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Could Governor Newsom's new mental health court be a fix for local homelessness?

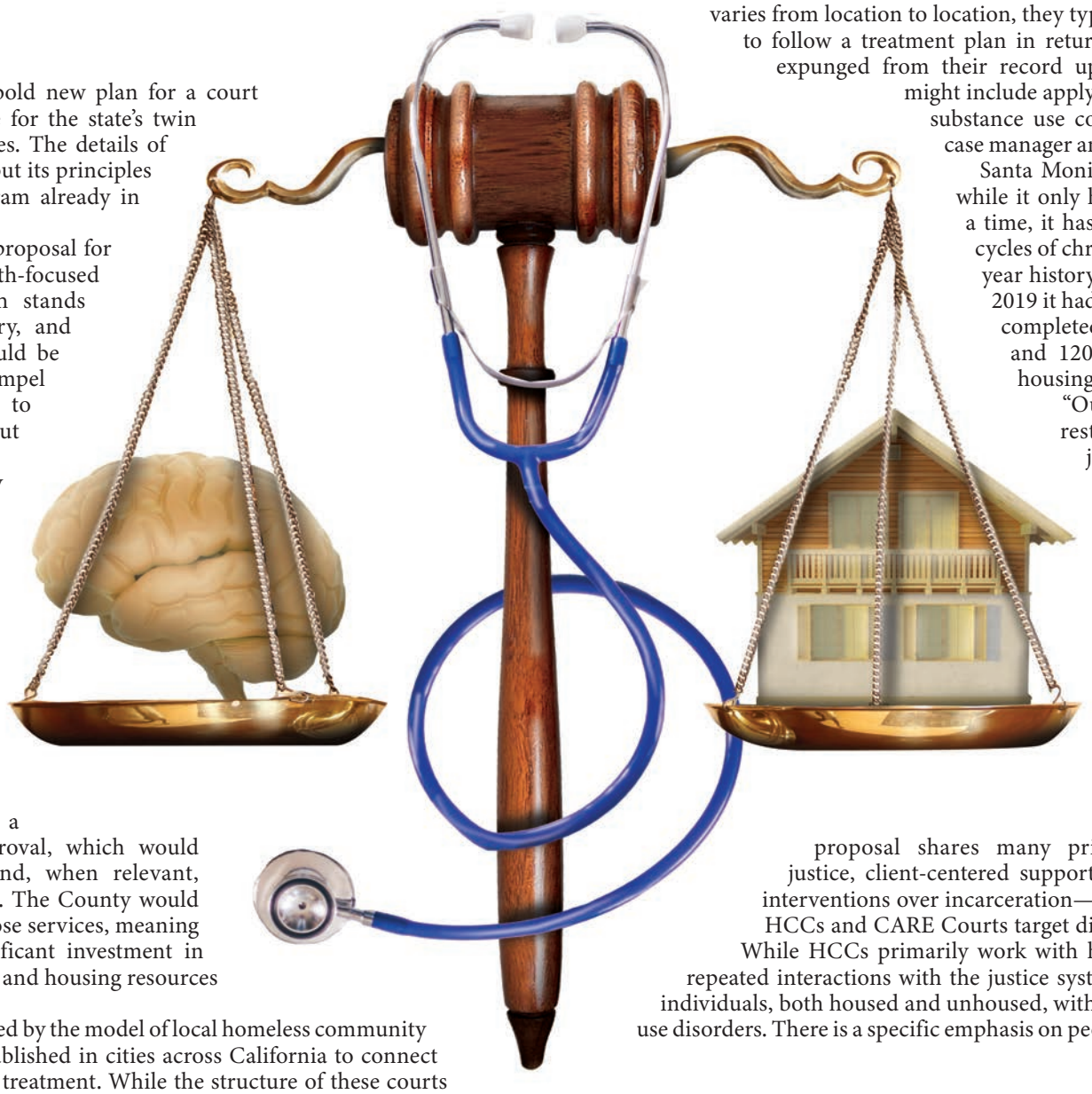
CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Governor Gavin Newsom has a bold new plan for a court system that he hopes will be a salve for the state's twin homelessness and mental health crises. The details of his vision have yet to be fleshed out, but its principles are similar to a creative court program already in existence in Santa Monica.

On March 3, Newsom unveiled a proposal for a statewide network of mental health-focused courts called CARE Courts, which stands for Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment. The courts' goal would be to leverage the judicial system to compel severely mentally ill individuals to accept services and treatments without impinging on their civil rights.

If approved by the legislature, every California county would be required to establish a CARE Court as a part of its civil court system. Individuals with mental health and substance use disorders could be referred to a CARE Court hearing by family members, law enforcement, homeless service providers and medical providers. Participation in court would be voluntary.

In court, individuals would be given a public defender and a personal advocate to help form a treatment plan for the judge's approval, which would manage behavioral health issues and, when relevant, transition an individual into housing. The County would then be legally required to provide those services, meaning that the system would require significant investment in mental health, substance use recovery and housing resources statewide.



The CARE Court proposal is inspired by the model of local homeless community courts (HCCs), which have been established in cities across California to connect unhoused individuals to services and treatment. While the structure of these courts varies from location to location, they typically require unhoused individuals to follow a treatment plan in return for having misdemeanor charges expunged from their record upon completion. An example plan might include applying for housing resources, attending substance use counseling, meeting regularly with a case manager and showing up to follow-up hearings.

Santa Monica has one of the oldest HCCs and while it only handles a handful of participants at a time, it has had consistent success in breaking cycles of chronic homelessness throughout its 15 year history. From February 2007 through June 2019 it had 301 total participants, 181 of whom completed their 6 to 12 month treatment plan and 120 of whom moved into permanent housing.

"Ours is a really intensive collaborative restorative justice and therapeutic justice program, meaning that yes, we will help clients resolve their legal and their criminal cases, but this is in exchange for them participating meaningfully on developing housing and treatment goals," said Brian Hardgrave, who is a senior human services analyst and helps oversee the court.

Similar successful homeless community courts have been established in San Diego, Redondo Beach, Long Beach, Ventura County and Orange County.

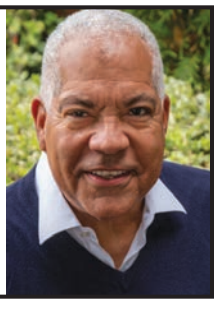
Newsom's CARE Court proposal shares many principles with HCCs—therapeutic justice, client-centered support, community based resources, and interventions over incarceration—however it also differs in key ways.

HCCs and CARE Courts target different populations.

While HCCs primarily work with homeless individuals who have had repeated interactions with the justice system, the focus of CARE Court is on individuals, both housed and unhoused, with severe mental health and substance use disorders. There is a specific emphasis on people with schizophrenia or psychotic

SEE **MENTAL HEALTH** PAGE 7



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Liberal US cities change course, now clearing homeless camps

SARA CLINE
Associated Press/Report for America

Makeshift shelters abut busy roadways, tent cities line sidewalks, tarps cover broken-down cars, and sleeping bags are tucked in storefront doorways. The reality of the homelessness crisis in Oregon's largest city can't be denied.

"I would be an idiot to sit here and tell you that things are better today than they were five years ago with regard to homelessness," Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler said recently. "People in this city aren't stupid. They can open their eyes."

As COVID-19 took root in the U.S., people on the street were largely left on their own — with many cities halting sweeps of homeless camps following guidance from federal health officials. The lack of remediation led to a situation that has spiraled out of control in many places, with frustrated residents calling for action as extreme forms of poverty play out on city streets.

Wheeler has now used emergency powers to ban camping along certain roadways and says homelessness is the "most important issue facing our community, bar none."

Increasingly in liberal cities across the country — where people living in tents in public spaces have long been tolerated — leaders are removing encampments and pushing other strict measures to address homelessness that would have been unheard of a few years ago.

In Seattle, new Mayor Bruce Harrell ran on a platform that called for action on encampments, focusing on highly visible tent cities in his first few months in office. Across from City Hall, two blocks worth of tents and belongings were removed Wednesday. The clearing marked the end of a two and a half week standoff between the mayor and activists who occupied the camp, working in shifts to keep homeless people from being moved.

In Washington, D.C., Mayor Muriel Bowser launched a pilot program over the summer to permanently clear several homeless camps. In December, the initiative faced a critical test as lawmakers voted on a bill that would ban clearings until April. It failed 5-7.

In California, home to more than 160,000 homeless people, cities are reshaping how they address the crisis. The Los Angeles City Council used new laws to ban camping in 54 locations. LA Mayoral candidate Joe Buscaino has introduced plans for a ballot measure that would prohibit people from sleeping outdoors in public spaces if they have turned down offers of shelter.

San Francisco Mayor London Breed

SEE **HOMELESS** PAGE 5



2 years into pandemic, world takes cautious steps forward

GILLIAN FLACCUS, CHRISTOPHER WEBER AND TERRY TANG
Associated Press

With COVID-19 case numbers plummeting, Emily Safrin did something she hadn't done since the pandemic began two years ago: She put her fears aside and went to a concert.

The fully vaccinated and boosted restaurant server planned to keep her mask on, but as the reggaeton star Bad Bunny took the stage and the energy in the crowd soared, she ripped it off. Soon after, she was strolling unmasked in a trendy Portland neighborhood with friends.

Two years after the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic, changing the world overnight, relief and hope are creeping back in after a long, dark period of loss, fear and deep uncertainty about the future.

"Everyone was supposed to be vaccinated or have a negative test, and I said, 'What the heck, I'm just gonna live my life,'" Safrin said of her concert experience. "It was overwhelming, to be honest, but it also felt great to be able to just feel a little bit normal again."

The world is finally emerging from a brutal stretch of winter dominated by the highly contagious omicron variant, bringing a sense of relief on the two-year anniversary of the start of the pandemic.

It was March 11, 2020 when the WHO issued its declaration, driving home the severity of the threat faced by a virus that at that point had wreaked havoc primarily in Italy and China. The U.S. had 38 confirmed coronavirus deaths and 1,300 cases nationwide on that date, but reality was starting to sink in: stocks tanked, classrooms started closing and people began donning masks. In a matter of hours, the NBA was canceling games, Chicago's huge St. Patrick's Day parade was scuttled and late-night comedians began filming from empty studios — or even their homes.

Since then, more than 6 million people have died globally, nearly 1 million in the U.S. Millions have been thrown out of work, students have endured three school years of disruptions. The emergence of the vaccine in December 2021 saved countless lives but political divisions, hesitancy and inequality in health systems have kept millions of people around the world from getting inoculated, prolonging the pandemic.

The situation is improving, however.

Hospitalizations of people with COVID-19 have plummeted 80% in the last six weeks across the U.S. since a mid-January pandemic peak, dropping to the lowest levels since July 2021, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Case counts have followed the same trend line to the lowest counts since last summer as well. Even the death tally, which typically lags behind cases and hospitalizations, has slowed significantly in the last month.

In its latest pandemic report, the WHO said infections and deaths are down across the globe, with only one region — the Western Pacific — seeing a rise in cases. The Middle East and Africa saw cases drop by 46% and 40%, respectively.

Another positive: The omicron wave and vaccinations have left enough people with protection against the coronavirus that future spikes will likely require much less disruption to society, experts say.

Nowhere is the shift in the pandemic more apparent than in the nation's hospitals, where critical care units were overflowing with desperately ill patients just months ago.

Julie Kim, chief nursing officer at Providence St. Jude Medical Center in Fullerton, California, gets emotional when she recalls the bleakest days of the pandemic when doctors and nurses worked around the clock and didn't go home because they were afraid of bringing the virus back with them.

At one point during the summer 2020 spike, there were 250 COVID-19 patients in the hospital licensed for 320 beds and the hospital had to use offices for overflow bed space.

The pandemic has eased to the point that as of Tuesday, there were just four COVID-19 patients at the hospital, Kim said, and medical staff feels more prepared to treat the disease with the knowledge gained in those darkest days. Still, many are traumatized by the raw memories of the past two years and will never be the same, she said.

"It's hard to use the word 'normal,' because I don't think we will ever get back to a pre-COVID state. We are adapting and we are moving forward," Kim said. "This has had a toll on many of us. Some people are moving forward and some people are still having a hard time dealing with it all."

Mask mandates, vaccine requirements and other COVID-19 measures are being eliminated everywhere. The last statewide mask mandate in the U.S., in Hawaii, will end in two weeks.

But health experts are also urging some caution.

Dr. Albert Ko, an infectious-disease physician and epidemiologist at the Yale School of Public Health, said it's certainly good news that the U.S. seems to be at the tail end of a peak. But he cautioned against any victory declarations, especially with the potential of another variant lurking around the corner.

"We have new variants emerge and those new variants fuel large waves, epidemic waves," Ko said. "The big question is, are they going to be as mild or less severe as omicron? Are they going to be potentially more severe? Unfortunately, I can't predict that."

In Portland, people are heading back to movie theaters, concerts and gyms after a long, dark winter and bars and restaurants are filling up once more. Safrin said many customers are telling her it's their first time dining inside in months.

Kalani Pa, who owns an Anytime Fitness franchise with his wife in the Portland suburbs, said the past two years almost drove him out of business — but with Oregon's mask mandate ending Friday, his small gym is suddenly coming to life again. The franchise signed three new members on one

SEE **PANDEMIC** PAGE 6

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 254 CALLS ON MARCH 10

Prowler There Now 2100Blk Neilson Way 12:52 a.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 500Blk Georgina Ave 1:08 a.m.
Party Complaint 200Blk Bay St 1:44 a.m.
Person Down 2600Blk Ocean Front Walk 2:39 a.m.
Person With A Gun 26th St / Santa Monica Blvd 4:21 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2800Blk Colorado Ave 5:25 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1300Blk 3rd Street Prom 5:33 a.m.
Encampment 900Blk Interstate 10 5:45 a.m.
Battery 28th St / Ocean Park Blvd 6:30 a.m.
Vandalism 2600Blk 5th St 6:54 a.m.
Prowler 2300Blk Kansas Ave 7:09 a.m.
Encampment 2300Blk Michigan Ave 7:30 a.m.
Death Investigation 500Blk 10th St 7:49 a.m.
Petty Theft 1600Blk Wilshire Blvd 7:55 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 300Blk Civic Center Dr 8:05 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2500Blk 32nd St 8:16 a.m.
Traffic Hazard 4th St / Santa Monica Blvd 8:30 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 1400Blk Ocean Ave 8:47 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1300Blk 3rd Street Prom 8:57 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 800Blk 7th St 8:59 a.m.
Battery 2000Blk Arizona Ave 9:00 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 2000Blk 21st St 9:02 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 2600Blk 4th St 9:06 a.m.
Burglary 900Blk 3rd St 9:16 a.m.
Vandalism 1300Blk 2nd St 9:20 a.m.
Loud Music 600Blk Hill St 9:24 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 200Blk 15th St 9:25 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1400Blk Ocean Ave 9:30 a.m.
Traffic Hazard 1400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:35 a.m.
Auto Burglary 2000Blk Ocean Ave 10:09 a.m.
General Parking Problem 1300Blk Yale St 10:11 a.m.
Encampment 1400Blk 2nd St 10:18 a.m.
Encampment Centinela Ave / Pico Blvd 10:23 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1600Blk Cloverfield Blvd 10:42 a.m.
Loitering 100Blk San Vicente Blvd 10:56 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1500Blk 6th St 10:59 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 900Blk 4th St 11:04 a.m.
Petty Theft 1300Blk Wilshire Blvd 11:13 a.m.
Loitering 2200Blk The Beach 11:14 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 20th St / Pearl St 11:24 a.m.
Arson 800Blk Bay St 11:38 a.m.
General Parking Problem 300Blk Olympic Dr 11:46 a.m.
Found Property 1400Blk 4th St 11:48 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 3200Blk Airport Ave 11:51 a.m.
Vandalism 1200Blk 2nd St 11:56 a.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 7th St / Arizona Ave 12:32 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 3300Blk Barnard Way 12:43 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1400Blk 5th St 12:46 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1100Blk Lincoln Blvd 12:54 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 1:47 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2600Blk 33rd St 1:48 p.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 3200Blk Ocean Park Blvd 1:56 p.m.
Found Property 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 2:03 p.m.
Fraud 300Blk Marine St 2:08 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Main St / Marine St 2:09 p.m.
Prowler 1600Blk Broadway 2:11 p.m.
Lost Property 1500Blk Palisades Park 2:18 p.m.
Loitering 800Blk Broadway 2:21 p.m.
Petty Theft 1600Blk Appian Way 2:23 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 14th St / Pico Blvd 2:37 p.m.
Grand Theft Now 2900Blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:45 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2300Blk 33rd St 2:46 p.m.
Encampment 1100Blk The Beach 2:50 p.m.
Fight 2300Blk Olympic Blvd 2:52 p.m.
Auto Burglary 2300Blk Virginia Ave 2:59 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1200Blk 4th St 3:27 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1100Blk 12th St 3:39 p.m.
Encampment 200Blk San Vicente Blvd 4:17 p.m.
Injured Person 2800Blk Pico Blvd 4:47 p.m.
Loud Music 2700Blk Barnard Way 4:56 p.m.
Fire Request Police 1300Blk 7th St 4:57 p.m.
Fight 1300Blk 7th St 4:57 p.m.
Encampment 800Blk Broadway 4:59 p.m.
Loitering 2300Blk 26th St 5:00 p.m.
Petty Theft Now 1300Blk 3rd Street Prom 5:04 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Ocean Ave / Pico Blvd 5:29 p.m.
Vandalism Now Main St / Strand St 5:41 p.m.
Lost Property 700Blk Broadway 5:44 p.m.
General Parking Problem 4th St / Civic Center Dr 5:48 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1100Blk 4th St 6:31 p.m.
Fraud 1200Blk 12th St 6:35 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1500Blk 5th St 7:00 p.m.
Burglary 1400Blk 2nd St 7:14 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1500Blk Princeton St 7:28 p.m.
Red Zone Violation 800Blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:40 p.m.
Loitering 1400Blk 3rd Street Prom 7:50 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1100Blk Lincoln Blvd 8:43 p.m.
Red Zone Violation 2900Blk 10th St 8:52 p.m.
Fraud 2000Blk Main St 8:54 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 1600Blk Lincoln Blvd 9:06 p.m.
Found Property 1400Blk Palisades Park 9:20 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1400Blk 4th St 9:25 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 11th St / Broadway 9:28 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 300Blk 9th St 9:39 p.m.
Loud Music 1400Blk Ocean Ave 9:47 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 500Blk Ashland Ave 10:19 p.m.
Public Intoxication 400Blk Colorado Ave 10:40 p.m.
Loud Music 2600Blk Main St 10:43 p.m.
Loud Music 2000Blk Ocean Ave 11:08 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 40 CALLS ON MARCH 10

EMS 3100Blk Main St 2:24 a.m.
EMS 5th St / Colorado Ave 3:50 a.m.
EMS 700Blk 25th St 6:52 a.m.
EMS 500Blk 10th St 7:40 a.m.
EMS 600Blk Wilshire Blvd 8:14 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk 2nd St 9:17 a.m.
EMS 00Blk Village Pkwy 9:27 a.m.
EMS 2nd St / Colorado Ave 9:44 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk 20th St 9:59 a.m.
EMS 1100Blk Broadway 10:01 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300Blk 15th St 10:05 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 100Blk Wadsworth Ave 10:21 a.m.
EMS 1900Blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:53 a.m.
EMS 600Blk Grant St 10:59 a.m.
EMS 1200Blk 24th St 11:28 a.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 800Blk Bay St 11:39 a.m.
EMS 2600Blk Lincoln Blvd 12:17 p.m.
Odor Of Natural Gas 900Blk 10th St 12:42 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 9th St 1:16 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk 19th St 2:22 p.m.
Wires Down 2600Blk Cloverfield Blvd 3:10 p.m.
EMS 2200Blk Olympic Blvd 3:13 p.m.
EMS 2000Blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:15 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2400Blk Michigan Ave 3:35 p.m.
EMS 1900Blk Lincoln Blvd 4:12 p.m.
EMS 800Blk 2nd St 4:16 p.m.
EMS 2400Blk Main St 4:36 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 3200Blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:59 p.m.
Elevator Rescue 1300Blk 7th St 5:25 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Pico Blvd 5:29 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 20th St 5:31 p.m.
EMS 2600Blk Centinela Ave 5:34 p.m.
EMS 300Blk Ashland Ave 6:01 p.m.
EMS 1100Blk 4th St 6:37 p.m.
Arcing Wires 2200Blk 4th St 6:57 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300Blk Ocean Ave 8:01 p.m.
EMS 2300Blk Hill St 8:03 p.m.
EMS 1500Blk 5th St 9:13 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 9:36 p.m.
EMS 1100Blk Broadway 11:53 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 FEBRUARY 26 AT ABOUT 2:30 P.M.

SMPD officers responded to the Holiday Motel for an altercation between two residents. The suspect brandished a knife at the victim during an argument and threaten to kill him. He then broke the window to the victim's hotel room. Warsame Alale was arrested and transported to the SMPD Jail and subsequently released on his own recognizance with a March 17 court date.

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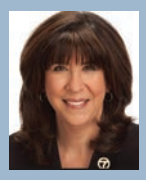
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SQA Sustainable Quality Awards WINNER

It's time to 'spring forward' this weekend in most of the US

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Even though winter doesn't slip away until next weekend, time has its marching orders. In the United States, it's time to "spring" forward.

Daylight saving time announces its entrance at 2 a.m. local time Sunday for most of the country. Standard time hibernates until Nov. 6. It will stay lighter for longer into the evening but the sun will rise later in the morning than it has during the months of standard time.

Remember to set clocks an hour ahead, usually before bed Saturday night.

No time change is observed in Hawaii, most of Arizona, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam and the Northern Marianas.

A poll conducted last October shows that most Americans want to avoid switching between daylight saving and standard time, though there is no consensus behind which should be used all year.

The poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found only 25% of Americans said they preferred to switch back and forth between standard and daylight saving time.

Forty-three percent of Americans said they would like to see standard time used during the entire year. Thirty-two percent say they would prefer that daylight saving time be used all year.

WEEKLY ARRESTS

SMPD MADE 36 ARRESTS FROM FEBRUARY 28 TO MARCH 6.

Date	Sex	Age	Primary Charge
Mon, Feb 28	F	44	Assault with a Deadly Weapon
Mon, Feb 28	M	39	Corporal Injury To Spouse
Mon, Feb 28	M	50	Elder Abuse
Mon, Feb 28	M	49	Brandishing a Deadly Weapon
Mon, Feb 28	F	53	Assault & Battery
Tue, Mar 1	M	38	Burglary
Tue, Mar 1	M	28	Shoplifting
Tue, Mar 1	M	33	Indecent Exposure
Wed, Mar 2	M	61	Drunk in Public
Wed, Mar 2	M	59	Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol
Wed, Mar 2	M	26	Assault & Battery
Wed, Mar 2	F	35	Burglary
Wed, Mar 2	M	50	Drunk in Public
Wed, Mar 2	F	24	Grand Theft
Thu, Mar 3	M	41	Drunk in Public
Thu, Mar 3	M	31	Possession of Methamphetamines
Thu, Mar 3	M	28	Assault with a Deadly Weapon
Fri, Mar 4	M	45	Under the Influence of a Controlled Substance
Fri, Mar 4	M	34	Contempt of Court
Fri, Mar 4	M	33	Robbery
Fri, Mar 4	M	33	Drunk in Public
Fri, Mar 4	M	39	Drunk in Public
Fri, Mar 4	F	34	Grand Theft
Fri, Mar 4	M	35	Unknown
Fri, Mar 4	M	25	Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol
Sat, Mar 5	M	38	Possession of Methamphetamines
Sat, Mar 5	F	37	Drunk in Public
Sat, Mar 5	F	20	Vandalism
Sat, Mar 5	M	28	Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol
Sat, Mar 5	F	30	Drunk in Public
Sat, Mar 5	M	29	Grand Theft
Sun, Mar 6	M	41	Misdemeanor Hit and Run
Sun, Mar 6	M	54	Trespassing
Sun, Mar 6	M	60	Possession of Methamphetamines
Sun, Mar 6	M	54	Possession of Methamphetamines
Sun, Mar 6	M	26	Resisting Arrest

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HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 2

declared a state of emergency in December in the crime-heavy Tenderloin neighborhood, which has been ground zero for drug dealing, overdose deaths and homelessness. She said it's time to get aggressive and "less tolerant of all the bull — that has destroyed our city."

In Sacramento voters may decide on multiple proposed homeless-related ballot measures in November — including prohibiting people from storing "hazardous waste," such as needles and feces, on public and private property, and requiring the city to create thousands of shelter beds. City officials in the area are feeling increasing pressure to break liberal conventions, including from an conservation group that is demanding that 750 people camping along a 23-mile (37-kilometer) natural corridor of the American River Parkway be removed from the area.

Advocates for the homeless have denounced aggressive measures, saying the problem is being treated as a blight or a chance for cheap political gains, instead of a humanitarian crisis.

Donald H. Whitehead Jr., executive director of the National Coalition for the Homeless, said at least 65 U.S. cities are criminalizing or sweeping encampments. "Everywhere that there is a high population of homeless people, we started to see this as their response."

Portland's homeless crisis has grown increasingly visible in recent years. During the area's 2019 point-in-time count — a yearly census of sorts — an estimated 4,015 people were experiencing homelessness, with half of them "unsheltered" or sleeping outside. Advocates say the numbers have likely significantly increased.

Last month Wheeler used his emergency powers to ban camping on the sides of "high-crash" roadways — which encompass about 8% of the total area of the city. The decision followed a report showing 19 of 27 pedestrians killed by cars in Portland last year were homeless. People in at least 10 encampments were given 72-hours to leave.

"It's been made very clear people are dying," Wheeler said. "So I approach this from a sense of urgency."

Wheeler's top adviser — Sam Adams, a former Portland mayor — has also outlined a controversial plan that would force up to 3,000 homeless people into massive temporary shelters staffed by Oregon National Guard members. Advocates say the move, which marks a major shift in tone and policy, would ultimately criminalize homelessness.

"I understand my suggestions are big ideas," Adams wrote. "Our work so far, mine included, has … failed to produce the sought-after results."

Oregon's Democratic governor rejected the idea. But Adams says if liberal cities don't take drastic action, ballot measures that crack down on homelessness may emerge instead.

That's what happened in left-leaning Austin, Texas. Last year voters there reinstated a ban that penalizes those who camp downtown and near the University of Texas, in addition to making it a crime to ask for money in certain areas and times.

People who work with the homeless urge mayors to find long-term solutions — such as permanent housing and addressing root causes like addiction and affordability — instead of temporary ones they say will further traumatize and villainize a vulnerable population.

The pandemic has added complications, with homeless-related complaints skyrocketing in places like Portland, where the number of campsites removed each week plummeted from 50 to five after COVID-19 hit.

The situation has affected businesses and events, with employers routinely asking officials to do more. Some are looking to move, while others already have — notably Oregon's largest annual golf tournament, the LPGA Tour's Portland Classic, relocated from Portland last year due to safety concerns related to a nearby homeless encampment.

James Darwin "Dar" Crammond, director at the Oregon Water Science Center building downtown, told the City Council about his experience working in an area populated with encampments.

Crammond said four years ago the biggest security concerns were vandalism and occasional car break-ins. Now employees often are confronted by "unhinged" people and forced to sidestep discarded needles, he said.

Despite spending $300,000 on security and implementing a buddy system for workers to safely be outdoors, the division of the U.S. Geological Survey is looking to move.

"I don't blame the campers. There are a few other options for housing. There's a plague of meth and opiates and a world that offers them no hope and little assistance," Crammond said. "In my view, where the blame squarely lies is with the City of Portland."

In New York City, where a homeless man is accused of pushing a woman to her death in front of a subway in January, Mayor Eric Adams announced a plan to start barring people from sleeping on trains or riding the same lines all night.

Adams has likened homelessness to a "cancerous sore," lending to what advocates describe as a negative and inaccurate narrative that demonizes the population.

"Talk to someone on the street and literally just hear a little bit about their stories — I mean, honestly, homelessness can happen to any one of us," said Laura Recko, associate director of external communications for Central City Concern in Portland.

And some question whether the tougher approach is legal — citing the 2018 federal court decision known as Martin v. City of Boise, Idaho, that said cities cannot make it illegal for people to sleep or rest outside without providing sufficient indoor alternatives.

Whitehead, of the National Coalition for the Homeless, thought the landmark ruling would force elected officials to start developing long-term fixes and creating enough shelter beds for emergency needs. Instead, some areas are ignoring the decision or finding ways around it, he said.

"If cities become as creative about solutions as they are about criminalization, then we could end homelessness tomorrow," he said.

DO YOU HAVE COMMUNITY NEWS?
Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE VIRGINIA AVENUE PARK ADVISORY BOARD VIA TELECONFERENCE
Pursuant to AB361

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

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

DATE/TIME: **SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2022 AT 10:00 AM**
(Check agenda at www.smgov.net/vapab prior to meeting to confirm start time)

LOCATION: In an effort to reduce the risk of spreading Coronavirus (COVID-19), members of the Virginia Avenue Park Advisory Board and City Staff will participate via teleconference using the City's BlueJeans platform. Instructions for joining the teleconference via video or phone will be included in the meeting agenda once it posts. The agenda will be available at www.smgov.net/vapab and posted at the front door of City Hall at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Those wishing to provide written public comment may submit comments via email to vap@santamonica.gov. Comments received prior to 5 p.m. the day before the meeting will be distributed to the Virginia Avenue Park Advisory Board prior to the meeting and posted online. Please note the agenda item in your comments. Verbal public comment can be made by joining the BlueJeans meeting according to the instructions included in the agenda posted at www.smgov.net/vapab.

ACCOMODATIONS
For disability-related accommodations, please contact Virginia Avenue Park at (310) 458-8688 or vap@santamonica.gov at least three days prior to the scheduled meeting. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation.

ESPAÑOL: Esto es un aviso de audiencia pública para invitar a cualquier parte interesada a participar en la preparación del Plan de Acción Anual del Año Fiscal 2022-23. Si necesita más información, por favor llame a Lupe Madrid en la División de Vivienda y Servicios Humanos al número (310) 458-8688.







Lions Roar

Susan Lee DeRemer
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The signature cause for Lions Clubs International is vision. In 1925 Helen Keller challenged the Lions attending one of their first International conferences, to become "Knights of the Blind in this crusade against darkness." Not only did the Lions accept the challenge, but we have spent the decades since expanding that goal; helping combat river blindness; promoting vision care and screenings for common eye diseases such as age-related macular degeneration, glaucoma, and diabetic retinopathy; and implementing Lions KidSight USA to screen children's vision, catching early correctable vision issues that can affect learning.

One project the Santa Monica – Pacific Palisades Lions Club has been able to continue throughout most of the pandemic is our used eyeglass and hearing aid collection. This past year we collected almost 1500 eyeglasses. Lion Alan Parr then delivered them to a refurbishment site near Banning. At the site they are sorted, cleaned, frames repaired, and screws tightened. The lenses are then classified according to prescription strength and sorted for distribution.

While many glasses in Southern California go to Mexico and Central America, some remain in Southern California for those that need them in our own communities. SMPP Lions have distributed eyeglasses for free during our Lions Eyes Across California eye screenings that took place every March prior to the pandemic. We are hoping to resume these events, that also include diabetes screenings, by next year.

How would you like to give the gift of sight? By checking drawers and closets you might be surprised what you find. Any used eyeglasses, readers, sunglasses, or hearing aids are the perfect thing to donate at one of our many collection locations across Santa Monica and in Pacific Palisades:

Elander Eye Medical Group, 242 - 26th Street, SM (310) 393-0624

Alpha Graphics, 2717 Wilshire Bl., SM (310) 453-7559

i-Care Optical, 11744 W Pico Bl., SM (310) 478-9771

Providence St. John's, 2121 Santa Monica Bl. – Cafeteria, SM (310) 829-5511

Santa Monica Eye Associates, 1908 Santa Monica Bl. #3, SM (310) 829-5475

Dr. Mark Sawusch, 910 Via de la Paz #208, PP (310) 454-5521

YMCA, 1332 Sixth St., SM (310) 393-2721

Your donations today not only restore senses we all take for granted, but also help the environment – recycle, reuse, repurpose!

If you are looking for other opportunities to give back to your community, or connect with others, think about becoming a SMPP Lion. In addition to our service projects, we have dinner meetings the second Wednesday of each month with a featured speaker. Meetings are at 6 pm at the Elks Lodge on Pico Bl., with free parking. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Yoriko Fisher, at smpplionsclub@gmail.com or Kingsley Fife at (310) 454-2960.



Courtesy image

LIONS: The local club continues work to collect eyeglasses and hearing aids.

PANDEMIC

FROM PAGE 2

day alone this week and a coffee shop opened this week next to the gym in a space that sat vacant for months, driving up foot traffic.

"Sometimes things have got to get worse before they get better," Pa said before rushing off to give a tour to a new member.

Demand for testing is down, too.

Jaclyn Chavira remembers the fear on peoples' faces as they lined up by the thousands in Los Angeles to be tested during the late 2020 surge, which triggered an astonishing 250,000 infections and more than 3,000 deaths a day across the U.S. at the peak.

Infections raced out of control for weeks and some days the line of cars at the Dodger Stadium test site, one of the largest in the nation, stretched for nearly two miles.

At the height of the omicron surge, Chavira's nonprofit called CORE did 94,000 tests a week at 10 sites in Los Angeles County. Last week, they conducted about 3,400 and most of them were for work or travel requirements — not because the person was sick, she said.

"You can sense the relief," said Chavira.

Not everyone, however, is ready to dive back in. Many remember last year when mask rules eased and COVID-19 seemed to be loosening its grip only to come roaring back as the delta and omicron variants took hold.

Amber Pierce, who works in a Portland bar-restaurant, was out of work for almost a year due to COVID-related layoffs and narrowly dodged an infection herself when the virus swept through her workplace. A regular customer died during this winter's peak, she said.

She still wears a mask even when outdoors and was eating pizza outside on a recent day only because her brother was visiting for the first time in more than a year.

"I'm going to make sure that there's not a spike once those masks come off and everyone starts, you know, feeling comfortable," she said, as she applied hand sanitizer.

"It's still the anxiety of it," she said. "Either way, it's going to hit you whether you get really sick or not."

MENTAL HEALTH

FROM PAGE 1

disorders and the governor's office estimates that between 7,000 to 12,000 people could qualify for CARE Court each year.

While participation in both courts is voluntary they each have a different relationship with the criminal justice system.

People referred to HCCs generally have some sort of criminal record related to their mental illness or substance use. The prospect of having low level charges expunged helps motivate commitment to a treatment plan.

Individuals may be referred to CARE Court after having a misdemeanor charge filed due to mental illness or substance use, however there are several other pathways to qualify for a hearing. People coming off of 72-hour mental health holds can be referred to CARE Courts and family members can petition the court to implement a plan for a loved one suffering from mental illness. First responders and mental health service providers can also refer people.

The CARE Court framework aims to fill a hole in California's legal system, which has very limited pathways for compelling mentally ill individuals into treatment. Currently, the main options are a 72-hour psychiatric hold, which is short-term intervention, and a conservatorship, where an individual is appointed to oversee treatment for an adult with serious mental illness, which is challenging to get court approved. As a result, severely mentally ill individuals frequently experience repeat 72 -hour holds and often end up on the streets or behind bars.

"CARE Court is about meeting people where they are and acting with compassion to support the thousands of Californians living on our streets with severe mental health and substance use disorders," said Governor Newsom in a March 3 press release announcing the plan. "We are taking action to break the pattern that leaves people without hope and cycling repeatedly through homelessness and incarceration."

The plan has been met with broad support from local governments across the state and specifically in Los Angeles, which alongside San Francisco is at the epicenter of California's homelessness and mental health crises.

"Unfortunately, we know that many of our neighbors are not ready for temporary or even permanent supportive housing. In some cases they aren't in a red zone either where they need a traditional conservatorship. That's why I want to wholeheartedly embrace the CARE Courts that the Governor has put forward," said City of L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti during a March 4 news conference from the California Big City Mayors. "Right now there is a gap in the system and this would seek to fill it."

In Santa Monica, the homeless population experiences a high frequency of mental illness and the City employs a string of strategies to connect individuals to treatment.

Homeless service providers utilize the principle of relentless engagement to try to convince individuals to accept treatment such as anti-psychotic drugs, visits to sobering or mental health treatment facilities and outpatient counseling.

The Santa Monica Police Department has a diversion program embedded in its jails called the Alternatives to Incarceration Initiative (ATI). Through ATI mentally ill, homeless and substance-using individuals who commit low level crimes are eligible to have their charges dismissed if they agree to be diverted to an appropriate treatment facility and follow a 90 day treatment plan. This is a separate program from the HCC and is designed as a more immediate intervention for first-time offenders as compared to the 6 to 12 month treatment commitment the HCC asks of chronically homeless offenders.

Mentally ill and substance using individuals who are registered sex offenders or commit more serious crimes such as felonies are not eligible for ATI or HCC and instead pass through the traditional justice system — as does anyone who declines to participate in ATI or HCC. If individuals lack the reasoning capacity to stand trial, they are referred to a court in Hollywood that specializes in handling these types of cases.

Even with these efforts in place, the City's soundscape remains frequently punctuated by the screams and rants of mentally ill individuals who are unable or unwilling to access treatment.

John Maceri, the CEO of Santa Monica's largest homeless services provider The People Concern, expressed optimism that CARE Courts could be a resource for some of this population. His homeless multidisciplinary street teams work to connect mentally ill and substance-using individuals to services, but have limits of their modes of recourse.

If a mentally ill individual poses an active threat to themselves or others, outreach workers can call 911 and wait for emergency responders to transport them for a 72-hour hold. In order to begin the lengthy process of establishing a conservatorship, the individual must meet the definition of being gravely disabled, meaning they are unable to fulfill their own basic needs for food, clothing and shelter.

"We see it every day with the outreach teams on the streets working with individuals who are significantly impaired, but they don't meet the definition of grave disability and so right now, the way the system is structured, it really skews towards not being able to help those individuals as quickly as we can," said Maceri. "I think what CARE Court does is provide an alternative for people who will be able to get into care and treatment faster."

One glaring question Newsom has yet to address is how CARE Courts will better encourage individuals to accept treatment given that participation is voluntary.

Medication can be court mandated, but individuals cannot be forced to take it and failure to follow a treatment plan will not carry its own criminal penalty. Failure to follow a treatment plan could lead an individual to a 72-hour hold or on the pathway to a conservatorship, but the legal requirements for both actions will remain the same as they are now.

Earlier this year, Newsom floated the idea of reforming California's conservatorship law to lower the bar of being gravely disabled and make it easier to force people into treatment. This received strong push back from disability and civil rights organizations, who fear the system would be unjustly used to remove people's autonomy. Even the more middle ground CARE Court proposal is being met with trepidation by some groups.

"The CARE acronym stands for community assistance, recovery, and empowerment, and Disability Rights California supports all of those goals for Californians with mental health disabilities. However, these services held under a court's jurisdiction are likely to take on a form of coercion that deprives people with disabilities of their fundamental right to self-determination," stated Disability Rights California in a March 7 official response to Governor Newsom's CARE Court Framework.

In the statement, Disability Rights California urged Newsom undertake an equity analysis of the CARE Court framework that focuses on individuals at the highest risk of experiencing discrimination, incarceration and coercion prior to finalizing it.

Although CARE Court is voluntary, there are several aspects of the court that could increase the likelihood of an individual committing to treatment.

The first is the presence of an authority figure overseeing the treatment plan. A 2018 RAND Institute analysis of the effectiveness of Santa Monica's Homeless Community Court said the court benefited from "the black robe effect," which motivates individuals to abide by court orders.

CARE Court is about meeting people where they are and acting with compassion to support the thousands of Californians living on our streets with severe mental health and substance use disorders. We are taking action to break the pattern that leaves people without hope and cycling repeatedly through homelessness and incarceration — Gov. Newsom

"I could say the same thing to a client over and over, explaining to them consequences and things like this, but they don't really hear it from me. Then they go stand in front of a judge and all of a sudden it carries a different weight," said a service provider who was interviewed for the report.

Another helpful factor is that CARE Court would form a pipeline to mental health treatment for vulnerable populations who may not otherwise access it. For example, when people have a mentally ill loved one who does not meet the criteria for conservatorship, they are often at a loss when it comes to getting them a treatment plan. Additionally, it gives clinicians a place to refer 72-hour hold patients after their hold expires, which could decrease the odds of patients simply returning to the streets until their next mental health crisis.

Lastly, the CARE Court framework is designed to address the shortage of mental health, substance use and housing services by legally requiring that counties provide the court ordered services. Newsom has not specifically outlined how this ramp up in services will be funded, but has asked the legislature for almost $10 billion in annual funding for community behavioral health services.

On the other hand there is also reason to doubt the efficacy that CARE Courts will have at increasing treatment outcomes in practice. HCCs across California have struggled to motivate participants to follow through with their plans.

Around 40 percent of Santa Monica's HCC participants have not historically completed their treatment plans. In the RAND study one homeless court participant who failed to complete his treatment plan said that the 13 days he ended up spending in jail was about equal to having to complete his one year commitment to the court.

In recent years the number of participants in Santa Monica's HCC have dwindled from around a dozen at a time to five or six at a time. The RAND report and City staff speculate that this could be related to criminal justice reforms that have reduced their stick — namely, the severity of misdemeanor punishments that participants face if they don't opt into court.

"We would love to have more people in homeless court, but unfortunately given the criminal justice reform measures and what misdemeanors really and truly do carry, folks have to be willing to spend six weeks to six months working through their barriers to housing, as opposed to just taking the misdemeanor conviction and being done with their case in a day with no jail time, no repercussions besides maybe a stay away order," said Deputy City Attorney Jenna Grigsby.

CARE Court will not have the misdemeanor stick at all. It is designed as an intervention prior to an individual ending up in the justice system and is not an option individuals can select as an alternative to having a criminal case filed. Motivation will have to come from a participants' desire to get better and avoid down the line actions that could lead them to the carceral system or a conservatorship.

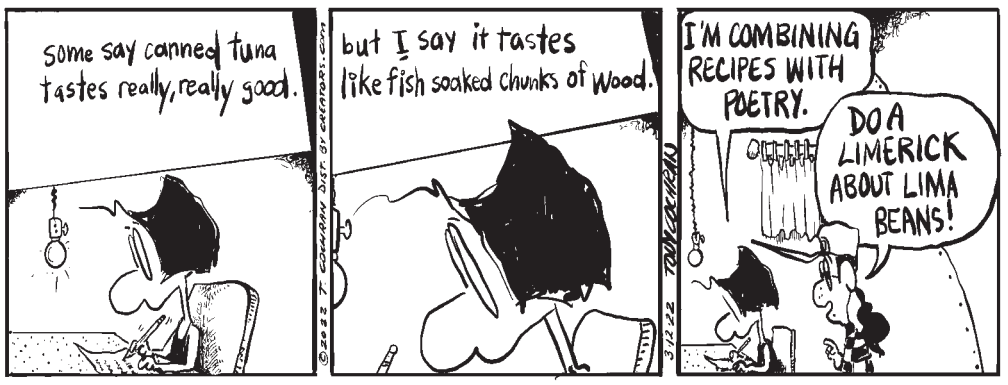
So, could Newsom's new mental health court be a fix for local homelessness? Maybe, but the proof will have to come in time with pending legislative approval and the yet to be revealed details of how the plan will be implemented.

Clara@smdp.com

GET IT DAILY...

Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



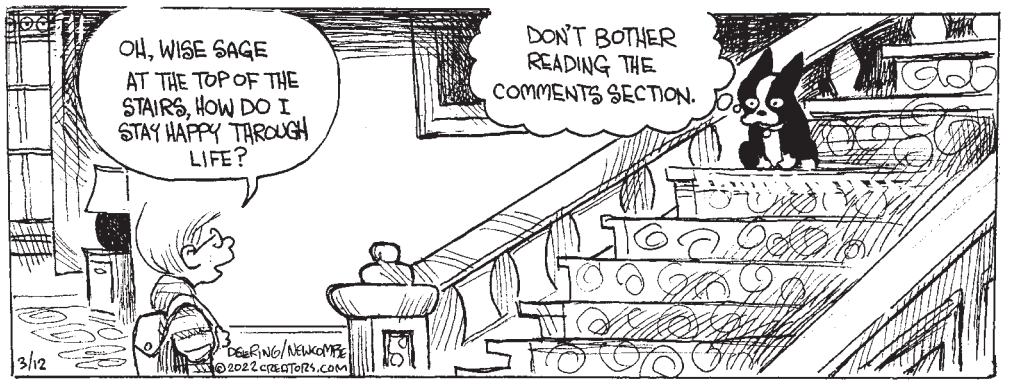
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



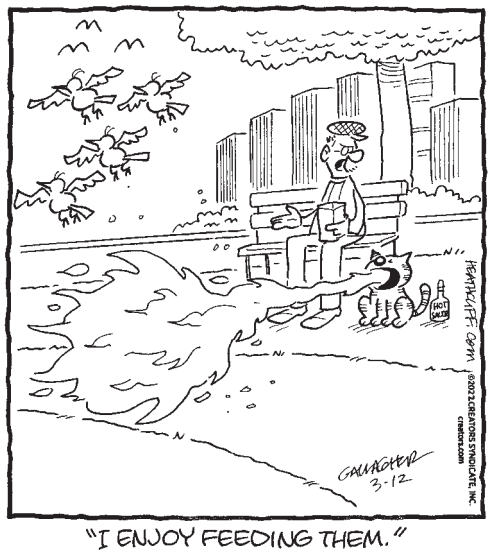
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"I ENJOY FEEDING THEM."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 59.9°

SATURDAY - **POOR** - SURF: 0.5-1ft Shin to knee
Another day of trace NW swell.

SUNDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft Thigh to waist
Keeping an eye on a little extra WNW-NW energy filling in. Light morning winds with high tide, shifting onshore in the afternoon as tide drains.

WEATHER

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 71. North wind 5 to 10 mph.
Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 51. West wind 5 to 10 mph.
Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 67.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2022/03/12	Sat	05:03 AM	4.31	H
2022/03/12	Sat	12:46 PM	0.00	L
2022/03/12	Sat	7:48 PM	3.47	H
2022/03/13	Sun	12:09 AM	2.56	L
2022/03/13	Sun	06:57 AM	4.67	H
2022/03/13	Sun	2:17 PM	-0.28	L
2022/03/13	Sun	8:59 PM	3.65	H
2022/03/14	Mon	01:44 AM	2.16	L
2022/03/14	Mon	07:39 AM	5.03	H
2022/03/14	Mon	2:44 PM	-0.49	L
2022/03/14	Mon	9:13 PM	3.86	H
2022/03/15	Tue	02:16 AM	1.74	L
2022/03/15	Tue	08:15 AM	5.31	H
2022/03/15	Tue	3:09 PM	-0.61	L
2022/03/15	Tue	9:29 PM	4.11	H
2022/03/16	Wed	02:48 AM	1.32	L
2022/03/16	Wed	08:50 AM	5.47	H
2022/03/16	Wed	3:33 PM	-0.63	L
2022/03/16	Wed	9:49 PM	4.38	H
2022/03/17	Thu	03:22 AM	0.92	L
2022/03/17	Thu	09:24 AM	5.47	H

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 3/9
13 22 34 51 67
Power#: 10
Jackpot: 112 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/8
7 18 38 58 64
Mega#: 24
Jackpot: 20 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 3/9
19 34 36 41 42
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 24 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/10
9 11 14 18 37

Daily 3
Draw Date: 3/10
EVENING: 8 3 6
Draw Date: 3/10
MIDDAY: 6 2 8

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 3/10
1st: 01 - Gold Rush
2nd: 12 - Lucky Charms
3rd: 08 - Gorgeous George
Race Time: 1:44.04

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

WISE & Healthy Aging
(310) 394-9871

Adult Day Service Center
Your trusted source for adult day care for your loved one. Let us give you the break you need.

Somos Amigos
"Somos Amigos" (we are friends) is our Spanish Language Program offering mental stimulation, exercise-strength training and recreation.

Let Us Help You Address Early Memory Loss
A Program of WISE & Healthy Aging
WISE Minds

A Veterans Benefit!

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (MARCH 12)

Success is not an award, a number on a chart or an amount in the bank. Success is a feeling, and one you'll cultivate and recreate many times over. You'll revel in certain aspects of your work and tend to details that elevate you to excellence. A study will thrill you and you'll travel to pursue deeper knowledge. Capricorn and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 4, 49, 1 and 15.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Uninspiring work makes you lethargic. Perhaps it has to be done, but does it have to be done by you? Once you get into an interesting project, it will be like you're plugged into a power plant.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You don't learn or grow much from goals that are too easily attained. Strive for the hard aims now. Likewise, make it a little more difficult for others to win prizes from you. You'll be doing them a favor.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). People everywhere are engaged in their own internal battles. Sometimes these conflicts go undetected to even their nearest and dearest. Whether you are on the giving or receiving side of help, things are improving.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Around people who may be envious of your success, you'll be tempted to play it low-key. It's better to say nothing at all than to downplay or speak ill of your good fortune.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There's an ace up your sleeve and you're about to play it. Once you do, the game is yours. Apply your winnings to improving your favorite thing. It will be a thrill to watch something go from good to fabulous.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). A relationship has been weathering some tension, but the reconciliation is coming. You'll each say what you need to say and hear what you need to hear.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You can say what you need to say, and the other person won't be the least bit defensive. Accept all invitations for joint ventures, especially work-related ones. Your dreams are celestially tied to people who support them.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There will be evidence that, contrary to popular belief, life may really be fair after all. Justice comes in many forms, including poetic or delayed. Things turn out the best way possible.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You do not have to be a painter or poet to be creative in your work. Even straightforward tasks like filing or cleaning will be turned into creative endeavors because you approach with style.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your ability to lead yourself will depend largely on your environment. Arrange your environment so it's easy to do the things you tell yourself to do and/or very hard to do the unwanted behavior.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Happiness and simplicity will be linked up. The minute you feel things involving too many elements or getting too complicated, busy, messy, fast or expensive... stop and start over.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). One solution doesn't work for everyone. Also, one solution doesn't work for anyone all the time. This is why when something is working, you celebrate it.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

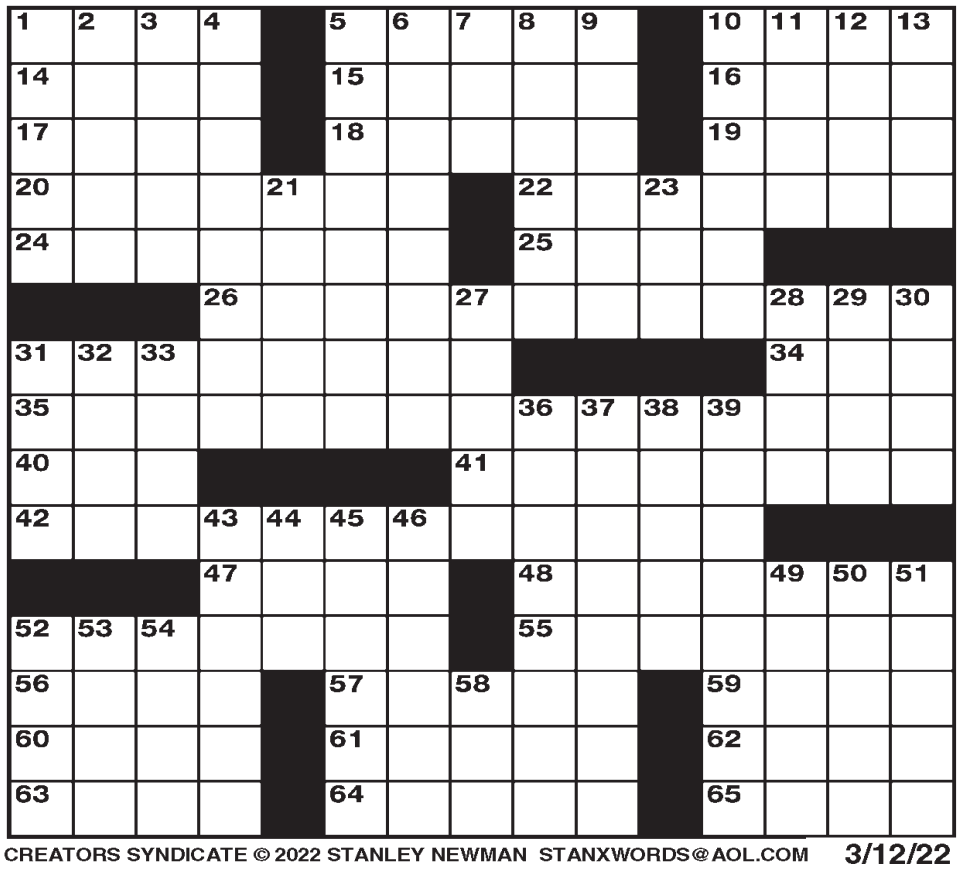
1		4	7					
			4	6			7	
	3		1			8	6	
	8					3		
7			9		5			6
		6					1	
	4	5			1		3	
	2			3	9			
					6	2		5

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Greg Johnson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Introduction to instruction
5 Something heard for ordering out
10 Reverse
14 "Deep down inside" place
15 Back-and-forth sesh
16 Visible
17 Split
18 Disrupt
19 Like a pro
20 They hold world records
22 Crucians live there
24 Canine one letter off from a con artist
25 __ effort
26 Purple Crayola color
31 Start of a scale model
34 "Is that __?"
35 The Barista Express, e.g.
40 Tops in the tech division
41 What football helmets have
42 One in a grade school organization
47 Push gently
48 Touchdown areas
52 Move like molasses, maybe
55 Hated rival of Genoa CFC
56 Inflict a blowout defeat on
57 Smashing, in show biz
59 Fat-filled fare
60 Kon-Tiki Museum's home
61 Got it wrong
62 Without a break
63 Béchamel thickener
64 In harmony
65 Colleague/pal of Dalí

DOWN
1 Play in plays
2 Stock market purchase
3 Name related to Lotty
4 It's for those who don't give a darn
5 Uses a hand grip strengthener
6 Baseball uniform specs
7 Keys to quality care
8 "__ . . . *venite adoremus Dominum!*"
9 Carry weight
10 Outfit for GI Joe
11 Moses scaled it after Sinai
12 __ meat
13 Kind of quartz
21 Earth mover
23 Wheels
27 Expansive
28 Justicial facility
29 Sainted mother of Mary
30 Locale in *Homer's Odyssey* (1990)
31 Half of icosa-
32 Diagnostician's denouement
33 Homer's *Odyssey*, for instance
36 Off-base
37 Parenthetical trio
38 Social skill
39 Scandalous sound-bite sources
43 Chiller of the '30s
44 Stuff like syrup
45 Word from the Greek for "ship"
46 Shake down
49 Bayer brand
50 Work a function
51 Indelicate inspiration
52 Unseen trail
53 "Ish"
54 Alphabet ender
58 Balkan IOC designation



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What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

SATURDAY | MARCH 12

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.

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.

SAMOHI THEATRE TO PRESENT LEGALLY BLONDE - THE MUSICAL
Accompanied by a live orchestra, Legally Blonde is an energetic and sassy musical comedy - the perfect welcome back to live theatre after a two-year pandemic pause. Reserved seating is available at samohitheatre.org. Ticket $15 (Adults) and $10 (Students). 7 p.m.

ORGANIC RECYCLING GIVEAWAY
To promote the new organics recycling law, the City will be giving out FREE food scraps kitchen pails, freezer bins, and nutrient-rich organic compost to Santa Monica residents on March 12-13 at 2500 Michigan Avenue from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. First 300 residents each day will receive free kitchen pails and freezer bins - while supplies list. ID required. Staff will be on-site to answer your recycling questions or email zerowaste@santamonica.gov.

SUNDAY | MARCH 13

ORCHESTRA SANTA MONICA CONCERT
Orchestra Santa Monica is bringing the full symphony orchestra to perform in the heart of Santa Monica. Led by Music Director Roger Kalia, the orchestra will perform Shostakovich's Symphony No. 9 and the Brahms Violin Concerto (soloist Nathan Cole). The concert will open with Seven O'Clock Shout, written by Valerie Coleman to honor front line workers. 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Broad Stage, 1310 11th St.

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

SAMOHI THEATRE TO PRESENT LEGALLY BLONDE - THE MUSICAL
Accompanied by a live orchestra, Legally Blonde is an energetic and sassy musical comedy - the perfect welcome back to live theatre after a two-year pandemic pause. Reserved seating is available at samohitheatre.org. Ticket $15 (Adults) and $10 (Students). 3 p.m.

ORGANIC RECYCLING GIVEAWAY
To promote the new organics recycling law, the City will be giving out FREE food scraps kitchen pails, freezer bins, and nutrient-rich organic compost to Santa Monica residents on March 12-13 at 2500 Michigan Avenue from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. First 300 residents each day will receive free kitchen pails and freezer bins - while supplies list. ID required. Staff will be on-site to answer your recycling questions or email zerowaste@santamonica.gov.

MONDAY | MARCH 14

MINUTE-TO-WIN-IT MONDAYS
Competitors have just one minute to complete the challenge, with each week bringing a different challenge. Play solo or with friends and family! Top 10 times posted weekly. For families. Speed Eraser Competitors get 1 minute to bounce 10 pencils into a mug. Each pencil needs to be bounced off the eraser portion and into a mug. Main Library. Register at https://bit.ly/YouthProgramSignUps.

LANDMARKS COMMISSION MEETING
Remote meeting. The public can only attend via teleconference at: https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/sdcvvwkz or DIAL-IN NUMBER: 1 (415) 466-7000 (US), PIN 6739648 #

SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION
Remote meeting. The public can attend this meeting via live stream at https://bluejeans.com/793318640/3877 OR VIA PHONE:(408) 419-1715 or (408) 915-6290. Meeting ID: 793 318 640 Participant Passcode: 3877

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 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5416

Christmas traditions

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

Aunt
Bake
Beach
Beer
Bells
Break
Cars
Chicken
Crib
Days
Decorations
Drink
Excitement
Flies
Food
Guest
Hams
Happy
Heat
Home
Iced
Image
Joyful
Lord
Love
Mass
Mates
Nuts
Picnic
Pool
Pork
Prawns
Pudding
Race
Rich
Santa
Season
Sleep
Sock
Stay
Sunny
Surf
Swim
Tarts
Tinsel
Toast
Toys
Tree
Trim
Uncle
Wine

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Diverse and fragile ecology

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Roommates
Commercial Lease
Real Estate
Real Estate Loans
Storage Space
Vehicles for Sale
Massage
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Billing Manager will be responsible for executing administrative duties in our psychological clinic, by using clinic procedures, such as billing, compiling and recording patients' financial records, coordinating cash and insurance payments for the Outpatient facility. • Operate office equipment, such as voice mail messaging systems, and use office word processing, excel spreadsheet, scheduling systems or other software applications to prepare reports, invoices, financial statements, letters, and other records. • Maintain and review medical records to prepare billings/invoices, and financial reports including accounts receivable and accounts payable. • Prepare financial data for insurance claims, and enter data into accounting system, and reconcile insurance payments. • Answer telephones/emails from patients, insurance companies, and others in regards to their questions on invoices and payments. The qualified applicant must have a Associate degree in economics, finance, accounting, political science or related field, and 2 years of experience in a finance department or financial institution as a manager or specialist, with following responsibilities: client account management/representation with customer service duties; insurance contracts management, preparation of financial reports by using accounting standards, and quantitative analysis, and being a liaison between clients and company to handle financial problems. Strong presentation skills and expertise with MS Word, MS Excel and MS PowerPoint is required. The position is permanent, 40 hour per week, and located in Pacific Palisades, California. Qualified candidates can send resumes to jorge@reconnectcenter.com, or Reconnect Psychological Services, Professional Corp 881 Alma Real Dr. Suite 311 Pacific Palisades Ca, 90272 . EOE.

DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2022019815 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 1/27/22. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as RUBY RAE'S 216 W 4th Street San Dimas, CA 91773. The full name of the registrant(s) is/are RUBI MONTANEZ 216 W 4th Street San Dimas, CA 91773. If corporation or LLC-Print State of Incorporation/ OrganizationThis Business is conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date) 01/2022 Registrant/Corp/ LLC Name /s/: RUBI MONTANEZ.This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 1/27/22 NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish, 02/26/22, 03/05/22, 03/12/22, 03/19/22.

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