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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Crime Watch
Park assault.
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Structure fire
PCH partially closed yesterday.
Page 6

In first address, new City Manager describes an optimistic vision



Courtesy image

CITY: David White gave his first State of the City this month.

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica City Manager David White attended his first State of the City event on Tuesday, Feb. 15, taking the opportunity to heap praise on the City that he has called home since last fall.

"I run and I bike throughout the city nearly every day, so I get to see Santa Monica by foot and from the seat of my bike," White said. "Here's what I see: We have a beautiful bay and beach; our wooden pier with an amusement park is unlike any other in the world. There are great shops and restaurants around nearly every corner of our city. It's well known at this point that I'm a vegan — I could not live in a better place than this. There are gems all over town. And I know that there are more on the way. But mostly what I also see is the strong, engaged community and the commitment of the people who live and work here."

When it came to the economic outlook for 2022, White said revenue loss projections, which had been predicted at about $220 million over three years, was revised down to a loss of $188 million in that time period.

"This is still devastating, but it is nice to see improvement," White remarked. Part of that relative improvement was due to the City's main income streams — sales tax, parking revenue, hotel bed taxes and document transfer tax — all projected to perform better than had been anticipated.

"However, many of our revenues

SEE **STATE OF THE CITY** PAGE 11

Homeless count resumes tonight



Courtesy photo

COUNT: Santa Monica will hold its annual Homeless Count tonight and the City remains in critical need of pre-formed volunteer teams of 3 - 4. If you have a pre-formed team, register at https://www.santamonica.gov/santa-monica-homeless-count and learn more about requirements. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's event will look different. Volunteer teams will be deployed fully from their cars and need to pre-register their team of 3-4 individuals. Teams will be directed to a drive-through check-in where all team members will be asked for vaccine verification and completed waivers before being assigned to a Count area and receive Count materials. Los Angeles County resumed its annual homeless count yesterday, a full year after it was limited over concerns that it couldn't be done safely or accurately during the coronavirus pandemic.

Volunteers with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority fanned out across the county for the effort's main component, the unsheltered street tally. The so-called "point-in-time" count will take place over three days. "It is an essential component in getting vital information that helps us provide an accurate picture of the state of homelessness in Los Angeles and deliver services where they are most needed," LAHSA Executive Director Heidi Marston said in a statement. Congress requires such counts every two years and uses the information to distribute resources for homeless services. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development granted an exemption in 2021 because of the coronavirus outbreak and kept federal funding in place.

The count is proceeding this year with COVID-19 precautions, including outdoor distribution of materials and requirements that volunteers wear masks and maintain social distance, LAHSA said. The results of the tally are expected to be released in late May or early June. The 2020 count reported more than 66,400 people were homeless in the county, a 13% increase from the previous year.

SMMUSD opens schools to seek community input on campuses

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

Curious about your neighborhood school?

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District is inviting parents, staff, students and community members to tour five local school campuses in coming weeks. The two-hour events will offer a peek behind the curtain at the campuses where community members can learn about existing facilities and discuss educational needs, historical resources, campus plans and future projects.

Each of the five campuses — John Adams Middle School, or JAMS; Will Rogers Learning Community; Franklin Elementary; McKinley Elementary; and Grant Elementary — are looking to the future with new proposals and plans. There are also pertinent findings in historical consultant reports that community members can learn more about.

"Through these school visits, tour participants will gain a greater understanding of the current status of the school facilities and how improvements will impact student learning and performance," School District staff wrote. "The school facilities are essentially the 'third teacher.' Having modern, updated learning environments engage students in their education."

SEE **CAMPUS TOURS** PAGE 2


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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles County firearms sweep nets more than 100 guns

Authorities seized more than 100 guns in Southern California as part of a five-day sweep to remove firearms and ammunition from people who are no longer legally allowed to own or possess them, officials announced Tuesday.

The operation last week in Los Angeles County also included 13 arrests, California Attorney General Rob Bonta said during a news conference. Investigators also took nearly 50,000 rounds of ammunition and 87 high-capacity magazines away.

People prohibited to own or posses firearms in California include those who were convicted of a felony or a violent misdemeanor, placed under a domestic violence or other restraining order, or suffer from serious mental illness. The state established a system in 2006 – the first to do so – that tracks firearm owners who fall into one of those prohibited categories.

Authorities found 55 handguns, 19 rifles, 15 shotguns, 17 assault weapons, and eight ghost guns as part of the sweep across 51 cities in LA County. A similar operation was conducted in January in the San Francisco Bay Area, where 30 firearms were seized and eight people were arrested.

"Those are weapons and ammunition that are no longer available to harm the public," Bonta said.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CAMPUS TOURS

FROM PAGE 1

The series are the latest step in the District's campus facility planning process, which began with assessments by architectural consultants to develop ideas for how the campuses will adapt as education changes in the 21st century. The SMMUSD is also requesting parent and neighbor input as plans are finalized.

Meetings are scheduled as follows; all are from 4 – 6 p.m.:

• John Adams Middle School: Monday, February 28, 2022

Location: JAMS Library, 2425 16th St, Santa Monica, CA 90405,

Parking in main lot off of 16th St. and Ocean Park, street parking available

• Will Rogers Learning Community: Tuesday, March 1, 2022

Location: Rogers Cafetorium, 2401 14th St, Santa Monica, CA 90405,

Parking in main lot off of 16th St., street parking available

• Franklin Elementary: Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Location: Franklin Cafetorium, 2400 Montana Ave, Santa Monica, CA 9040,

Parking off of Idaho Ave., street parking available

• McKinley Elementary: Wednesday, March 9, 2022

Location: McKinley Auditorium, 2401 Santa Monica Blvd, Santa Monica, CA 90404,

Parking in main lot off of Chelsea Ave., street parking available

• Grant Elementary: Thursday, March 10, 2022

Location: Grant Auditorium, 2368 Pearl St, Santa Monica, CA 90405,

Parking on 24th St., street parking is available

Spanish language interpretation will be available at all five events.

RSVPs are preferred, and may be submitted by visiting bit.ly/CampusMtgs0222. Masks are required regardless of vaccination status.

emily@smdp.com

CORRECTION / CLARIFICATION

An SMDP email soliciting comment from Councilman Phil Brock was sent to an incorrect address and the Councilman would have provided statement had he received the request.

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Riviera has a new president and big events headed its way

DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

Megan Watanabe first showed up at Riviera when her family bought the club in 1989. She took golf lessons and tennis lessons in the summer, left Japan to attend middle school and eventually went to Pepperdine to study art.

She never imagined where it would lead.

Watanabe is the first woman to be president of the fabled club. And while Riviera already is regarded as among the best courses on the PGA Tour, it's about to get a lot more traffic.

Riviera celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2026 by hosting the U.S. Women's Open, its first women's championship. Golf has been confirmed for the Olympics program for Los Angeles in 2028 and will be played at Riviera.

"We've always sought majors," said Watanabe, who spent 10 years as vice president before taking over from her father, Noboru. "In 2017, we had the U.S. Amateur and we continued to look for opportunities. We haven't had the U.S. Open since 1948."

She said John Bodenhamer, the chief championships officer for the USGA, mentioned changes coming to the U.S. Women's Open with a big boost in purses and going to more historic clubs.

"The things he talked about really interested me," Watanabe said. "Because we have never hosted a women's championship, it made sense. Also for the Olympics. I wanted the women to be comfortable and experience Riviera before the Olympics."

Since that 1948 U.S. Open won by Ben Hogan, Riviera has hosted the PGA Championship twice and a U.S. Senior Open.

Watanabe has not ruled out another U.S. Open, which would seem like a long shot with the limited property at Riviera for the massive build-out the championship requires.

Riviera was on the verge of hosting the U.S. Open in December 2020 with no fans during the peak of the pandemic until the British Open was postponed and the U.S. Open moved from June to September and stayed at Winged Foot.

Next year, the U.S. Open goes down the road from Riviera to Los Angeles Country Club, which has 36 holes and ample room. Watanabe preferred a comparison on the other side of the country. Merion had the 2013 U.S. Open and will host again in 2030 and 2050.

"Merion is probably about the same size we are. My thinking is if they can do it, I think we can do it," she said. "Yes, parking is always an issue. If we can have extra property to put in a merchandise tent and corporate tents, it would be great. At the same time, I would pitch a smaller, premium-sized U.S. Open. That might work. That's what we do well here."

RYDER CUP COMMITTEE

Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson were part of the first Ryder Cup committee that came out of the infamous task force following the 2014 matches. Woods has been among the three players on the six-member committee ever since as part of a veteran crew.

Now the committee is going younger.

Jordan Spieth and Justin Thomas have been added to the committee that includes PGA of America president Jim Richerson, vice president John Lindert and CEO Seth Waugh.

Thomas, who has played on the last two teams, said he was surprised to be approached and felt it was an honor.

"I feel like it's important to me," he said. "I hope to be playing the Ryder Cup the next 20 years. At least if I'm not playing, which I hope to be, I want to be part of it somehow to help us win."

Spieth has played every Ryder Cup since Gleneagles in 2014.

"Very excited," Spieth said. "The job is mainly more helping to pick the captain, talk about the players' experience on and off the golf course, how it can be improved, what frees us up to play our best golf. It was nice having the last Ryder Cup, being on the side of knowing what was successful. I think I can provide useful input having been on four teams."

Spieth said the first meeting was two weeks ago during the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.

"A lot of them were asking questions to me and Justin," he said. "The cool part about it was the questions they asked of us, and we were blatantly honest, from clothes we were wearing to ceremonies to how many dinners we're doing, what kind of recovery tools and methods we had and access to that. It was a good start."

MASTERS CHANGES

Tucked away in the annual media guide for the Masters were a few changes to Augusta National that will add 35 yards to the card, extending the course to 7,510 yards.

The club said the par-4 11th hole has a tee that has been moved back 15 yards and to the left, making it play 520 yards. The fairway has been recontoured and several trees have been removed on the right side.

The par-5 15th hole has a new tee 20 yards back with the fairway recontoured.

That means the par-4 11th will play longer than the par-5 13th, which remains unchanged at 510 yards. There has been speculation the 13th would be lengthened after Augusta National purchased acreage behind it at Augusta Country Club.

But while the 11th is longer, Rory McIlroy says that doesn't mean it will be harder.

"I do know they've taken the tee back and to the left, so it's more of a straighter tee shot than a dogleg right," he said. "They've widened the fairway and taken a lot of trees out. Even though it's a longer hole, they made the tee shot and the second shot a touch easier."

He thought the bigger change was a steeper depression to the right of the green, meaning players missing there will be a few feet lower than the putting surface.

"It will make it trickier," he said.

Asked if he was happy the 13th wasn't changed, McIlroy smiled and said, "I'd be happy if they left everything alone."

PLAYERS ADVISORY COUNCIL

The players have spoken and Webb Simpson and Peter Malnati were voted co-chairs of the Players Advisory Council, which advises and consults the PGA Tour board of directors on tour issues.

They were elected over Patrick Cantlay and

SEE **GOLF** PAGE 11

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 256 CALLS ON FEBRUARY 21

Battery 100Blk Wilshire Blvd 12:27 a.m.
Fire Request Police Ocean Ave / Arizona Ave 1:26 a.m.
Battery 3100Blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:53 a.m.
Encampment 1600Blk The Beach 6:35 a.m.
Encampment 2800Blk The Beach 6:56 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1500Blk 4th St 7:01 a.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 1400Blk 10th St 7:47 a.m.
Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 2600Blk Ocean Front Walk 7:55 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 3100Blk Main St 8:01 a.m.
Lost Property 400Blk Colorado Ave 8:07 a.m.
Rape 200Blk Santa Monica Pier 8:20 a.m.
Burglary 1000Blk Pearl St 8:31 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1700Blk 10th St 8:33 a.m.
Critical Missing Person 18th St / Hill St 8:38 a.m.
Construction Noise 1100Blk Washington Ave 8:41 a.m.
Burglary 1000Blk 12th St 8:45 a.m.
Construction Noise 2400Blk 3rd St 8:52 a.m.
Drinking In Public 900Blk 15th St 8:57 a.m.
Encampment 1800Blk The Beach 9:05 a.m.
Found Property 1600Blk Ocean Front Walk 9:09 a.m.
Found Property 1400Blk 2nd St 9:29 a.m.
General Parking Problem 800Blk 10th St 9:37 a.m.
Auto Burglary 2800Blk Neilson Way 9:38 a.m.
Expired Registration 2000Blk 3rd St 9:53 a.m.
Burglary 1500Blk 12th St 9:58 a.m.
Petty Theft 300Blk San Vicente Blvd 10:05 a.m.
Construction Noise 2400Blk 3rd St 10:11 a.m.
Encampment 1100Blk The Beach 10:11 a.m.
Burglary 1900Blk Ocean Way 10:11 a.m.
Expired Registration 2300Blk 3rd St 10:14 a.m.
Expired Registration 2200Blk 3rd St 10:41 a.m.
Construction Noise 2000Blk 3rd St 10:44 a.m.
Burglary 2000Blk Olympic Blvd 10:50 a.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 600Blk Washington Ave 11:04 a.m.
Construction Noise 2400Blk 3rd St 11:06 a.m.
Battery 1700Blk Ocean Ave 11:19 a.m.
Grand Theft 300Blk 25th St 11:21 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1400Blk Broadway 11:23 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 200Blk Broadway 11:25 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 200Blk Broadway 11:26 a.m.
Expired Registration 2200Blk 6th St 11:28 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1400Blk 4th St 11:36 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 800Blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:47 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 2600Blk 4th St 11:54 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 2400Blk 20th St 11:55 a.m.
Petty Theft 2600Blk Lincoln Blvd 12:31 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2000Blk Wilshire Blvd 12:41 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 23rd St / Hill St 12:46 p.m.
Battery 2000Blk Main St 12:48 p.m.
Expired Registration 1900Blk Ocean Ave 12:50 p.m.
Fight Ocean Ave / Wilshire Blvd 12:52 p.m.
Burglary 500Blk 11th St 12:58 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 2000Blk Arizona Ave 12:58 p.m.
Encampment 3000Blk The Beach 1:05 p.m.
Person Down 7th St / Wilshire Blvd 1:18 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations Yale St / Santa Monica Blvd 1:26 p.m.
Petty Theft 300Blk Arizona Ave 1:27 p.m.
Expired Registration 100Blk Ocean Park Blvd 1:49 p.m.
Battery 2200Blk Wilshire Blvd 2:14 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 2:40 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1300Blk 2nd St 2:55 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 4th St / Bicknell Ave 3:07 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 14th St / Santa Monica Blvd 3:09 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper 1300Blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:12 p.m.
Counterfeit Money 500Blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:28 p.m.
Person With A Gun 2400Blk Main St 3:33 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 1400Blk 2nd St 3:34 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1100Blk California Ave 3:41 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 600Blk Hill St 3:42 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 700Blk Ozone St 3:53 p.m.
Battery 2100Blk Wilshire Blvd 3:57 p.m.
Grand Theft 300Blk Colorado Ave 4:00 p.m.
Expired Registration 2600Blk 7th St 4:02 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 4th St / Colorado Ave 4:02 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1100Blk California Ave 4:05 p.m.
Burglary 2000Blk Olympic Blvd 4:07 p.m.
Petty Theft Now 300Blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:14 p.m.
Petty Theft Now 500Blk Marguerita Ave 4:17 p.m.
Found Property 1800Blk The Beach 4:30 p.m.
Lost Property 8800Blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:34 p.m.
General Parking Problem 2600Blk 32nd St 4:42 p.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 3200Blk Pico Blvd 5:23 p.m.
Encampment 1500Blk Lincoln Blvd 5:32 p.m.
Public Intoxication 2100Blk Santa Monica Blvd 5:36 p.m.
Expired Registration 2400Blk 29th St 5:44 p.m.
Petty Theft 1200Blk 3rd Street Prom 6:23 p.m.
Fire Request Police 1800Blk Lincoln Blvd 6:29 p.m.
Injured Person 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 6:33 p.m.
Grand Theft 1600Blk The Beach 6:44 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries Chelsea Ave / Wilshire Blvd 6:52 p.m.
Loud Music 1900Blk Euclid St 6:56 p.m.
Loud Music 100Blk Bay St 7:13 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2600Blk Virginia Ave 7:41 p.m.
Runaway 4th St / Colorado Ave 8:19 p.m.
Loud Music Ocean Ave / Bay St 8:22 p.m.
Person With A Gun 800Blk 4th St 8:58 p.m.
Receiving Stolen Property Suspect There Now 1200Blk Stanford St 9:39 p.m.
Construction Noise 2200Blk 25th St 9:49 p.m.
Grand Theft 900Blk 6th St 9:59 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 37 CALLS ON FEBRUARY 21

EMS Ocean Ave / Arizona Ave 1:16 a.m.
EMS 3100Blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:53 a.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 2300Blk 16th St 2:10 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2900Blk Olympic Blvd 4:32 a.m.
EMS 100Blk Wilshire Blvd 6:36 a.m.
EMS 100Blk Ocean Park Blvd 7:47 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1500Blk California Ave 9:22 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1500Blk California Ave 10:34 a.m.
EMS 2000Blk Arizona Ave 11:52 a.m.
EMS 2300Blk Main St 11:52 a.m.
EMS 1400Blk 7th St 11:56 a.m.
EMS 900Blk 3rd St 12:39 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 23rd St / Hill St 12:46 p.m.
EMS 2300Blk Kansas Ave 2:01 p.m.
EMS 2000Blk Arizona Ave 3:39 p.m.
EMS 600Blk Hill St 3:57 p.m.
EMS 900Blk 4th St 4:11 p.m.
EMS 1700Blk Lincoln Blvd 4:39 p.m.
EMS 500Blk California Ave 4:40 p.m.
Lock In/Out 1400Blk Euclid St 4:49 p.m.
EMS 2200Blk Pier Ave 4:54 p.m.
Elevator Rescue 1400Blk 16th St 5:28 p.m.
EMS 1800Blk Lincoln Blvd 6:16 p.m.
EMS 3300Blk Pico Blvd 6:28 p.m.
EMS 1600Blk Hill St 7:28 p.m.
EMS 500Blk Colorado Ave 7:35 p.m.
EMS 2400Blk Wilshire Blvd 7:54 p.m.
EMS 1200Blk Princeton St 8:41 p.m.
EMS 800Blk 17th St 9:37 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400Blk 11th St 10:11 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300Blk 20th St 10:18 p.m.
Transformer Fire 1200Blk 20th St 10:19 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200Blk 15th St 10:38 p.m.
EMS 2500Blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:42 p.m.

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 12:14 P.M.

Officers arrived at Tongva Park regarding an Assault. The victim, a Downtown Ambassador, had arrived for his shift when he encountered a transient individual washing a bike helmet outside the bathroom sink. As the victim explained that he could not do that, the subject became argumentative and challenged the victim to a fight. The subject left and later returned with a broom in his hand and attempted to hit the victim with it. This escalated into a fight between the two until the subject walked away. Lazarius Deshun Deleon was arrested for Assault with a Deadly Weapon.

City of Santa Monica

City of Santa Monica
Ordinance Number 2693 (CCS)
(City Council Series)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA AMENDING SANTA MONICA MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 2.64.020 TO DECREASE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE ARTS COMMISSION FROM ELEVEN TO NINE MEMBERS

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2693 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

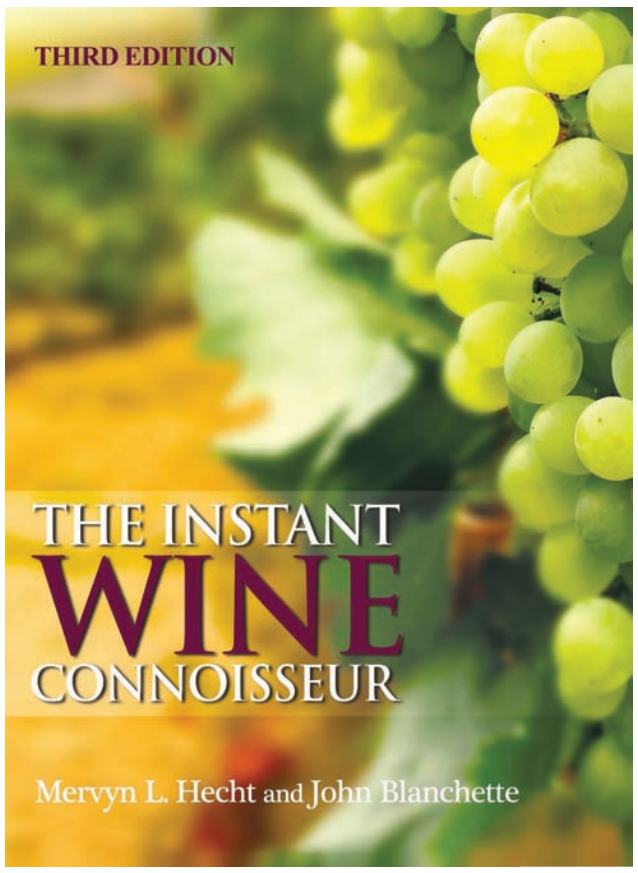
The City of Santa Monica's ad hoc committee for boards and commissions recommended to the City Council that the membership of the Arts Commission be reduced from eleven members to nine members. At its December 14, 2021 meeting, the City Council approved the recommendation and directed staff to return with an ordinance amendment codifying the change in membership. At its February 8, 2022 meeting, the City Council adopted the Ordinance, which amended Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 2.64.020 and reduced the membership of the Arts Commission from eleven to nine members. There are currently two vacant seats on the Arts Commission and, as result of the Ordinance, the two vacant seats are repealed.

The Ordinance takes effect 30 days after adoption.

The full text of the above Ordinance is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica. Phone: (310) 458-8211.



★★★★★ 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

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Letter to the Editor

Robert Maschio Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Editor:

The article entitled: "City Evaluation deems Open Main Street pilot a success," https://www.smdp.com/city-evaluation-deems-open-main-street-pilot-a-success/213573 warrants several questions.

First the city staff defined success as "it did not create any unforeseen traffic issues or have a significant negative impact of the character of the neighborhood." But a closer look reveals that by the city's own released numbers, traffic increased by 65 percent on 2nd Street, 65 percent on 3rd Street, 32 percent on Neilson Way and 22 percent on 4th Street during the first 1st weekend of the pilot alone. Why was traffic not monitored during the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th weekends of the pilot program? It's not like those numbers improved.

Second within the closed pilot area, 54% of businesses reported increase in revenues, (24% of businesses outside the pilot area experienced increased revenue). Question: by how much did revenue increase at those businesses? 2% 3% 5%...will that translate into increased tax revenues for the city? What about the 46% of businesses that did not experiences increased revenue within the pilot area? 19% of businesses within the pilot area reported a decrease in revenue. And what about the 76% of business outside the pilot area that did NOT experience revenue increases? Is it really worth it to close the streets off for a block party, with such negligible upticks in revenue? The long stated goal of this pilot program was to help businesses on Main Street recover from the pandemic, but by the city's own released numbers, this pilot was a failure.

Finally, the article states the overall costs of the pilot was $141,070. The articles fails to mention that the City reports that this total did not include staff time and overages. What was the real number of this pilot program? Is this the best use of this money? Will this pilot program have any long term effect of the viability of businesses or quality of life on Main Street?

If the city wants to make Main Street more appealing to residents and a more profitable place to do business the solution is clear: Use available funds to implement a holistic approach to reducing homelessness — addiction, mental health and affordable housing, rather that to fund a block party. It's not as sexy or glamorous and it's a complicated problem to solve, but that's where the funds need to go. If people don't feel safe taking a stroll on Main Street, they won't go there. It also doesn't help to have so many vacant Storefronts on Main Street, as landlords hold out for top dollar rather than devalue the paper value of their assets. How can the city incentivize landlords to lease storefronts for a reduced price rather than to have them remain empty? This is where the real work needs to be done.

In the end, the best way to revitalize Main Street is to make it a safe zone, with real destinations & amenities, not just a weekend block party.

Thank you for considering these thoughts.

Robert Maschio, Santa Monica

Editor:

As a resident of Ocean Park since 1984, first as a renter and then as a homeowner, I am thrilled to see the proposed transformation of a giant parking lot and a sad and shabby strip mall into a major housing development.

These ten beautiful buildings will provide a place for people to live who work at John Muir and Will Rogers elementary schools, SMASH, John Adams Middle School, Obama Learning Center, and Santa Monica High School, just for starters. Unlike the Sea Colony apartments, which are right on the beach but are similarly dense, these apartments will be affordable to people who do not qualify for government-funded "affordable housing" but who work in downtown Santa Monica, City Hall, and the business parks throughout Santa Monica and the Westside.

Bus and bike routes are already in place. National experts at UCLA tell us that housing does not create traffic, it is caused by offices and retail uses. Santa Monica's population grows to 250,000 people during the day, and that is where the difficult traffic comes from!

In addition, I am troubled by the position that we shouldn't let others share in the glory of our wonderful neighborhood. I would love it if more of the people who work here could live here and be part of our community on a 24/7 basis. These are the kind of apartments that young people who grew up in Santa Monica could rent as they start their careers, including those who work in local businesses, schools, libraries, or who work remotely most of the time.

The site for this new apartment complex is ideal due to its location at the bottom of a hill and on an unremarkable (some might say ugly) stretch of highway, and in walking distance to Main Street, schools, and many places that the residents will work.

Let's consider being positive, generous, and welcoming to our future neighbors.

Abby Arnold, Santa Monica

Editor:

I am writing to you regarding your Feb 21, 2022, the Lincoln Center development.

The one point that I didn't see raised amid a bevy of valid objections is, where are residents in the area supposed to shop for their groceries during and/or after this massive development is taking place? At the Vons down the street at Lincoln and Broadway, where a highly similar development is scheduled? At the boutique grocery stores that is scheduled to replace the Gelson's or Vons at either completed project?

Thank you for your time and consideration of this apparently overlooked yet important concern.

Kay Arnold, Santa Monica

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SACRAMENTO

Proposal would require school COVID testing plans

Proposed legislation in California would require all K-12 public schools to develop COVID-19 testing plans for students and staff and the funding for schools to do it, Sen. Richard Pan said in announcing it Tuesday.

"It's really important that schools know what's going on in their school sites when it comes to COVID," said Pan, a pediatrician. "COVID testing allows schools to identify positive cases and then quarantine those who are sick, helping to reduce the spread of the virus."

The legislation would also apply to pre-schools, childcare centers and afterschool programs.

It would require the California Department of Public Health to work with school districts to develop a testing plan. The bill does not specify the frequency of testing or if it should apply to all students and staff or just the unvaccinated, leaving those decisions to each school district.

Pan said the proposed funding for would be determined at a later date based on how much the state and federal governments have already dispensed for school testing and other data being collected.

Under current guidance from the California Department of Public Health, school districts are encouraged but not required to conduct regular COVID-19 testing to catch infections early and reduce the spread of the virus. The state offers funding for testing, but many districts have said they don't have enough staff to carry out extensive testing programs.

With the current omicron wave subsiding, California health officials say they will reassess the need for a school mask mandate on Feb. 28, based on factors that include vaccination rates among children and hospital capacity. All students and staff are currently required to wear face coverings indoors.

Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom in October announced the nation's first coronavirus vaccine mandate for schoolchildren. But it likely won't take effect until this summer and allows exemptions for medical reasons and personal beliefs.

Pan has proposed legislation that would eliminate the personal belief exemption in the school-based COVID-19 vaccine requirement, similar to a 2015 law that eliminated the personal-belief exemption for all other childhood vaccinations the state requires for schoolchildren.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO

California gets rain and snow, with freeze to follow

A cold storm brought snow and rain to California on Tuesday and forecasters warned that freezing temperatures will follow.

Snowfall in Southern California mountains was expected down to elevations as low as 2,000 feet, forecasters said.

The snow and rain is needed in California, where the wintry weather vital to the state's water supply has been spotty after a very wet December.

Widespread freeze warnings were issued for overnight hours from early Wednesday to Friday morning.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO

California plan would streamline housing laws for colleges

California Sen. Scott Wiener introduced legislation Tuesday that would exempt the state's public colleges and universities from an environmental review process that often slows construction in the state, as the University of California fights a ruling that would force its Berkeley campus to limit enrollment.

The legislation would exempt on-campus student and faculty housing projects at the UC, California State University and California Community College systems from the California Environmental Quality Act.

The 1970 law requires state and local agencies to evaluate and disclose the significant environmental effects of projects and to find ways to lessen those effects. It's aimed at protecting the environment, but critics say it's often used to delay projects and boost construction costs, even for environmentally beneficial projects.

Wiener said the state has to make it easier to build student and faculty housing in the face of legal challenges from neighbors who don't want new housing in their neighborhoods. California's public colleges drive the state's economy and provide upward mobility for young people, the Democratic senator from San Francisco said.

"We're at risk of losing that if our students can't afford college because they can't afford housing," he said at a news conference at San Francisco State University, surrounded by two dozen student advocates.

Even if approved by the state Legislature, the legislation would not come in time to resolve the enrollment situation at UC Berkeley, which is being sued by a group called Save Berkeley's Neighborhoods for violating California Environmental Quality Act regulations and failing to address the effect of increased student enrollment on housing, homelessness, traffic and noise.

An Alameda County Superior Court in August sided with Berkeley residents, suspending a proposed faculty housing and classroom construction project and ordered the campus to limit enrollment to its 2020-2021 level of just over 42,000 students.

The school sent letters to applicants saying it would need to cut undergraduate enrollment by at least 3,000 students, sending prospective students and their families into a panic.

An appeals court earlier this month denied UC's request to lift the enrollment freeze as the case continues.

JANIE HAR, ASSOCIATED PRESS

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[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

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Structure Fire



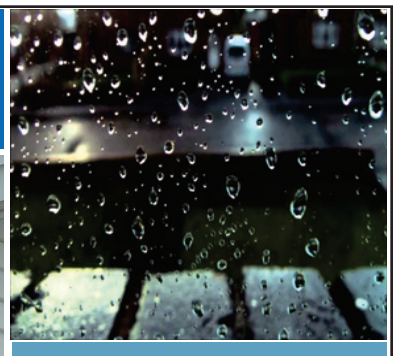


Emily Sawicki

PCH: Santa Monica Fire Department responded to a structure fire call in the 1300 block of Palisades Beach on Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 2. The response included a ladder truck, three engines and a support vehicle, plus McCormick Ambulance Service and Santa Monica Police Department. Pacific Coast Highway was down to one lane heading southbound just north of the McClure Tunnel, with traffic backed up past Temescal Canyon Road. There were no immediate reports of injuries.

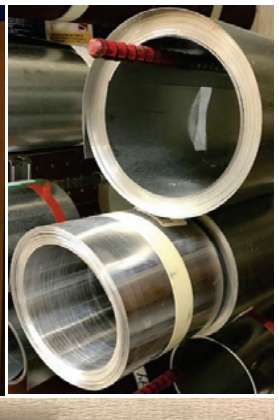
Roofing Supply



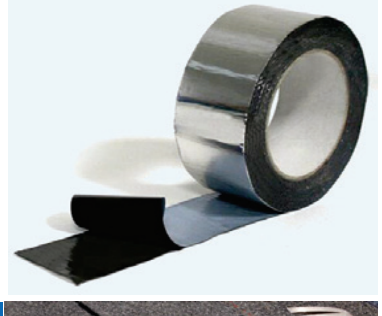


Don't be caught out in the rain! Bourget Bros. is your roof repair headquarters, with a complete supply of adhesives & tapes, sheeting, gutters and all the required tools.









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Curious City

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

We Can Talk

YOU CAN'T STOP THIS ONE

The monster coming to plant itself at the already very busy intersection of Lincoln and Ocean Park. And this 10-building project (ugly buildings too, in my opinion), nearly a million square feet, will take out all the community-serving businesses there now – UPS store, pharmacy, low cost haircuts, sushi restaurant, dry cleaners, nail salon, optical store, pet supplies, the full-size Gelson's supermarket.

It will sit there forever, a gigantic monument to our political leaders here and especially in Sacramento, who have declared (and written into law) that buildings/housing units matter more than local residents and their quality of life. Local zoning control has been tossed aside for the "greater good" (as Sacramento sees it) of more, and more, and more housing. In Santa Monica: disproportionately and inappropriately.

I'm reminded of the song, "Looking for love, in all the wrong places." Or a twist on Dr. John: "It must have been the right time, but the wrong place." (Followed in that song by a sentiment I've heard from too many locals: "Wonder which way do I go, to get on out of here?"

THESE ARE NOT BUILDINGS

For local residents, for the most part, except those affordable units. So we are building 470 expensive units, for people who don't live here but want to. Or as an investment, that may sit vacant. To get the 50 for locals (maybe), unhoused or otherwise in need of affordable shelter (we hope). I never hear any mention of the many longtime residents who have had to leave Santa Monica for good, because of being Ellised out of their rent controlled apartments, or through other effects of gentrification. They are now scattered to the winds, but should have a place in line for these affordable units. Head of the line.

At that rate, even if we built dozens of these, which has been suggested (do the math), say, seven dozen, we would wind up with about 4,200 affordable units – less than half of what CA has ordered SM to build in the next seven years. But then we also would have to deal with almost 47,000 new market rate units. Which could more than double our current population. In seven years. Is that a picture of the Santa Monica you want to live in? But that has been the operating rationale for years in this city, that I have decried, a horrendous, pretty much insane, I would say, "solution" to a real problem – affordability.

I COULD GO ON

But all these are some in my box of biases, coming not out of any inherent prejudice for any particular group or person, but from digging out information for a decade, lots of meetings, lots of talking to people across the spectrum, to come up with my analysis of the reasons behind all that is happening here to so radically change Santa Monica. Biases based on facts and informed speculation.

We all have biases. The trick is to first acknowledge them, then be able to proceed with an open mind, by setting them aside. Put that box under your chair, and sit down for three hours to listen to the "community input" meeting, hosted last week by the development team for this project, as I did.

I COULD BE WRONG

It has happened. (Rarely, of course.) I've never found any shame in being wrong. It's how you learn. I went into that forum eager to learn. Not about any of the details, which have long been settled, but for insight into the thinking of those "on the other side." True believer, or disingenuously pushing an agenda? Both probably, I decided, But it's the former I find interesting, and hard to fathom. Maybe I'm missing something. If they can have the same open mind, we should talk. We should always try to understand where the other viewpoint comes from, no matter how foreign or off putting. But that has become so difficult these days.

MORE THAN 500

People participated in that zoom forum, so clearly, many people have finally noticed the recent flood of development, and are moved to action in a new way. SMDP reporter Clara Harter gave a good reporting of the meeting in Monday's paper.

There were many Ocean Park residents commenting, and only a handful overall were in favor of the project. But they (True Believers or Agenda Pishers?) were enthusiastic. One pressed the team on whether or not they had used every possible square inch of allowed space, and several called for many more of these in Santa Monica – 12, 18, dozens! It is hard for me to see how anyone could not see the obvious terrible effect of doing that to a city of 92,000, 8.4 square miles, boxed in by borders and the sea. But "density!" as a solution to the burdens of overpopulation is a fierce belief system. Maybe I'm missing something.

There is much more to tell, to those who haven't had the time or inclination to follow these developments for years, but are now aghast at what they see coming, and wanting to get informed, and involved. A drive, or walk, or bike ride – be careful! very dangerous on Lincoln – north from Ocean Park Boulevard, up Lincoln ("the Great Wall of Lincoln," especially north of the freeway) to the Vons supermarket (also coming down, for another massive apartment building), would have told you: it's headed south, this overdevelopment beast, and it is still very hungry. Who's next? Hint: look for any parking lot in town, and let your imagination go up five or six stories.

We're fighting a lot of money and political power on this. I think the only way those of us who believe Santa Monica can develop in

SEE CURIOUS CITY PAGE 11



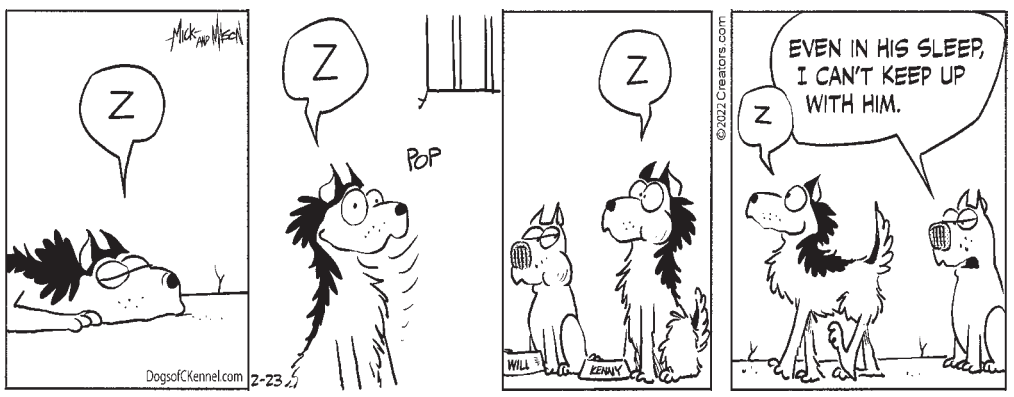
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



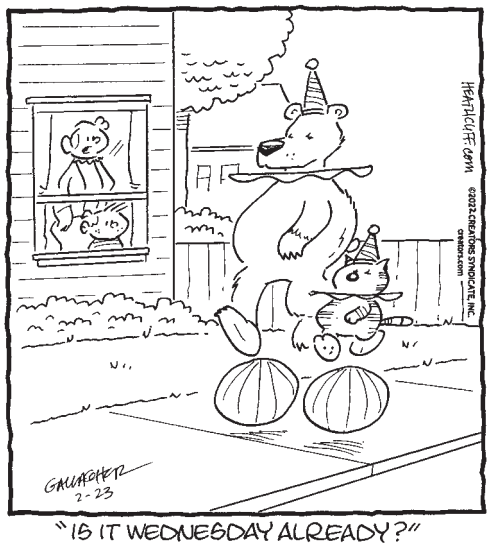
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

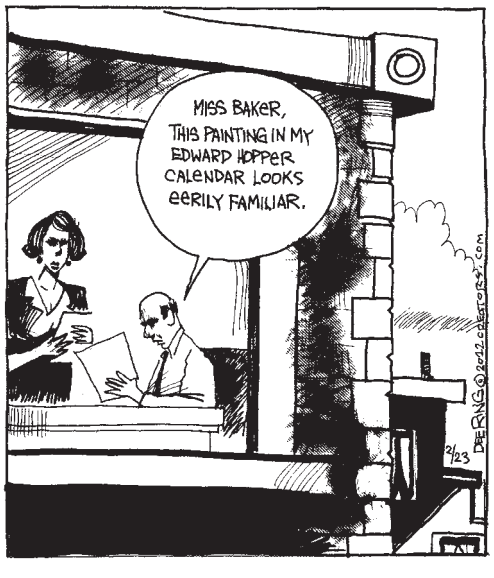
By PETER GALLAGHER



"IS IT WEDNESDAY ALREADY?"

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 59.4°

WEDNESDAY - **POOR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
Shorter-period NW swell eases through the day. Onshore WNW wind looking problematic through the day.

THURSDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft Thigh to waist high
SSW swell helps keep some small surf running as minor NW energy blends in. Wind looks light enough to enjoy the tide drop through the morning on the small wave gear.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Partly sunny, then gradually becoming sunny, with a high near 57.
Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 45. North wind 10 to 15 mph.
Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 60. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2022/02/24	Thu	6:22 PM	2.80	H
2022/02/24	Thu	9:01 PM	2.67	L
2022/02/25	Fri	04:07 AM	5.19	H
2022/02/25	Fri	12:05 PM	-0.53	L
2022/02/25	Fri	7:10 PM	3.24	H
2022/02/25	Fri	10:57 PM	2.60	L
2022/02/26	Sat	05:20 AM	5.56	H
2022/02/26	Sat	12:56 PM	-1.05	L
2022/02/26	Sat	7:41 PM	3.63	H
2022/02/27	Sun	12:09 AM	2.23	L
2022/02/27	Sun	06:21 AM	5.95	H
2022/02/27	Sun	1:38 PM	-1.39	L
2022/02/27	Sun	8:11 PM	3.97	H
2022/02/28	Mon	01:04 AM	1.76	L
2022/02/28	Mon	07:12 AM	6.23	H

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERball
Draw Date: 2/21
2 36 37 45 69
Power#: 3
Jackpot: 45 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/18
6 11 50 63 68
Mega#: 17
Jackpot: 75 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 2/19
3 12 24 30 36
Mega#: 6
Jackpot: 19 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/21
4 9 19 20 22

Daily 3
Draw Date: 2/21
EVENING: 5 8 8
Draw Date: 2/21
MIDDAY: 5 8 2

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 2/21
1st: 09 - Winning Spirit
2nd: 11 - Money Bags
3rd: 02 - Lucky Star
Race Time: 1:48.88

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 23)

The various roles of your life get a brilliant shake-up. A sibling acts as a good friend; children transform into teachers; and your inner critic becomes an insightful coach. You will gain a greater sense of control over your physical energy and achieve a health-related goal. Love will help you discover your potential. Gemini and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 44, 10, 27 and 16.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). A desire for improvement may seem like a rejection of the status quo. With an accepting heart, you will somehow be able to simultaneously love the way things are while also rooting for the change.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Unfinished business has its own beauty. It's still ripe with potential. Don't be too quick to finish things. Let yourself linger in the lively land of limbo.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It is possible that you lack the technical expertise to complete a task. Do not let that stop you. Let your enthusiasm and excitement shine through. There will be somebody to assist you with the logistics.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The saying goes, "It takes money to make money." The money in question doesn't always have to be your own, though. Although you can mitigate the risk, remember that those who pay the most will also gain the most.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're skeptical of what's happening in elite circles. Though you may be invited to join, you'll resist. The outsiders are more attractive to you. Somehow, it's safer outside.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Although you work well with strong-willed individuals, sometimes you need a break from the intensity. Today you'll thrive in easygoing company, or the serenity of solitude.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You know your limits and you also know that certain people will push you past them. It is best to avoid these types today. You're the boss of you. Don't give up the position.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're patient and will wait for your loved ones who move at a different pace. When you're on your own, you can have as much speed and freedom as you want.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The deal goes down; the exchange favors you. You won't immediately feel the force of your good fortune. But the future will reveal the many advantages to your position.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's one puzzle after another today. Whether you're learning new software or locating a left shoe, trial and error will eventually get you to the win.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). What would it take to let go of winning, of being right, of proving a point, and instead focus on understanding and listening? For many it would be too heroic a task. But you're angelic, gracious and egoless, so it's easy, right?

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Being available to the world today will benefit you. Don't let your calls go to voicemail. Personalization will make a difference. Your human touch is appreciated.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

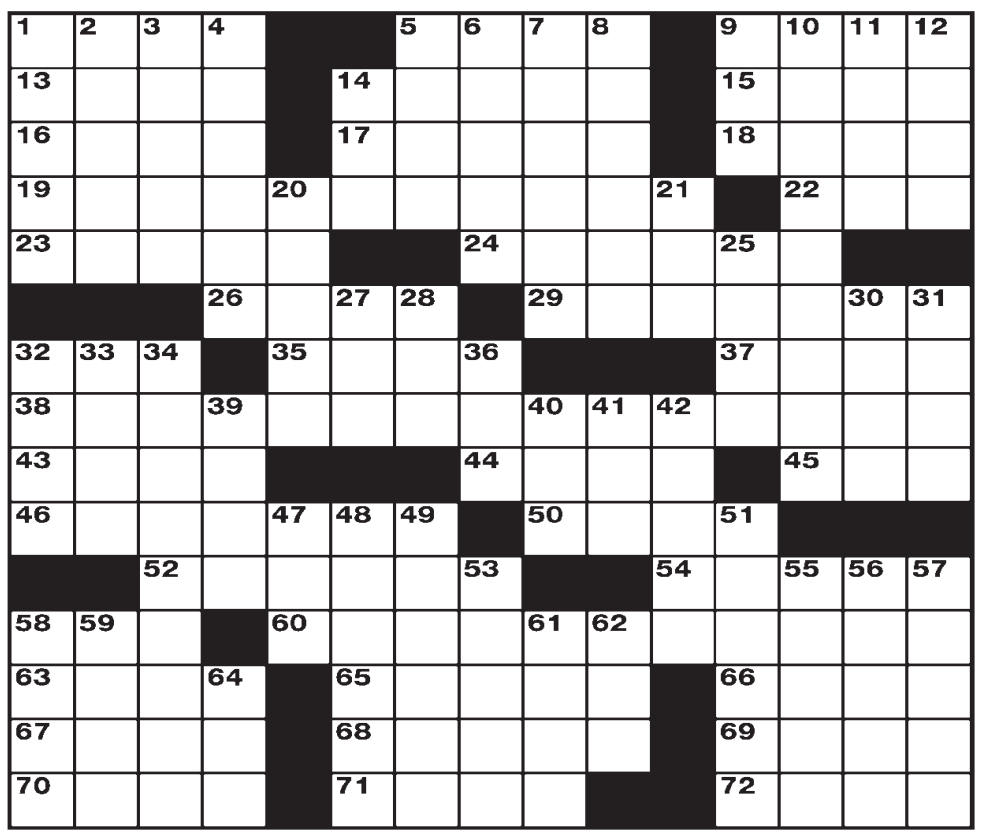
					9	8		
			2			1		7
7	8		1				5	
3						5	6	2
	6			3			9	
2	9	5						1
	7				8		1	3
8		1			6			
		9	3					

Newsday Crossword

SANDPAPER SELECTIONS by Mark McClain
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 *"¿Cómo __ usted?"*
5 Pre-owned
9 State firmly
13 Jelly containers
14 Make amends
15 Cover with concrete
16 Give off, as light
17 Daddies
18 Not guilty, for one
19 Somewhat impolite comedy
22 Slip up
23 Eagle's claw
24 Sorcerer's concoction
26 Verbalizes
29 Bird that crows
32 One __ kind (unique)
35 Be unsuccessful
37 Small part of a film script
38 Investments that mature in two to 10 years
43 S&L cash sources
44 Very worrisome
45 Superlative suffix
46 Game canceled by showers
50 Not at all spicy
52 At an earlier time
54 Removes from office
58 Network with an eye logo
60 Expensive rings, bracelets, etc.
63 Precipitation in pellets
65 Piano technician
66 Beast's hideaway
67 Hand lotion additive
68 Wipe chalk away
69 Rebuke from Caesar
70 Canvas shelter
71 Shoulder muscle, for short
72 Profound

DOWN
1 DVD player button
2 Polynesian nation
3 Courtroom event
4 Houston ballplayers
5 It's east of Nevada
6 Absorb, as gravy
7 Instill with love
8 Spanish explorer Hernando
9 Smartphone download
10 February greeting card
11 Recovered from
12 Dress in
14 Chimp, for instance
20 Chaotic state
21 Brazilian resort, for short
25 Norwegian capital
27 Orange veggie
28 Take a chair
30 Draws to a close
31 Take it easy
32 Poet __ Khayyám
33 Cheese in Greek salads
34 Entrance fee
36 Took charge of
39 "Money __ object"
40 Hoop's outer edge
41 Hi-tech medical scan
42 Underneath
47 Comics cry of distress
48 Joined together
49 Teacher's job security
51 Had a sword fight
53 Of the kidneys
55 List of candidates
56 Overused, as clichés
57 Pancake topping
58 Online discussion
59 Hay bundle
61 Kid around
62 Before, in poetry
64 __ down (disappoint)



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What's Up Westside
out and about in Santa Monica

WEDNESDAY | FEB 23

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

SAMOHI BASKETBALL
Cheer on the Samohi girls basketball team as the Vikings take on the Sage Hill Lightning at home in the CIF Semi-Final game. Tip-off at 7 p.m. at North Gym, Samohi, 601 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica, CA 90405. Tickets are $10 and may be purchased in advance at gofan.co/app/school/CA19033. Mask required.

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.

SATURDAY | FEB 26

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) CONVERSATION, HIGH
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. If live classes become possible, they will take place at the Pico Branch Library, 2100 Pico Blvd. 12 - 3 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.co/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 27

MAIN STREET FARMERS MARKET
2640 Main St.
8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

MONDAY | FEB 28

SPECIAL ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD MEETING
Visit https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Architectural-Review-Board/ for more information. 7 p.m.

SANTA MONICA AIRPORT COMMISSION MEETING
Visit https://www.smgov.net/Departments/Airport/Airport_Commission/Airport_Commission.aspx for more information. 6 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 16 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

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South Australia

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

Alberton
Auburn
Avon
Bays
Boats
Bute
Canyons
Carpa
Ceduna
City
Cleve
Coast
Cycad
Echunga
Fishing
Flora
Goolwa
Gorge
Green
Hart
Hove
Islands
Jetty
Kadina
Keith
Kimba
Laura
Lobster
Long
Mild
Molluscs
Murray Bridge
Nadda
Olary
Pyap
Port Augusta
Quorn
Rare
Rocks
Skye
Surf
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Trip
Walks
Wide

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Cool rainforest walks

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STATE OF THE CITY

FROM PAGE 1

continue to underperform in comparison to the levels attained before the pandemic," White said. "This has a very real impact on how we deliver services."

White ran through a laundry list of local issues including homelessness and unlicensed Pier vendors.

The City Manager acknowledged some service disruptions, including lack of support staff for outdoor events, reduced field maintenance and graffiti removal, and slower plan check and permitting processes. Later in his remarks, White also took the opportunity to praise his staff of nearly 1,900 employees.

"Despite all this, in addition to all of the challenges that they have experienced over the past couple of years, it is obvious and impressive to me that your public employees remain focused, steadfast and are committed to providing tremendous service to the community," White said.

White also addressed the "painful restructuring" of City Hall due to pandemic-era budget cuts that resulted in a wave of layoffs in 2020.

"My goal is to support our workforce to meet Council's expectation to provide the highest level of service to our community, yet restoring services back to the levels that meet our community's expectations will take time," White said. "The public sector is facing many of the same challenges as most business sectors: We are grappling with staffing shortages and service disruptions due to COVID. We are struggling to fill vacancies which is exacerbated by the City's high cost of living."

Nowhere has staff turnover been more visible than in the top ranks of City Hall, beginning with White but also including Assistant City Manager Susan Cline, Public Works Director Rick Valte, Police Chief Ramon Batista and Fire Chief Danny Alvarez. The City Attorney's position remains vacant, and recent rumors state the City Clerk's seat may also soon be open.

"Now, we look forward to bringing services back and advancing new ideas to meet the needs of the community," White said. "This will be hard work. The city services will recover more slowly than the economy, requiring us to prioritize our resources, make trade-offs and work in new and innovative ways."

Later, White repeated that he felt the city was moving in the right direction.

"Over the past several months of being in this community, it's become abundantly clear that we are transitioning into a phase of stability, recovery and restoration," White said.

The State of the City address can be viewed on the City of Santa Monica's YouTube channel at youtube.com/user/Citytv16santamonica.

emily@smdp.com

GOLF

FROM PAGE 2

Billy Horschel, and they will join the board next year to serve three-year terms.

"I feel like these are important times on the tour and I care a lot about the direction of the tour," Malnati said. "We're making decisions that are affecting the direction of the PGA Tour for decades. I want to have a seat in that room. I was thrilled that enough of my peers wanted me to be there, as well."

OLYMPICS AT RIVIERA

Riviera was the choice for golf in the Olympics. The first step was making sure the Olympics wanted golf.

The International Olympic Committee announced ahead of the Beijing Games that golf will be part of the 2028 program. Among the guests at the Genesis Invitational was Antony Scanlon, executive director of the International Golf Federation.

The next question for 2028 is whether Riviera will host two tournaments in one year.

LA's PGA Tour event was held at Valencia in 1998 when Riviera had the U.S. Senior Open. The Los Angeles Open went to Rancho Park in 1983 as Riviera prepared for the PGA Championship. But the PGA Tour and a major were held the same year at Riviera in 1948 (U.S. Open) and 1995 (PGA Championship).

The bigger question is whether golf can expand its format to include a mixed-team event. The IOC did not want any changes for Paris in 2024. Los Angeles would be the next chance.

DIVOTS

Already in the World Golf Hall of Fame, Juli Inkster picked up another big honor when she was chosen to receive the Bob Jones Award, the highest honor from the USGA recognizing character, respect and sportsmanship. ... David Feherty will host the induction ceremony at the World Golf Hall of Fame the week of The Players Championship. The inductees are Tiger Woods, Susie Maxwell Berning, Tim Finchem and the late Marion Hollins. ... Stu Francis finishes his third and final year as president of the USGA. Fred Perpall was confirmed as president-elect at the annual meeting, meaning next year he will be the first Black president of the USGA since it was founded in 1894.

STAT OF THE WEEK

Jon Rahm had a 73 in the second round at Riviera, ending his streak of 34 consecutive rounds at par or better on the PGA Tour dating to his 71 in the first round at the British Open. During his streak, he had three rounds over par in Spain on the European Tour.

FINAL WORD

"I can't wait two or three years. I got to do it fairly soon." — Bernhard Langer, 64, on trying to break Hale Irwin's record of 45 wins on the PGA Tour Champions. He won the Chubb Classic for his 43rd title.

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

CURIOUS CITY

FROM PAGE 7

a far less destructive way, is for a whole lot of us, starting with the 500, to begin talking, reasonably, respectfully, even lovingly, with our neighbors, our brothers and sisters on this beautiful blue planet. Change minds, one at a time.

Charles Andrews has lived in Santa Monica for 36 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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Wealth and Success
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Obituaries
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Help Wanted

Technical Product Manager, CRM Technology sought by Snap Inc. in Santa Monica, CA (Hybrid work permitted - maywork remotely when not reporting into Snap Santa Monica, CA office.) Drive dsgn and delivery of projects and featuresleveraging Force.com and rel. framewrks. M.S. or for. eq. + 4 yrs exp. OR B.S. or for. eq. + 6 yrs exp. req. Resumes:apply2snap@snap.com. Ref. Job Code #TPM-0222-MK. EOE.

Help Wanted

Product Manager (4) sought by Snap Inc. in Santa Monica, CA (Hybrid work permitted - may work remotely when notreporting into Snap Santa Monica, CA office.) Lead product dvlmpt for Snap's Lens Core product. Bach's or for. eq. + 4 yrsexp req. Resumes: apply2snap@snap.com. Ref. Job Code #PM4-0222-ML. EOE.

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