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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press
THURSDAY
03.12.20
Volume 19 Issue 103

Coronavirus death
Los Angeles County had its first fatality.
Page 3

Driving with drugs
Two suspects were arrested for drug charges after a vehicle stop.
Page 7

Santa Monica Daily Press
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Businesses and events adapting to virus scare

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The rapid spread of Coronavirus is forcing businesses to adapt to an increasingly worried customer base and local organizers are scrambling to decide which, if any, events to open to the public.

With infections and deaths increasingly globally, some large events are already canceled (including the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Chicago) and local businesses are working to stay open while more and more people choose to stay home.

Caffe Luxxe has expanded their sick leave policy to encourage anyone feeling unwell to stay home without risk of losing income.

"To ensure that no one ever needs to risk coming to work sick, Caffe Luxxe has put a pause on our standard sick leave policy, which allots a set number of paid sick days per year; now, any sick days taken during this time will not count toward our employees' annual allocation," said the company in an email. "Anyone who needs to stay home from illness will get paid for that time off, no questions asked, until further notice. We sincerely hope that our other friends in the coffee business will follow suit with their employees, so that no individual ever feels forced to compromise the health of themselves and others for fear of

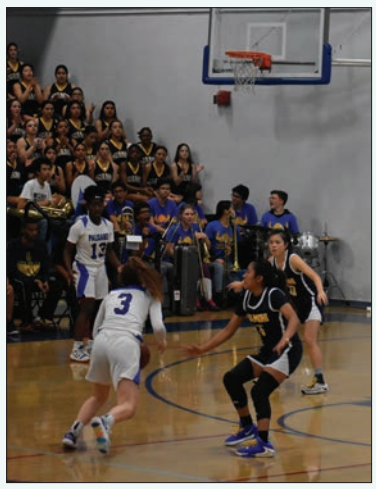
SEE **VIRUS** PAGE 11

Samohi basketball secures runner-up status in regional championships











Brennon Dixson

LAST GAME: The Vikings strong basketball season came to an end this week with a loss to Palisades Charter.

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica High School's state championship run is over after Tuesday night's loss to Palisades Charter High School, but coaches, parents and players said there is plenty to be proud of this season despite falling a game short of the team's first-ever state finals appearance.

The Vikings jumped out to an early lead in this week's contest but eventually fell to the Dolphins on the road 51-36. However, the score hardly tells the complete story.

GAME RECAP

The line stretched out the door well after 5 p.m. Tuesday as fans rooting for both sides packed into

SEE **BASKETBALL** PAGE 7

City settles with Uller victims

MADELEINE PAUKER
SMDP Staff Writer

The city of Santa Monica will pay out $42.6 million to 24 individuals who sued the city for failing to protect them from child sexual abuse at the hands of a former city employee and volunteer.

City Attorney Lane Dilg said Tuesday the city has settled claims filed by 23 victims of Eric Uller, who sexually abused boys between 1987 and 1999 while volunteering with the Santa Monica Police Activities League, and a claim filed by a woman who was abused by another PAL volunteer, Fernando Ortega.

Uller was arrested on five counts of child sex abuse and took his own life the day he was scheduled to appear in court. Uller was an employee in the city's Information Technology Department at the time of his arrest.

Dilg said the payouts will be distributed as part of a $38 million settlement involving 19 individuals and separate settlements to an additional five individuals totaling $4.6 million. The $38 million will be allocated amongst the 19 individuals by a retired Superior Court judge.

"By resolving these claims and lawsuits swiftly, the city aims to avoid the risk and expense of litigation, thereby directing funds to survivors rather than to legal expenses," Dilg said. "The city also hopes to afford our current and former community members the privacy and respect that they deserve, rather than engaging in painful and protracted

SEE **ULLER** PAGE 11

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SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District invites sealed bids for:

BID#20.12 District-wide Solid/Organic Waste and Recycling Services

Bids shall be delivered to the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, Purchasing Department, 1651 16th Street, Santa Monica, California, 90404, not later than 2:00 p.m. on **March 23, 2020,** to be publicly opened and read aloud. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids. **MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK**: Friday, March 13, 2020. Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained by emailing purchasing@smmusd.org.



What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, March 12

Santa Monica Rent Control Regular Board Meeting
The Rent Control Board meets to conduct business associated with the Rent Control Charter Amendment and Regulations. Note: Feb, March and April meetings will be in East Wing of Civic Auditorium. 7 p.m.

Wonder Women: Science Edition
Hands-on science inspired by great women scientists. Ages 6-11. Main Library, 3:45 - 4:30 p.m.

L.E.A.R.N.: Learn, Excel, Achieve and Read Now
One-on-one access to volunteers available to help students with homework assignments and reading comprehension. Bilingual volunteers available. Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 - 6 p.m. Pico Branch Library

English as a Second Language (ESL) Class, Multi Level HIGH
Santa Monica Public Library hosts an ongoing series of English as a Second Language (ESL) classes taught by Adult Education Center instructors. Classes are free and students must be 18 years or older to attend. Community parents and SMMUSD parents have priority enrollment. Learn more about California adult education at caladulted.org. Enrollment is through the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Adult Education Center, located at 2510 Lincoln Blvd., Room 203, Santa Monica, CA, 90405. Contact Olga Saucedo at (310) 664-6222, ext.76203 or osaucedo@smmusd.org to enroll. Main Library, 11:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Friday, March 13

Music and Movement at the Library
A musical story time that will have toddlers singing and dancing along as they learn important early literacy concepts. Fairview Branch Library, 3:30 - 3:50 p.m.

LA Law Library QuickLook Legal Research Class & Office Hours
LA Law Library legal research specialists teach free, monthly 45-minute overviews of legal information search tools and techniques as part of their regular "office hours" visits. After the class, an LA Law Library legal research specialist will be available in Study Room 7, from 2:30 to 5 p.m., to assist in finding information and resources on any legal topic. LA Law Library provides access to legal resources and assistance with legal research. LA Law Library does not provide legal advice. For legal advice, you should consult an attorney.

March 2020 Class Topic: Finding Legal Forms
If you need to prepare a legal document, starting from an appropriate form or template can save a lot of time and hassle. This class will cover form resources available in and out of LA Law Library – from the Library's practice guides and form books to the many online sources, both in the Library and available elsewhere. Class covers: Finding forms on court and agency websites, accessing California Judicial Council court forms, finding form books in the Library, locating form books in Library databases and accessing the Library's pleading paper templates. Main Library, 1:30 - 2:15 p.m.

Yoga
All levels. Drop in for $15/class or purchase a pre-paid membership through Guest Services. Parking included. Room subject to change, check-in with Guest Services before each class. Annenberg Community Beach House, 9 - 10 a.m.

Saturday, March 14

Author Talk: Brad Schreiber presents Music Is Power
Brad Schreiber discusses his new book, Music is Power: Popular Songs, Social Justice, and the Will to Change. Music Is Power tells fascinating stories about the origins and the impact of dozens of world-changing songs, while revealing political context and the personal challenges of legendary artists from Bob Dylan to Bob Marley. A book sale and signing follows. Fairview Branch Library, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Bike-Pedestrian Safety Enforcement

The Santa Monica Police Department will be conducting Bike and Pedestrian Safety Enforcement Operations with focused enforcement efforts on primary collision factors involving motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.

The Police Department periodically identifies locations where bike and pedestrian collisions are prevalent, along with the violations that led to those collisions. In an effort to lower deaths and injuries, officers will be on duty patrolling areas where bike and pedestrian traffic collisions occur.

FIELD ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS ARE SCHEDULED FOR:

-Friday March 13, from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.
-Monday March 16, from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.
-Friday March 20, from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.
-Monday March 23, from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.
-Friday March 27, from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.
-Monday March 30, from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Officers will be on the lookout for violations by drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians that can potentially lead to life altering injuries. Special enforcement efforts will be directed towards drivers speeding, making illegal turns, failing to stop for signs and signals, failing to yield to pedestrians in cross walks and similar dangerous violations. Additionally, enforcement will occur for observed violations when pedestrians cross the street illegally or fail to yield to drivers who have the right of way. Bicyclists will be issued citations when they fail to follow similar traffic laws that also apply to motorists.

Bicyclists are encouraged to always wear a helmet; those under 18 years of age must wear helmets by law. Pedestrians should cross the street only in marked crosswalks or at corners.

Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

SUBMITTED BY LIEUTENANT ROB BLICHARSKI

Countywide

Los Angeles County Announces First Death Related to 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) has confirmed the first death from 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). The individual (a non-resident visiting friends) was an older adult who traveled extensively over the past month, including a long layover in South Korea. Public Health is also reporting six additional positive cases, one of which we presume is our second case of community transmission.

Information about additional cases:

Three people are household contacts of a previously confirmed case of a County resident.

One person was an international traveler to France returned home ill.

One person traveled to a religious conference in another state was a close contact of a person at the conference who had tested positive.

One person with no known travel or close contact exposure.

The total number of cases in Los Angeles County is 27. These cases include three cases already reported by our partners in the city of Long Beach, which has an independent city health department. Pasadena has no reported cases at this time. These agencies will always be first to report their own positive cases, which Public Health will add to our total.

"Public Health extends our deepest condolences to the patient's loved ones in the wake of this tragedy," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Los Angeles County Public Health Director. "We strongly recommend that all Los Angeles County residents, workers, students, and visitors take the necessary precautions to protect themselves against novel coronavirus. Public Health will continue working with local, state, federal, and community partners in order to prevent future cases and to educate those in Los Angeles County about how to avoid contracting COVID-19."

SUBMITTED BY COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PUBLIC HEALTH

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA

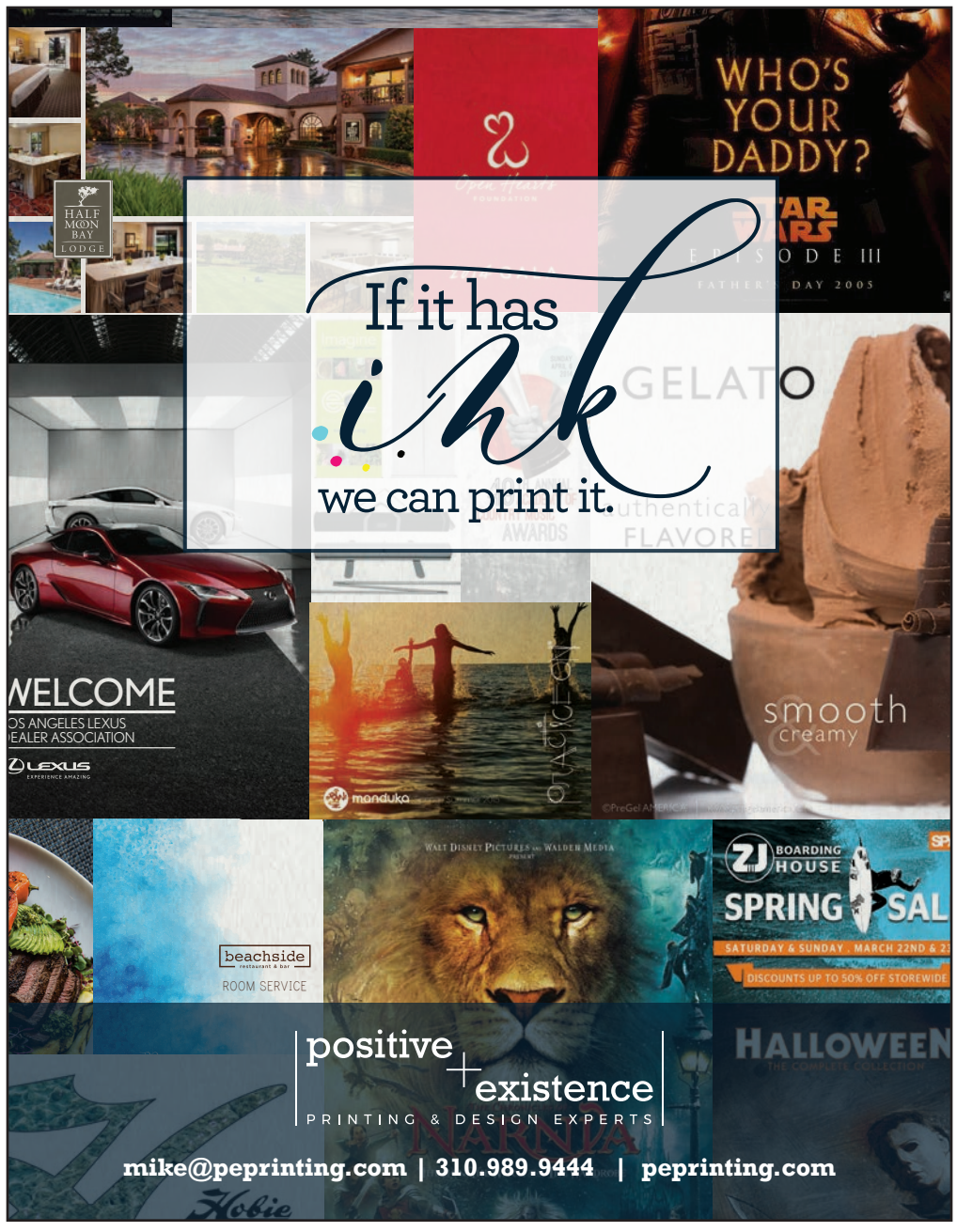
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

RFP: # 261 RECYCLABLE MATERIALS PROCESSING AND MARKETING SERVICES

- **Submission Deadline is April 23, 2020 at 10:00 AM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **City's Online Vendor Portal.** The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm. There is no charge for the RFP package.



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Had enough? Californians turn down higher taxes, debt

MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press

Everyone knows that living in California comes with a price: Its residents pay some of the nation's highest taxes on the money they earn, the gas they pump and the clothes they wear. But for the moment, at least, it appears voters have had enough.

The defeat Tuesday of the largest borrowing proposal in the history of California schools — $15 billion for repairs — has opened the question of whether voters put a temporary halt to the growth of government debt because of the unsettled political scene, or because they are on the cusp of a tax revolt akin to one in the 1970s that brought landmark changes to property taxes.

By itself, the crash of the question on the March 3 primary ballot was striking — it's been a generation since a state school bond failed and there was no telling moment prior to the election indicating voters had soured on it.

But it didn't stop there. Voters rejected more than half of the 237 local tax and bond measures on that ballot, with several dozen contests still undecided as California authorities wade through hundreds of thousands of uncounted ballots, according to a tally by the California Taxpayers Association.

A final tally of votes remains incomplete, but there is agreement on both sides that no single reason explains the downfall of the big bond. It looks like a mix of factors, not the least of which was jitters over the staggering stock market, the presidential race and the coronavirus outbreak sweeping the globe.

There also was confusion over precisely what the proposal would do and uncertain voters tend to vote no. Polling also shows voters believe taxes are too high.

Additionally, there is widespread anger over soaring housing costs, a troubled and vastly over-budget high-speed rail project and a homelessness crisis in the state's major cities.

"There is a sense that California isn't working," Claremont McKenna College political scientist Jack Pitney said. When a fresh request came from Sacramento for billions in new debt, voters said: "We've been taxed enough."

Supporters had promoted the plan as a desperately needed repair job for crumbling schools, some more than a half-century old. Roughly $9 billion from so-called Proposition 13 would go to K-12 schools, with the rest for higher education.

Dan Newman, a spokesman for the campaign behind the school construction plan, disputed that the election was evidence of deep rupture in California's political landscape.

For voters, he said, it's about priorities. He said some voters might have asked why the state needed a record-sized round of borrowing at a time when the economy has been strong and the state is rolling up multibillion-dollar budget surpluses.

The number of losses for tax and bond measures across the state points to "grumpiness toward taxes statewide," he said. And while voter perceptions ebb and flow, "people seem less inclined right now to think spending money fixes big problems."

With the coronavirus, the presidential election and the tumult on Wall Street in the headlines daily, "it all tends to make people a little more anxious about the future, and having to hang on to what they have," he added.

Longtime low-tax crusader Jon Coupal sees it differently. It's tax fatigue at work, he says, the sense that voters have grown cynical after repeatedly authorizing more money and debt for government with scant evidence that services or classrooms are improving.

And while the state proposal didn't directly raise taxes, it had a fine-print provision that would have nearly doubled the limit on what a local school district could borrow — debt that could passed on to local taxpayers.

With high tax rates already cutting into household budgets, voters asked, "What we are getting?" said Coupal, who heads the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association named after the man who led the property tax revolt. Their answer? It wasn't worth the investment.

There is anecdotal evidence at least part of the defeat stemmed from confusion over the number — 13 — assigned to the question on the ballot.

In a fateful twist, the school proposal carried a name that is both famous and infamous in California politics, Proposition 13. That's the same title as a 1978 law approved by voters that capped annual increases in property taxes until a property changes ownership. It was a blessing for homeowners but meant billions less for California schools.

Landing the controversial number was bad luck. Ballot propositions are numbered under state law in a continuous, numerical sequence, starting with the number 1. Every 10 years, the count is reset. In this case, the new round of numbers kicked off in 2018.

That might not happen again. Democratic Assemblyman Patrick O'Donnell of Long Beach, who co-authored the bill that put the bond on the ballot, has introduced a bill to halt the use of the name in the future after his office received calls from voters confusing the 1978 law and the school bond on the ballot.

"I can't tell you how many times that I witnessed voter confusion ... in the months leading up to the election," the bill's cosponsor, Republican Assemblyman Jay Obernolte of Hesperia, said in a statement.

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Coronavirus could take big bite out of California budget

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

From cruise ships to quarantines to school closures, California leaders have had plenty to worry about with the rapid spread of the coronavirus.

Add one more thing to the list: The state's $222 billion annual budget.

California is home to some of the largest and most successful companies in the world and the executives who run them. That makes the state particularly vulnerable to short-term swings in the stock market, which is why state officials watched with concern Monday as U.S. stock indexes had their worst day since the start of the Great Recession in 2008.

"We've been waiting for a recession. This may be what triggers it," said Assemblyman Phil Ting, chairman of the Assembly Budget Committee.

Nearly half of California's personal income tax collections come from the top 1% of earners whose income mostly stems from capital gains, which in California are taxed the same as income.

Having revenues so closely tied to the stock market isn't always a bad thing. As the Dow Jones Industrial Average broke records over the past two years, it has meant record surpluses for California, including an eye-popping $21 billion surplus in the current budget year. The extra money helped the state to expand its Medicaid program to cover adults living in the country illegally and offer first-in-the-nation subsidies to help middle-income families pay their monthly health insurance premiums.

But the market's 20 percent dive from recent highs could mean trouble for California — the world's fifth largest economy — if the losses persist.

Ting said Monday the state is already starting to miss its revenue projections. The last publicly available numbers show California beat its personal income tax collection estimate in January by more than $1 billion, giving the state a cushion.

Another projection is set for April, when a significant amount of taxes are paid as part of income tax filings. Gov. Gavin Newsom is then expected to issue his updated state budget plan in May based on those numbers. However, the April projection could be pushed back if the Trump administration delays the traditional income tax filing date of April 15 due to the coronavirus outbreak.

That would make it difficult for California to accurately estimate its revenues in time for lawmakers to vote on a spending plan in June, as required by law. Department of Finance spokesman H.D. Palmer said the state could still estimate revenues without that information.

California ties its revenue estimates, in part, to the S&P 500, a grouping of the top 500 companies in leading U.S. industries that professional investors use as a thermometer of how stocks are performing. California predicted the S&P 500 index would average 3,120 for the second quarter of 2020. The index was at just below 2,739 on Wednesday.

"We don't live and die by the S&P, but we are impacted by the S&P, perhaps more than many other states," Newsom said. "We're watching this closely."

Daniel Morgan, senior portfolio manager for the investment firm Synovus Trust, said it is likely the market will be in flux for the next several months. Aside from spooking investors, coronavirus has caused other issues that are more deeply rooted in the global economy, including disrupting supply chains for tech companies.

"It has legs where it can keep coming back," Morgan said.

Ting and others note the state is better prepared this time around to weather a potential economic downturn. The state was caught flat-footed in 2008 and had to cut state spending by 20%.

Since then, voters have approved a new law that makes the state save money. Whenever the state has a bonanza of capital gains revenue, it has to automatically set some of it aside into a "rainy day fund" that lawmakers cannot touch it unless the governor declares a "budget emergency."

California is projected to have $18 billion in the fund for the next budget year that begins July 1.

"I am not concerned at this point," said Democratic state Sen. Holly Mitchell, chairwoman of the state Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee. "I'm proud to say that the state of California is prepared better than we have been, ever."

California's total reserves, when factoring in various other accounts, approach $21 billion. Palmer called that "an insurance policy against a potential downturn."

"Does that mean zero cuts? No," Palmer said. "But it means we are in a far better position to manage a downturn"than we have been in recent memory."

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Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Angela Davis, Kinky, Snoop, Pussy Riot

NICOLE RECOMMENDS:

ELVIS CRESPO — (Billboard-charting, Grammy and Latin Grammy Award-winning New York-born Puerto Rico-raised singing sensation Crespo became a household name in the mid-'90s with his hit "Suavemente," and he hasn't stopped since. Playing with a full band, blending merengue, salsa, bachata, vallenato and Latin dance, you can bet this is going to be a wildly energetic show that gets you out of your seat and moving to some sweet ritmos picante.) — Fri 9 p.m., Mayan Theater, DTLA, $38.

RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! — POWER TO THE PEOPLE! - LA PHIL presents TERENCE BLANCHARD "Songversation" — (the USA Fellow, five-time Grammy-winning trumpeter/composer has been an artistic force making powerful musical statements about American tragedies past and present, here discusses his legendary career and nearly three decades-long collaboration with director Spike Lee) — Thurs 7 p.m., California African American Museum, Exposition Park LA, free.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE! - The Movie Music of Spike Lee and TERENCE BLANCHARD (the renowned trumpeter-bandleader's lush scores have augmented the political heart and humanitarian spirit of Lee's movies, now the music comes to life at the hands of Blanchard's E-Collective and guest vocalists including Ben Harper, Anthony Hamilton, Valerie June, with specially curated images of the films projected throughout the performance, this sounds like a rare, terrific multimedia experience) — Sat 8 p.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, DTLA, $52-$97.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE! - CECILE MCLORIN SALVANT (Salvant is truly a jazz phenom vocalist apparently unwilling to rest on her considerable talents and reputation, now offering probably her most ambitious project yet, combining jazz and bluegrass in a poignant fairytale "Ogresse," a wicked work about a human-eating monster who lives in the woods, a clear departure from her lauded interpretations of standards, this program has real implications for life in America in the 21st century, told from the distinct perspective of a young black woman, a revelatory and too-timely masterwork) — Sun 7:30 p.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, DTLA, $60-$127.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE! - DR. ANGELA DAVIS — (lordy, a name from my college days of social upheaval, Davis was an outspoken advocate of an American society equal for all and now half a century later we have people calling such a notion espoused by presidential candidates radical and unacceptable, not so fast, it will be most interesting to hear her cultural perspective on the role art has played in social justice movements and its potential to effect change today, from the unique life path she has travelled) — Wed 8 p.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, DTLA, $10.

KINKY FRIEDMAN, Phil Cody — (the



Courtesy photo

SHOW: Kinky Friedman at McCabe's.

Kinkster is back! the self-described Texas Jewboy is always a welcome sight but maybe even a more welcome sound this time around because he will likely play from his newest album that leads off with a different, unexpected take on "Mandela's Blues," then into title cut "Resurrection," the video single a touching tale of the singer's down and out friends, with Willie chiming in, am I reading too much in but the vid ends at 4:08 and then we see a photo of the two caballeros, then an ending clip of a mule neighing and horses running through until it takes it to exactly... 4:20, was that your idea, Willie?) — Fri 8 p.m., McCabe's, SM, $35.

PUSSY RIOT — (I saw PR some months ago at the Broad and hadn't done my homework to know that I would not be seeing the brave quartet of Putin-defying rock and roll dissident Russian women, two of whom wound up in Siberian prison camps after a societal-shifting "trial," and was wondering how I felt about the whole show being just leader Nadezhda Tolokonnikova, but Pussy Riot was always a collective with a shifting lineup and if this performance is again just Tolokonnikova, you will marvel that her dazzling, provocative multimedia stage show meets all expectations) — Fri 8 p.m., 1720, DTLA, $28.

BURGERAMA 5 — (Burger Records' annual blowout, 30 bands! — got to be somebody there you'll fall in love with, headlining the Mummies, Flaming Groovies, Hollywood Stars, the Cosmonauts, and Apache's last show ever! ...they say) — Sat 12N-12M, Echo/Echoplex, $25-$35.

JACARANDA - AGONY & ECSTASY — (Ravel and Messiaen, and contemporaries Andres and our own Billy Childs, Jacaranda promises a wild ride, a "dangerous journey" from just now back to 1908, with pianists Steven Vanhauwaert and Mark Robson) — Sat 8 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, SM, $20-$45

SNOOP DOGG, Travis Barker — (@The FanDuel WFBBC After Party, I'm not going to pretend I know or, let's be honest, care,

SEE NOTEWORTHY PAGE 11



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WHO declares virus crisis a pandemic, U.S. stocks plunge

JAMEY KEATEN, MARIA CHENG AND JOHN LEICESTER
Associated Press

The World Health Organization declared Wednesday that the global coronavirus crisis is now a pandemic as U.S. stocks plunged into bear market territory and several American cities joined European counterparts in banning large gatherings.

By reversing course and using the charged word "pandemic" that it had previously shied away from, the U.N. health agency sought to shock lethargic countries into pulling out all the stops.

"We have called every day for countries to take urgent and aggressive action. We have rung the alarm bell loud and clear," said Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the WHO chief.

"All countries can still change the course of this pandemic. If countries detect, test, treat, isolate, trace and mobilize their people in the response," he said. "We are deeply concerned by the alarming levels of spread and severity and by the alarming levels of inaction."

In Italy, soccer club Juventus said defender Daniele Rugani tested positive and in the U.S., the battle to contain the epidemic prompted the NCAA to announce its championship basketball tournament would be played later this month without fans. Several other U.S. college and professional sports events have been either canceled or ordered played in empty venues.

Iran and Italy are the new front lines of the fight against the virus that started in China, the WHO said.

"They're suffering but I guarantee you other countries will be in that situation soon," said Dr. Mike Ryan, the WHO's emergencies chief.

For the global economy, virus repercussions were profound Wednesday, with increasing concerns of wealth- and job-wrecking recessions. U.S. stocks wiped out more than all the gains from a huge rally a day earlier as Wall Street continued to reel.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped 1,464 points, bringing it 20% below its record set last month and putting it in what Wall Street calls a "bear market." The broader S&P 500, which professional investors care more about, is just 1 percentage point away from falling into bear territory and bringing to an end one of the greatest runs in Wall Street's history.

Wall Street's plunge followed a steep decline by markets across Asia, and was spurred in part by concerns over whether any economic response from the Trump administration will be effective — when and if they see one.

WHO officials said they thought long and hard about labeling the crisis a pandemic — meaning a new virus causing sustained outbreaks in multiple regions of the world.

The risk of employing the term, Ryan said, is "if people use it as an excuse to give up."

But the benefit is "potentially of galvanizing the world to fight."

Underscoring the mounting challenge: The case count outside China has multiplied 13-fold over the last two weeks to over 118,000, with the disease now responsible for 4,291 deaths, WHO said.

With officials saying that Europe has become the new epicenter, Italy's cases soared again, to 12,462 infections and 827 deaths — numbers second only to China.

"If you want to be blunt, Europe is the new China," said Robert Redfield, the head of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In response to the mounting crisis, Italy announced that all shops and businesses except pharmacies and grocery stores would be closed nationwide beginning Thursday and designated billions in financial relief to cushion economic shocks from the virus, its latest efforts to adjust to the fast-evolving crisis that silenced the usually bustling heart of the Catholic faith, St. Peter's Square.

In Iran, by far the hardest-hit country in the Middle East, the senior vice president and two other Cabinet ministers were reported to have been diagnosed with COVID-19, the illness caused by the virus. Iran reported another jump in deaths, by 62 to 354 — behind only China and Italy.

Italian Premier Giuseppe Conte said it was necessary to "go another step" in toughening the already unprecedented travel and social restrictions that took effect Tuesday by shuttering pubs, restaurants, hair salons, cafeterias and other businesses that can't operate with a meter (yard) of space between workers and customers.

"In this moment, all the world is looking at us for the number of infections, but also ... see great resistance," Conte said on Facebook Live.

These measures are on top of travel and social restrictions that imposed an eerie hush on cities and towns across the country.

Still, the effectiveness of travel restrictions and quarantines will likely drop substantially as COVID-19 spreads globally, making it impossible for countries to keep the virus out. Health officials will also need to be more flexible in their coordinated response efforts, as the epicenters are likely to shift quickly and dramatically — as demonstrated by the recent eruptions in Iran and Italy.

Earlier, Conte emphasized fighting the outbreak must not come at the expense of civil liberties, suggesting that Italy is unlikely to adopt the draconian quarantine measures that helped China push down new infections from thousands per day to a trickle and allowed its manufacturers to restart production lines.

China's new worry is that the coronavirus could re-enter from abroad. Beijing's city government announced that all overseas visitors will be quarantined for 14 days. Of 24 new cases reported Wednesday, five arrived from Italy and one from the United States. China has had over 81,000 virus infections and over 3,000 deaths.

For most, the coronavirus causes only mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough. But for a few, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illnesses, including pneumonia. More than 121,000 people have been infected worldwide and over 4,300 have died.

But most people recover. People with mild illness recover in about two weeks, while

SEE **PANDEMIC** PAGE 10

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 FEBRUARY 26, AT APPROXIMATELY 1:15 P.M.

Officers conducted a traffic stop on a black Honda Civic in the 1700 block of Main Street. Officers noticed several vehicle code violation associated with the vehicle and the driver. Upon contacting the driver, officers observed narcotics paraphernalia in place sight. Officers continued to investigate and found that the driver, Damien Alvarado, was not in possession of any form of identification. Officers also learned that the passenger in the vehicle, Katrina Baken, was aware of the narcotics paraphernalia inside the vehicle.

Alvarado provided the officers with consent to search the vehicle, which officers located additional narcotics paraphernalia, latex gloves, and property belonging to several other people that are unknown to the occupants. Additionally, Officers located two false $100 bills and stolen mail.

While officers were placing Baken under arrest, they learned she was in possession of methamphetamine.

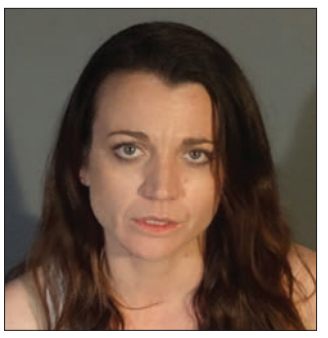
Damian Alvarado, 28, from Lompoc was arrested for identity theft, driving without a license and possession of narcotics paraphernalia.

Katrina Baken, 34, from Lompoc, was arrested for identity theft and possession of narcotics.



File photo

DAMIEN ALVARADO



File photo

KATRINA BAKEN

BASKETBALL

FROM PAGE 1

Pali High's gym to get a glimpse of the action.

Heading into the game with five playoff wins and a total of 15 consecutive victories since December, Samohi's girls basketball team was confident it had what was needed to make Saturday's state championship in Sacramento; But so was Palisades High.

The Dolphins scored the first basket of the game before Samohi and its star seniors spun, drove and charged their way to an 8-4 lead with less than 2 minutes left in the opening quarter. Undeterred, Palisades launched a 3-pointer, which brought the game to 8-7. Seconds later, a forced turnover prompted another 3 that gave the Dolphins a 10-8 lead with a mere two seconds remaining in the first.

Both stands rocked as the second began, especially when referees called a technical foul on a fall and entanglement that included Moawad and a few Dolphins.

A free throw by Palisades' Sammie Arnold put the dolphins up 12-8 shortly before another score extended the lead to four points early in the second. Samohi would cut the lead to two points a few minutes later but another Arnold basket extended Pali's lead to five. Both teams would continue to go back-and-forth throughout the quarter.

With less than two minutes in the half, a floater by the left-handed Karen Garcia put Samohi down four. An ensuing Dolphins' turnover gave Santa Monica an opportunity to make it a one basket game prior to the close of the half, but a missed layup kept the score steady at 22-18.

A quick bucket by Palisades out the gate followed by a 3-pointer shortly after put the score at 27-18, where it would remain until a reverse layup gave the Dolphins their first double-digit lead of the game. Samohi would inch back with free throws and a driving layup by Iternite Reed with a little over a minute left in the third quarter.

With seconds left, Reed confidently sank a 3-pointer to close the quarter and make it a 4-point game (31-27) heading into the final 8 minutes of the game.

Chants of "Let's Go Samo!" "Let's go Pali!" competed while players on the floor began the fourth quarter of play.

With 6:25 left in the game, Reed sank two free throws to make the score 33-29. But back-to-back layups and a 3-pointer that resulted from a Samohi turnover put Palisades up 11 with a little more than 4 minutes left. The eventual Division 2 Southern California Regional champions would continue to extend their lead before the final buzzer sounded with the scoreboard showing 51-36.

Though some players were emotional following the loss, the Vikings gathered to pose for pictures with teammates, coaches and their CIF State Division 2 Southern Region Runner Up plaque shortly after the conclusion of the regional championship.

"Wow, was it an electric and supportive Santa Monica atmosphere last night. It felt and sounded like it was a Santa Monica home game in the Pacific Palisades," Assistant Coach Mark Ulrich said.

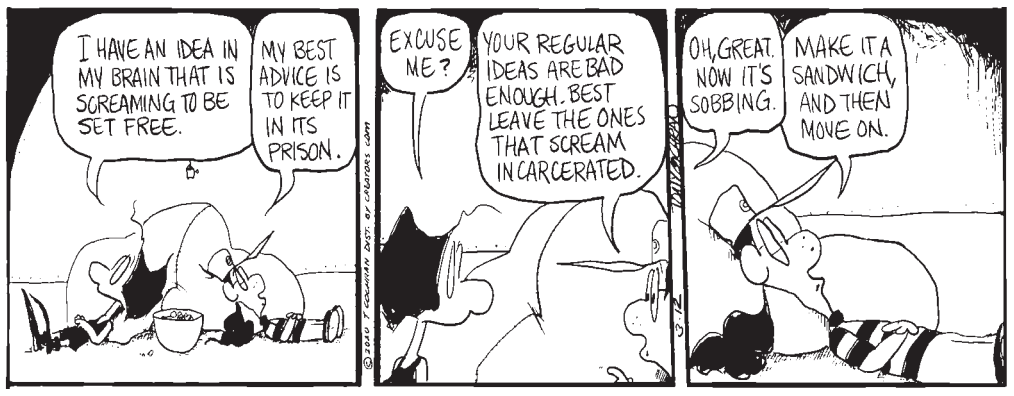
"I could not be more proud of a group of young student-athletes. These young women exemplified everything that is good about public education in a community that cares," Ulrich added. "We are a diverse group of kids in every way imaginable, and yet found a way to truly connect and support each other at a level that is required to be champions, which these girls were and are. What a season!"

brennon@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

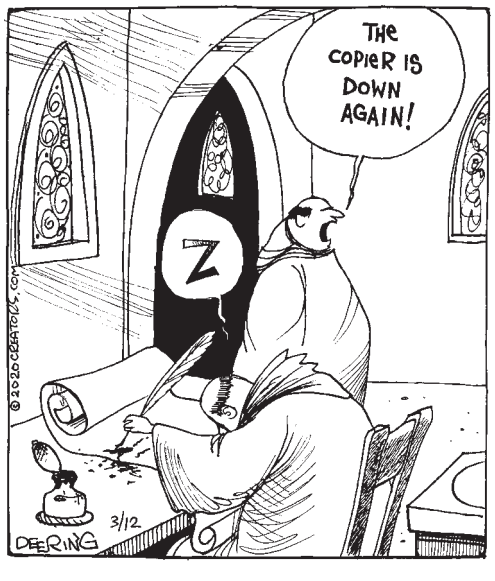
By PETER GALLAGHER



"HOW DID HE KNOW I'M A DOG PERSON?"

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 61.5°

THURSDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high
Topped out S swell mixes with lingering WNW swell – larger sets for S swell magnets. Conditions look most favorable for the morning.

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high
Modest new WNW swell moves in as S swell eases. Morning winds looking manageable.

WEATHER

Thursday: A slight chance of showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 65.
Thursday Night: A slight chance of rain before midnight. Partly cloudy, with a low around 55.
Friday: A slight chance of rain after noon. Mostly sunny, with a high near 65.
Friday Night: A slight chance of showers before 11pm, then a chance of rain after 11pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 55.
Saturday: A 30 percent chance of rain before 11am. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 62.
Saturday Night: A slight chance of rain after 11pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 53.

Date	Day of the Week	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2020/03/12	Thu	06:01 AM	-0.07	L
2020/03/12	Thu	12:05 PM	4.65	H
2020/03/12	Thu	6:03 PM	0.36	L
2020/03/13	Fri	12:24 AM	5.39	H
2020/03/13	Fri	07:01 AM	0.02	L
2020/03/13	Fri	1:06 PM	3.85	H
2020/03/13	Fri	6:39 PM	1.08	L
2020/03/14	Sat	01:10 AM	5.23	H
2020/03/14	Sat	08:12 AM	0.20	L
2020/03/14	Sat	2:28 PM	3.14	H
2020/03/14	Sat	7:19 PM	1.79	L
2020/03/15	Sun	02:06 AM	4.96	H
2020/03/15	Sun	09:46 AM	0.28	L
2020/03/15	Sun	4:35 PM	2.83	H
2020/03/15	Sun	8:17 PM	2.41	L
2020/03/16	Mon	03:21 AM	4.69	H
2020/03/16	Mon	11:24 AM	0.11	L
2020/03/16	Mon	6:45 PM	3.09	H

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date:03/27
7 15 21 33 62
Power#: 23
Jackpot:110 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 03/10
6 17 48 54 69
Mega#: 12
Jackpot: 80 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 03/07
9 19 20 21 33
Mega#: 16
Jackpot: 9 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 03/10
12 15 17 27 34

Daily 3
Draw Date: 03/10
Evening: 3 4 9
Draw Date: 03/10
Midday: 5 1 5

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 03/10
1st: 03 - HOT SHOT
2nd: 04 - BIG BEN
3rd: 10 - SOLID GOLD
RACE TIME: 1:40.48

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 (MARCH 12)

This year will offer a variety of frameworks for you to operate within. You're like an actor who gets to play several roles. Tight relationships will be the best part, and your personal life will play out like a beautiful dance. There's an opportunity to mix into a professional area you've been intrigued with for years. Aries and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 30, 12, 26 and 37.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). No one can give another person confidence, but you can certainly be a springboard for another person and provide the kind of lift that invites the spirit of success.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). As long as you have your phone with you, you're never alone. Creativity and vitality spring alive as you disconnect from the digital world for a spell and reconnect to your inner world.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You may feel like an actor today cast in the role of "the expert." It's a common feeling that you wouldn't be having if you were deluded. You know enough to know you don't know everything. Hold your head high and proceed.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Peril in the fight; glory in the triumph. The opposite is also true. If getting there weren't a little hard, then it wouldn't be fun. So don't worry if things get a little hard. It's all part of the plot.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You may not be sure what to believe about a situation yet, but you're quite willing to look at it straight on, in the best light available, unblinkingly. Do this long enough and an impression will be made.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). While it's kind to lend a hand, be judicious. You don't want to rob anyone of the chance to learn skills, solve problems and have the pride of solo-completion.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're sensitive to the buzz and whir of the world around you. It may seem counterintuitive, but it's the absence of color and light that will be the most stimulating. Blank spaces invigorate your most creative instincts.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You have ideas but you don't know how to make them fly in the current circumstances. You imagine one way and then another, but each has its drawbacks. Until you see the light, the best move is no move.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your gift for noticing the minutiae of your surroundings is sometimes hurtful, sometimes happy and always life-enriching. Today, you encounter a stranger who reminds you of something noble in people.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Do you get the impression that there is secret information being passed between people and over networks to which you're not privy? The tinge of paranoia is a sign to pay attention.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It's really something to watch the race from the stands. You can see what those who are in the throes of it can't. But of course, no one ever won a race watching from the stands.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Henrik Ibsen said, "The strongest man upon the earth is he who stands most alone." Who has that approach ever worked for? Use the strength and skill of communication and teamwork, and together you'll be mighty.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

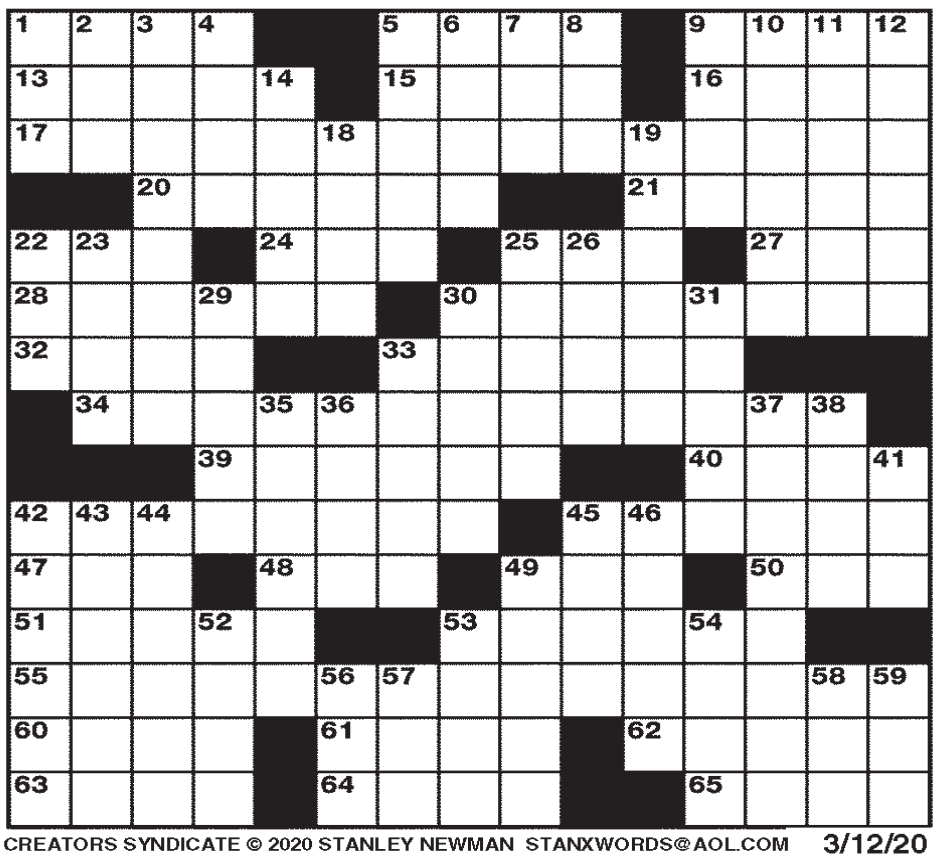
4			3	9		8	5	
	8				7		4	9
1			4			7		2
5	2		7					8
		1				5		
6					1		2	7
8		4			2			6
2	3		8				1	
	1	7		5	3			4

Newsday Crossword

ITALIAN OUTSKIRTS by Pam Klawitter
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 "Holy cow!"
5 Decline to invite
9 Start of the last century
13 Climber's gear
15 Metaphor for confusion
16 Throw off
17 World of Warcraft, e.g.
20 Nonliteral phrases
21 Hunter seen at night
22 Go fetch
24 Low digit
25 Tour transport
27 Form a lap
28 Bowling pin sources
30 Sci-fi frighteners
32 Zone
33 Hip-hopper's top
34 Aboriginals
39 National Anthem verb
40 "Deck the Halls" snippet
42 Grade-school gathering
45 Church leader
47 [Intentional misspelling]
48 Prefix for classical
49 Stir-fry cooker
50 Needing nothing else
51 Adult insect
53 Zealot
55 American Legion member
60 Flamenco cheers
61 Off-white shade
62 Came to mind
63 Sleeveless top
64 Piracy venues
65 Tot's boo-boo

DOWN
1 Exclamation of frustration
2 Losing line for X
3 Green soup
4 Don't ignore
5 Rueful feeling
6 Motion opponents
7 Commando weapon
8 Founding Father nickname
9 Roman Catholic VIP
10 Patio lounger
11 *Walden* or *Out of Africa*
12 PINs, for instance
14 Meanness
18 Londoners' lavs
19 Rumor spreader
22 ABC's a.m. show
23 Deserve
25 Disagreed loudly
26 Nullify
29 Table leg creator
30 In a glum mood
31 Divulges
33 "Are you paying attention?"
35 Strong denial
36 Instinctive feeling
37 Is forced to recant
38 Plumlike fruit
41 Displays on walls
42 Big name in sci-fi
43 Comparative phrase
44 Basic piano practice
45 Corncake
46 Japanese dog breed
49 Choppy waters
52 Central point
53 Feathered talker
54 Sleekly designed, for short
56 Tummy muscles
57 Sushi eggs
58 "Just ___ suspected!"
59 Born in France



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2020 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 3/12/20

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 311 CALLS ON MAR. 10

Party Complaint 900blk Palisades Beach Rd 12:29 a.m.
Arson 1700blk Ocean Ave 2:37 a.m.
Armed Robbery Just Occurred 300blk Santa Monica Pier 4:21 a.m.
Encampment 1400blk 16th St 4:56 a.m.
Found Senile Person 1700blk Ocean Ave 5:55 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 700blk Adelaide Pl 7:14 a.m.
Sexual Assault 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 7:54 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 7:55 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 1500blk 7th St 7:57 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 28th St / Pico Blvd 7:57 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 500blk Hill St 8:16 a.m.
Found Property 300blk Olympic Dr 8:35 a.m.
Encampment 2900blk The Beach 8:47 a.m.
Child Endangerment 1900blk 19th St 9:06 a.m.
Encampment 2000blk The Beach 9:10 a.m.
Found Property Barnard Way / Hollister Ave 9:10 a.m.
General Parking Problem 300blk Olympic Dr 9:11 a.m.
Battery Report 1300blk Franklin St 9:16 a.m.
Person With A Gun 300blk Broadway 9:24 a.m.
Fraud Report 1800blk 20th St 9:50 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 2300blk 24th St 10:21 a.m.
Fraud Report 2200blk Delaware Ave 10:34 a.m.
Identity Theft 1500blk San Vicente Blvd 10:48 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1000blk Wilshire Blvd 11:28 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 800blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:34 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now Centinela Ave / Santa Monica Blvd 11:38 a.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper In Progress 1400blk Ocean Ave 11:44 a.m.
Lost Property 1300blk 4th St 11:58 a.m.
Identity Theft 1500blk San Vicente Blvd 12:13 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 300blk Santa Monica Pier 12:32 p.m.
Burglary Report 1400blk 6th St 12:56 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Cloverfield Blvd / Interstate 10 12:57 p.m.
Fight 500blk Olympic Blvd W 12:59 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 2000blk Main St 1:38 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Chelsea Ave / Wilshire Blvd 1:39 p.m.
Found Property 600blk Colorado Ave 1:40 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1500blk Ocean Ave 1:49 p.m.
Fraud Report 1600blk Berkeley St 2:09 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 900blk Washington Ave 2:10 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 900blk Lincoln Blvd 2:10 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1800blk 7th St 2:37 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 2100blk 5th St 2:43 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 2700blk Main St 2:56 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 23rd St / Montana Ave 3:00 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 2000blk Main St 3:17 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 300blk Civic Center Dr 3:36 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 2900blk Exposition Blvd 3:37 p.m.
Identity Theft 1400blk 6th St 3:45 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 600blk Montana Ave 3:57 p.m.
Overdose 1000blk 9th St 4:08 p.m.
Drinking In Public 100blk Bay St 4:10 p.m.
Identity Theft 2700blk Highland Ave 4:14 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1200blk 4th St 4:59 p.m.
Overdose 700blk Marine St 5:21 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 14th St / Ocean Park Blvd 5:24 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 5:34 p.m.
Lost Property 1300blk 11th St 5:50 p.m.
Encampment 1600blk Stanford St 5:52 p.m.
Public Intoxication 200blk Broadway 6:00 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto In Progress 2400blk 10th St 6:06 p.m.
General Parking Problem 200blk California Ave 6:15 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 2300blk 24th St 6:16 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 26th St / Idaho Ave 6:29 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1700blk Ocean Ave 6:32 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 6:33 p.m.
Public Intoxication 3100blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:43 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 2400blk 10th St 6:50 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 2400blk Main St 7:05 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1600blk Ocean Ave 7:12 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 200blk Broadway 7:12 p.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 7:19 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Lincoln Blvd / Bay St 7:24 p.m.
Death Investigation 2900blk 4th St 7:34 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 2800blk Pico Blvd 8:05 p.m.
Identity Theft 1400blk 4th St 8:16 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1900blk Washington Ave 8:37 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 2300blk Main St 8:51 p.m.
Battery Now 1200blk Arizona Ave 8:57 p.m.
Found Property 300blk Santa Monica Pier 9:03 p.m.
Arson Stanford St / Santa Monica Blvd 9:30 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 2800blk Lincoln Blvd 9:58 p.m.
Construction Noise 1500blk 6th St 10:24 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2000blk Virginia Ave 11:16 p.m.
Status Check 1300blk 17th St 11:59 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 58 CALLS ON MAR. 10

EMS 1300blk 15th St 1:19 a.m.
EMS 2700blk 4th St 1:38 a.m.
EMS 1100blk 12th St 1:40 a.m.
EMS 1500blk 4th St 1:50 a.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 1700blk Ocean Ave 2:34 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 2:49 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 2nd St 2:54 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 5:26 a.m.
EMS 2600blk Kansas Ave 7:25 a.m.
Vehicle Fire Centinela Ave / Interstate 10 7:58 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 8:43 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 8:45 a.m.
EMS 100blk Ocean Park Blvd 9:20 a.m.
EMS 16th St / Colorado Ave 9:39 a.m.
EMS 1100blk Arizona Ave 9:41 a.m.
EMS 400blk Pico Blvd 9:42 a.m.
EMS 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:45 a.m.
EMS 1900blk Colorado Ave 10:02 a.m.
EMS 2300blk Ashland Ave 10:27 a.m.
Carbon Monoxide Alarm 1100blk 6th St 10:35 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 2nd St 10:37 a.m.
EMS 1500blk 2nd St 10:42 a.m.
EMS 1500blk California Ave 10:46 a.m.
EMS 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:08 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:27 a.m.
EMS 900blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:30 a.m.
EMS 200blk Montana Ave 11:55 a.m.
EMS 3000blk Lincoln Blvd 12:31 p.m.
EMS 300blk Santa Monica Pl 1:44 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 4th St 1:59 p.m.
EMS 900blk Lincoln Blvd 2:12 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1500blk Ocean Ave 3:18 p.m.
Odor Of Natural Gas 2200blk Colorado Ave 3:45 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1700blk Ocean Ave 3:49 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1000blk 4th St 3:56 p.m.
EMS 1000blk 9th St 4:08 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1700blk Ocean Ave 4:24 p.m.
EMS 200blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:38 p.m.
Elevator Rescue 1300blk 15th St 4:42 p.m.
EMS 2200blk Colorado Ave 5:12 p.m.
EMS 700blk Marine St 5:21 p.m.
EMS 3100blk Neilson Way 5:58 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2100blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:06 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2200blk Main St 6:16 p.m.
EMS 1100blk Arizona Ave 6:22 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 26th St / Idaho Ave 6:29 p.m.
EMS 5th St / Santa Monica Blvd 6:40 p.m.
EMS 2900blk 4th St 6:45 p.m.
Odor Of Natural Gas 1800blk 10th St 7:16 p.m.

PANDEMIC

FROM PAGE 7

more severe illness may take three to six weeks, the WHO says.

In the Mideast, most of the nearly 10,000 cases are in Iran or involve people who traveled there. Iran's semiofficial Fars news agency said they include Vice President Eshaq Jahangiri. Iran's ministers for cultural heritage, handcrafts and tourism, and for industry, mines and business were also infected, the agency said.

Italy's government announced Wednesday it was dedicating 25 billion euros (nearly $28 billion) to boost anti-virus efforts and soften economic blows, including delaying tax and mortgage payments by families and businesses.

Britain's government announced a 30 billion-pound ($39 billion) economic stimulus package and the Bank of England slashed its key interest rate by half a percentage point to 0.25%.

Normal life was increasingly upended, with Pope Francis live-streaming prayers from the privacy of his Vatican library as police barred access to St. Peter's Square, emptying it of tens of thousands of people who attend the weekly papal address. In Denmark, Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen announced that all schools, preschools and universities will close as of Monday.

And in the U.S., the caseload passed 1,000, and outbreaks on both sides of the country stirred alarm. Officials in Seattle announced that public schools would close for about 53,000 students and large gatherings were banned in San Francisco and in Washington state, the hardest-hit U.S. state, with 29 deaths.

The virus upended the U.S. presidential campaign, with U.S. Vice President Joe Biden and Sen. Bernie Sanders canceling primary election rallies Tuesday and leaving open the possibility that future campaign events could be impacted. President Donald Trump's campaign insisted it would proceed as normal, although Vice President Mike Pence conceded future rallies would be evaluated "on a day to day basis."

And at a Congressional hearing in Washington Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease, sounded an alarm: "Bottom line, it's going to get worse."

In Germany, Chancellor Angela Merkel said that if the virus is not halted by vaccines and cures, up to 70% of the country's 83 million people could ultimately become infected.

Germany has about 1,300 confirmed infections and Merkel's comments fit a pattern of government officials using sobering warnings to convince people to protect themselves by washing their hands and not gathering in large numbers.

Leicester reported from Paris, Cheng reported from London. Also contributing were Colleen Barry in Soave, Italy; Nicole Winfield in Rome; Sylvie Corbet in Paris; Geir Moulson in Berlin; Pan Pylas in London; LLazar Semini in Tirana, Albania; Matt Sedensky in Bangkok; Joe McDonald and Ken Moritsugu in Beijing; Yuri Kageyama in Tokyo; Tales Azzoni in Madrid and Kim Tong-hyung in Seoul, South Korea.

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR
Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

SEND YOUR LETTER TO THE EDITOR
Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

VIRUS

FROM PAGE 1

missing work."

The local chain has locations in Long Beach, Santa Monica, Brentwood, Pacific Palisades, Malibu and Montecito.

All locations have increased their cleaning schedule to wipe down surfaces every hour and they have suspended their policy allowing customers to bring their own reusable cups from home.

"By only serving out of our own cups, we can ensure that everything being served to the public is sanitized according to our normal health department regulations, and that our baristas are not taking in anything from the public while they're working the bar," said the announcement.

California Pizza Kitchen also sent a statement to customers outlining their increased sanitation efforts and highlighting their staff policies around handwashing.

"We have continued to emphasize and train employees to follow our strict hand washing policies, which include requiring employees to wash their hands at least every 30 minutes (for at least 20 seconds) with soap and water," said the statement. "We also require employees to wash their hands every time after using the restroom, after touching his/her face or hair, and before eating, preparing or handling food."

Sanitation efforts are increasingly important to preventing the growth of the outbreak as researchers are continuing to uncover more details about the behavior of the virus.

The new coronavirus can live in the air for several hours and on some surfaces for as long as two to three days, tests by U.S. government and other scientists have found.

Their work, published Wednesday, suggests people can get infected through the air as well as from touching things that were contaminated by others who have it, in addition to direct person-to-person contact.

Since emerging in China late last year, the new virus has infected more than 120,000 people worldwide and caused more than 4,300 deaths — far more than the 2003 SARS outbreak caused by a genetically similar virus.

For this study, researchers used a nebulizer device to put samples of the new virus into the air, imitating what might happen if an infected person coughed or made the virus airborne some other way.

They found that viable virus could be detected up to three hours later in the air, up to four hours on copper, up to 24 hours on cardboard and up to two to three days on plastic and stainless steel.

"It's a solid piece of work that answers questions people have been asking," and shows the value and importance of the hygiene advice that public health officials have been stressing, said Julie Fischer, a microbiology professor at Georgetown University.

"What we need to be doing is washing our hands, being aware that people who are infected may be contaminating surfaces," and keeping hands away from the face, she said.

Event organizers, small and large, are also adapting to the new reality.

In Venice, the annual fundraiser supporting the Venice Family Clinic has been converted into a digital event.

"In response to growing public concerns about the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), Venice Family Clinic announced today that its signature fundraising event, Venice Family Clinic Art Walk & Auction, will be an online auction to avoid any potential health risks associated with being at large public gatherings at this time," said the organization in a statement. "The community celebration previously scheduled for May 3, 2020, which includes tours of local artists' studios as well as live music, a beer and wine garden, and a family fun zone, will be postponed."

At the Brentwood bookstore DIESEL, some events have been canceled or postponed while others are moving forward depending on the specific author.

"Ultimately, we're leaving the decisions to continue with, cancel, or postpone their events up to the authors involved," said the store in an email to customers.

Meanwhile, health officials are ramping up resources.

On Wednesday, The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will provide $37,706,709 in funding to California in support of their response efforts to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

"State and local health departments are on the frontlines of responding to the COVID-19 outbreak, and we are deeply grateful for their work," said HHS Secretary Alex Azar. "CDC is distributing this new funding extremely rapidly, as called for by Congress. President Trump, and his entire ad-ministration will continue working to ensure state and local jurisdictions have the resources they need to keep Americans safe and healthy."

AP Chief Medical Writer Marilynn Marchione contributed to this report



NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 6

what this is and I'm not going to take the time to look it up but I would go see Snoop at a Bat Mitzvah, 7-11 opening or, heck, even coaching a kids' football game if he promised to rap, show up when the doors open and you can knock back part of your 40 buck cover charge from the open bar, 10-11) — Sat 10 p.m., Globe Theater, DTLA, $40.

HOT CLUB OF L.A. (they rocked it, or, swung it, really, hard and fast at the Ruskin Group Theatre last Sat, a nearly two hour set for their release party of "Cinema Swing," including several terrific originals sounding 100 years old, but you can catch them again every Monday night for going on nine years now at the cramped but cool Culver City dive Cinema Bar, for no cover, so come hear one of LA's music treasures says Jackson Browne and me, these guys just whale on Django-style jazz at breakneck speed but virtuosic precision and a whole lot of gypsy soul) — Mon 9 p.m., Cinema Bar, Culver City, free.

SOUNDWAVES - COLD BLUE MUSIC — (Venice-based Cold Blue Music label celebrates three new albums of atmospheric and melodic postminimalism with this concert, "The Basketweave Elegies" by Peter Garland, nine short movements for solo vibraphone, performed by Michael Jones, "Splectra" by Robert Carl, performed by harpist Alison Bjorkedal with the composer on electronics, and "Bridges of Pearl and Dust" by Michael Byron, performed by Jordan Curcuruto, Kevin Good, Katie Eikam and Michael Jones on three vibraphones, all are world premieres) — Wed 7:30 p.m., Main Library, SM, free.

GRACE POTTER — (I loved her first band Grace Potter & the Nocturnals 10 years ago the first time I heard "Paris, Ooh La La," an explosive, perfect rock song, then I saw the video, ooh la la indeed, long legs to make you forget Tina Turner, she left the band behind to perform with everyone from Heart, just killing their best songs going toe to toe with soprano shouter Ann Wilson, to the Avett Brothers, the Rolling Stones, Gov't Mule, Flaming Lips, Jackson Browne, Lucius, Trey Anastasio, CMA music video of the year with Kenny Chesney, she's a songwriter, writer, actress, multi-instrumentalist, voiceover talent, but mostly a really powerful singer who takes over a stage) — next Thurs 8 p.m., El Rey Theatre, Miracle Mile LA, $40.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: TAJ MAHAL QUARTET 3/20, The Canyon Agoura Hills. 3/21 The Canyon Montclair, 3/22 The Canyon Santa Clarita; JESSE DAYTON 3/21, McCabe's, SM; MONTY ALEXANDER TRIO 3/21, BILL HOLMAN'S BIG BAND 3/28, PETER ERSKINE TRIO 3/29, Jazz Bakery, SM; SARAH SILVERMAN & ALL STARS 3/22, Largo, LA; SQUIRREL NUT ZIPPERS 3/28, Teragram Ballroom, DTLA; NATHANIEL RATELiFF & THE NIGHT SWEATS 4/1, 2, 3, Theatre at Ace Hotel, DTLA; SOUNDWAVES - MICHAEL ROTH 4/2, Main Library, SM; DIONNE WARWICK 4/11, BETH HART 4/18, The Saban Theater, Beverly Hills.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 2,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 34 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

ULLER

FROM PAGE 1

litigation proceedings."

Attorneys for the victims said Uller preyed on vulnerable Latino boys from the Pico neighborhood, where Santa Monica's Latino community is concentrated, while he volunteered at PAL, a nonprofit operated by the city that offers afterschool activities for youth and aims to build trust between youth and police. At the time of the abuse, PAL was located in Pico's Virginia Avenue Park.

Uller's victims said he groomed them by taking them out for meals and driving them home before taking them to his father's medical offices and molesting them under the pretense of performing physicals. Ortega's victim said he sexually assaulted her several times while driving her home from PAL.

In the claims filed against the city, the victims' attorneys argue that city staff knew or should have known about Uller's criminal conduct and failed to act on the information. The city and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department are investigating the allegations.

In January, a former PAL employee who was interviewed by sheriff's detectives told the Daily Press that in 1993 she reported Uller's behavior toward one boy to her direct supervisor, who reported it to two Santa Monica Police Department officers. The former employee said the officers interviewed the boy but did not launch an investigation.

City Council approved the settlements Tuesday and adopted a resolution to put in place procedures to prevent and respond to child abuse in city-run youth programs, including screening all volunteers working with youth and expanding mandated reporter training. The city has hired consultant Praesidium to serve as the city's child protection officer and previously retained the consultant to review the policies of its youth programs to ensure that best practices to prevent abuse are in place.

"It's time to acknowledge the pain these men and their families have lived with. As a city, we must take responsibility," said Councilmember Ana Maria Jara. "We have made progress, but we cannot overlook the fact that all of the victims were children of color. We must continue to think of how we hold ourselves accountable today."

The PAL board of directors said in a statement Tuesday said they share the anger and anguish of the survivors and their families.

"It is our hope, that as they and their loved ones move forward, they can eventually find peace and justice in the wake of the city of Santa Monica's settlement agreement," they said. "We will persist in our efforts to ensure that the homework assistance, college preparatory scholarships, arts, athletics and food assistance programs at the Santa Monica Police Activities League have the resources necessary to continue to make a profound impact in the lives of the youth they serve and their families."

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