalization
pioneering
Tuesday, February 15th
5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Speakers: Mayor Sue Himmelrich | City Manager David White
Chamber President Laurel Rosen
Keynote Speaker: Pablos Holman
A futurist, inventor, and notorious hacker. He helped create the world's smallest PC; 3D printers at Makerbot; and spaceships with Jeff Bezos
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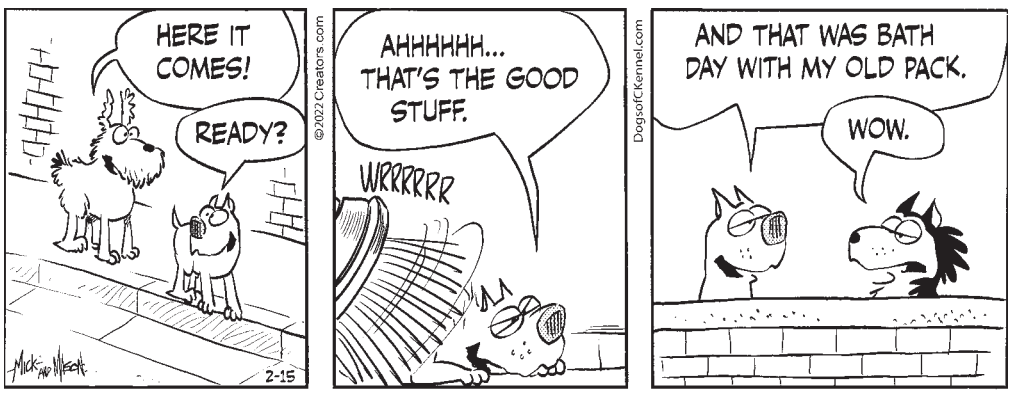
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



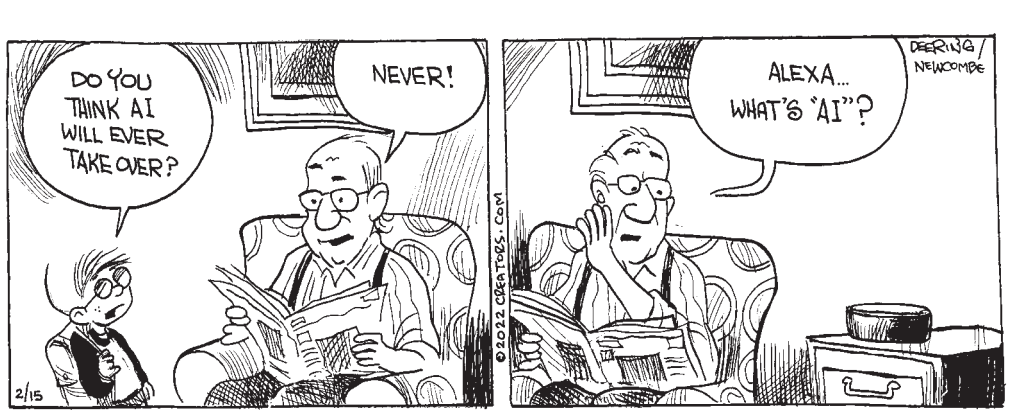
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



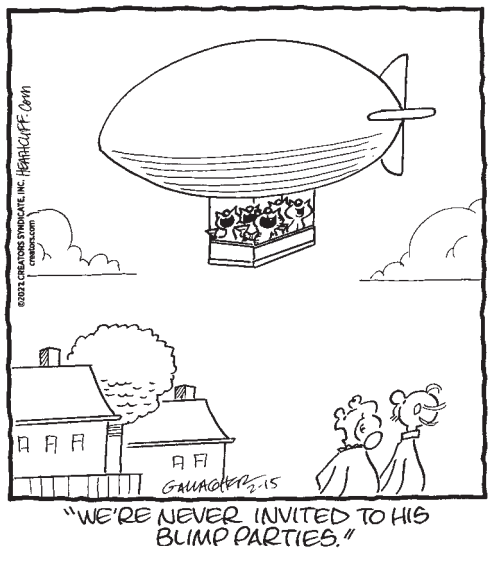
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



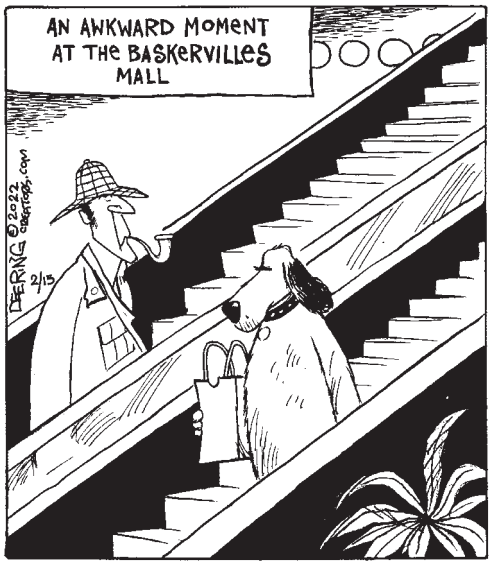
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF REPORT

SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 61.7°

TUESDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high
Smaller blend of SSW and NW swell leftovers will be swamped out through the AM high tide. Might be rideable on a big board as the tide drops.

WEDNESDAY - **POOR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high
Smaller WNW swell but could see a rise in shorter to mid-period NW swell through the day. Worth keeping an eye on the lower tide in the afternoon – just have some wind blockage in mind.

WEATHER

Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of rain before 10am. Mostly sunny, with a high near 63.
Tuesday Night: Clear, with a low around 49.
Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 65.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2022/02/15	Tue	02:00 AM	1.86	L
2022/02/15	Tue	08:07 AM	5.83	H
2022/02/15	Tue	3:12 PM	-0.87	L
2022/02/15	Tue	9:34 PM	3.90	H
2022/02/16	Wed	02:33 AM	1.63	L
2022/02/16	Wed	08:39 AM	5.87	H
2022/02/16	Wed	3:38 PM	-0.84	L
2022/02/16	Wed	9:57 PM	4.06	H
2022/02/17	Thu	03:08 AM	1.43	L
2022/02/17	Thu	09:12 AM	5.74	H
2022/02/17	Thu	4:04 PM	-0.69	L
2022/02/17	Thu	10:23 PM	4.23	H
2022/02/18	Fri	03:47 AM	1.27	L
2022/02/18	Fri	09:47 AM	5.43	H
2022/02/18	Fri	4:30 PM	-0.41	L
2022/02/18	Fri	10:50 PM	4.41	H
2022/02/19	Sat	04:29 AM	1.15	L
2022/02/19	Sat	10:25 AM	4.94	H
2022/02/19	Sat	4:56 PM	0.01	L
2022/02/19	Sat	11:20 PM	4.58	H
2022/02/20	Sun	05:18 AM	1.08	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 2/12
8 10 21 41 62
Power#: 7
Jackpot: 183 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/11
11 16 23 24 30
Mega#: 24
Jackpot: 53 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 2/12
2 10 23 42 44
Mega#: 10
Jackpot: 17 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/13
14 24 29 33 36

Daily 3
Draw Date: 2/13
EVENING: 5 3 6
Draw Date: 2/13
MIDDAY: 2 7 3

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 2/13
1st: 07 - Eureka
2nd: 02 - Lucky Star
3rd: 08 - Gorgeous George
Race Time: 1:48.27

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 15)

There's a first time for everything – at least there should be. The year will be alive with new experiences and people. Keep track of these firsts, which will occur at least once a month. A service project you take on will unexpectedly advance your interests. In the summer, cashflow increases. Your family will grow. Scorpio and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 16, 21, 5 and 7.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Take some of the pressure off yourself. You don't have to change the world. The world will change — you can count on that — and you'll be there hand in hand with it through the passage.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You will grow in power as you grow in love. Assess what is important to you. Consider the price you are willing to pay to make this area of your life conform to your ideals.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Distant people root for your success. You can accept the support and leave it at that or take it further by inviting them into your world with a gesture to kick off the friendship.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You know your story better than anyone. Where you've been, what you've seen and what you think about it is all yours. And you're allowed at any point to change your thinking, find a new spin or rewrite it as you wish.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You live courageously and don't even realize it. Sometimes it's daring just to be the first person to say hello or to be the one who takes the initiative to make things nicer for people.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your best will rate somewhere between "good enough" and "way more than the situation needs." Watch for the feedback. Go until you get their smile, their comfort, then stop. Don't sell it when it's already sold.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Beginnings are always harder. You have to be brave and willing to withstand some degree of discomfort while you get used to things, then the job gets easier once you're in the middle of it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There's no need to take on the grand complexities of the universe. You'll make a difference heading in the opposite direction, simplifying things, ordering them better or making them more accessible to all.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It doesn't matter if you're sweet to yourself or someone else first; it's the kindness that makes a difference, not where it's going. Keep it flowing and soon it will be like love is everywhere.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There will be moments of losing yourself in the task, becoming one with it, being its puppet one moment, its master the next, back and forth. Because of this, your choice of task is crucial.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When socializing, vigilant effort can have the opposite from intended effect unless it looks, from the outside, to be rather breezy. If you don't quite pull it off, you will in time. It can take years to perfect a "casual" move.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your curiosity, appetite and attractions are your guides. Be bold enough to follow without concern for what's reasonable. It's not for you to say what's possible or impossible. The world will show you where you're needed.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

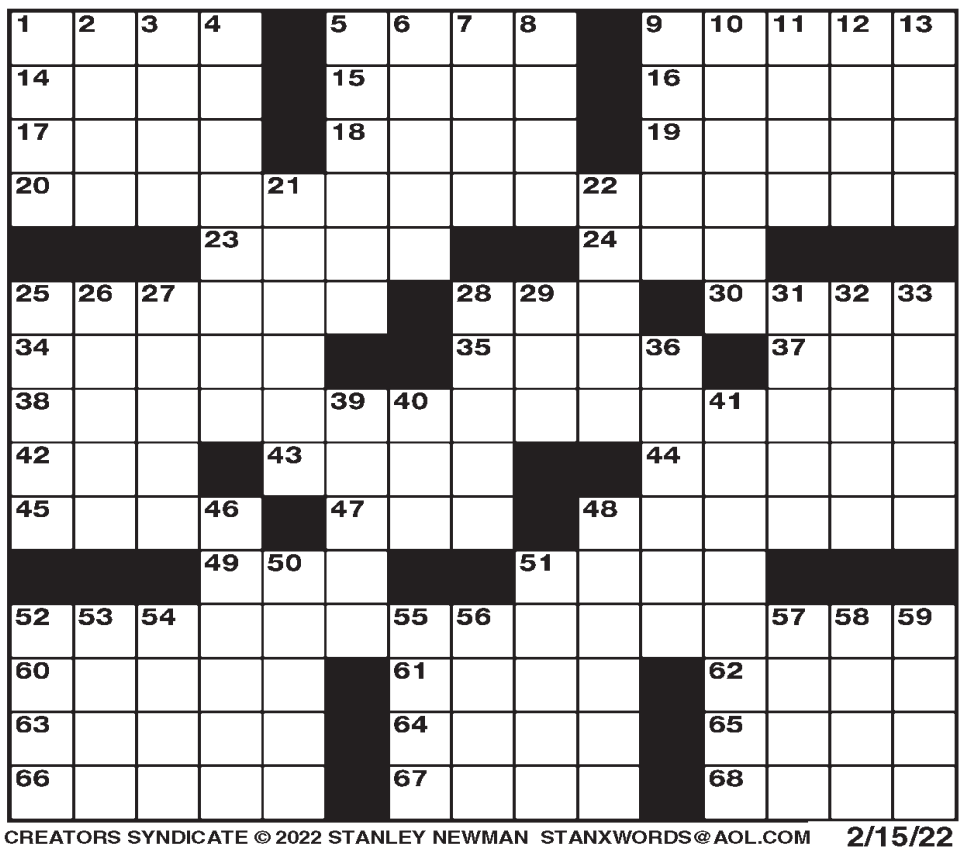
4	9	1						
5	3		1		9			
			4			3	9	
	1					2	7	
8			2		6			3
	7	2					5	
	5	7			3			
			5		1		8	4
						5	3	9

Newsday Crossword

INDECISION by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 The "D" in a music CD
5 Airless tire
9 Stared at
14 Tulsa's state: Abbr.
15 Sushi grain
16 Operagoer's "Well done!"
17 Package of paper
18 Start a poker game
19 Looked steadily
20 Noncommittal response
23 Bovines pulling a plow
24 Genetic identifier
25 With added bits, as rye bread
28 Chum
30 "Look what I did!"
34 Insurance filing
35 Leave out
37 Little lie
38 Noncommittal response
42 Adversary
43 Poke fun at
44 Pub game
45 Annual 500-mile car race, for short
47 Music media before CDs
48 Monasteries
49 Unrefined metal
51 "The devil __ the details"
52 Noncommittal response
60 Very devout
61 Puts into service
62 Small dot on a state map
63 Work __ (gallery display)
64 Closed tight
65 Gawked at
66 Minor fender bumps
67 Keyboarding mistake
68 Just adequate

DOWN
1 Campus housing
2 Scandinavian furniture chain
3 Do in, as a dragon
4 Vietnam neighbor
5 Worn at the edges
6 Fancy napkin fabric
7 Performs in a film
8 Abound (with)
9 MD for women
10 Try to snatch
11 Stretch out idly
12 __ so (nevertheless)
13 Long-gone flightless bird
21 Not subject to taxes
22 Improvise on stage
25 Space-novel genre
26 Pop singer __ John
27 Made less difficult
28 Fence rails
29 Friend from France
31 Blazing
32 Simple song
33 Bottomless pit
36 Choice morsel
39 Baby hooting bird
40 Taste of a drink
41 Jottings made in biology class
46 "Cultured" dairy product
48 Invites for
50 Takes a break
51 Become frosty
52 Apple's music player
53 __ story (biography)
54 Advance of funds
55 Head-and-shoulders sculpture
56 Very pale
57 Spool + string toy
58 Has debts
59 Remove, as a knot



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2022 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 2/15/22

What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

TUESDAY | FEB 15

MYSTERY BOOK GROUP DISCUSSION
The Missing American by Kwei Quartey. 7 to 8 p.m. Accra private investigator Emma Djan's first missing persons case will lead her to the darkest depths of the email scams and fetish priests in Ghana. To register, email library@santamonica.gov.

WEDNESDAY | FEB 16

STORYTIME: CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY MONTH
10:30 to 11 a.m. Join us at this virtual storytime! Enjoy books by black authors and illustrators. Ages 2 & up. Space is limited. Register here: https://bit.ly/YouthProgramSignUps.

MONTANA AVENUE BRANCH BOOK GROUP DISCUSSION
Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson. 7 to 8:30 p.m. The Pulitzer Prize-winning, bestselling author of The Warmth of Other Suns examines the unspoken caste system that has shaped America and shows how our lives today are still defined by a hierarchy of human divisions. To register, email library@santamonica.gov

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET
Arizona Ave. (between 2nd & 4th)
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

PLANNING COMMISSION
CITY TV: Cable Channel 16
LIVE STREAM: https://www.youtube.com/user/Citytv16santamonica or https://www.smgov.net/video
TELECONFERENCE: https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/ydwjtdjt
DIAL-IN NUMBER: 1 (415) 466-7000 (US), PIN 5851065 #
5: 30 p.m.

THURSDAY | FEB 17

ADULT LITERACY TUTORING
Volunteer literacy tutors work one-on-one with adult learners in a library setting. Tutors meet with learners once or twice per week to work on learning goals. For information about becoming a volunteer adult literacy tutor, visit VolunteerMatch at https://tinyurl.com/mtubkz84. To learn how to become an adult learner, call (310) 458-8603 or email us at literacy.program@santamonica.gov.

FRIDAY | FEB 18

TOURS OF THE MARION DAVIES GUEST HOUSE
Santa Monica Conservancy docents share the rich history of the Beach House site from the 1920s onward. Free 20-minute visits docent tours are available on a walk-up basis, for groups of up to six people on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 12pm - 2pm. Just head to the Marion Davies Guest House where you will be greeted by a docent. Please note masks are required while indoors. Schedule subject to change, check the website calendar or call 310-458-4904 to confirm dates and hours. Annenberg Community Beach House. 12 - 2 p.m.

SATURDAY | FEB 19

NOTABLE BOOKS DISCUSSION GROUP
Any Human Heart by William Boyd
A novel in the form of the journals of Logan Mountstuart, which chronicles his childhood in Uruguay, education at Oxford, wartime exploits, career as an art dealer, and retirement in France. To register, email library@santamonica.gov. 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

SUNDAY | FEB 20

BUILDING BLOCKS FOR KINDERGARTEN
Access via YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/user/SantaMonicaPL/playlists
These short bilingual English/Spanish video segments focus on kindergarten-readiness skills through reading and activities. Track Building Blocks activities your child completes through the virtual platform Beanstack and earn points towards a prize drawing for book packs. Register here: smpl.beanstack.org.

MONDAY | FEB 21

MAIN LIBRARY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption by Bryan Stevenson. Memoir, courtroom drama, and social critique combine in this powerful and popular look inside the criminal justice system. To register, email library@santamonica.gov. 7 - 8:30 p.m.

SNOOZER'S STORYTIME ADVENTURES
Bi-weekly on Mondays: 12p.m. Checkers Library TV presents Snoozer's Storytime Adventures, a bi-weekly virtual series that brings children's books to life with an uplifting story, craft and song. Access the program here: https://www.youtube.com/user/SantaMonicaPL/playlists

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 17 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 5391

Gone fishing

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

Ability	Chips	Fork	Nets	Shoal
Aboard	Chub	Gaff	Night	Skill
Agile	Coral	Impatience	Opah	Snag
Amateur	Crab	Kelp	Penn	Snook
Angle	Dams	Lake	Plug	Spin
Attack	Dart	Lamprey	Radio	Sport
Bag limit	Dinghy	Land	Reef	Sweep
Bank	Dory	Lead	Rigs	Tides
Barramundi	Drag	Lines	Rocks	Tough
Beer	Eels	Mako	Rods	Trout
Break	Floats	Mask	Shad	Worms

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
In for a check-up

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Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

HOUSING ELEMENT

FROM PAGE 1

Element and is asking for a revised plan with more research into the feasibility of converting City-identified sites into housing and tweaks to the City's proposed development programs.

The City's Housing Element was adopted by City Council on Oct. 12, 2021, and received for review by HCD on Nov. 10, 2021. On Feb. 8, HCD Senior Program Manager Paul McDougall sent a letter to City Manager David White, notifying him of Santa Monica's non-compliance with the State Housing Element Law and providing an outline of the changes the agency would like to see in a five page appendix.

In the interim the City had begun the process of revising various zoning ordinances in order to enable the housing development programs outlined in its Housing Element.

On Feb. 14, the City issued the following statement, "City of Santa Monica staff have done substantial work on proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance, Land Use and Circulation Element, Downtown Community Plan, and Bergamot Area Plan for consistency with the adopted 6th Cycle Housing Element. Planning Commission public hearings were under way however, given the Department of Housing and Community Development's (HCD) comments, staff will be pausing hearings with the Planning Commission on Housing Element implementation to provide staff the opportunity to review the comment letter, seek consultation and clarification with HCD staff, and possible direction from City Council on how to proceed."

A failure to regain Housing Element compliance could result in the City losing access to state and federal funding programs. In his letter McDougall said these include the CalTrans Senate Bill (SB) 1 Sustainable Communities grant; the Strategic Growth Council and HCD's Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities programs; and HCD's Permanent Local Housing Allocation.

HCD is asking the City to include more research and detail in its inventory of sites suitable for housing development, particularly in relation to the goal of affirmatively furthering fair housing. Specifically, HCD asks that the element be amended to include an analysis of how the number of units by income group and location would affect existing housing patterns; more local data and knowledge; and goals and metrics to measure housing mobility enhancement, affordability in high opportunity areas and strategies for displacement protection.

Based on the results of this research, the City may need to revise or add programs to further fair housing.

The letter also calls for more research on recent affordable housing developments to support the City's capacity assumptions for the production of future affordable units. Of the 8,895 units Santa Monica is mandated to produce, 6,168 must be affordable.

"Realistic capacity should account for recent development by affordability," states the HCD appendix. "This is particularly important since some development affordable to lower-income households may not be built at higher densities assumed in the inventory."

HCD officials also raised a concern regarding the City's identification of several 15 unit or less sites as potential locations for affordable housing, given that trends show most 100 percent affordable developments are larger than this.

The appendix further outlines changes HCD would like to see to the zoning and development approval processes that the City is proposing in order to meet its housing element goals.

One of the key programs proposed by the City is by-right approvals for many housing projects. This will speed up development approval by removing the need for public hearings in most scenarios.

HCD would like the City to specifically commit to acreage, allowable densities and anticipated units in its by right approval program. HCD is also asking for sites identified in previous housing element cycles to qualify for by-right approvals if the project includes at least 20 percent affordable housing. Lastly, HCD would like to see more plans to overcome patterns of segregation and foster inclusive communities beyond the City's existing plan to promote accessory dwelling units in single-family zoned neighborhoods.

Santa Monica is not alone in failing to meet HCD's requirements. In January, the Department declined to certify Beverly Hills and Redondo Beach's respective Housing Elements.

Clara@smdp.com

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Help Wanted

Data Scientist (4) sought by Snap Inc. in Santa Monica, CA (Hybrid work permitted - may work remotely when not reporting into Snap Santa Monica, CA office.) Create inventive, data-based approaches to solving difficult bus. platforms. M.S. or for. eq. + 3 yrs exp. OR B.S. or for. eq. + 5 yrs exp. req. Resumes: apply2snap@snap.com. Ref. Job Code #DS4- 0122-YF. EOE.

Applications Engineer (3) sought by Snap Inc. in Santa Monica, CA (Hybrid work permitted - may work remotely when not reporting into Snap Santa Monica, CA office.) Dsg and ship quality code leveraging Force.com and rel. framewrk. MS or for. eq. + 2 yrs exp req. Resumes: apply2snap@snap.com. Ref. Job Code #AE3-0122-NSK. EOE.

Tech Mentor Founder of 3-person Santa Monica startup needs advice from knowledgeable CTO-ish type person for its 2-sided Network Effects platform (which is set to fill a huge market void that, currently, no one has conceptualized or identified). I have a resourceful and committed engineer, and we're 75% to completion of MVP, yet I am constantly concerned about long term security issues! This is where I need expert guidance! Please call me, Stephanie, at 310-351-9976 or email at stephanieroberts@lovetoair.com if you are interested and available for sharing your knowledge and experience. Thank you.

Help Wanted

Privacy Engineer (4) sought by Snap Inc. in Santa Monica, CA (Hybrid work permitted - may work remotely when not reporting into Snap Santa Monica, CA office.) Dsgn, implmt and test privacy preserving tools. PhD or for. eq.; OR MS or for. eq. + 3 yrs exp; OR BS or for. eq. + 5 yrs exp req. Resumes: apply2snap@snap.com. Reference Job Code #PE4- 0122-IKT. EOE.

Manager, Account Management sought by Snap Inc. in Santa Monica, CA (Hybrid work permitted - may work remotely when not reporting into Snap Santa Monica, CA office.) Lead Acct Mgrs who focus in Automotive, Tech and Entertainment verticals. Identify vertical trends and best practices and dvlp channels. Bach's or for. eq. + 10 yrs exp req. Resumes: apply2snap@snap.com. Ref. Job Code #MAM-0122-VR. EOE.

Legal Notices

CNS#: 3552341REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Notice is given that Los Angeles County Public Works is requesting proposals from qualified firms to provide On-CallSewer MaintenanceEngineering DesignProject Management Inspection, and other Support Services (BRC0000306), will be received by Public Works, on March 1, 2022 by 4:00 p.m. The RFP may be obtained by accessing the link at http://dpw.lacounty.gov/ge neral/contracts/Opportunities/ or will be emailed to you upon request by calling (626) 300-2346. 2/15/22CNS-3552341SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

Name Change

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAMECase No. 22SMCP00060 Superior Court of California, County of Los AngelesPetition of Julian Sinclair Harris-Gavin for Change of NameTO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:Petitioner or Attorney: Julian Sinclair Harris-Gavin filed a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: Julian Sinclair Harris-Gavin to Connmaroir Aeon Julian Loch Athas O'Arytavwyn the court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Notice of Hearing: Date 04/22/2022 Time: 8:30 a.m, Dept: K, Room: - . The address of the court is SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA - COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 1725 Main Street Room 102 Santa Monica CA 90401A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.Date:02/10/2022

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE

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