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Social Distancing
What it means and how it works.
Page 3

Attempted Murder Arrest
A man was arrested for assaulting a victim with a stick.
Page 10

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School board votes to close Santa Monica schools for three weeks

MADELEINE PAUKER
SMDP Staff Writer

Public schools in Santa Monica and Malibu were ordered Monday to close for three weeks to slow the spread of coronavirus.

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education voted to keep more than 10,000 students attending 16 schools at home for three weeks effective Tuesday in alignment with guidelines on social distancing from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. The closure will run into a two-week spring break, closing schools, childcare, preschools and adult school for a total of five weeks. Schools will reopen April 20.

"We want to remind the public this is about saving lives in our community," said school board member Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein.

Around the state, 85% of public school students stayed home Monday as districts closed with assurance from Gov. Gavin Newsom that they would continue to receive funding. The total number of cases in California reached 540 Monday, 94 of which were in Los Angeles County.

Supt. Ben Drati previously said schools would close for one week, from March 16 to March 20.

While no cases of coronavirus were confirmed at any campus, individuals connected to local schools may have exposed students at Franklin Elementary School and Santa Monica High School. A potential exposure at John Muir Elementary School has been cleared, said SMMUSD spokesperson Gail Pinsker.

Teachers will move lessons online and free, grab-and-go breakfast and lunch will be available for all students at Samohi, McKinley Elementary School, Will Rogers Elementary School and Webster Elementary School. One in four students in the district receive free or reduced lunch.

Drati said educators will be available during school hours for questions through email. Principals will communicate with parents where to pick up materials and how to access online learning.

Families with children in grades six through 12 are being asked to take a short survey regarding access to internet and availability of a device at home.

Parents of children with Individual Education Plans will receive information from their service providers as to the activities that are available to students, Drati said. The district will try to hold scheduled IEPs via phone.

Drati said the district will try to keep as few staff as possible at schools and district offices while maintaining core functions.

The Los Angeles Unified School District has also closed schools for at least two weeks but officials have said the final return date has not been set.

Many colleges, including SMC have also moved online.

madeleine@smdp.com

Santa Monica shuts down as coronavirus spreads regionally

MADELEINE PAUKER
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica went into lockdown Monday as confirmed coronavirus cases in Los Angeles County continued to climb and employees in three Santa Monica offices tested positive for the virus.

Under emergency orders from local officials to slow the spread of COVID-19, schools, public buildings, bars, theaters, gyms and salons closed for two weeks, restaurants halted dine-in service and Santa Monica Pier shut down indefinitely for the first time in its history. The city of Santa Monica put a temporary moratorium on evictions for renters financially impacted by coronavirus and its impacts on businesses.



Matthew Hall
VIRUS: The Santa Monica Pier is closed.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health announced Monday that the county had 94 confirmed coronavirus cases, at least 15 of which resulted from community spread.

"Because testing limitations still exist, the best approach is to practice social distancing at every opportunity, assuming that many people can be infected," a spokesperson said.

As the nationwide number of cases reached nearly 4,000 and the death toll reached 68, President Donald Trump said Monday that people should avoid gatherings of 10 or more

SEE **SHUT DOWN** PAGE 10

California gets rain, mountain snow from late-winter storm

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Heavy snowfall continued in California's Sierra Nevada early Monday after a weekend of travel disruptions on major routes through the range.

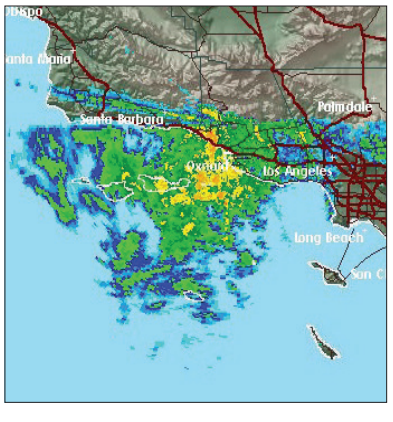
Winter storm warnings were also posted for the mountains of Southern California, where the storm was expected to reach later in the day.

The National Weather Service said conditions remained cool and showery in the San Francisco Bay area, with diminishing precipitation expected.

Down the coast, an early morning flood advisory was issued ad moderate to locally heavy rain fell across parts of Santa Barbara County.

Rainfall rates between a quarter-inch and three-quarters of an inch (63-190 centimeters) an hour created the potential for roadway flooding and minor mud and debris flows around a recent burn area, forecasters said.

Southern California was forecast to receive periods of moderate rain and mountain snow through Tuesday evening, and possibly into Wednesday, possibly affecting travel through the mountain passes.



National Weather Service
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Virus fears fuel spike in sales of guns and ammunition

LISA MARIE PANE
Associated Press

The world's largest gun store, in metro Atlanta, has had lines that are six and eight people deep. A gun store in Los Angeles had lines that stretched down the block. And at least one store in Idaho put limits on sales after its shelves were nearly cleared out.

Just as grocery stores have been stripped bare by Americans panicked by coronavirus, guns and ammunition have started flying off the shelves. Retailers say the buying frenzy is being fueled by consumers who are worried that people are becoming so desperate and unpredictable, they need to ensure they can protect themselves.

"It's been insane," said Jay Wallace, who owns Adventure Outdoors in Smyrna, Georgia, adding that his ammunition sales are up more than five times the usual numbers. "This is like a Rod Serling 'Twilight Zone' episode."

Sales spiked in a matter of days, industry experts say. Some of the purchases are made by people buying their first firearm. Others are existing gun owners adding to their collection or stocking up on ammunition after seeing grocery stores depleted, schools closed and big events canceled, including the National Rifle Association's annual meeting.

Also potentially driving the sales are concerns that elected officials may try to restrict access to firearms. A mayor in Illinois recently signed an executive order that would give her the right to ban the sale of guns or ammunition, as did the mayor of New Orleans.

Specific data on the size of the sales spike will not be available until next month. But already this year, background checks are up considerably over last year. According to data from the FBI, just over 5.5 million background checks were conducted in January and February combined.

Gun sales generally rise in an election year, as they did in 2016. But this past January and February have outpaced 2016 by nearly 350,000.

Betsy Terrell, a 61-year-old resident of Decatur, Georgia, said she thought for years about purchasing a handgun and decided to finally get one after seeing chaos at her local Costco, with long lines and people stockpiling goods.

She feels the metro Atlanta area already has a lot of crime. She's worried that if the economy tanks, crime will rise even more.

"I was beginning to see people acting oddly. That was a little unnerving," she said. "I feel there's potential political upheaval. ... It's scary. It's only now I've felt this overwhelming need to arm myself to protect myself."

After spending the past couple of weeks stocking up on food, coffee, water and medicine for one of her cats, she decided it was time to act.

She went to Cabela's and was shocked to see lines that were two and three deep. Many guns were out of stock as well as some rounds of ammunition, but she was able to pick up a Glock 42 handgun.

"If it sits in my nightstand, if I never touch it, I'm happy about that," she said.

It was a decision she's somewhat surprised she took. She has a lot of friends who oppose firearms and won't be advertising her purchase on Facebook. "I'm crashing a line I thought I'd never crash."

Some gun shows have been canceled, but online sales and in-person sales at federally licensed dealers appear to be up. Ammo.com has reported sales up nearly 70 percent from Feb. 23 to March 4 over the previous 11 days.

At Sportsmen's Warehouse in Meridian, Idaho, some shelves holding handgun ammunition were nearly wiped out. The store posted signs telling customers that sales were limited to no more than two handguns per person each day and no more than one AR- or AK-platform rifles each day. It also placed limits on ammunition.

As recently as Friday, Retting Guns in Culver City, California, posted on its Facebook page that it had plenty of handguns and a decent supply of ammunition. But by the weekend, photographs showed lines extending out its doors and down the block. The store posted on its Facebook page that the staff was too busy to answer the phone or continue holding firearms safety certification classes.

Ed Turner, who owns Ed's Public Safety in Stockbridge, Georgia, said his shop was not seeing people "flailing their arms screaming it's the end of the world," but sales were up five times the usual volume. "Worst day on the stock market since 1987 and shelves getting bare apparently have got everyone's attention," he said.

In the 27 years he's been in business, he said, "I've never seen it like this. ... This is self-preservation. This is panic. This is 'I won't be able to protect my family from the hordes and the walking dead."

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6 Bay Area counties in California order shelter-in-place

CHRISTOPHER WEBER AND STEFANIE DAZIO
Associated Press

Officials in six San Francisco Bay Area counties issued a shelter-in-place mandate on Monday affecting nearly 7 million people, including the city of San Francisco itself.

The order says residents must stay inside and venture out only for necessities for three weeks starting Tuesday in a desperate attempt by officials to curb the spread of the novel coronavirus.

If affects the counties of San Francisco, Marin, Santa Clara, San Mateo, Alameda and Contra Costa, as well as the city of Berkeley.

People should work from home and unless they provide essential services, such as public safety, sanitation and medical services.

"The most important thing you can do is remain home as much as possible," San Francisco Mayor London Breed posted on Twitter. "There is no need to rush out for food or supplies, as these stores will remain open.

The dramatic step came officials across California took increasingly strident steps to separate people and contain the spread of coronavirus, promoting millions of the state's oldest and youngest residents to stay home Monday.

Freeways normally jammed with rush hour drivers flowed freely, and Starbucks' shift to take-out only was apparent at locations where tables were removed and drive-through lanes were busy.

Long lines, however, persisted at some grocery stores despite officials saying there's no need to hoard supplies.

Responding to panic buying that has stripped supermarkets, executives of major grocery chains said at Los Angeles press conference there is no food shortage, supply chains are in good shape and clerks are working in the middle of the night to restock shelves while maintaining a high level of cleanliness.

"There is plenty of product," said Bryan Kaltenbach, president of Kroger's Food 4 Less.

Gov. Gavin Newsom on Sunday urged the state's 5.3 million people who are 65 and older and those with chronic health conditions to isolate to protect themselves from the virus. He also called for all bars, wineries, nightclubs and brewpubs to close.

Last week, Newsom recommended all nonessential gatherings be limited to 250 people, prompting the temporary closure of numerous businesses, performances and meetings. He didn't order school closures but virtually every district took the step on its own.

Newsom said an estimated 85% of California's 6 million public school students will be out of their classrooms this week. The length of time varies by district, with some canceling classes for up to five weeks.

Newsom said he recognized the increasing isolation for millions of Californians is "anxiety-inducing" but said the moves were necessary to protect the state's most vulnerable residents.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti imposed even stricter requirements. Restaurants may only offer pickup, delivery and drive-through service. He also closed gyms, movie theaters, bowling alleys and arcades.

"We need to take these steps to protect our city right now," he said.

The rapid pace of new restrictions caught people and institutions off-guard.

At the Chimney Coffee House in Los Angeles, barista Rachel Cauilan filled the day's first UberEats order. "One guy came in and he wanted to talk and stay but we had to kick him out," she laughed.

In San Diego, the Superior Court hastily advised people summoned for jury duty but not already sitting on cases to not report Monday.

Near San Diego State University, Will Remsbottom's Scrimshaw Coffee had just three people and one was washing windows. "I'm just struggling with this moral conundrum of remaining open and being a potential spreader versus closing and not being able to pay my employees," he said.

In Orange County, an elderly couple wearing face masks walked out of a supermarket with a full cart. A moment later, a woman walked briskly toward the store, asking if there was any toilet paper inside. There wasn't.

Robert Murillo's younger daughter turned 4 on Sunday, but the family stayed home and ate cupcakes. "We made the best with what we had," he said. "They're still at the age that blowing a balloon makes their day, so thank God for that."

California has confirmed at least 335 cases of the virus and six deaths. The virus usually causes only mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough, but can be deadly for older people and those with underlying health conditions.

Many districts are arranging for meal pickups for children who depend on schools for breakfast and lunch. Many college students also are back home as their colleges and universities empty their dormitories and move classes online.

As the virus has spread, California and other states have been issuing ever-increasing directives. Last week, Newsom recommended all nonessential gatherings be limited to 250 people, prompting the temporary closure of numerous businesses, performances and meetings.

In another effort to keep people separated, state health officials on Saturday urged movie theaters to keep attendance under 250 and ask strangers to sit 6 feet (2 meters) apart. Gambling venues were told to limit 250 people per room and clean chips and slot machines more frequently, while theme parks and attractions were told to thin out crowds by staggering attendance.

Meanwhile, California is working with Verily, the life sciences arm of Google parent

SEE **SHELTER** PAGE 7

How social distancing works and what it means for you

MIKE STOBBE
AP Medical Writer

CAN MY KIDS GO ON A PLAY DATE? IS IT OK IF I VISIT THE GYM?

In this time of coronavirus, once-easy questions have suddenly become complex.

Here are some questions and answers about the "social distancing" efforts to slow the epidemic in the U.S.

WHAT IS SOCIAL DISTANCING?

Social distancing are practices implemented by public health officials to keep contagious diseases from spreading.

The measures are aimed at trying to cut down the amount of virus spreading around, and ultimately protect those most vulnerable, including the elderly and people with weakened immune systems.

WHAT MEASURES HAVE BEEN TAKEN?

Governments have closed borders, and millions of workers and students have been ordered to stay home. On Monday, U.S. officials recommended that older people and those with underlying health conditions "stay home and away from other people." The U.S. is also telling people not to gather in large groups.

And experts also recommend people try to stay at least 6 feet (about 2 meters) away from each other.

WHY 6 FEET?

Experts believe the virus is mainly spread through droplets that come out of your mouth and nose. When an infected person speaks or exhales or coughs or sneezes, the droplets travel about 3 to 6 feet (1 to 2 meters) before gravity pulls them to the ground.

"They fall pretty quickly," said Dr. Jill Weatherhead, an infectious disease expert at the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

It's important to try to block coughs or sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve, so as to not send those droplet flying directly toward someone nearby.

CAN I GO OUTSIDE AT ALL?

Yes, with some exceptions. And the guidelines vary based on where you live.

"We're not being told to stay at home and lock the doors," said Dr. Willam Schaffner, a Vanderbilt University infectious diseases expert. "We're not there yet, and I don't think we'll get there."

People who have coughs and sneezes should stay home as much as possible, and call ahead to the doctor's office if they're planning to get their illness checked out, he added.

People who have confirmed coronavirus illness should stay home, as should those who were in close contact with a confirmed case.

WHERE CAN I GO?

Options are becoming limited, with school, gym and restaurant closures in some places, and work-from-home edicts.

Officials in six San Francisco-area counties on Monday told nearly 7 million people to stay inside and venture out only for necessities.

If you live someplace without such restrictions, it's best just to use good judgment. If restaurants are open, it's OK to go to eat. But go in a small group and try to get a table away from others.

It's necessary to buy food. But try to go to the supermarket at times when it's less crowded, stay 6 feet away from other shoppers as much as you can, and wash your hands thoroughly when you get home.

CAN I GO TO THE GYM?

Exercise is important. But maybe stick to the machines, wiping them down before and after you use them, and skip games of basketball or other activities that put you in close physical contact with others. If possible, cut back on the gym and go for jogs, walks or bike rides instead, experts said.

WHAT ABOUT SOCIAL GATHERINGS?

The CDC on Sunday recommended that for the next eight weeks, organizers put off events that would draw at least 50 people. On Monday, the number was reduced to 10.

That could ice a lot of weddings, family reunions and birthday parties.

Dr. Deborah Birx, who is coordinating the federal response to the virus, said the change from 50 to 10 was influenced by research that tried to estimate the impact of different possible steps.

A CDC official, Dr. Jay Butler, said Monday there's no hard-and-fast rule. Officials are simply trying to set a reasonable parameter to "increase social distancing while not creating social isolation," he said in an interview streamed by the Journal of the American Medical Association.

CAN I GO ON DATES? OR SEND MY KIDS ON PLAY DATES?

There's some debate among experts about dates and play dates.

Adults who are not sick or considered to be at risk can still date, Schaffner said. But skip the bars, concerts and crowded theaters, and instead think about an intimate dinner at home.

For kids, play dates can be OK, especially if they're outside in parks and involve a small number of kids, he said. Of course, kids who are sick or who are particularly vulnerable to respiratory illness should not go, he added.

Weatherhead had different advice, saying play dates are not recommended. Children generally have had more mild COVID-19 illnesses and therefore might spread the disease before anyone realizes they are sick.

WILL SOCIAL DISTANCING WORK?

It will be tricky to prove these measures made a difference.

Testing for the coronavirus was delayed in the U.S., but it is now starting to become more widely available. That means a lot of new cases may be diagnosed in the coming days, as labs finally find infections that happened weeks ago.

"We're going to see increasing (case) numbers, and that's going to be frustrating to people who are doing social distancing. But that doesn't mean social distancing isn't working," Weatherhead said.



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Tuesday's primaries offer chance for Biden to reach Latinos

JONATHAN J. COOPER
Associated Press

In Joe Biden's pursuit of the Democratic presidential nomination, he's run repeatedly into a wall in the West, where Bernie Sanders' strength among Latinos propelled his campaign even as he struggled with other groups.

Tuesday's primaries in Arizona and Florida offer Biden a chance to show he can make up ground with Latinos, a crucial group of voters he'll need in his corner to defeat President Donald Trump.

Biden is playing catch-up when it comes to engaging Latino voters and is weighed down by anger over the high rate of deportations during the Obama administration, which left scars for many immigrants and their families.

"We need more. And we need commitments as we move into the general," said Regina Romero, a Democrat who recently took office as Tucson's first Latina mayor. Biden can win over reluctant Latinos with a bold and progressive stance on immigration, she said.

"I hope that he doesn't eat up the lie that he has to be more conservative on the immigration issue," said Romero, who hasn't endorsed Biden or Sanders since her favored candidate, Elizabeth Warren, dropped out. "We shouldn't be afraid of an issue that is so important for Latino voters, water it down and not have policies that Latinos can get excited about."

Arizona and Florida are both likely to be battlegrounds in November. In Arizona, 1 in 3 residents is Latino; in Florida, it's 1 in 4.

Sanders' strength with Latinos helped him to an overwhelming victory in the Nevada caucuses and contributed to his Super Tuesday wins in California and Colorado on a night when Biden built a formidable lead in delegates.

But Biden's success is a recent phenomenon. His slow start amid a crowded Democratic field left him with a shoestring budget and virtually no campaign infrastructure beyond the early states, which limited his ability to reach out to Latinos on the ground or air Spanish-language television ads. That's changed now that his burst of success since South Carolina made him the overwhelming favorite for the nomination and helped his fundraising.

"He definitely needs to work it, and he needs to up his game and engage with Latino voters," said Janet Murguía, president and CEO of UnidosUS, the Latino advocacy group formerly known as National Council of La Raza. Tuesday could make for "a big reset" for Biden, she said.

Biden has had to answer for the big spike in deportations during Barack Obama's presidency, when Biden served as vice president.

Early in his administration, Obama aggressively increased efforts to deport immigrants living in the country illegally. He'd hoped to convince members of Congress and the public that he was serious about border security in order to secure a comprehensive immigration reform bill that would extend legal status to millions of people living in the U.S. without authorization. The reform bill never passed, but the deportations disrupted families, drove fear in immigrant communities and left deep wounds.

Any Democrat's immigration policies would be superior to Trump's, but that won't be enough to excite Latinos, said Tomás Robles, co-director of Living United for Change in Arizona, or LUCHA, a Latino organizing group that has endorsed Sanders.

"You cannot depend on people's hatred or fear of Trump to inspire them to turn out in droves for Vice President Biden," Robles said. "Bernie has worked hard to motivate Latinos as a base. But the entire establishment part has failed at doing the same."

Lucha's other co-director, Alejandra Gomez, said Biden could make big strides by choosing a progressive running mate.

The Obama administration deported more than 3 million people during his eight-year tenure, especially in the early years before Obama gave up on Congress and changed course, using executive orders to extend temporary legal protections to young immigrants and their parents through programs known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, and Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents, or DAPA.

"We took far too long to get it right," Biden said in an interview last month with Univision anchor Jorge Ramos, for the first time characterizing the administration's actions as a misstep. The former vice president later added: "I think it was a big mistake. Took too long to get it right."

Biden and his allies focus on the later years of the Obama administration.

U.S. Rep. Ruben Gallego, who represents largely Latino areas of Phoenix and endorsed Biden this month, predicted that Latino voters will come around. But he said Biden could help himself by talking up his own progressive proposals, such as a $15 minimum wage and a public option for health insurance. He should also talk about the Obama health care law that extended coverage to millions of Americans, including a disproportionate number of Latinos, Gallego said.

While Arizona Latinos are frustrated with the Obama-era deportations, Gallego said, they also remember that the administration sued to block the state's anti-illegal immigration bill known as SB1070, sued Sheriff Joe Arpaio for racial profiling and enacted DACA.

"Even those voters who aren't supporting Vice President Biden right now, I think they still have positive feelings toward him and at the end of the day will be very supportive in

SEE **PRIMARIES** PAGE 7

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Jenny Rice
jenny@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Rose Mann
rose@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Madeleine Pauker
madeleine@smdp.com
Brennon Dixson
brennon@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Cynthia Citron,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra,
Sarah A. Spitz

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Achling Holliday
ross@smdp.com
Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

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

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Cheap fares luring travelers to fly despite pandemic

RUSS BYNUM
Associated Press

With the coronavirus pandemic escalating in the U.S. and overseas, Dylcia McBlackwell couldn't justify taking a single spring vacation. Air fares were so cheap, she decided to book three.

Now the 39-year-old food service worker from Chicago has tickets to fly to Denver to visit friends next month followed by a May trip to Charleston, South Carolina. After that, she's booked a flight to Costa Rica. All for a combined total of $435 for trips that might normally cost $700 or more.

"You have just one life to live," said McBlackwell, who plans to bring wipes to disinfect the tray tables in front of her airplane seats, and perhaps her own snacks. "Are you going to spend it sitting in your house scared? I'd rather be out enjoying it."

For most people, the new coronavirus causes only mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia. The vast majority of people recover.

Regardless, airlines are seeing bookings plummet and cancellations soar as fear of infection causes many Americans to avoid flying. Travel to the U.S. has been barred from most of Europe, China and Iran. Domestically, business conferences, sporting events, music festivals and other large public gatherings have been scrapped or postponed.

Airlines have been slashing flight schedules, especially on international routes, to cope with downward-spiraling demand from fearful leisure customers and a slowdown in business travel. One industry trade group has warned the pandemic could cost airlines worldwide up to $113 billion in revenue.

The proliferation of empty airline seats has some travelers making spur-of-the-moment ticket purchases to take advantage of steeply discounted prices.

"Travel is one of my favorite things to do and I'm always looking at flights to different places," said Nick Williams of Muncie, Indiana. "I have never seen flights this cheap before."

During his recent spring break, the 22-year-old Ball State University student paid $110 round trip to visit friends in Orlando, Florida. As soon as he returned to Indiana, he spotted a weekend fare back to Orlando for just $65.

"I was in Muncie for less than 48 hours," said Williams, who hopped right back onto a plane to Florida. "I felt a little crazy doing it. But those opportunities don't always arise."

Williams isn't oblivious to the coronavirus. Since his Florida trips, Ball State has canceled in-person classes for the rest of the spring semester. Courses will still be held online, but Williams said the campus seems eerily quiet. Unafraid to fly domestically, he's ruled out overseas trips for now.

And cheap fares aren't expected to overcome many travelers' fears.

"If you are scared of flying, you are probably scared at any price," Delta President Glen Hauenstein said recently.

Asked about younger travelers taking advantage of cheap airfares, U.S. Surgeon General Jerome Adams told reporters Thursday that those visiting countries where coronavirus is spreading should avoid contact with older relatives and family with chronic medical conditions for 14 days after returning.

"Don't come home and then visit grandma in the nursing home," Adams told a news conference in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. "Don't go hang out around grandpa at Easter dinner and tell him all about the great trip that you just had to Europe."

Yago Ferreira didn't think much about the virus when he booked two trips earlier this month. The 27-year-old tech salesman from Belmont, California, is set to fly to Brazil in August for $800 — a little more than half what he's used to paying for his annual trip to see family. He also picked up a $250 ticket for an Easter trip to surprise his mother in New Jersey.

About two days after Ferreira booked his flights, the World Health Organization declared the coronavirus' spread a pandemic. And there was news that three Transportation Security Administration officers at a California airport had tested positive for COVID-19.

"I noticed that it's starting to get a little bit worse," said Ferreira, adding he intends to stick to his travel plans. "It's starting, not to worry me, but it's keeping me wary."

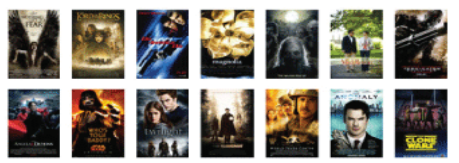
For Adriano Mirchou of Orem, Utah, a $250 plane ticket provided an unexpected chance to make an upcoming trip to tour the University of Miami, which recently accepted him into its film school.

Now coronavirus worries have shut down classes at the university, also upending 25-year-old Mirchou's plans to visit the campus. He still intends to make the Miami trip and spend it hanging out with a friend.

Changing course because of the virus isn't on his itinerary.

"I don't think I'd be in harm's way just by traveling," Mirchou said. "It could happen to anybody. But at the same time, I don't think it'll happen to me."

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What's the Point?

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Trump's The Greatest ...

In the history of humanity, there may be no greater failure by a leader than that of President Donald J. Trump, certainly there is no greater prevaricator in chief. For a man who craves to be the "best", "greatest" and any other form of superlative available, he has certainly proved himself capable of outdoing the lies, misinformation and frankly incompetence of every other world leader dating back to the Thag, King of the Cro-Magnons. (Yes, that's a Far Side reference.)

Four weeks ago I landed in Johannesburg, South Africa, and upon entry I was scanned by a digital thermometer. I then flew to Namibia, where I was again inspected by a digital camera / thermometer. Upon return to S. Africa, I was scanned for a third time. Now according to the experts, for the most part these types of mass scannings by digital thermometers don't do very much in slowing the transmission of infections. It may be that they are nothing more than just political theater to keep the masses calm with the impression that the government is taking decisive action.

Contrast those experiences with what happened to me last week on my return to California. At the Delta desk in Joburg the attendant asked me if I had been in China or Iran, thankfully I had not. That was the last time anyone expressed any interest in my overall travel, or health condition. When I arrived in Atlanta, Customs and Border Patrol looked at my Global Entry receipt, and said, "You can go." That's it. Nothing else.

That was a week ago. In the ensuing days the President has variously lied about the extent of the screenings, the availability of tests and the extent of the infections. I realize that as leader of the free world, head of the Executive Branch he may have access to information that I do not. Frankly he'd better. Of course it will do none of us any good for him to have access to information if he ignores it, refuses to accept it, or doesn't bother to even read it. I'm reminded of the quote by one of my favorite inspirational speakers, Zig Ziglar, "There's no difference between the man who can't read, and the one who doesn't."

By all reliable accounts of the President's habits, and by his demonstrated behavior, he's beyond ignorant, lazy and negligent. He is actively acting as an agent of disinformation, and in times like this, in my opinion, he is culpable for those who will die needlessly.

The planet is confronting a situation of epic proportions. This is the seminal event of the modern era. Whether or not there are widespread infections and catastrophic losses, is frankly beside the point that we need a leader to reassure, to set a course and to instill trust, hope and confidence. We need a leader to lead. What we have is a bumbling buffoon who has endangered millions.

You may be asking yourself, "Really? Millions?" well let's just do the numbers. If the projections by the CDC of a 40-70 percent infection rate are to be used over the course of the next year, and we expect a mortality rate of 1-3 percent, then we have between 132 million and 231 million American people infected, if between 1- 3 percent of them succumb to the disease, that means we'd have between 1.3 and 6.9 million people die.

The world hasn't seen a pandemic on this scale since 1918, when it is estimated that 500 million were infected and approximately 50 million died, of which 675, 000 were in the United States.

How likely is this dire prediction? Unknown. We have more technology, we have great ability to respond, and get people to isolate. As the Coronavirus works its way through our society we will have those who survive develop immunity, and viruses tend to become less virulent over time. We are moving into the summer season, and that will hopefully help with reduction of transmission of the fragile virus. So in reality we have factors that will help us fight this.

On the other hand, it's been said that most people don't die of fire in a house fire, they die of the smoke inhalation. There's another big factor that needs to be addressed here. The damage that this is doing to the economic health of the planet is profound. We have strong leadership at the state, county and city level that is shuttering or rolling back business operations. While I expect that this is good for the community from a health perspective, from a financial perspective, it's very reminiscent of 1991, 2000, 2008, when recessions hit and people's lives were destroyed.

The courts are shutting down to skeleton crews, restaurants are on delivery status only, gyms, barbers and nail salons are closed. People are expected to stay indoors with their spouses and what will this lead to? Divorce and bankruptcy will be up, businesses will be going under, lives will be disrupted, and the birth rate come December will be at historical highs.

I don't want to be an alarmist. I want to be optimistic and hopeful. I know this will pass. I've been through tough times, and as Robert Schuller would say, "Tough times don't last, tough people do."

It helps when you have a good leader, and for that, we have to look beyond 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

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



PRIMARIES

FROM PAGE 4

the general," Gallego said.

Biden's defenders also point to Sanders' work to help kill a 2007 immigration bill, which Sanders warned would drive down wages.

"No one's perfect, but let's not forget that he made a fatal mistake by doing that," Gallego said.

Latinos in the West, where Sanders has done so well, are mainly of Mexican and Central American descent. It's a different story in Florida, where Cubans and Puerto Ricans predominate, making the state a potential bright spot for Biden. Sanders' self-identity as a democratic socialist and his recent defense of certain aspects of Cuban dictator Fidel Castro's regime are a liability with Cuban voters.

"Miami is a melting pot for people from all over," said José Javier Rodríguez, a Democratic state senator from Miami who was an early Biden supporter. "Biden's appeal hits a cross-section in ways that Sen. Sanders does not."

Biden's campaign is upping its Latino organizing in Arizona through its "Todos con Biden" or "Everyone with Biden" program, including Spanish-language phone banks and door-to-door outreach. In Florida, Biden's Spanish-language ads use a Cuban narrator in Miami, a Puerto Rican in Orlando and a Mexican in Fort Myers to reflect the backgrounds of Latinos in each area.

Biden will need that outreach in a matchup against Trump. In Arizona, the growth of Latinos combined with Trump's weaknesses in the suburbs have turned a solidly red state into a battleground. And for the president, there's virtually no path to reelection without winning Florida and its trove of electoral votes.

Sanders put to rest the old adage that Latinos don't vote, said Chuck Rocha, a senior strategist for Sanders.

The Latino vote, he said, "is no longer the sleeping giant. It just needed a little attention and a little love and it will show up."

SHELTER

FROM PAGE 3

company Alphabet, on a tool to help people find coronavirus testing. An online portal would help people determine if they should be tested and direct them to mobile testing units in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties.

The state has increased the number of available hospital beds and will be reopening shuttered medical centers in the coming days.

He also said there would be a significant push to move many of the state's 108,000 homeless people indoors. He said the state had motels that could be used to provide shelter, along with 450 state-owned trailers set up before the outbreak.

AP reporters Amy Taxin in Orange County, Julie Watson in San Diego and John Antczak in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

SMC to Transition All Classes to Remote Learning Environment

Santa Monica College (SMC) has announced that all classes–including those that generally require in-person instruction, wherever possible–will transition to a remote learning environment, effective Wednesday, March 18, to limit the potential transmission of COVID-19. There are currently no confirmed cases of the coronavirus at SMC.

In addition, SMC's new Student Services Center will be closed and all counseling/support services unavailable March 16-17 to prepare a transition of those services to a remotely accessible environment. In a college-wide memo sent March 15, SMC Superintendent/President Dr. Kathryn E. Jeffery also announced the following:

· SMC is a "Limited Access" Campus: Santa Monica College is implementing "limited access" to its main campus on 1900 Pico Boulevard as well as to its five satellite campuses. Out of an abundance of caution for the health and wellbeing of community members and SMC students and employees, all college campuses and facilities including exterior walkways and common areas are closed to the general public. The college will be open beginning March 18 to those students who make use of the limited services that will be available in-person–including Disabled Student Services–to "uphold its commitment to equity and access." Information on social distancing and preventive measures will be emphasized, and heightened cleaning of surfaces within all SMC buildings continues to take place.

· Athletic Events/Practice Postponed Indefinitely: A March 11 press release announced the cancellation of Spring 2020 study abroad trips, nonessential travel, extra-curricular events and large gatherings, and the suspension of in-person classes and activities at SMC Emeritus (the program for older adults) until further notice. SMC is also now postponing all athletics events and team practice indefinitely, effective immediately. This action follows a March 12 announcement from the California Community College Athletic Association (CCCAA).

Santa Monica College has undertaken enhanced cleaning and prevention measures in these past few weeks. The college's Emergency Operations Team has developed a COVID-19 specific Infectious Disease Outbreak Plan; SMC's Health Services Center provided education, flu shots, and more; and a communications campaign was rolled out including social media posts and emails on COVID-19 prevention measures as well as a dedicated webpage which serves as a one-stop shop for resources and college information related to the coronavirus.

The college collaborates with public health agencies including the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and coordinates emergency response with local partners, including the City of Santa Monica. Please visit santamonica.gov/coronavirus for city-specific information. For more information on SMC's response to the coronavirus, visit: smc.edu/coronavirus.

SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH



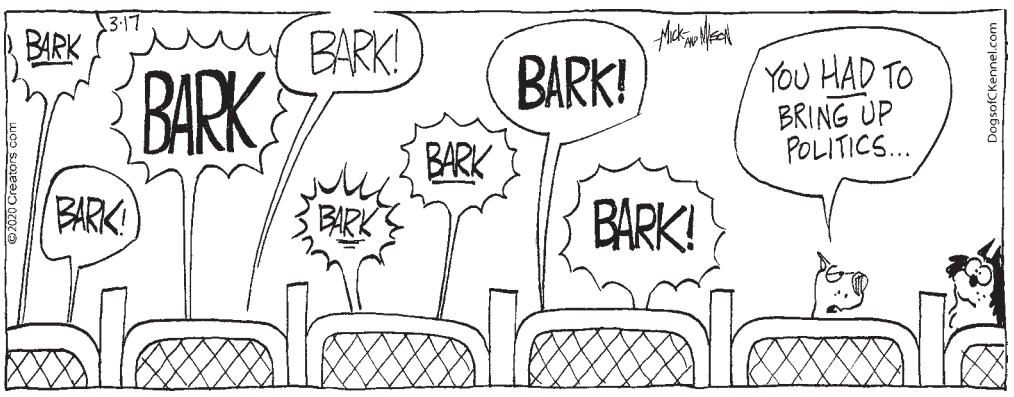
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



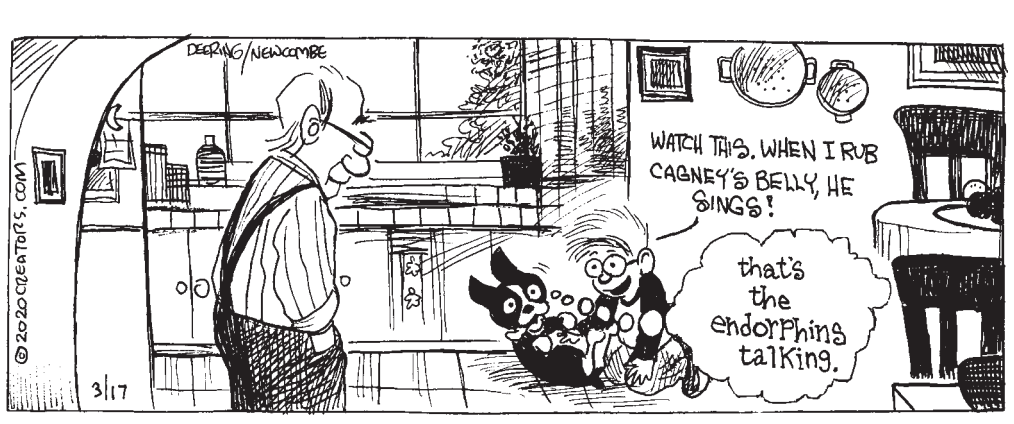
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



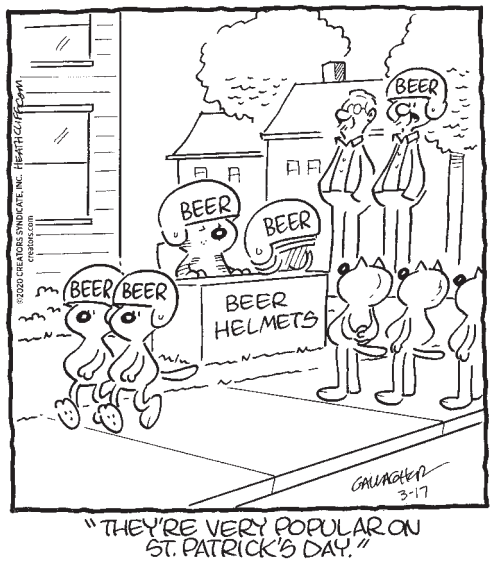
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

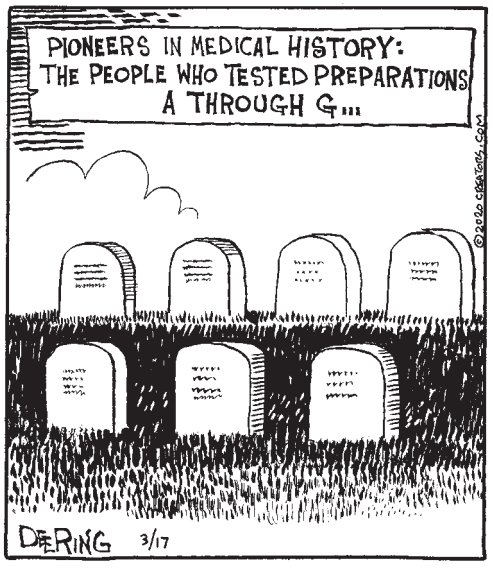
By PETER GALLAGHER



"THEY'RE VERY POPULAR ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 72.7°

TUESDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ waist to stomach high
New SW swell shows. Small NW swell.

WEDNESDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
SW swell trends up. Lingering NW swell. Conditions looking dicey with onshore flow.

WEATHER

Tuesday: Rain likely. Partly sunny, with a high near 56.
Tuesday Night: Rain likely, mainly after 11pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 47.
Wednesday: Rain likely. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 54.
Wednesday Night: A chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 48.
Thursday: A slight chance of rain. Partly sunny, with a high near 58.
Thursday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers before 11pm. Partly cloudy, with a low around 49.
Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 60.

Date	Day of the Week	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2020/03/17	Tue	04:50 AM	4.60	H
2020/03/17	Tue	12:37 PM	-0.17	L
2020/03/17	Tue	7:47 PM	3.48	H
2020/03/18	Wed	12:18 AM	2.54	L
2020/03/18	Wed	06:08 AM	4.70	H
2020/03/18	Wed	1:31 PM	-0.41	L
2020/03/18	Wed	8:21 PM	3.78	H
2020/03/19	Thu	01:19 AM	2.18	L
2020/03/19	Thu	07:08 AM	4.89	H
2020/03/19	Thu	2:12 PM	-0.53	L
2020/03/19	Thu	8:47 PM	4.00	H
2020/03/20	Fri	02:02 AM	1.80	L
2020/03/20	Fri	07:54 AM	5.05	H
2020/03/20	Fri	2:45 PM	-0.54	L
2020/03/20	Fri	9:10 PM	4.17	H
2020/03/21	Sat	02:35 AM	1.45	L
2020/03/21	Sat	08:32 AM	5.13	H
2020/03/21	Sat	3:13 PM	-0.45	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date:03/11
4 29 49 50 67
Power#: 2
Jackpot:120 M

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

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 03/11
5 10 20 43 44
Mega#: 10
Jackpot: 10 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 03/12
10 22 33 34 35

Daily 3
Draw Date: 03/12
Evening: 8 5 6
Draw Date: 03/12
Midday: 5 6 9

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 03/12
1st: 04 - BIG BEN
2nd: 02 - LUCKY STAR
3rd: 09 - WINNING SPIRIT
RACE TIME: 1:45.94

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 17)

This solar journey represents a beautiful collusion of interests. Even when you're serving your own needs, you'll happen to grace the lives of others like it's your mission. Special relationships will lift and soar your spirits and aims. You'll build on a good idea and later cash in on it. August travel will be especially dreamy. Virgo and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 7, 48, 18 and 50.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You're a realist, an excellent quality, though it's not always the easiest for you, as it has you doubting yourself more than the next person. If you must doubt yourself, follow up by arguing for yourself in a big way.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Inappropriateness creates impact, but the wrong kind. Saving the day is impactful but hard to follow up. Brainstorm about how you might make the kind of difference that favors your aims.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The ancient Greek philosophers defined passion as an emotion based on a false sense of reality. Perhaps, though nations, indeed entire civilizations, have been built on false senses of reality, so don't let that stop you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Schools of fish and flocks of birds often behave as a single creature. The animal instinct to meld with the group mind is primordial. Resistance is possible but not so worthwhile today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll create instantaneous rapport. In an act of quantum emotional intelligence, you skip through years of getting-to-know-you trepidation and land in moments of intimate familiarity.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your engine runs on desire. To be this excited about a potential outcome is a rarity for you, and certainly nothing to be dismissed. Document the moment in pictures or writing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). There's something about blue that soothes the soul, whether it's the sky, the water or the crying sound of one who sings out the existential angst.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Touch base; call home; get back to your roots. Much will be the same whether you check in or not, except that your heart will be different. It will fortify you to keep up with your people.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your qualifications on paper will have little to do with actual life. Feeling successful is a matter of making personal connections interpreted through your senses, not just through your intellect.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). A purpose-driven life may be the ideal, but it's not the constant. You don't always have to be aware of your purpose. Sometimes your purpose is just to relax and be a part of the fabric of existence.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Make yourself happy. When you have fun, so do others around you. You might be surprised about the difference you can make with your special brand of joy.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Relationships run on more than just love. Sure, love matters, but so does taking out the garbage and other business of domesticity and common courtesy.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

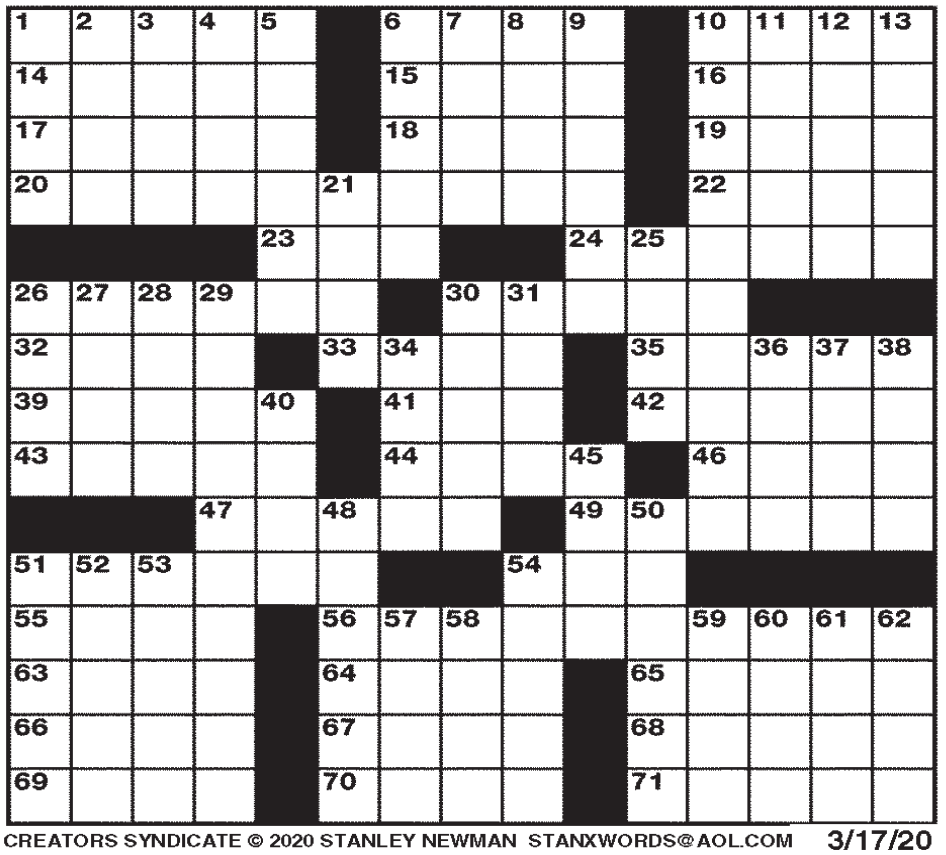
		5	7	2		9		6
1			3				8	
2						1		4
	1	3				6		
	9			8			4	
		2				5	1	
9		1						5
	5				9			2
6		8		5	4	3		

Newsday Crossword

PORTION PAIRS by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Lost and __ department
6 Exact duplicate
10 Leaning Tower city
14 Sci-fi "beam" weapon
15 "That can't be!"
16 Wedding vows
17 Scarlett of *Gone with the Wind*
18 Barrel of laughs
19 Have a chat
20 Flaky breakfast bread
22 "Excuse me . . ."
23 Sense of self
24 Take sides against
26 Go by, as time
30 Dwarf planet beyond Neptune
32 Wise teacher
33 Holding a grudge
35 Bitter-tasting
39 Nimble
41 Band's booking
42 Glide on a rink
43 Distributed the cards
44 End of a lasso
46 British prep school
47 Come in
49 Diner or café
51 Sometime in the future
54 Caterer's coffeepot
55 Business name abbr.
56 Thanksgiving dessert
63 Italian farewell
64 "Take __ a compliment!"
65 Quiet and timid, as a rodent
66 Former abbr. for Russia
67 Identical
68 Right __ (90-degree shape)
69 Smell bad
70 The one over there
71 Misplaces

DOWN
1 Theatrical failure
2 Honolulu's island
3 Flying military branch: Abbr.
4 Spongy toy-ball brand
5 Heavy curtains
6 Sculpture of a body
7 Slightest amount
8 "Are you __ out?"
9 "I'd prefer somebody else"
10 Mideast sandwich bread
11 State west of Montana
12 Boot bottoms
13 Information desk sign
21 Mellows, as cheese
25 Sch. support groups
26 Quaint "Golly!"
27 Winter Olympics sled
28 Opera solo
29 Shredded barbecued meat
30 Earlier in time
31 Toy building brick brand
34 Stare at
36 Hourly charge
37 "Believe __ not . . ."
38 Declare to be false
40 Sicilian volcano
45 Fringe benefit, for short
48 Data entry pro
50 Bird or insect
51 Take place
52 Loud sound
53 Clean off a blackboard
54 Unexpected victory
57 State east of Nevada
58 Cry from a crib
59 Forbidden thing
60 Wrinkly-faced dogs
61 Cruise-ship stop
62 What contact lenses cover



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2020 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 3/17/20

SHUT DOWN

FROM PAGE 1

and Gov. Gavin Newsom said Californians older than 65 and those with chronic health conditions, who are most at risk of dying from coronavirus, should self-isolate at home.

While public health officials did not confirm how many cases have been confirmed in Santa Monica, three Bergamot area offices — Colorado Center, Water Garden and Universal Music's offices on Colorado Avenue — said over the weekend they each had an employee who had recently tested positive for the virus and closed temporarily for cleaning.

Newsom said Sunday that more than 8,000 California residents have been tested for coronavirus and the state will ramp up testing in the days ahead. The state is in the process of procuring 750 hospital beds in vacant facilities to supplement California's roughly 80,000 beds.

City Manager Rick Cole's executive orders aligned with actions taken by Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti to promote social distancing in the L.A. area. Garcetti ordered restaurants to only offer takeout and delivery and closed bars, gyms and theaters. At the state level, Newsom directed bars, nightclubs, brewpubs and wineries to close and restaurants to cut seating capacity by half.

Local restaurants asked the community to continue ordering delivery so they could continue paying workers, assuring customers that they were sanitizing their facilities frequently and directing workers to stay home if they are sick.

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District closed schools for three weeks effective Tuesday, following guidance from public health officials. The closure will run into a two-week spring break, closing schools, childcare, preschools and adult school for a total of five weeks.

Around the state, 85% of public school students stayed home Monday as districts closed with assurance from Newsom that they would continue to receive funding.

While no cases of coronavirus were confirmed at any SMMUSD campus, a parent who may have been exposed to the virus and another individual connected to local schools may have exposed students at Franklin Elementary School and Santa Monica High School.

SMMUSD teachers will move lessons online and free breakfast and lunch will be available for pickup at four campuses.

As businesses closed and parents were forced to skip work to take care of their children, Santa Monica enacted a temporary moratorium on evictions for renters who can't make rent due to the impacts of COVID-19.

"Our community is over 70% renters and this order provides our them the security of housing during this difficult time," Cole said. "We recognize that the vast majority of landlords will act responsibly, but this order serves to ensure no renter loses their home due to a crisis beyond their control."

Under the emergency order, renters may not be evicted if they lose income because they get sick, are ordered to self-quarantine, receive extraordinarily expensive medical bills, have to care for a household or family member with the virus or take care of a child attending a school that has closed.

The order includes a temporary ban on water and sewer shutoffs for all residents and businesses and a 60-day suspension of late fees on parking tickets.

Santa Monica homeless shelters and outreach workers tried to prevent coronavirus from spreading to the homeless population, who are disproportionately older and have chronic health conditions.

Homeless service providers enforced social distancing and sanitation protocols in shelters and distributed hygiene supplies to people on the street, although outreach teams said they will soon run out of supplies such as hand sanitizer that have been bought out in stores and online.

After a run on sanitary supplies and staple foods at local grocery and convenience stores that lasted through the weekend, many grocery stores in Santa Monica restocked their inventories — except for highly in-demand wipes, toilet paper and dry goods.

Newsom announced plans Sunday to move the state's homeless population into state-owned trailers, hotels, motels and other indoor facilities to protect the vulnerable population from coronavirus, although he did not provide a timeline.

"We need to get people out of encampments and into environments where we can address their health," Newsom said.

madeleine@smdp.com

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 41 CALLS ON MAR. 15

EMS 2600blk Broadway 12:25 a.m.
EMS 1100blk 14th St 1:15 a.m.
EMS 700blk Cedar St 1:27 a.m.
EMS 1100blk 14th St 1:36 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 11th St 2:58 a.m.
EMS 1000blk 11th St 4:20 a.m.
EMS 900blk 24th St 7:56 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200blk 15th St 8:17 a.m.
Elevator Rescue 2700blk Neilson Way 8:38 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 25th St 9:09 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200blk 15th St 10:23 a.m.
EMS 1000blk Wilshire Blvd 10:31 a.m.
EMS 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 11:30 a.m.
EMS 300blk 23rd St 12:04 p.m.
EMS 400blk 26th St 12:31 p.m.
Arcing Wires 600blk Wilshire Blvd 2:01 p.m.
EMS 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:09 p.m.
EMS 300blk California Ave 2:40 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 2:47 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Broadway 3:14 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 3:21 p.m.
EMS 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 3:33 p.m.
EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 3:47 p.m.
EMS 2600blk Main St 4:10 p.m.
EMS 1900blk 6th St 4:23 p.m.
EMS 2400blk 3rd St 4:38 p.m.
EMS 1900blk 22nd St 4:39 p.m.
EMS 800blk 17th St 5:43 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 5th St 6:04 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 2nd St 6:11 p.m.
EMS 1100blk Euclid St 6:43 p.m.
EMS 700blk Idaho Ave 6:48 p.m.
EMS 1800blk 10th St 6:54 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1700blk Ocean Ave 7:02 p.m.
EMS 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 7:32 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 700blk 17th St 7:41 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 9:52 p.m.
EMS 2200blk Colorado Ave 10:07 p.m.
EMS 900blk 9th St 10:54 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 2nd St 11:40 p.m.
EMS 2200blk Colorado Ave 11:59 p.m.

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Furniture	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Wealth and Success	Tutoring
	Apartments/Condos	Real Estate Loans	Attorney Services		

All classified liner ads are placed on our website for FREE! Check out www.smdp.com for more info.

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 MARCH 15, AT APPROXIMATELY 1 A.M.

Officers responded to 9-1-1 calls regarding a possible fight in progress in the 1100 block of 14th Street. Officers arrived on scene and discovered Jerry Lopez had assaulted a victim with a wooden stick. As officers went to place Lopez under arrest he resisted and fought with officers. Lopez struck an officer in the face while resisting arrest. Lopez was taken into custody and booked for Attempted Homicide and Felony Battery on a Police Officer.

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HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
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DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 233 CALLS ON MAR. 15

Injured Person 2600blk Broadway 12:30 a.m.
Fight 1000blk Euclid St 1:03 a.m.
Fight 1100blk 14th St 1:08 a.m.
Burglary Now 500blk Wilshire Blvd 4:19 a.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 900blk 2nd St 6:45 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1400blk 2nd St 8:07 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1400blk Ocean Park Blvd 8:19 a.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon Now 1400blk Georgina Ave 9:09 a.m.
Lost Property 700blk Broadway 9:16 a.m.
Encampment 400blk Santa Monica Pier 9:23 a.m.
Missing Person 1500blk 4th St 9:39 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 9:58 a.m.
Encampment 2000blk Ocean Ave 9:58 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 3300blk Barnard Way 10:01 a.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 2600blk 6th St 10:29 a.m.
Death Investigation 200blk San Vicente Blvd 10:35 a.m.
Burglary Report 1500blk Montana Ave 10:45 a.m.
Burglary Report 1100blk Pico Blvd 11:00 a.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 1100blk Washington Ave 11:06 a.m.
Public Intoxication 1500blk 7th St 11:06 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Pacific Coast Hwy / California Incline 11:11 a.m.
Valet Zone Violation 200blk Wilshire Blvd 11:17 a.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1100blk 3rd St 11:22 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 100blk Colorado Ave 11:45 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 400blk Palisades Ave 12:00 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1400blk Pacific Coast Hwy 12:28 p.m.
Person Down 800blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:59 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1100blk Montana Ave 1:02 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1200blk 9th St 1:03 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1500blk Lincoln Blvd 1:09 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 1700blk Ocean Ave 1:24 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 4th St / Pacific St 1:32 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 400blk Pacific Coast Hwy 1:35 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 200blk 15th St 1:40 p.m.
Violation Of Restraining Order Just Occurred 800blk 19th St 1:55 p.m.
Assault Just Occurred 600blk Wilshire Blvd 2:19 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Lincoln Blvd / Pearl St 2:22 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 2:26 p.m.
Violation Of Restraining Order Report 1900blk Ocean Way 2:26 p.m.
Violation Of Restraining Order Just Occurred 800blk 19th St 2:30 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 200blk Ashland Ave 2:34 p.m.
Identity Theft 4100blk Chino Hills Pkwy 2:37 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 400blk 22nd St 3:11 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 800blk Ocean Ave 3:23 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1800blk 9th St 3:27 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 2000blk 20th St 3:33 p.m.
Loud Music 200blk Ocean Ave 3:33 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 300blk 14th St 3:44 p.m.
Loud Music 2000blk Ocean Ave 4:18 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 900blk 26th St 4:36 p.m.
Domestic Violence Report 2000blk 19th St 5:37 p.m.
Lost Property 300blk Olympic Dr 5:49 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Just Occurred 2800blk Lincoln Blvd 5:50 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 700blk Broadway 5:53 p.m.
Drinking In Public 600blk Marine St 5:55 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1600blk Appian Way 6:03 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2500blk Main St 6:03 p.m.
Person Down 1500blk 2nd St 6:11 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 1000blk Broadway 6:13 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 16th St / Pico Blvd 6:15 p.m.
Drinking In Public 2700blk Main St 6:40 p.m.
Fraud Report 300blk Santa Monica Pl 7:06 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation Lincoln Blvd / Ocean Park Blvd 7:09 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 15th St / Arizona Ave 8:00 p.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 800blk 7th St 8:01 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 1200blk Franklin St 8:01 p.m.
Loud Music 1400blk 5th St 8:09 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Ocean Ave / Idaho Ave 8:22 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Stewart St / Nebraska Ave 8:24 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 22nd St / Wilshire Blvd 8:27 p.m.
Smoking Violation 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:50 p.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 8:59 p.m.
Fight 2600blk Main St 9:24 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1400blk 2nd St 9:35 p.m.
Loud Music 1700blk Euclid St 10:58 p.m.
Loud Music 1300blk 2nd St 11:37 p.m.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Venice

Venice Art Crawl Leaps Online For March 19 Event Featuring Quarantined Italian Artist

In light of the World Health Organization's official pandemic declaration of the global COVID-19 outbreak, and the City of Los Angeles' recently issued guidelines for events of over 250 attendees, the Venice Art Crawl Board of Directors has made the difficult decision to postpone its upcoming in-person programming through April and cancel the in-person Art Crawl originally scheduled for Thursday, March 19. However, the Art Crawl is headed to the web, living as a live, online experience on the art organization's Facebook page for a worldwide art audience.

The VAC's President Sunny Bak says, "the safety of our community members is our primary concern. We're posting an updated schedule of events in the next several weeks, adapting to current and projected circumstances on the ground. We look forward to bringing together our Venice art community in the future, at a time when the risks associated with public gatherings are minimized."

The VAC will issue refunds to all ticket holders for its "Legendary Women Artists of Venice" Awards program scheduled for the 19th, and will notify them and the public when tickets go back on sale for a rescheduled Awards event.

"However," Bak continues, "the coronavirus can't stop the Venice Art Crawl! Since COVID-19 is going viral in Los Angeles, we're taking the VAC online and around the world on Thursday, March 19. Join us live on the Venice Art Crawl Facebook Page from 6:00PM to 10:00PM as we virtually visit top artists in their studios. You'll be able to look around, ask the artists questions, and even buy art from the comfort and safety of your living room couch."

The Art Crawl is actively signing up artists for the livestream; the first one has already signed up. Painter and a former 15-year Venice resident, Flavio Campagna Kampah–aka FCK–will offer visitors a tour of his studio whilst quarantined in Parma, Italy. The VAC will offer regular updates as the 19th approaches for the first, but definitely not the last, virtual Venice Art Crawl.

The Venice Art Crawl was set to host its second Legendary Women Artists of Venice Awards Thursday, March 19, at the Hotel Erwin. Female skateboarders Grl Swirl were to present the awards to this year's recipients, Robin Murez and MB Boissonnault.

Murez, a long-time Venice resident, is being honored for her passion, and many contributions to, public art in the community. She's currently working on The Flying Carousel, a hand-carved, solar- and kid-powered carousel to be installed at Centennial Park. robinmurez.com

MB Boissonnault has lived in Venice for almost 20 years. A local favorite, she has regularly shown her paintings at Venice's Cadillac Hotel and Beyond Baroque, as well as The Pacific Design Center and VICA. mbboissonnault.com

The Venice Art Crawl is a Venice Chamber of Commerce-hosted committee.

Visit https://www.facebook.com/theveniceartcrawl for more information.

SUBMITTED BY HENRY ESHELMAN



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