NICK THE GREEK SOUVLAKI & GYRO HOUSE
@NICKTHEGREEK
AUTHENTIC GREEK STREET FOOD

219 Arizona Ave Corner of 3rd Street Promenade Santa Monica, CA 90401
COUPON
$5 OFF
ORDERS $20 OR MORE
THIS COUPON IS VALID ONLY FOR THE SANTA MONICA LOCATION
www.nickthegreek.com

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press
WEEKEND EDITION
02.19.22 - 02.20.22
Volume 21 Issue 81

Crime Watch
Maybe he wanted a toasted sandwich.
Page 2

What's Up Westside
Events for the week.
Page 10

@smdailypress @smdailypress Santa Monica Daily Press smdp.com

Santa Monica's city revenues rebound yet economic recovery remains elusive

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Nuggets of good news brightened the gloomy overtones of the City's midyear budget review — like the announcement of a $30 million influx of unanticipated revenues, which ever so slightly lessens the sting of the $188 million in revenue lost and over 420 staff positions cut as a result of the pandemic.

This $30 million difference between the forecasted general fund revenues from Fiscal Year 2021 to 2022 and what is now expected signals that Santa Monica's economy is rebounding faster than predicted. This windfall is thanks to an uptick in hotel occupancy, parking, sales and real estate deals, which were a boon for tax revenues.

Despite these promising economic signs, the fiscal curse of COVID-19 will continue to haunt the City for years to come.

General fund revenue is not expected to surpass pre-pandemic levels until FY 24-25 and even then is forecast to be $35 million less than it would have been had the pandemic not occurred. Furthermore, a return to pre-pandemic revenue levels will not mean the City can sustain pre-COVID era services, given the spike in inflation and increased costs of goods and services.

"Even if we find creative, more efficient ways to restore our services, our operating costs are going to be increasing during this period, some that are at a level higher than our revenue growth, which makes restoration at any level very difficult," said Director of Finance Gigi Decavalles.

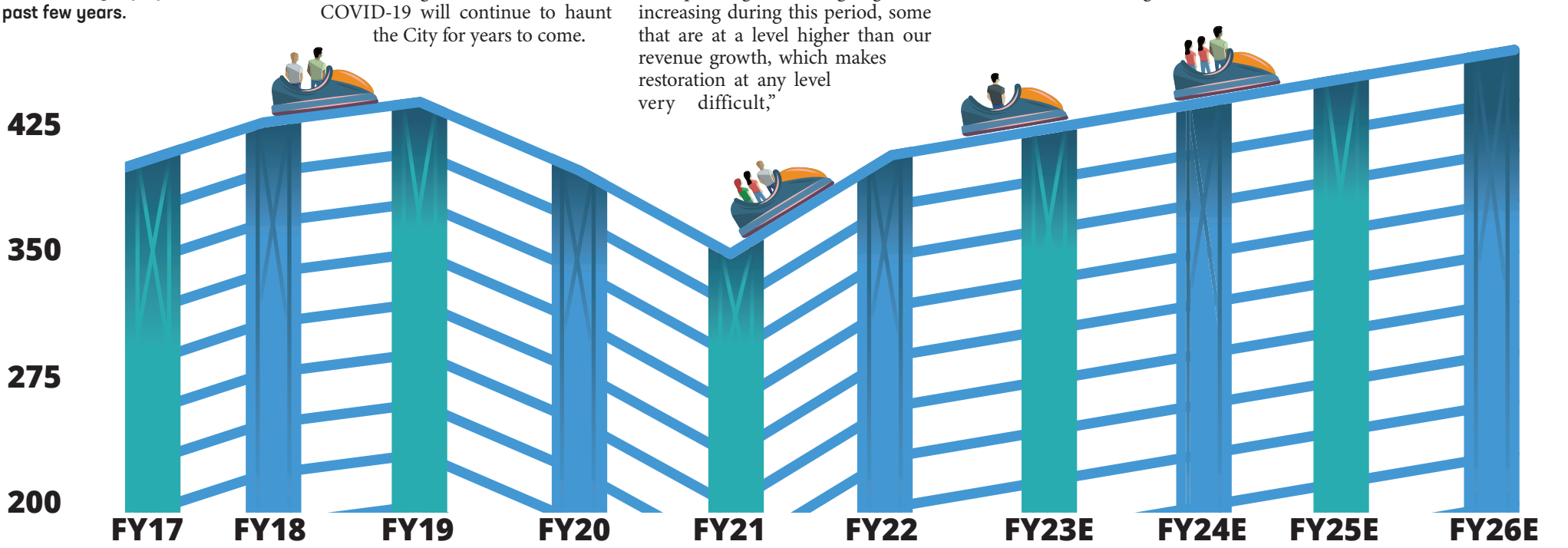
Further dampening news of the positive short-term recovery is the unfortunate truth that this $30 million increase in revenues will not translate into $30 million in new funding to rehire staff and restore services.

Over 90 percent of this revenue boost must be sliced up and allocated towards other purposes. This includes an 11 percent allocation towards fulfilling revenue sharing agreements with the school district and affordable housing commitments, and an 36 percent allocation towards rebuilding the financial safety net of the City's severely depleted reserves. During the pandemic, the reserves were drained by more than $60 million and this new influx in cash will provide a sorely needed $11 million boost, which will ensure the

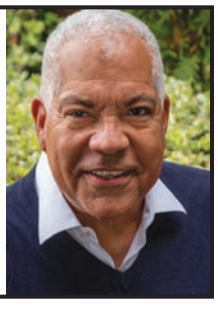
SEE **BUDGET** PAGE 6

SMDP Image

BUDGET: It's been a rollercoaster ride for budget projections over the past few years.





17847 Porto Marina Way
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272
VIEWS! VIEWS! VIEWS!
$5,650,000
BULLDOG REALTORS
bulldogrealtors.com
2909 Main St., Santa Monica
Winston Cenac
310-963-9300
DRE#01218663


Cal State chancellor resigns over handling of sex misconduct

ROBERT JABLON
Associated Press

The chancellor of California State University, the nation's largest public university system, has resigned after accusations that he mishandled sexual misconduct allegations.

Joseph I. Castro resigned on Thursday, effective immediately, said the CSU Board of Trustees.

In a statement, Castro called it the most difficult decision of his professional life.

Castro fell under criticism after an investigation by USA TODAY published on Feb. 3 questioned the handling of misconduct complaints against Frank Lamas, former Fresno State vice president of student affairs, while Castro was the university's president.

The article said that Lamas was the subject of a series of informal complaints including allegations beginning in 2014 that he improperly touched women, made sexist comments and harassed or retaliated against workers.

No action was taken against Lamas until a formal complaint was filed in 2019, when he was barred from campus and later found to have violated a CSU harassment policy, according to documents cited by the San Francisco Chronicle.

Lamas denied the allegations and appealed the finding. He retired in 2020 as part of a settlement agreement. Under the agreement, he received a $260,000 payment and while he was barred from ever working at CSU again, Castro agreed to write him a letter of recommendation to help find work elsewhere, the documents indicated.

The revelations sparked a protest by Fresno State students earlier this month.

Steve Relyea, CSU's executive vice chancellor and chief financial officer, will be acting chancellor until an interim chancellor has been named, the board said.

The Cal State system is the largest four-year public university system in the country with 23 campuses, 477,000 students and 56,000 faculty and staff, according to its website.

Castro, appointed in 2020, was the first Mexican American and native Californian to lead the CSU system.

"I have been honored to serve the California State University for more than eight years, including as its eighth chancellor, and the decision to resign is the most difficult of my professional life," Castro said in a statement. "While I disagree with many aspects of recent media reports and the ensuing commentary, it has become clear to me that resigning at this time is necessary so that the CSU can maintain its focus squarely on its educational mission and the impactful work yet to be done."

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 SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12 AT 5:08 A.M.

Officers responded to the rear of Bay Cities Deli regarding an Arson investigation. Upon arrival, the reporting party relayed that he'd observed a fire on the ground in alley. Although he did not see how it started, he did see an individual standing over the fire and adding more trash to maintain the flames. The reporting party watched the suspect until police arrived. Joseph Kevin Brooks was booked for Arson and transported to the Santa Monica Jail. Brooks was later issued a citation and released.

BACK or UNFILED
TAXES?
ALL FORMS • ALL TYPES • ALL STATES
(310) 395-9922
SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA
100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1800 Santa Monica 90401

California bill would allow citizens to enforce weapons ban

JULIE WATSON AND ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

A new bill in California would allow private citizens go after gun makers in the same way Texas lets them target abortion providers, though gun advocates immediately promised a court challenge if it becomes law.

Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom on Friday backed legislation that would let private citizens enforce the state's ban on assault weapons. It's modeled after a Texas law that lets private citizens enforce that state's ban on abortions once a fetal heartbeat is detected.

Newsom said he hopes the proposal forces the U.S. Supreme Court's hand on the Texas abortion law. He said it will either expose their "hypocrisy" if they should block California's proposal that affects the gun industry and not the Texas law on abortion, "or it'll get them to reconsider the absurdity of their previous decision."

"There is no principled way the U.S. Supreme Court cannot uphold this California law. None. Period full stop. It is quite literally modeled after the law they just upheld in Texas," Newsom said.

The Firearms Policy Coalition, an advocacy group, pledged a court challenge should the California bill become law.

The proposed firearm restrictions are "really just modern-day Jim Crow laws designed to suppress the exercise of human rights the tyrants who run California don't like," the group said, promising to "litigate wherever needed to protect the rights and property of peaceable gun owners in California."

The group and Assembly Minority Leader James Gallagher, a Republican, said Newsom is trying to distract from failing policies elsewhere that recently have prompted falling polling numbers.

"California already has the strictest gun laws in the nation, so it's not clear what Governor Newsom is hoping to accomplish here besides a sad publicity stunt," Gallagher said in a statement.

Texas and other conservative-led states have tried for years to ban abortions once a heartbeat is detected, at around six weeks of pregnancy, which is sometimes before the person knows they are pregnant. But the states' attempts have been blocked by the courts.

But Texas' new abortion law is unique in that it bars the government from enforcing the law. The idea is if the government can't enforce the law, it can't be sued to block it in court. That hasn't stopped abortion providers from trying to block the law. But so far, the U.S. Supreme Court's conservative majority has allowed the abortion law to stay in place pending a legal challenge.

That decision incensed Newsom and his Democratic allies in the state Legislature. California has banned the manufacture and sale of assault weapons for decades. But last year, a federal judge overturned that ban. The law is still in place while the state appeals the decision.

But the decision inspired Newsom and Democrats in the state Legislature to copy Texas' abortion law, but make it apply to gun makers instead of abortion providers.

"Our message to the United States Supreme Court is as follows: What's good for the goose is good for the gander," said Democratic state Sen. Bob Hertzberg, the author of the proposal. "I look forward to rushing a new bill to the governor's desk to take advantage of that United States Supreme Court guidance."

The proposal fulfills fears from some gun rights groups, who have opposed the Texas abortion law because they worried liberal states like California would use the same principle on guns.

"If Texas succeeds in its gambit here, New York, California, New Jersey, and others will not be far behind in adopting equally aggressive gambits to not merely chill but to freeze the right to keep and bear arms," attorney Erik Jaffe wrote in a legal brief on behalf of the Firearms Policy Coalition, a nonprofit group that advocates for gun rights.

California's bill has not been filed yet in the state Legislature. But a fact sheet provided by Hertzberg's office said the bill would apply to those who manufacture, distribute, transport, import into California, or sell assault weapons, .50 BMG rifles, ghost guns or ghost gun kits.

Ghost guns are weapons bought online and assembled at home. They don't have serial numbers, making them difficult to trace.

The bill would let people seek a court order to stop the spread of these weapons and recover up to $10,000 in damages for each weapon, plus attorney's fees.

The bill is one of four pieces of legislation targeting the gun industry in California. The other bills would make it illegal to market assault weapons to children, make it easier for people to sue gun manufacturers for liability in shooting incidents and crack down on ghost guns.

The bill by Democratic Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, AB 2571, would limit the type of firearms advertising and marketing that can be geared toward children and youth. She and Newsom said the gun industry is using children's books, mascots, apparel, and guns decorated to appeal to children, as well as social media, to appeal to youths.

They specifically criticized a company called Wee1 Tactical, which markets the JR-15, patterned after the popular adult AR-15 assault-style semi-automatic rifle.

The company's website says its goal is to "safely help adults introduce children to the shooting sports." The company's logo is a skull sucking on a baby pacifier, available on hats, shirts, patches and stickers.

"How the hell did they think that's OK?" asked Newsom.

The company did not immediately respond to a telephone message and email seeking comment.

"I have no issue with guns or gun owners," Newsom said. "I have a serious issue with gun violence."

Beam and Associated Press Writer Don Thompson reported from Sacramento.

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 285 CALLS ON FEBRUARY 17

Out Of Order Traffic Signals 300Blk Olympic Dr 12:27 a.m.
Loud Music 2500Blk Ocean Park Blvd 12:45 a.m.
Silent Robbery Alarm 500Blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:29 a.m.
Loud Music 3rd Street Prom / Santa Monica Blvd 2:05 a.m.
Shots Fired 1400Blk Ocean Ave 2:45 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 3200Blk Pico Blvd 4:16 a.m.
Fight 1500Blk 5th St 5:00 a.m.
Grand Theft Now 900Blk 16th St 5:40 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1300Blk 3rd Street Prom 5:41 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 800Blk Montana Ave 5:45 a.m.
Battery 2nd St / Santa Monica Blvd 6:09 a.m.
Encampment 2200Blk The Beach 6:30 a.m.
Encampment 2700Blk The Beach 6:44 a.m.
Burglary 700Blk 12th St 7:38 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2800Blk The Beach 7:47 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1400Blk 5th St 7:52 a.m.
Encampment 1600Blk Ocean Ave 7:57 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1600Blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:01 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 700Blk 9th St 8:07 a.m.
General Parking Problem 2400Blk 16th St 8:14 a.m.
General Parking Problem 2400Blk 14th St 8:16 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2400Blk The Beach 8:18 a.m.
Petty Theft 1100Blk Princeton St 8:28 a.m.
Auto Burglary 700Blk 9th St 8:34 a.m.
Grand Theft 200Blk Idaho Ave 8:40 a.m.
Animal Related Incident Ocean Ave / Bicknell Ave 8:50 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1400Blk Berkeley St 8:59 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1300Blk 12th St 9:04 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1500Blk 17th St 9:07 a.m.
Petty Theft 900Blk Stanford St 9:09 a.m.
Grand Theft 900Blk 16th St 9:29 a.m.
Encampment 500Blk Palisades Park 9:56 a.m.
Encampment 1700Blk Montana Ave 9:59 a.m.
Petty Theft 300Blk Santa Monica Pl 10:02 a.m.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered 2700Blk Barnard Way 10:29 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1900Blk Pico Blvd 10:45 a.m.
Vandalism 1700Blk Cloverfield Blvd 10:51 a.m.
Vandalism 1800Blk 16th St 11:04 a.m.
Grand Theft 900Blk Princeton St 11:17 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 800Blk 2nd St 11:23 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2200Blk Main St 11:36 a.m.
Harassing Phone Calls 1600Blk Lincoln Blvd 11:40 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1100Blk Broadway 11:45 a.m.
Missing Person 2200Blk Hill St 11:45 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 600Blk Pico Blvd 11:46 a.m.
General Parking Problem 300Blk Olympic Dr 11:51 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2200Blk Main St 11:52 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 31st St / Ocean Park Blvd 12:06 p.m.
Burglary 1000Blk 9th St 12:12 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2000Blk 20th St 12:15 p.m.
Encampment 1200Blk 2nd St 12:17 p.m.
Burglary 1500Blk 6th St 12:41 p.m.
Loud Music 900Blk 18th St 12:51 p.m.
Burglary 200Blk Pacific St 12:55 p.m.
Encampment 1600Blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:59 p.m.
Fight 2400Blk Ocean Front Walk 1:00 p.m.
Battery 1300Blk 15th St 1:25 p.m.
Vandalism 100Blk Hollister Ave 1:37 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2000Blk Cloverfield Blvd 1:37 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2500Blk 3rd St 1:41 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1300Blk Berkeley St 2:05 p.m.
Fraud 800Blk San Vicente Blvd 2:05 p.m.
Battery 4th St / Broadway 2:05 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1300Blk 2nd St 2:07 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 200Blk Santa Monica Pier 2:16 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1300Blk 2nd St 2:20 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Neilson Way / Bicknell Ave 2:28 p.m.
General Parking Problem 24th St / Idaho Ave 2:40 p.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 1200Blk 16th St 2:46 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1600Blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:54 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 1000Blk Lincoln Blvd 3:18 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 700Blk Broadway 3:24 p.m.
Loud Music 2000Blk Ocean Ave 3:37 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 200Blk Ocean Ave 3:40 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2600Blk Ocean Front Walk 3:56 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1400Blk Princeton St 4:10 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1200Blk Franklin St 4:18 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2700Blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:42 p.m.
Petty Theft 100Blk Broadway 5:03 p.m.
Burglary 1200Blk 11th St 5:29 p.m.
Grand Theft 1300Blk 3rd Street Prom 5:39 p.m.
Petty Theft 300Blk Arizona Ave 5:49 p.m.
Found Property 400Blk Colorado Ave 5:55 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 1900Blk 18th St 5:56 p.m.
Construction Noise 800Blk Grant St 6:18 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2600Blk Wilshire Blvd 6:55 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1100Blk Wilshire Blvd 7:02 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Interstate 10 / Cloverfield Blvd 7:16 p.m.
Assault 1500Blk 5th St 7:25 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1000Blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:17 p.m.
Party Complaint 2100Blk Ocean Park Blvd 9:21 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 3rd St / Strand St 9:38 p.m.
Petty Theft 1600Blk Ocean Ave 9:41 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 800Blk 2nd St 9:42 p.m.
Petty Theft 1300Blk 2nd St 9:42 p.m.
Battery 1700Blk Lincoln Blvd 9:45 p.m.
Battery 1700Blk Lincoln Blvd 9:46 p.m.
Party Complaint 1500Blk 6th St 10:08 p.m.
Loud Music 2600Blk Main St 10:26 p.m.
Auto Burglary 2700Blk Main St 10:48 p.m.
Auto Burglary 2700Blk Main St 10:59 p.m.
Grand Theft 2100Blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:04 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 37 CALLS ON FEBRUARY 17

EMS 2500Blk 26th St 3:33 a.m.
EMS 1100Blk 7th St 3:58 a.m.
EMS 1400Blk 17th St 7:28 a.m.
EMS 700Blk Pico Blvd 8:02 a.m.
EMS 2800Blk Delaware Ave 8:14 a.m.
EMS 2900Blk Pico Blvd 8:40 a.m.
EMS 600Blk Ashland Ave 10:07 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 600Blk Pico Blvd 11:47 a.m.
EMS 2500Blk 29th St 12:16 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1500Blk Euclid St 1:19 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:33 p.m.
EMS 2200Blk 29th St 1:37 p.m.
EMS 2500Blk 28th St 1:51 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk 4th St 2:13 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Neilson Way / Bicknell Ave 2:28 p.m.
EMS 300Blk Santa Monica Pl 2:53 p.m.
EMS 1900Blk 20th St 2:54 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200Blk 3rd Street Prom 3:20 p.m.
EMS 1500Blk 5th St 3:47 p.m.
EMS 2900Blk 28th St 3:59 p.m.
EMS 1500Blk 5th St 4:33 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 17th St 4:52 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 300Blk Adelaide Dr 5:43 p.m.
Elevator Rescue 1300Blk 15th St 6:26 p.m.
EMS 2800Blk Wilshire Blvd 6:30 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 600Blk Pico Blvd 6:36 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Interstate 10 / Cloverfield Blvd 7:16 p.m.
Elevator Rescue 2700Blk Neilson Way 7:17 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 1000Blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:21 p.m.
EMS 1100Blk 7th St 8:23 p.m.
EMS 800Blk 2nd St 8:28 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 9:20 p.m.
EMS 400Blk Expo Line 9:41 p.m.
EMS 1700Blk Lincoln Blvd 9:48 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk Ocean Ave 10:13 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk Ocean Ave 11:13 p.m.

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA SOCIAL SERIVCES COMMISSION VIA TELECONFERENCE Pursuant to AB361

SUBJECT: **To Inform Development of the FY 2022-23 Action Plan for use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership Act (HOME) funds**

Notice is hereby given that the City of Santa Monica will hold a public hearing to receive community input to inform the development of the 2022-23 Action Plan, which must be submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) at least 45 days prior to the beginning of the new program year. The Annual Action Plan delineates the City's specific projects and activities for one-year use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME funds to address the City's housing and community development high-priority needs as specified in the Council-adopted 2020-24 Consolidated Plan, which can be viewed at: https://www.santamonica.gov/community-development-block-grant-and-home-investment-partnership-programs

DATE/TIME: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2022 AT 7:00 PM
(Check agenda at www.smgov.net/ssc prior to meeting to confirm start time)

LOCATION: In an effort to reduce the risk of spreading Coronavirus (COVID-19), members of the Social Services Commission and City Staff will participate via teleconference using the City's BlueJeans platform. Instructions for joining the teleconference via video or phone will be included in the meeting agenda once it posts. The agenda will be available at www.smgov.net/ssc and posted at the front door of City Hall at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

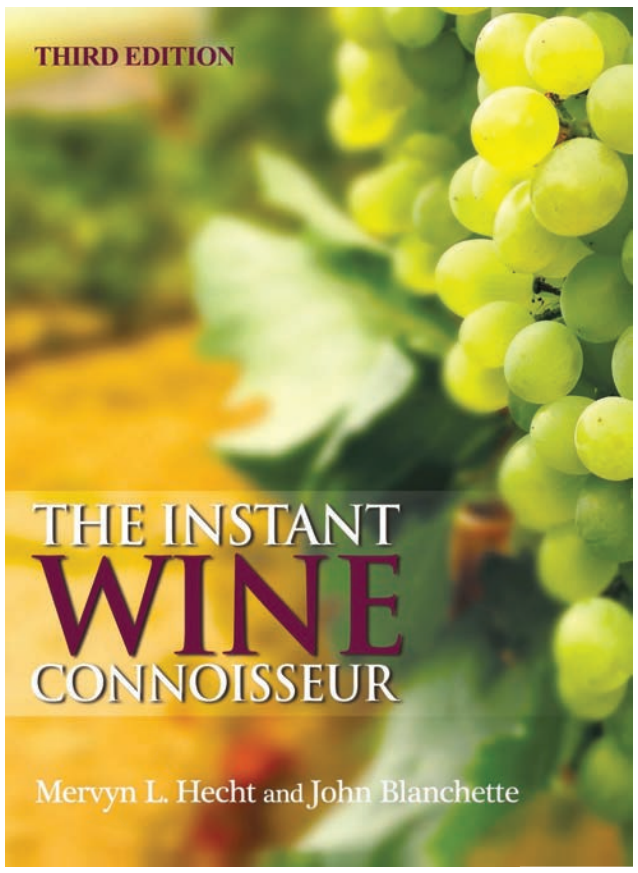
HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Those wishing to provide written public comment may submit comments via email to humanservices@santamonica.gov. Comments received prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Social Services Commission prior to the meeting and posted online. Please note the agenda item in your comments. Verbal public comment can be made by joining the BlueJeans meeting according to the instructions included in the agenda posted at www.smgov.net/ssc.

ACCOMODATIONS
For disability-related accommodations, please contact the Housing and Human Services Division at (310) 458-8701 or humanservices@santamonica.gov at least three days prior to the scheduled meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es un aviso de audiencia pública para invitar a cualquier parte interesada a participar en la preparación del Plan de Acción Anual del Año Fiscal 2022-23. Si necesita más información, por favor llame a Ivy Chang en la División de Vivienda y Servicios Humanos al número (310) 458-8701.



★★★★★ A light-hearted fun read.
★★★★★ Well written, particularly useful, instantly accessible.
★★★★★ ...Hecht has a joyful eye and fabulous taste



Daily Press Food &Wine Columnist Merv Hecht takes you on an delightful tour of the world of wine. A fun way to increase your appreciation and knowledge of wine.

available at amazon

A mild US flu season is waning, but is it really over?

MIKE STOBBE
AP Medical Writer

This winter's mild flu season has faded to a trickle of cases in much of the U.S., but health officials aren't ready to call it over.

Since the beginning of the year, positive flu test results and doctor's office visits for flu-like illness are down. But second waves of influenza are not unusual, and some experts said it's possible a late winter or spring surge could be coming.

"The question we're asking ourselves now is: 'Is this it, or is there more to come?'" said Lynnette Brammer of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

COVID-19 cases have been falling, leading to a decline in mask wearing and behaviors that may have been keeping flu down this winter. As people are less cautious, flu or other respiratory viruses can surge, Brammer said.

Indeed, some indicators of flu activity have inched up the last couple of weeks: a count of flu-related hospitalizations and the percent of specimens from patients with respiratory illnesses that test positive for flu.

Limited data on who is testing positive for flu suggest about two-thirds are kids and young adults. Kids have driven flu's spread in past years, so "it's quite possible we could see continued increases," Brammer said.

Dr. Angela Branche, a University of Rochester infectious diseases specialist, called the flu season unusual.

"I don't have any (flu) cases in my practice this week," she said recently. Normally, doctors in Rochester would be diagnosing 50 to 100 flu cases a day around this time of year.

It seems like the current flu season is "easing to the finish line," said Dr. William Schaffner, a Vanderbilt University infectious diseases expert. But viruses can be unpredictable.

"As the flu-ologists like to say, 'if you've seen one flu season, you've seen one flu season,'" he said.

Last winter's flu season was virtually non-existent. Experts credit mask wearing, social distancing, school closures and other measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Some doctors were nervous about how things would go this winter, wondering if last year's lull would cause flu immunity to wane. Also, fewer children and adults got flu shots this year, according to preliminary CDC data.

The worry seemed to be legitimized by an early November flu outbreak at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, where more than 700 cases were reported. The illnesses were caused by a certain version of flu — called Type A H3N2 — that traditionally leads to more hospitalizations and deaths, particularly among the elderly. Worse, many of the infected kids were vaccinated, and investigators concluded the shots offered low levels of protection.

That strain later became the main cause of flu illnesses across the country. But this season has nevertheless turned out to be tame.

That was a surprise, said Dr. Edward Belongia, a flu expert at the Wisconsin-based Marshfield Clinic Research Institute.

"We have occasionally seen other very mild flu seasons, but not where H3N2 is the dominant strain. That's what really makes it odd," he said.

The season peaked in December, just as COVID-19 cases surged, driven by the more transmissible omicron variant, Branche observed. Flu cases dropped as more people masked up and took other steps to prevent coronavirus from spreading, she noted.

Even at its height, the flu season was not nearly as bad as some of the pre-pandemic flu seasons driven by H3N2 strains. Experts aren't sure why.

Some wonder whether the coronavirus essentially muscled aside flu and other bugs. Scientists say they don't fully understand the mechanism behind that.

Of course, a highly effective vaccine would help lessen the severity of a flu season. But researchers say the flu strain that's been circulating is a mismatch for this year's vaccine.

The CDC has not yet released estimates of the current vaccine's effectiveness but it is expected to do so next week.

The Associated Press Health and Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.



PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra,
Matthew King,
Kimberly Jaffe.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com
Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Clara Harter
clara@smdp.com

Emily Sawicki
emily@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com
Diana Corona
diana@smdp.com
Julio Davalos
julio@smdp.com

AWARD WINNER

AWARD WINNER

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

The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 8,200 on weekdays and 8,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC
© 2019 Newlon Rouge, LLC, all rights reserved.

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.

US paves way for resumption of Mexico avocado exports

MARK STEVENSON
Associated Press

The U.S. Embassy announced Friday that Washington is lifting a ban on inspections of Mexican avocados, freeing the way for exports to resume.

The suspension of inspections had threatened Mexico's $3 billion annual exports and raised the possibility of prices increases for U.S. consumers.

Ambassador Ken Salazar said in a statement the decision came after Mexico and the United States agreed "to enact the measures that ensure the safety" of agricultural inspectors who are in charge of making sure Mexican avocados don't carry diseases or pests that would harm U.S. orchards.

Salazar did not describe those measures or whether they would address reports of Mexican growers and packers playing fast and lose with sanitary measures designed to protect U.S. production.

The inspections were halted last week after one of the U.S. inspectors was threatened in the western state of Michoacan, where growers are routinely subject to extortion by drug cartels.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture said Thursday that the inspector had received a threat "against him and his family."

It said the inspector had "questioned the integrity of a certain shipment, and refused to certify it based on concrete issues."

Michoacan is the only Mexican state certified as pest-free and able to export avocados to the U.S. market. There have been frequent reports that some packers in Mexico are buying avocados from other, non-certified states, and trying to pass them off as being from Michoacan.

"I am pleased to report that today the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal Plant Health Inspection Service has determined it will immediately resume its avocado inspection program in Michoacán," Salazar wrote.

The service said Friday that "avocado exports to the United States have resumed."

The week-old ban had already been taking a toll on avocado pickers in Michoacan, who stood on a roadside this week outside the city of Uruapan asking for donations after they lost their work.

Holding up signs saying "Voluntary donations" and "We make our living off avocado picking," they waited for motorists to drop spare change into buckets they held.

There were signs that supplies may have tightened since the inspection suspension was announced last Saturday and that the damage to Mexico's violence-plagued avocado industry may be lasting: It could prompt companies that import avocados to look beyond Mexico, which currently supplies about 92% of U.S. imports of the fruit.

Peru, Colombia and Chile already ship avocados to the United States, but in quantities that are only a tiny fraction of Mexico's production. That may change.

"I was talking with a few buyers of avocado domestically, and on toward the future, they know they need to diversify suppliers," said Miguel Gómez, professor of applied economics and management in the Cornell SC Johnson College of Business. "The issue is that they realized that it would be very risky to depend on a single source."

Exports from Mexico were largely responsible for the huge increase in U.S. avocado consumption in recent decades because they made the fruit available year-round, most famously during the Super Bowl.

U.S. per capita consumption of avocados tripled since 2001 to 8 pounds per person in 2018.

The Mexican harvest is January through March, while U.S production runs from April to September.

While there is concern about the deforestation and violence that have resulted from the avocado boom in Michoacan, it is unclear whether Americans would be willing to pay more for avocados produced by growers who do not pay protection money demanded by drug cartels in Michoacan.

"It's requiring Americans to really ask themselves, do they want to pay more to have a quality product or do they want to kind of look the other way and be able to slice their toast accordingly?" said Desirée LeClercq, a professor of employment law at Cornell's School of Industrial and Labor Relations. "And I think that consumers are becoming more educated on how these products are made. But whether or not that's going to trickle into consumer behavior, I think has yet to be seen."



DENTAL
Insurance
Get the dental care you deserve.

Medicare does not cover dental care[1]. That means if you need dental work done, it can cost you hundreds or even thousands of dollars out of your own pocket.

Get Dental Insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. It helps cover over 350 procedures – from cleanings and fillings to crowns and dentures. Call today to get help paying big dental bills.

- **See any dentist you want**, but save more with one in our network
- No deductible, **no annual maximum**
- **Immediate coverage** for preventive care

Call to get your FREE Information Kit
1-855-323-7468
dental50plus.com/santamonica



[1] "Medicare & You," Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, 2020
Includes the Participating (in GA: Designated) Providers and Preventive Benefits Rider. Product not available in all states. Acceptance guaranteed for one insurance policy/certificate of this type. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. This specific offer is not available in CO, LA, NY; call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for similar offer. Certificate C250A (ID: C250E; PA: C250Q); Insurance Policy P150 (GA: P150GA; NY: P150NY; OK: P150OK; TN: P150TN); Rider kinds B438/B439 (GA: B439B).
6255

BUDGET

FROM PAGE 1

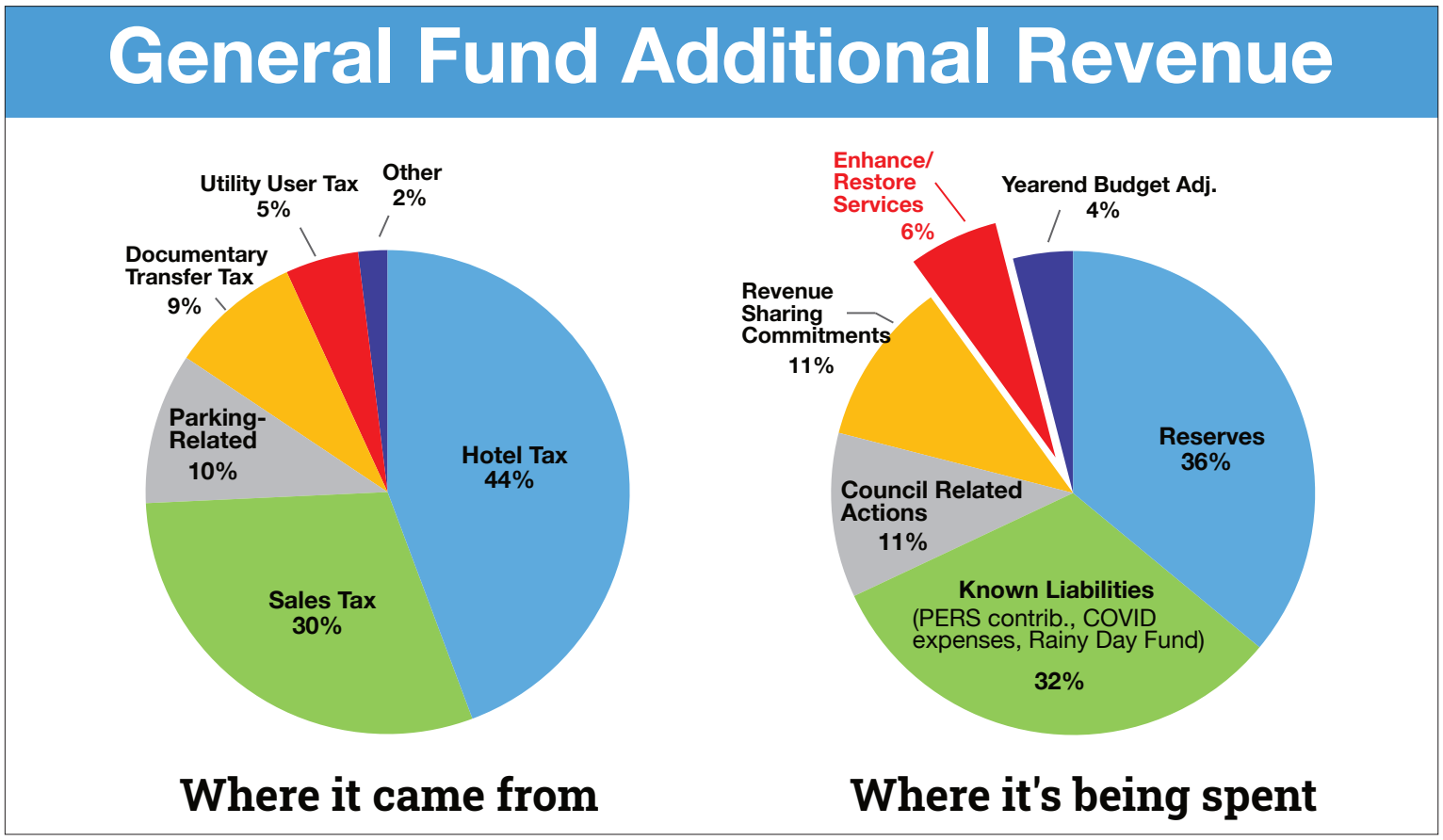
City can finance future legal fees, emergency infrastructure fixes and other unbudgeted needs as they arise.

Thirty-two percent of the revenue bump will be allocated towards the City's known liabilities, which include COVID-related costs, an increase in its CalPERS contribution, and an increase to the rainy day fund. Anytime the City increases its budget it needs to ensure that contributions to its rainy day fund reflects 12.5 percent of the overall budget. Further funding commitments include 4 percent towards budget adjustments made at the end of the last fiscal year and 11 percent towards budget adjustments approved by Council since then.

Ultimately, this leaves the City with $1.84 million, reflecting 6 percent of the $30.7 million, to dole out to new purposes such as rehiring staff or restoring services.

Nevertheless, this influx in funding is still a welcome sign and will be used to restore some positions and increase City services in a manner meaningful to residents. Over 30 positions will be gained across a range of City departments with an emphasis on rehiring administrative workers to reduce the lag time in service provision and allow more senior staff members to focus on long-term tasks.

"When we restructured our budget in 2020, we eliminated a very large number of administrative positions and directed our limited resources to frontline and emergency work," said Decavalles. "During the past few years or past two years we've struggled to maintain basic operations from customer service to paying bills to negotiating contracts



SMDP Image

MONEY: Santa Monica's revenue sources are largely accounted for in its spending plan for the coming years.

to recruiting, managers frequently have had to step in and complete administrative duties... As we look to grow the services and programs that we're offering, we simply can't support them."

According to Decavalles, restoring these "back of the house" positions is a necessary precursor to expanding the services the City offers. With the midyear budget revisions, administrative support staff is being reallocated to City Council, Human Resources, the City Manager's Office, City Attorney's Office, Community Development, Public Works, Transportation and Information Services.

The City Manager's Office is also gaining an Equity and Inclusion Program Manager,

SEE **RECOVERY** PAGE 7

SANTA MONICA FAMILY DENTISTRY
ALAN RUBENSTEIN, DDS
Creating Beautiful, Healthy Smiles
MOST LOVED 2022 Santa Monica
NOMINATE US TO BE THE
BEST DENTIST
smdp.com/ML22
Nominate us to be the Most Loved Dentist in Santa Monica
alanrubensteindds.com | 1260 15th St #703, Santa Monica, 90404 | 310-393-8284

RECOVERY

FROM PAGE 6

whose responsibility will be to institute policies, programs and services to advance equity and inclusion citywide.

"There's a lot, a lot of work going on, internally amongst the department's and in the community, but we need to kind of structure it a little bit more so that we make sure that we're collaborating with the departments and with the community and keep it moving forward. We see it (equity and inclusion) not as a separate priority, but as something that should inform everything that we do," said Decavalles, adding that for the next fiscal year's budget proposals all departments must explain how their requests will take into account, or serve to further, equity and inclusion.

In the mid-year budget revisions, a portion of the additional revenue is also being allocated to recreation and library services. This will have an immediately tangible impact on the level of services available to residents.

The Community Services Department plans on increasing its community recreation programs and programs at Annenberg Beach House. According to Andy Agel, Director of Community Services, the proposed expansion includes 180 additional community classes and camps, 400 additional hours of gym access, expanded skate park hours and expanded aquatic programming.

The Santa Monica Public Library plans on reopening the Fairview Branch for the first time since the start of the pandemic under a self-service system. The library will also be receiving one additional literacy programming assistant and two part-time library service officers.

The library was one of the hardest hit departments by the City's 2020 Covid-related budget restructuring. Prior to the pandemic, the department had part-time and full-time staff working hours equivalent to 112 full-time positions. In 2020, this dropped to just 47 full-time equivalent positions. All five library branches were closed to the public from March 2020 until June 2021, when the Main Library reopened for limited hours and in-person services. Since then the Pico Branch and Ocean Park Branch have reopened with limited hours and the Montana Ave Branch is slated to do the same in March.

Even with this staffing and budget boost, library services remain significantly underfunded, to the point where City staff are researching a potential ballot measure for a parcel tax that could help restore funding. This would require two-thirds voter approval and raise between $2 million to $4 million for the library.

The City is also examining other general revenue raising ballot measures to help accelerate its economic recovery and ability to restore services. These include raising the tax on lodging room rentals or on parking fees or modernizing the business license tax. The City has already maxed out its ability to raise sales taxes and recently approved an increase in document transfer taxes for high value property sales. Staff will conduct scientific polling in the spring and return to Council in earlier summer with recommendations for the best ways to move forward with ballot measures.

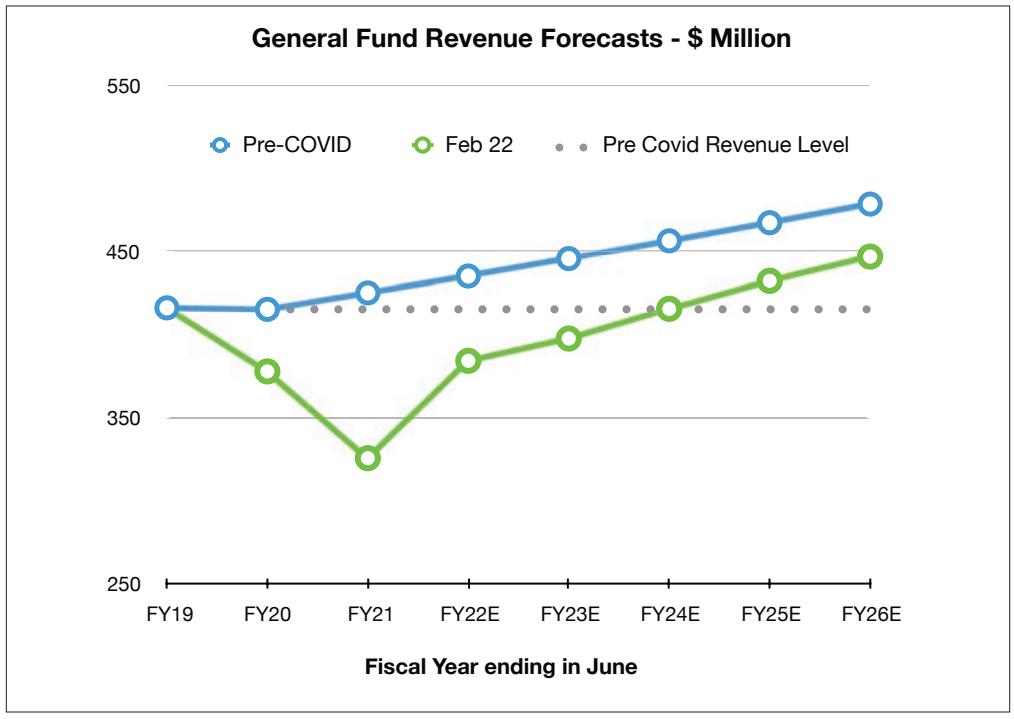
Raising revenues is important not only for helping restore services, but also for refilling several other City coffers that were drained by pandemic induced revenue losses. In addition to the City's depleted reserves, attention is needed to replenish capital improvements funds, which are essential for maintaining infrastructure and building new projects. During pandemic budget adjustments, the City cut its allocation to the capital fund by over half.

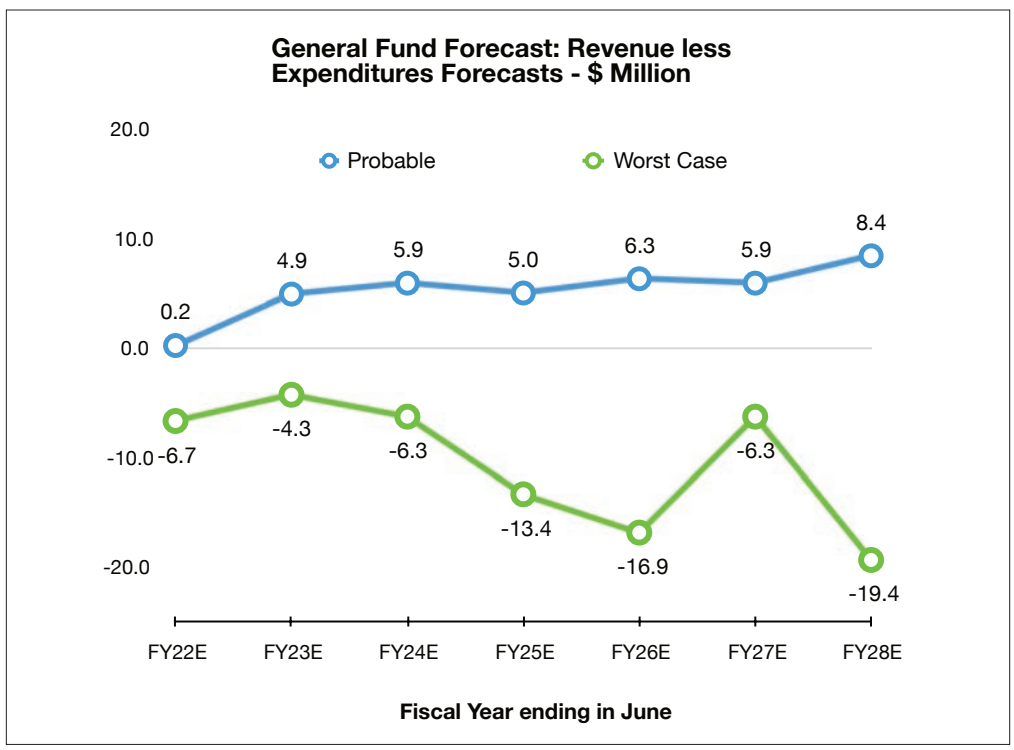
"The capital program remains severely underfunded. For two years we've had to suspend our computer replacement at a time when computers are vital to our operations and our vehicle replacements have also lagged," said Decavalles. "As we weigh how to restore services and rebuild reserves, we also have to consider that these infrastructure needs are being deferred."

The City estimates that it needs over $300 million to finance all of its de-funded and unfunded capital plans. Some of these projects include the City Yards modernization, Memorial Park expansion, Airport Park expansion, Fire Station 7 construction and Parking Structure 1 seismic retrofitting.

These are long-term funding needs the City will have to balance with the demand for rehiring staff and restoring services. At the same time, City staff are bearing in mind the potential for future economic disruptions as while the immediate future of economic recovery appears rosy, there are several factors that could threaten this. These include high inflation rates, upcoming interest rate increases, the ongoing labor shortage, the potential impact of a new COVID surge and continued international travel restrictions.

clara@smdp.com





SMDP Images

FINANCE: The City's experts are hopeful about the budget's trajectory in coming years.

Thank you for buying local.
Buy Local SANTA MONICA
buylocalsantamonica.com TM
It makes a difference!

City of Santa Monica
WOODLAWN
Cemetery
Mausoleum
Mortuary
FD #2101
Helping families honor, remember, and celebrate life.

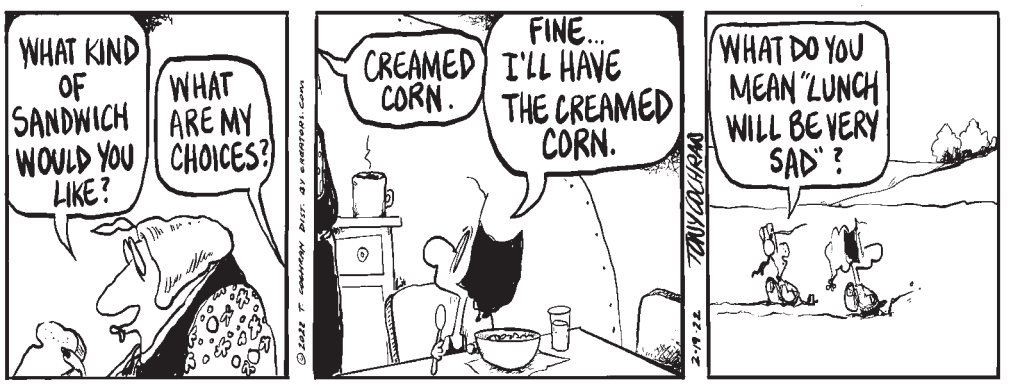


• Traditional Burial • Green/Natural Burial • Cremation
• Funeral Planning & Mortuary Services
ALL IN ONE LOCATION
1847 14th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404 ▪ (310) 458-8717 (on-call - 24/7)
woodlawn.cemetery@smgov.net ▪ www.woodlawnsm.com

ADVERTISE WITH US TODAY!
Santa Monica Daily Press
editor@smdp.com

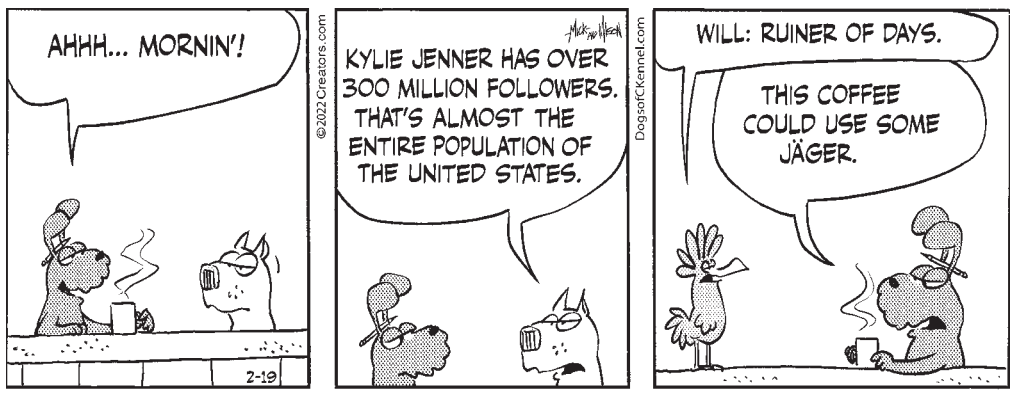
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



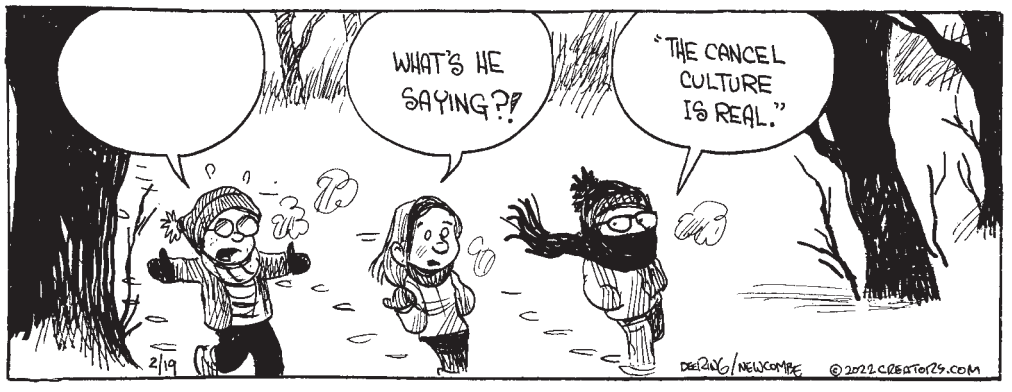
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

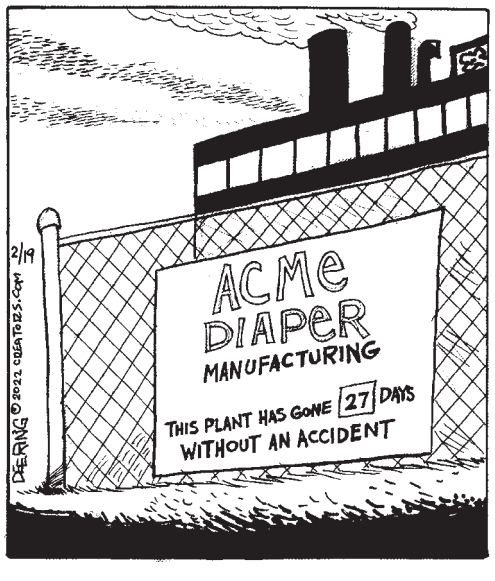
By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE'S DOING A BRISK BUSINESS."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 60.3°

SATURDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high
Smaller leftovers but looking clean for the morning session, along with tide push early. Small-wave gear will be a must.

SUNDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high
Another lully but kinda fun, little WNW swell fills in. Clean morning and wind looking manageable in afternoon. Stay tuned.

WEATHER

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 71. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.
Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 49.
Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 65. East northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2022/02/20	Sun	11:09 AM	4.29	H
2022/02/20	Sun	5:22 PM	0.52	L
2022/02/20	Sun	11:54 PM	4.71	H
2022/02/21	Mon	06:17 AM	1.04	L
2022/02/21	Mon	12:04 PM	3.54	H
2022/02/21	Mon	5:49 PM	1.10	L
2022/02/22	Tue	12:34 AM	4.81	H
2022/02/22	Tue	07:36 AM	0.98	L
2022/02/22	Tue	1:26 PM	2.81	H
2022/02/22	Tue	6:17 PM	1.70	L
2022/02/23	Wed	01:29 AM	4.86	H
2022/02/23	Wed	09:25 AM	0.69	L
2022/02/23	Wed	3:55 PM	2.48	H
2022/02/23	Wed	6:56 PM	2.26	L
2022/02/24	Thu	02:44 AM	4.95	H
2022/02/24	Thu	10:58 AM	0.11	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 2/16
22 30 40 42 48
Power#: 16
Jackpot: 31 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/15
2 4 15 21 63
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 64 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 2/16
1 8 36 38 40
Mega#: 10
Jackpot: 18 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/17
3 7 19 22 36

Daily 3
Draw Date: 2/17
EVENING: 1 5 2
Draw Date: 2/17
MIDDAY: 8 2 2

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 2/17
1st: 08 - Gorgeous George
2nd: 05 - California Classic
3rd: 03 - Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:42.07

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

WISE & Healthy Aging
(310) 394-9871
Adult Day Service Center
Your trusted source for adult day care for your loved one. Let us give you the break you need.
Somos Amigos
"Somos Amigos" (we are friends) is our Spanish Language Program offering mental stimulation, exercise-strength training and recreation.
Let Us Help You Address Early Memory Loss
A Program of WISE & Healthy Aging
WISE Minds
A Veterans Benefit!

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (FEBRUARY 19)

Exciting discoveries are in store. You'll have reason to consult experts, then become one. Among a diverse group of influences you'll thrive, establish a niche and create income streams. You'll contribute significantly to a dear one's success. You'll also find a way to cross off one of your more expensive bucket list items. Taurus and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 40, 20, 2 and 17.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The reasons are not immediately obvious, but upon reflection you'll realize you have much to be merry about. Indeed, celebration is in order. Let friends in on your good fortune. Joy multiplies when you divide it among them.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your home is more than just a place to live; it is also an investment in your future. You'll continue to add value to this investment in the weeks to come. Decisions hang in the balance. Those close to you will advise you well.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There's no shame in your game. You don't take anything personally. It's about learning, not about looking good in front of others. A lack of self-consciousness will allow you to gain useful skills quickly.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's just simple math, nothing complicated. Double your chances of winning by playing twice. You're bound to hit a jackpot sooner or later if you keep playing. In today's case, the game is love.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A gloriously built ship can be rugged enough to sail rough seas for decades but let enough water in and it will sink. Human minds are similar vessels. Keep negativity out, lest it drag you to the ocean's bottom.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). What's more annoying than a person who knows more about your subject of expertise than you do? Answer: Someone who revels in it. Keep this in mind the next time you're in the opposite position.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). As with water, these elements cannot be casually inhaled. You must understand the danger to experience the beauty. Protect yourself. Take a deep breath before your immersion.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). People either make improvements or they make excuses. Whenever you find yourself making an excuse, stop and seize the opportunity for rapid growth. Humility is the key. You'll put your ego aside and learn.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Friendship is about more than discovering the other person. It's also about discovering yourself. Through your social efforts you'll get to know a lovely person -- you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Egoism is at the root of intolerance. To condemn egoism is to share it. In today's situation you can rise above the pettiness by quietly minding your own business.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your tolerance for a person's behavior is exactly what keeps the dynamic going. Put your foot down and you'll be amazed at how fast things change.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Despite our best efforts, we cannot in one lifetime visit all that we hope to see or learn all that we desire to know. That won't keep you from going full-tilt into today's ambitions.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

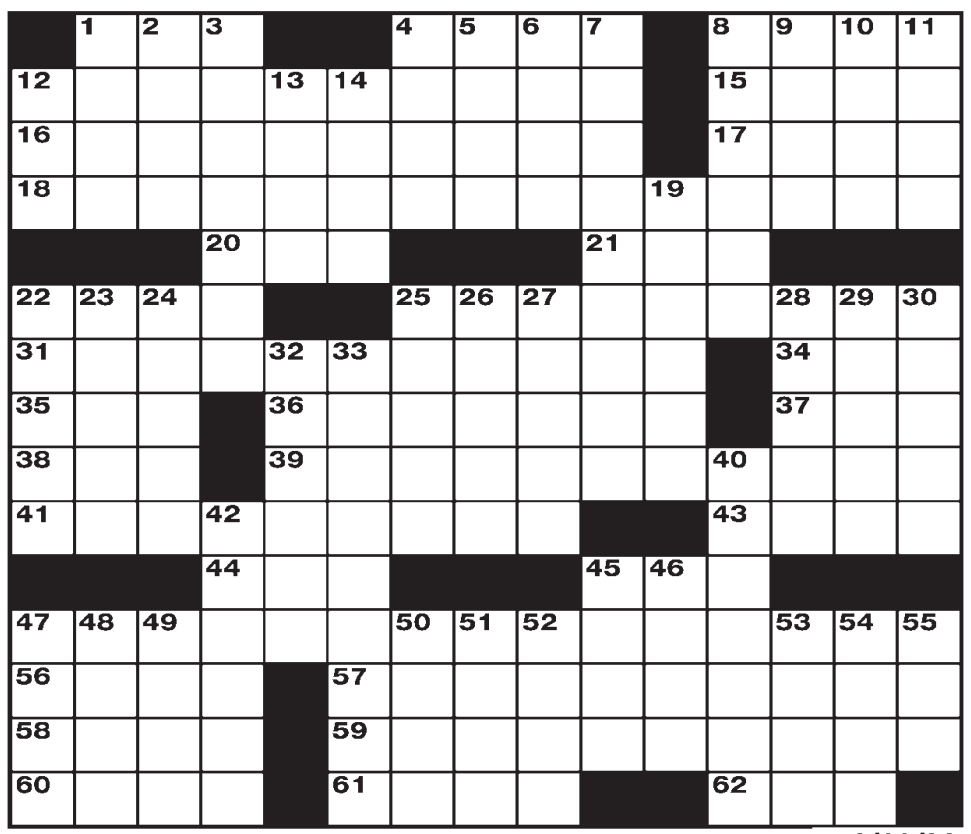
7				8				
3			5			6		
	9				6	7	1	
		5		9			4	
2				6				1
	4			1		3		
	3	1	9				7	
		9			2			5
				7				6

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Stella Zawistowski
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Letters seen on medicine cabinet tubes
4 Supergroup with its first new album (2021) since 1981
8 Out of concern that
12 "Fruity" earth tone
15 Jump named for a Norwegian
16 Lightens
17 Frequent tweeter
18 Cold-weather wear from the Shetlands
20 "It's different" prefix
21 Part of some contact info
22 "Bro!"
25 Hair ornaments for Marie Antoinette
31 Modern words of anticipation
34 With 38 Across, cooling-off period
35 Fight (for)
36 Not worth entertaining
37 A KY airport
38 See 34 Across
39 Wraps with a crunch
41 What may get an agent moving
43 Treats opportunistically
44 HQ for Carnival
45 Metaphor for a battleground
47 Source of the Suwannee
56 Go back on
57 Insensibility
58 One attending a ball
59 Congenital
60 Quarters made of cotton
61 Nickname like Mish
62 Nickname like Naldo

DOWN
1 Like in a trattoria
2 East Timor's capital
3 Nothing special
4 Water seen in *An Inconvenient Truth*
5 *Animal non humain*
6 Queen __
7 Picking up
8 Canada's biggest brewery
9 Sign often seen in red
10 Needing moisturizer
11 Texter's "Couldn't finish this article"
12 Big ape
13 Profoundly bad
14 Kernel
19 Where Zuckerberg prepped
22 Commanders of the stage
23 *Compañera*
24 Turn, turn, turn
25 Way beyond energetic
26 Ancient region near Rhodes
27 Disliked duty
28 Ones' places
29 *L'__ des femmes* (Molière play)
30 Pseudonym that its owner pronounced to rhyme with "choice"
32 Go at it casually
33 Spot for a stroll
40 Be more durable than
42 Grading factor, in a phrase
45 Players near 46 Down
46 Major court venue
47 Leave without power, in a way
48 Arthroplasty subject
49 Sistine Chapel locale
50 Torts taker, probably
51 Hull's foundation
52 Best Upset, Best Play, or Best Game
53 Respecting
54 Bearing
55 Literally, "stir-fried mixture"



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2022 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 2/19/22

What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

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.

DOWNTOWN SANTA MONICA WALKING TOUR
Discover downtown Santa Monica's architecture, history and culture with one of our highly engaging docents. See where Jim Morrison played his first show and visit the lavish Art Deco hotel that housed a speakeasy during Prohibition. Tours are free for members and $10 for the general public. The reservation link is smc.givecloud/dwt. The walking tour covers about 6 blocks in 2 hours and begins at the city's first landmark, the 1875 Rapp Saloon. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. 1436 2nd St.

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

PICO FARMERS MARKET
Pico Blvd. & Cloverfield Blvd.
8 a.m. - 1 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.

MAIN ST. FARMERS MARKET
2640 Main St. (In The Victorian Parking Lot) 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

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

TUESDAY | FEB 22

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

WEDNESDAY | FEB 23

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

THURSDAY | FEB 24

THE COLLEGE PROCESS FROM A-Z
Get the inside scoop on the college admissions process, including high school academics and course planning, building a college wish list, navigating the application process, and applying for financial aid. Presented by Diana Hanson of Magellan College Counseling. Register for this virtual workshop at: shorturl.at/dpuRT. 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY | FEB 25

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) CONVERSATION, LOW
SMPL hosts an ongoing series of English as a Second Language (ESL) classes taught by Adult Education Center instructors. Classes are free and students must be 18 years or older to attend. Community parents and SMMUSD parents have priority enrollment. Learn more about California adult education at caladulted.org. Enrollment is through the SMMUSD Adult Education Center, located at 2510 Lincoln Blvd., Room 203, Santa Monica, CA, 90405. Visit smmusd.asapconnected.com or contact Olga Saucedo at osaucedo@smmusd.org or (310) 664-6222, ext.76203 to enroll. Classes will begin in a virtual format. 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

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

FIND THE WORDS

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 5395

All about wine

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

Aged	Cuvee	Mull	Seve
Aroma	Estate	Muscat	Shiraz
Basic	Fizz	Negus	Still
Blending	Flavour	Olive grove	Taste
Body	Flute	Orange	Tawny port
Brut	Glasses	Reds	Tokay
Burgundy	Grape	Rich	Urns
Cabernet	Hock	Rose	Vino
Cask	Jeroboam	Ruby	White
Cold	Kegs	Sauvignon blanc	
Cork	Lees		
Crop	Mead	Scents	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
A major foodbowl region

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER
Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

FOR QUOTES PLEASE CALL 310-573-8074 or email **cindy@smdp.com**

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

Announcements

NEW AUTHORS WANTED! Page Publishing will help you self-publish your own book. FREE author submission kit! Limited offer! Why wait? Call now: 1-855-667-0380 (Cal-SCAN)

UPDATE YOUR HOME with Beautiful New Blinds & Shades. FREE in-home estimates make it convenient to shop from home. Professional installation. Top quality - Made in the USA. Call for free consultation: 1-877-438-0330. Ask about our specials! (Cal-SCAN)

Become a Published Author. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing-Trusted by Authors Since 1920. Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution. Call for Your Free Author`s Guide 1-877-538-9554 or visit http://dorranceinfo.com/Cali (Cal-SCAN)

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-424-7581 (Cal-SCAN)

Miscellaneous

The difference in winning and losing market share is how businesses use their advertising dollars. We deliver the largest consortium of trusted news publishers in California and beyond. For more info on multi-market solutions call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or cecelia@cnpa.com

The difference in winning and losing market share is how businesses use their advertising dollars. Mark Twain said, "Many a small thing has been made large by the right kind of advertising". So why spend your hard-earned dollars on social media where you already have an audience? For more info call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or cecelia@cnpa.com

Autos Wanted

DONATE YOUR CAR TO KIDS Fast Free Pickup - Running or Not - 24 Hour Response - Maximum Tax Donation - Help Find Missing Kids! Call 1-888-491-1453. (Cal-SCAN)

DONATE YOUR CAR OR TRUCK TO HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. Free 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care Of. CALL 1-844-491-2884 (Cal-SCAN)

Miscellaneous

The difference in winning and losing market share is how businesses use their advertising dollars. CNPA's Advertising Services' power to connect to nearly 13 million of the state's readers who are an engaged audience, makes our services an indispensable marketing solution. For more info call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or cecelia@cnpa.com

The difference in winning and losing an election is how campaign dollars are spent. Get the best ROI by using our deep relationships in every community in California. Our on-the-ground knowledge is indispensable to campaigns that want results. For more info on multi-market ethnic and non-ethnic solutions call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or cecelia@cnpa.com

Health/Medical

Aloe Care Health, medical alert system. The most advanced medical alert product on the market. Voice-activated! No wi-fi needed! Special offer call and mention offer code CARE20 to get $20 off Mobile Companion. Call today 1-844-790-1673. (SCAN)

Senior Living

Looking for assisted living, memory care, or independent living? A Place for Mom simplifies the process of finding senior living at no cost to your family. Call 1-844-741-0130 today. (Cal-SCAN)

Services

LONG DISTANCE MOVING: Call today for a FREE QUOTE from America's Most Trusted Interstate Movers. Let us take the stress out of moving! Speak to a Relocation Specialist, call 844-857-1737 (Cal-SCAN)

Insurance

SAVE BIG on HOME INSURANCE! Compare 20 A-rated insurances companies. Get a quote within minutes. Average savings of $444/year! Call 1-844-410-9609! (M-F 8am-8pm Central) (Cal-SCAN)

Financial Services

Over $10K in Debt? Be debt free in 24 to 48 months. No upfront fees to enroll. A+ BBB rated. Call National Debt Relief 1-888-231-4274. (Cal-SCAN)

Real Estate Wanted

KC BUYS HOUSES
Fastest Cash- Any Condition! Residential and Commercial. Cash in 72 hours! Family owned and operated 25 years. 1-909-536-2060 (Cal-SCAN)

Real Estate Loans

RETIRED COUPLE $$$$ for business purpose Real Estate loans. Credit unimportant. V.I.P. Trust Deed Company www.viploan.com Call 1-818-248-0000. Broker-principal DRE 01041073. No consumer loans. (Cal-SCAN)

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE

Cable/Internet Services

AT&T Internet. Starting at $40/month w/12-mo agmt. Includes 1 TB of data per month. Get More For Your High-Speed Internet Thing. Ask us how to bundle and SAVE! Geo & svc restrictions apply. Call us today 1-855-397-7909. (Cal-SCAN)

Cable/Satellite TV

DIRECTV - Watch your favorite live sports, news and entertainment anywhere. More top premium channels than DISH. Restrictions apply. Call IVS - 1-888-641-5762. (Cal-SCAN)

KANAN
CONSTRUCTION
Building Dreams Since 1989
• CUSTOM HOMES • REMODELS
LOCAL REFERENCES
DANIEL J. KANAN
General Contractor
Pacific Palisades Chamber member since 1991
(310) 451-3540
BONDED–INSURED www.DanKananConstruction.com LIC. NO. 554451

INSIDE
THE DAILY PRESS
PODCAST
smdp.com/pod
ALSO AVAILABLE ON

FIX YOUR CREDIT CONSULTING

Better Credit. Better Life.

We are a top rated and fully bonded credit repair consulting company. We are extremely aggressive and also teach you how to maintain good credit. After reviewing your credit report, our Credit Consultants determine a customized fee based on your situation.

5 stars on yelp



Give Us A Call Today! **(877) 212-2450**
fixyourcreditconsulting.com

MOST LOVED 2022 Santa Monica

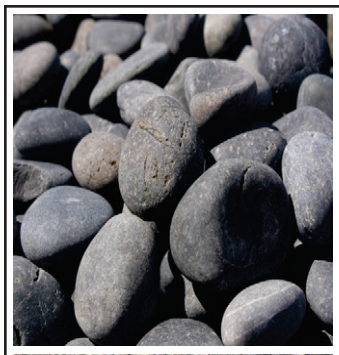
smdp.com/ML22

Nominate your **Most Loved Business!**

February **10th** to **28th**

Buy Local Santa Monica · Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce · City of Santa Monica · Santa Monica Travel & Tourism · smdp Santa Monica Daily Press · Montana Avenue Santa Monica · Pico Blvd Santa Monica · Main Street Santa Monica · Downtown Santa Monica Third Street Promenade · Santa Monica Pier





Hardscape

Bourget Bros. carries a full line of sustainable landscaping:

Pebbles

Glass Rocks

Decomposed Granite

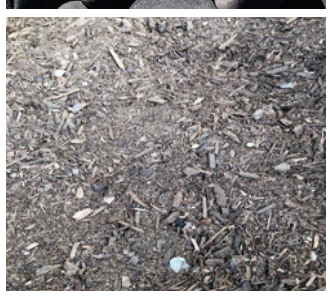
Crushed Recycled Glass

Boulders

Gravel

Mulch



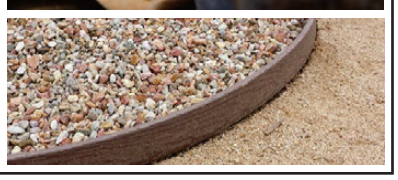












Bourget Bros. Building Materials
1636 - 11th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90404
bourgetbros.com • (310) 450-6556