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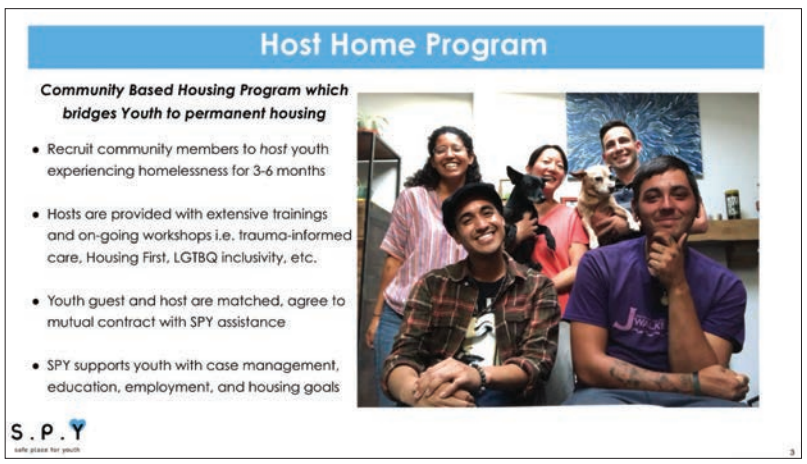
FRIDAY
03.19.21
Volume 20 Issue 107

Comics & Stuff
Including weather and surf reports.
Pages 2, 3 & 4

Laughing Matters
Don't Try This At Home
Page 6

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SPY seeks volunteers to open homes to homeless youths



Courtesy image

HOMES: Volunteers are asked to help get a young adult off the streets.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

SPY made waves in 2018 when its innovative 'Host Home' pilot program helped several homeless youths permanently transition off the street by offering them temporary shelter in local resident's' homes. Building off of this initial success, the organization is looking for new volunteers willing to open their doors to youth living on the streets.

Venice-based nonprofit Safe Place for Youth has been supporting homeless young adults for twenty years through a continuum of care and housing services. The Host Home program was inspired by similar programs in the UK that have been offering cost-effective supportive shelter to unhoused youth for over 30 years.

"It's a grassroots approach to addressing our community's homelessness crisis where we pair transitional age youth 18 to 25 with community members who have underutilized spaces in their

SEE **SPY** PAGE 5

County officials to hear proposal to split school district

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

The revived petition to separate Malibu and Santa Monica school districts will get a public hearing before county officials in April.

The Los Angeles County Office of Education's Committee on School District Organization will hold a public hearing on the petition at 9 a.m. Wednesday, April 17, 2021, via Zoom, according to SMMUSD officials.

The hearing is the next step in a process that has mostly played out through print up to this point.

Malibu first sent a "unification" petition to LACOE on Aug 31, 2017, but suspended it on April 9, 2018 in order to negotiate with SMMUSD. In school-speak, "unification" is the technical term for splitting the district in two.

SEE **HEARING** PAGE 5

SMMUSD prepares to reopen secondary schools

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer



Courtesy photo

GRANT: Students in elementary schools have returned to the class for limited in-person instruction. District officials are working on plans to return students to secondary schools at the end of this month.

A deal to bring students back to campus in SMMUSD under a hybrid model is likely to come at the end of this week.

With so much misinformation spreading throughout the community in recent weeks, Superintendent Ben Drati said he believed it was important to take the time to address residents and the district's Board of Education on Wednesday and clear the air on what the district can and can't do in the pandemic.

Since Los Angeles County is now in the red tier, all students are now permitted to return for in-person activities as long as they adhere to specific safety protocols.

"It does not mean that we can come back full time at this point," Drati said Wednesday. But that soon may change.

Earlier this week, students in transitional kindergarten through fifth grade returned to campus in a limited manner for orientation in an effort to help them reestablish routines once again. Starting on April 12, after spring break, students will return in a maximum capacity under a site-specific hybrid model to receive 10 hours of in-person instruction, according to Drati.

"Secondary, as I mentioned earlier, is now allowed to reopen for in-person experiences… so starting March 22, next week, we're going to reopen for grades six through 12 in a limited fashion to orient students and provide social emotional enrichment experiences and just to get kids and students back," Drati added as he detailed how sports at the high-school level will soon be in full swing as well. "I can't get into the details of the plan because we're in negotiations; we hope to settle negotiations by this Friday and then make an announcement over the weekend about what the structure is going to look like."

The superintendent later noted a return will utilize some form of a hybrid model before he moved to address falsehoods about not needing to social distance.

"There's buzz out there that three feet is allowed to bring students back. That is a conversation that's been had at CDC right now. I believe there's a study by one of the Ivy League schools that did a study that compared three feet and six feet and whether they made a difference — and I guess the research showed that it didn't make a difference and the CDC, Fauci, and some people are talking about that. It's in conversations, but that's research and research has not transitioned to policy yet," Drati said. "I'm already getting called to say what the rule is and science says that three-feet is okay. I recognize that… no one is challenging the science there, but we need that science to change the policy at the CDC level, and then the state level, and then the county level. Only then can we go to three feet. And, by the way, if we go to three feet, then we are coming back. I believe, just based on what we've cased out, we have already started having these conversations, and we believe with three feet we can bring 100% of the students back and that will be our intention."

Conversations have already been had and that would be great news, Drati said, sharing he isn't exactly sure when the rule will be changed but he is confident SMMUSD schools can accommodate relaxed social distancing requirements.

"So," Drati added, "it's a waiting game."

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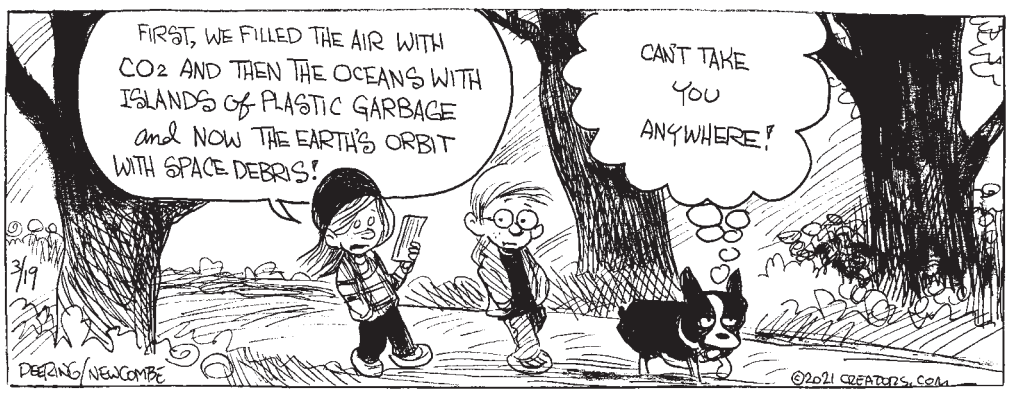
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



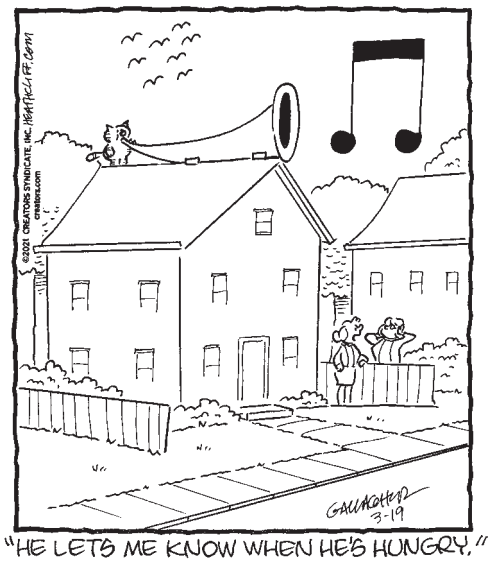
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE LETS ME KNOW WHEN HE'S HUNGRY."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 55.9°

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
Watching for a fun new round of NW swell mix to build in - most size west of Pt Dume.

SATURDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft Waist to chest high
AM window best but doesn't look perfect - surf is biggest west of Pt. Dume but wind likely to be least favorable there.

WEATHER

Friday: Partly sunny, with a high near 64.
Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 53.
Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 63.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/03/19	Fri	12:46 AM	4.38	H
2021/03/19	Fri	08:18 AM	1.03	L
2021/03/19	Fri	3:05 PM	2.41	H
2021/03/19	Fri	5:51 PM	2.30	L
2021/03/20	Sat	01:26 AM	4.18	H
2021/03/20	Sat	10:10 AM	1.03	L
2021/03/21	Sun	02:40 AM	4.01	H
2021/03/21	Sun	11:50 AM	0.71	L
2021/03/22	Mon	04:30 AM	4.08	H
2021/03/22	Mon	12:46 PM	0.28	L
2021/03/22	Mon	8:19 PM	3.28	H
2021/03/23	Tue	12:02 AM	2.84	L
2021/03/23	Tue	05:49 AM	4.40	H
2021/03/23	Tue	1:26 PM	-0.13	L
2021/03/23	Tue	8:23 PM	3.54	H
2021/03/24	Wed	12:55 AM	2.39	L
2021/03/24	Wed	06:46 AM	4.83	H
2021/03/24	Wed	1:59 PM	-0.48	L
2021/03/24	Wed	8:36 PM	3.85	H
2021/03/25	Thu	01:36 AM	1.85	L
2021/03/25	Thu	07:33 AM	5.24	H

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERball
Draw Date: 3/17
34 38 42 61 62
Power#: 19
Jackpot: 200 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/16
10 41 46 52 69
Mega#: 8
Jackpot: 105 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 3/17
10 13 19 22 46
Mega#: 10
Jackpot: 30 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/17
5 13 15 18 26

Daily 3
Draw Date: 3/17
EVENING: 8 4 7
Draw Date: 3/17
MIDDAY: 8 9 6

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 3/17
1st: 05 - California Classic
2nd: 08 - Gorgeous George
3rd: 07 - Eureka
Race Time: 1:41.93

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 19)

A guiding realization: Other people's definition of success is great for them but would be a hollow win for you. You have your own version and will embody it. You commit to what's important, and life shifts to support those priorities. You'll have excellent luck attracting the right resources and relationships. Gemini and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 1, 30, 22, 27 and 16.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). A person with a good attitude sees a mixed-bag opportunity and thinks of making the most of it. But you don't have a good attitude. Your attitude is stellar. You absolutely know you'll crush the coal into a diamond.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Looking past people's limitations, searching for their beauty, seeing it, pointing it out... these are some of the ways you make others happy. So much of that happiness will splash back onto you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The work of love isn't a doing/acting/fixing job today. The work of love is a listening gig, an "entering in the spirit of another" practice, a task that encompasses receiving and relaxing.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). What you're hearing will mentally trigger a story about the time it happened to you, but you won't tell that story. Instead, you'll give your support generously without flipping focus your way.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You like to know what others are doing, but even more interesting to you is why they are doing it. You're not content with the first reasons that surface. Your fascination kicks in with the deeper ones.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You would like it if people would understand what's important to you, but when they don't, you simply show them again, no fuss. People often need multiple examples to internalize knowledge.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). As the second air sign of the zodiac, you have intimate knowledge of the kind of wonders that can arrive on the wind. Psychic breezes will kick up today, not so hard as to blow you off course but just strong enough to gently rock you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Setting things straight works wonderfully in a linear situation, like a library shelf. As for the biological and emotional world, circles and wiggliness are the norm. There's no sillier futility than trying to set wiggly things straight!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The silence between two people is as unique as the sound of their shared language. As you listen to a quiet punctuated by words, you'll hear clearly the heart's intention.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). What do you want? You've been choosing for the good of others, but if you're not happy too, no one will be happy. Make yourself smile first, and then watch the other faces alight.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Integrity is power. Loyalty, honor, stoicism, duty -- all the qualities that could fit into the themes of heroic drama will also apply to your role and the current scene of which you are definitely the hero.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Even great beauty isn't recognized by all. Some see it. Many miss. You have the sort of thoughtful, intelligent eye that can and will see many different kinds of beauty, even when it's enshrouded in ordinariness.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

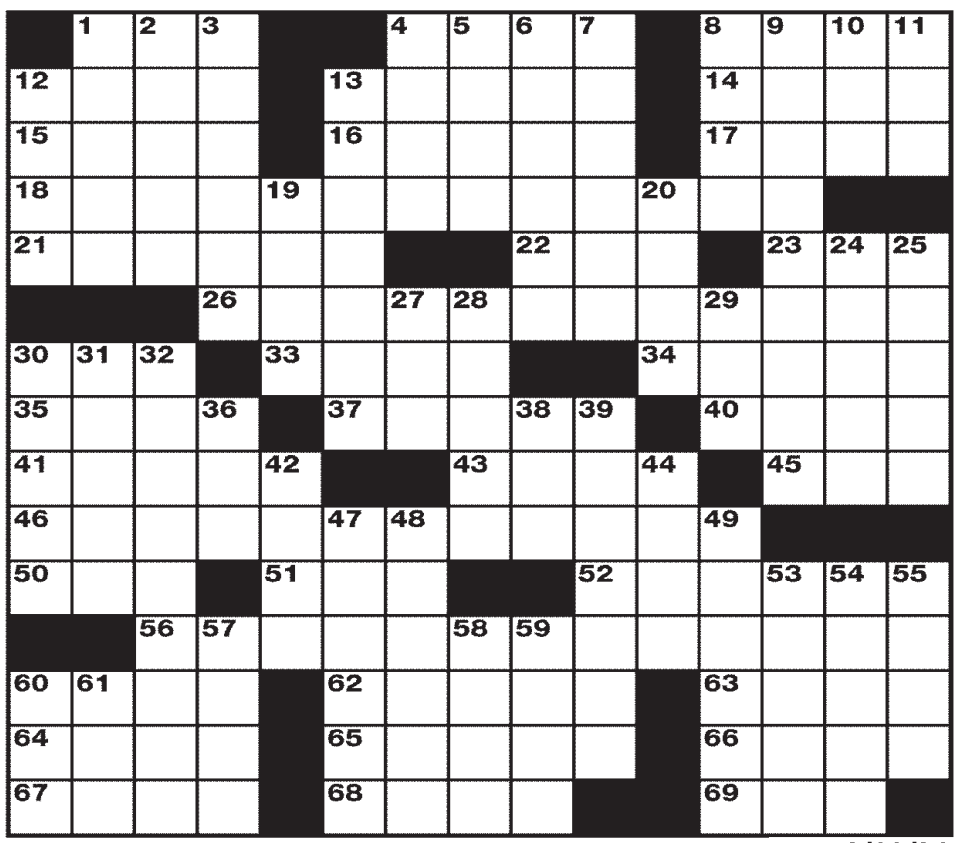
2			1		7	8		
							7	
7	4			9		5		1
5					4		8	
	2	7				3	9	
	8		2					6
4		6		3			2	9
	9							
		3	6		9			5

Newsday Crossword

SPLIT SEASON by Mark McClain
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 How some naps are made
4 Mutual deal
8 Family guy
12 Abounding (in)
13 Visual evidence
14 Xander alternative
15 Man, for one
16 Total
17 Clear off
18 E-mail culling process
21 Valued view
22 Opposite of paleo-
23 Sydney's state: Abbr.
26 Caribbean band member
30 Misdeed
33 Guitarist Guthrie
34 Symbol of leakiness
35 Crowe's mariner role
37 Got some rack time
40 Unnamed people
41 Heart chambers
43 Tries to win over
45 Delivery to Wile E. Coyote
46 Quaint parting words
50 Rec center for GIs
51 Certain gobbler
52 Capital east of Olympia
56 Miraculous transformation
60 Wrapped up
62 Tuna can phrase
63 Lunar sea
64 Casino chip, for instance
65 Didn't miss
66 Tony score for Elton
67 Takes in
68 Street pattern
69 Deceptive

DOWN
1 Slender traces
2 Sparkling success
3 Signature songs
4 Temple with torahs
5 Typical practice
6 Show up
7 Not as good
8 Lowly operative
9 Affiliation with a cause
10 Dynamism
11 Hatchet cousin
12 Upward slope
13 Basic books
19 Spinach pie ingredient
20 Slips in pots
24 Small prime number
25 Obtain forcibly
27 Wall bracket shape
28 *My Fair Lady* composer
29 Italian possessive
30 Chaotic disruption
31 Minute amounts
32 Most restrictive
36 How Juliet said "Step on it"
38 Cartoon sock sound
39 Not quite a foot in the door?
42 Meant for, for short
44 Huge number
47 Garden chore
48 Easy guitar chord to learn
49 Vicuñas' cousins
53 Etsy's enterprise
54 Technically adept, otherwise inept
55 Sector
57 Rubs the wrong way
58 Formal denial
59 Having a connection
60 Lyrical lines
61 Through



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2021 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 3/19/21

Binary Puzzle

Each cell should contain a zero or a one. No more than two similar numbers below or next to each other are allowed. Each row and each column is unique and contains as many zeros as ones.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

I	I	O	I	O	I	O	O	I	I	O	O
O	O	I	O	I	O	I	I	O	O	I	I
I	O	I	O	O	I	O	I	I	O	O	I
I	I	O	I	O	O	I	O	O	I	I	O
O	I	I	O	I	O	O	I	O	O	I	I
I	O	I	O	O	I	I	O	I	I	O	O
O	I	O	I	O	O	I	I	O	I	O	I
O	O	I	O	I	I	O	O	I	O	I	I
I	O	O	I	I	O	I	I	O	O	I	O
O	I	O	I	O	I	O	I	O	I	O	I
O	I	I	O	I	I	O	O	I	O	I	O
I	O	O	I	I	O	I	O	I	I	O	O

		O		O							
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	O	O									O
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	I				O						
									I	I	
				I		I					
		I		I		I		I		I	
	I		O					I		I	I



"The City of Bell spectacle is what happens to communities without their own old-fashioned, diligent news coverage." - Terry Francke, Journalist

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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 28 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5057

Coastal NSW

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

Avalon	Inlet	Mogo	Sail
Ballina	Kayak	Mungo	Sand
Bays	Kiama	Brush	Surf
Bega	Kioloa	Narooma	Tans
Berry	Korora	Old Bar	Tathra
Boasts	Lakes	Outing	Tour
Bombo	Lennox	Port	Ulladulla
Care	Head	Macquarie	Unit
Coogee	Manly	Red Pt	Wooli
Durras	Minnie	Rivers	Yachts
Eden	Water	Roads	Yamba

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Mostly populating our skies

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SPY

FROM PAGE 1

homes," said Iberia Calix, SPY senior housing program manager. "Youth not only obtain access to short term shelter but they are able to build meaningful connections to caring adults in their community."

The youth who participate in the Host to Home program receive full case management and support services from SPY during their three to six month stay. This time provides participants with an opportunity to save money and focus on their housing, academic, and employment goals.

The Host to Home pilot successfully supported six unhoused individuals and SPY is looking forward to expanding the program to more young people as the risk of the pandemic recedes.

"I love this program! I did from the minute we were offered the opportunity to pilot it and now I'm delighted that we're continuing to offer this as one of our many solutions to homelessness," said SPY Founder and Executive Director Alison Hurst.

The program is open to anyone living in L.A. County who has a spare bedroom or private space to offer and is able to provide access to a shared or private kitchen and bathroom. Hosts complete an application, background check, and interview process and have the opportunity to interview and meet with youth before agreeing to the pairing.

"Host to Home was an outstanding experience for the two of us, as we did a nice thing, and it was also very good for us. In our small way we helped two people advance and both of them have been thriving ever since they got off the streets," said former host Michael Rapkin who, alongside his wife, opened his home to a young couple who were previously living in their car in Venice Beach.

In order to foster positive cohabitation, hosts are taught best practices for positive youth development, effective communication, boundary setting, and navigating trauma. Hosts are not responsible for 'saving' the youth and all support services are run by trained SPY professionals.

"A host not is not trying to fix or save their youth or guests; it's really more of a living arrangement, providing a safe place for the young person to be able to utilize the services and the other wonderful programming that SPY provides so they can attain permanent housing," said Calix.

Calix said those interested in learning more about becoming a host should contact home@safeplaceforyouth.org

Clara@smdp.com

HEARING

FROM PAGE 1

Malibu City Councilmembers became unhappy with the pace and direction of negotiations and opposed SMMUSD's financial proposals that would require a portion of Malibu's property tax base be permanently redistributed to the proposed Santa Monica District. The Council identified splitting the district as a top priority and reinstated a petition to L.A. County Office of Education, an action that has been repeatedly criticized by SMMUSD Supertintendent Ben Drati.

In October of last year, SMMUSD Superintendent Dr. Ben Drati sent a letter to the City of Malibu, expressing disapproval of the petition and urged city leaders to return to the negotiating table for the sake of preserving educational equity. Just a few days prior, Drati cited financial concerns as a key reason why a separation would create two very unequal school districts

"Their consultants' projections show Malibu starting at $16,494 per student, while students in Santa Monica would be funded at $13,592," Drati said. "Based on the Malibu formula for revenue growth, in year five, Malibu students will receive $25,998 per student, while Santa Monica per student funding will be $14,264: a five year growth rate of 58% in Malibu vs 5% in Santa Monica."

Malibu officials have said they are willing to share revenues up to a point to address some of the fiscal arguments, however, the City of Malibu believes creating a Malibu Unified School District would solve inequalities between educational opportunities offered in Santa Monica and Malibu and give residents the local control over Malibu schools they so strongly desire. Currently, Malibu has approximately 15 percent of the District's population, which hinders its ability to elect local representatives to the seven member School Board and precludes an ability to form a majority Malibu vote on school issues.

Dr. Drati's letter expressed disappointment that negotiations were abandoned and that the petition was reinstated without consultation of the District.

Former president of Advocates for Malibu Public Schools and SMMUSD board member Craig Foster said it was narcissistic and hypocritical for the district to use equity as an argument.

"Either/both/all of these scenarios begin and end with Santa Monica/SMMUSD/Malibu all having 30%-plus more per pupil revenues than 99.9% of California's school districts — the vast majority of which have far more challenging student populations that, if we truly believed in equity, deserve/need the money far more than either/both of these wealthy towns."

SMMUSD officials encouraged residents looking for more information to visit smmusd.org/UnificationFAQ.

Brennon@smdp.com

Amazon gets Thursday night games, NFL nearly doubles TV deal

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

California will give gun owners more time to register their legal assault weapons under a settlement announced Thursday over what critics charged was the state's botched registration system in 2018.

The settlement with the state attorney general's office means no owners will be held liable for missing the July 1, 2018, registration deadline. The state will eventually provide a new 90-day window to register the guns after a new hearing and notification process.

Gunowners rights' groups sued the state Department of Justice alleging that its system for registering so-called bullet-button assault weapons was unavailable for most of the week before the deadline.

The bullet buttons allow users to rapidly exchange ammunition magazines on an assault-style weapon by using a small tool or the tip of a bullet.

The Calguns Foundation, Second Amendment Foundation, Firearms Policy Coalition and Firearms Policy Foundation argued the faulty registration website left owners who were unable to register by the deadline potentially vulnerable to prosecution through no fault of their own.

The settlement applies only to those who legally owned the "bullet button" weapons at the time and tried but failed to register them because of technical difficulties.

"We've always believed that this was about giving gun owners a reasonable opportunity to comply with the law and not be made felons at the stroke of midnight because the State couldn't operate a website," one of their attorneys, George M. Lee, said in a statement.

Transporting an unregistered assault weapon, even to a shooting range, can be charged as a felony under California law, with a prison sentence ranging from four to six years.

Assuming the federal judge overseeing the lawsuit agrees, Lee said, "the injunction will afford significant legal protections for possibly tens of thousands of gun owners."

The deal was announced the same day the U.S. Senate confirmed California Attorney General Xavier Becerra as President Joe Biden's health secretary. His department will pay $151,821 for the plaintiff's attorneys' fees and costs.

"The Department believes the proposed settlement is in the best interest of the people of California, and will ensure that lawfully owned assault weapons are registered with the Bureau of Firearms," his office said in a statement.

Gun groups said owners tried repeatedly to register their weapons during the state's registration window in 2018 using different web browsers, hardware and multiple devices. But they couldn't because the system repeatedly crashed or timed out before their applications were completed.

Their lawsuit contended that state officials knew the registration system was flawed and understaffed despite a temporary infusion of nearly $2.6 million and 27 employees.

Aside from the website, this time the department is also agreeing to accept paper registration applications postmarked through the last day of the upcoming registration period.

The settlement comes as a different federal judge is considering whether to throw out California's assault weapons ban, which opponents said deprives law-abiding Californians of weapons commonly allowed in most other states.

The same judge, U.S. District Judge Roger Benitez of San Diego, last year rejected California's attempt to require ammunition buyers to have background checks, citing extensive problems with the state's system. That ruling is now before the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Don't Try This At Home

This is the last of three columns about my 1969 trip in my van with my Samoyed puppy, Jude, through the western U.S. and Canada. (Inspired by John Steinbeck's last novel which was about a road trip with his dog, "Travels with Charley.") My 5-month adventure was filled with beautiful scenery, people and memories but also an occasional calamity I survived as in the following tale.

At Zion National Park I met George, a congenial Canadian from Vancouver who encouraged me to visit him if I came to British Columbia. (Seemingly for young Canucks a hippie from California road tripping was the epitome of cool.)

Sure enough, after traveling to Banff, Canada and the breathtaking Lake Louise, a mere 1700 miles from L.A., I did wind up in Vancouver. But for three days it was perpetually rainy and gloomy and worse, George was out of town. But, causing a total transformation, the sun finally came out revealing a glorious city.

And two days later George returned and enthusiastically invited me to stay where he lived. On the "North Shore," up in the hills, was his father's warehouse that stored his tourist buses which George managed. Otherwise barren it did have a kitchen, a shower and a TV. George suggested I sleep in my van right outside but have complete access to the warehouse's "amenities."

Excitedly, George said Friday night would be the city's biggest summer party at a palatial estate overlooking the bay owned by a drug dealer nicknamed Rick. Given Rick's "occupation" I hesitated but George insisted every beautiful young woman in Vancouver would be there. Shallow as it sounds, I was all in.

Rick's house was more than impressive with a bay view from every room (including the master bathroom!) The huge crowd was thoroughly stoned on pot and hash including a sexy 20-year-old was petting Jude and asking all about my trip. As she and I chatted flirtatiously George said Rick wanted to meet me. (I had no idea the young woman was his girlfriend, he was uncontrollably jealous and had a stash of guns in the house.)

Rick was in his ultra modern kitchen busily mixing batter for the hash brownies. After putting them in the oven he handed me the stirring spoon loaded with batter which I eagerly consumed. When George walked in Rick handed him a smaller spoon which he quickly licked clean.

When the party finally ended Rick bid me an unsettling adieu, "You're going to get higher than you've ever been in your life." After George and I went arrived back at the bus warehouse we watched "Jezebel" (1938) starring Bette Davis and Henry Fonda. I was struck how the dialogue was so overly dramatic as Davis would deliver an overblown monologue and Fonda responded in kind.

Asking George backfired because suddenly he had turned into a zombie. Seconds later I was psychedelically hallucinating: the waves coming from the TV, the buses and the walls moving, the light from the lamp suddenly giving off all sorts of phosphorescent colors.

Panicked, I grabbed Jude and went outside trying desperately to figure out what was happening. My brain was racing like a computer on "search." Vivid images of the party flashed in my mind, until one froze, Rick giving me the spoonful of batter! I realized Rick had slipped me LSD! (As opposed to me having lost my mind.)



Courtesy image

LAMP: For seconds a normal table lamp looked like this causing me considerable panic to say the least.

In the pitch dark I started walking aimlessly on a winding dirt road into the wilderness to get help. (As if there was going to be a clinic in the forest?) As Jude walked ahead I could see gorgeous white electric energy streams coming from his paws. A few times he looked at me funny as if to say, "What the hell is wrong with you?"

Finally a car came along and the passenger's side window rolled down. A concerned teenage girl asked, "Are you okay?" I explained I needed to get to a hospital but she responded, "Well, just be careful" as she rolled up the window and they drove off. WTF? I realized I had only thought my words and not said them.

I had no idea how many hours had passed or what to do so I just followed Jude. Meanwhile I was hearing perfectly arranged classical music emanating from my acid-laced brain. (And I never listened to classical music!)

Much later and in the distance I saw the most beautiful sight...my van! Suddenly my overwhelming panic turned into spiritual euphoria. I got on my knees in the dirt and reached heavenward feeling the blood of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob coursing through my veins. (I have no idea where that shtick came from.)

I think I slept in the van but I'm not sure because the classical music would return and then disappear. The next day I was no longer hallucinating except when I closed my eyes. (So I kept my eyes open.) Recovered, George confirmed we had definitely been slipped a monster dose of LSD. I wanted revenge until George reminded me of "Slick" Rick's gun stash.

While my acid trip was primarily terrifying I could see why native Americans believe peyote brings the user understanding of the spiritual world. Despite my critique of Bette Davis being overly dramatic in "Jezebel," I must note she won an Oscar for it. Lastly, I still love brownies but, even to this day, I occasionally associate them with classical music.

Assuming he's not having an acid flashback, Jack can be reached at: jackdailypress@aol.com. Due to a management decision, starting March 12, Laughing Matters has been cut back to every other Friday. Jack is at: facebook.com/jackneworth and twitter.com/jackneworth

Biden says U.S. to hit 100 million virus goal on Friday

ZEKE MILLER
Associated Press

With the U.S. closing in on President Joe Biden's goal of injecting 100 million coronavirus vaccinations weeks ahead of his target date, the White House announced on Thursday the nation is now in position to help supply neighbors Canada and Mexico with millions of lifesaving shots.

The Biden administration revealed the outlines of a plan to "loan" a limited number of vaccines to Canada and Mexico as the president announced the U.S. is on the cusp of meeting his 100-day injection goal "way ahead of schedule."

" I'm proud to announce that tomorrow, 58 days into our administration, we will have met our goal," Biden said. He promised to unveil a new vaccination target next week, as the U.S. is on pace to have enough of the three currently authorized vaccines to cover the entire adult population just 10 weeks from now.

Ahead of Biden's remarks, the White House said it was finalizing plans to send a combined 4 million doses of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine to Mexico and Canada in its first export of shots. Press secretary Jen Psaki said the details of the "loan" were still being worked out, but 2.5 million doses would go to Mexico and 1.5 million would be sent to Canada.

"Our first priority remains vaccinating the U.S. population," Psaki said. But she added that "ensuring our neighbors can contain the virus is a mission critical step, is mission critical to ending the pandemic."

The AstraZeneca vaccine has not yet been authorized for use in the U.S. but has been by the World Health Organization. Tens of millions of doses have been stockpiled in the U.S., waiting for emergency use authorization, and that has sparked an international outcry that lifesaving vaccine is being withheld when it could be used elsewhere. The White House said just 7 million of the AstraZeneca doses are ready for shipment.

The initial run of doses manufactured in the U.S. are owned by the federal government under the terms of agreements reached with drugmakers, and the Biden administration has faced calls from allies across the globe to release the AstraZeneca shots for immediate use. Biden has also fielded direct requests from Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador to buy vaccines produced in the United States.

Global public health advocates say wealthy nations like the U.S. need to do far more to help stem the spread of the pandemic. The World Health Organization on Thursday issued a report that fewer than 7 million COVID-19 vaccine doses have been administered in Africa thus far. That's the equivalent of what the U.S. administers in a matter of days.

Biden did move to have the U.S. contribute financially to the United Nations- and World Health Organization-backed COVAX alliance, which will share vaccine with more than 90 lower- and middle-income nations, but the U.S. has yet to commit to sharing any doses.

From his first days in office, Biden has set clear — and achievable — metrics for U.S. success, whether they be vaccinations or school reopenings, as part of an apparent strategy of underpromising, then overdelivering. Aides believe that exceeding his goals breeds trust in government after the Trump administration's sometimes-fanciful rhetoric on the virus.

The 100 million dose goal was first announced on Dec. 8, days before the U.S. had even one authorized vaccine for COVID-19, let alone the three that have now received emergency authorization. Still, it was generally seen within reach, if optimistic.

By the time Biden was inaugurated on Jan. 20, the U.S. had already administered 20 million shots at a rate of about 1 million per day, bringing complaints at the time that Biden's goal was not ambitious enough. He quickly revised it upward to 150 million doses in his first 100 days.

Now the U.S. is injecting an average of about 2.2 million doses each day — and the pace is likely to dramatically rise later this month in conjunction with an expected surge in supply of the vaccines.

According to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, injections of 96 million doses have been reported to the agency since Biden's inauguration, but those reports lag the actual date of administration. Vaccination trend lines pointed to Biden breaking the 100 million mark on Thursday, with the numbers likely to be confirmed by the CDC as soon as Friday.

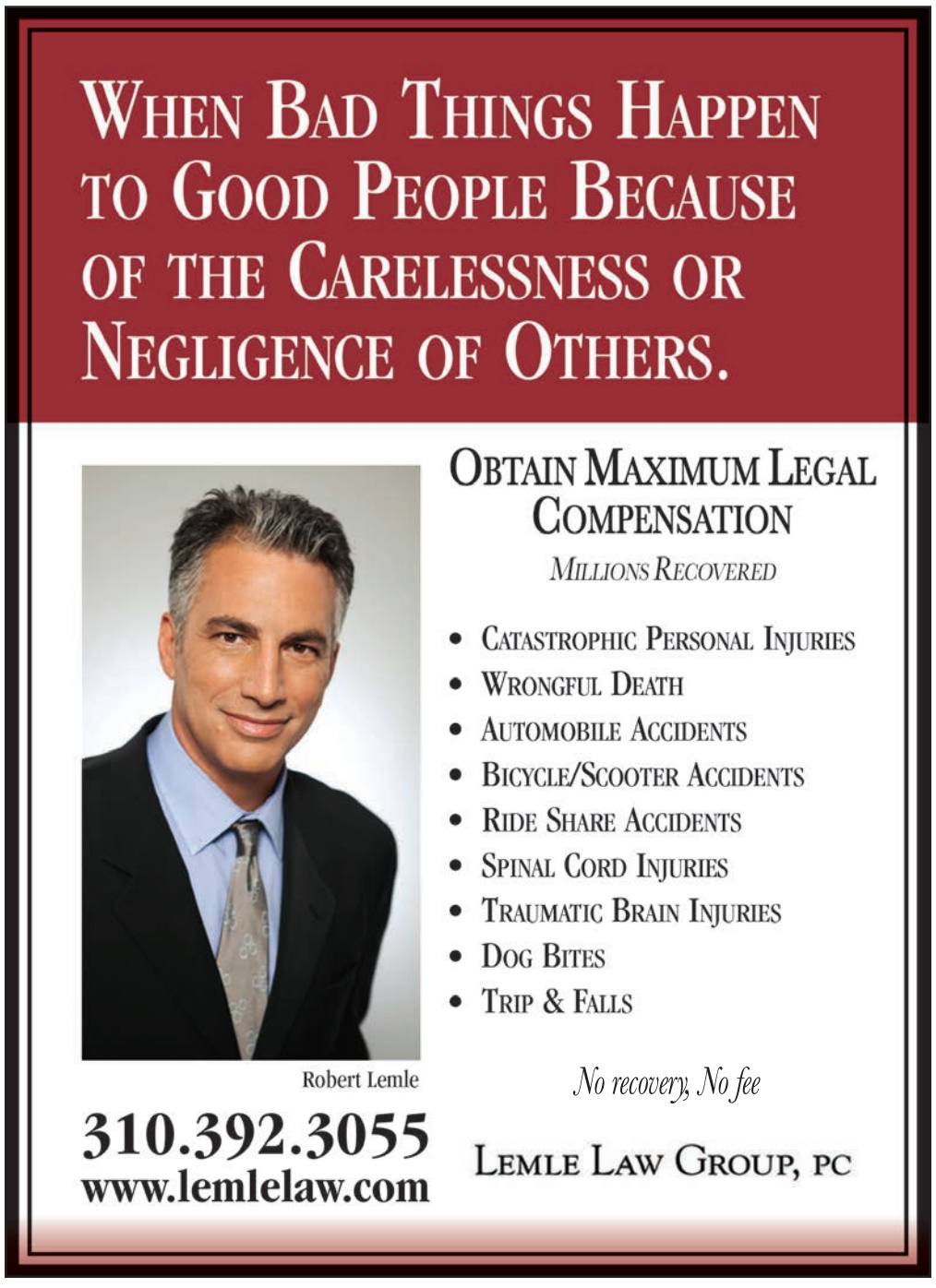
The president has moved to speed up deliveries of vaccines from Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson, as well as to expand the number of places to get shots and people who can administer them, with a focus on increasing the nation's capacity to inject doses as supply constraints lift.

The risk in setting too rosy expectations is that an administration might become defined by its failure to meet them, such as in May 2020, when President Donald Trump said the nation had "prevailed" over the virus.

At the time, the country had seen about 80,000 deaths from the virus. This week, the U.S. death toll topped 538,000. Trump's lax approach and lack of credibility also contributed to poor adherence to public safety rules among the American public.







DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 232 CALLS ON MARCH 17

Party Complaint 2300blk Ocean Park Blvd 12:01 a.m.
Living In A Vehicle 1300blk 10th St 12:06 a.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop Lincoln Blvd / Pacific St 1:19 a.m.
Party Complaint 2200blk 4th St 1:24 a.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 1800blk Broadway 1:35 a.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 20th St / Interstate 10 1:45 a.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 2000blk Olympic Blvd 1:55 a.m.
Status Check 1300blk 6th St 3:45 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1300blk Pico Blvd 4:33 a.m.
Traffic Hazard 200blk Pacific Coast Hwy 4:44 a.m.
Traffic Hazard 20th St / Virginia Ave 5:04 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 900blk Wilshire Blvd 5:20 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1900blk Lincoln Blvd 5:54 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 100blk Arizona Ave 5:59 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1300blk 2nd St 6:25 a.m.
Traffic Hazard 11th St / Broadway 7:00 a.m.
Found Property 1700blk Hill St 7:24 a.m.
General Parking Problem 1600blk Stanford St 7:35 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 14th St / Olympic Blvd 7:37 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1900blk Pico Blvd 7:54 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 18th St / Delaware Ave 8:00 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 24th St / Wilshire Blvd 8:19 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 5th St / Olympic Blvd W 8:35 a.m.
Person With A Gun 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 9:09 a.m.
Person Down 1100blk Pacific Coast Hwy 9:28 a.m.
Panic Alarm 2300blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:41 a.m.
Panic Alarm 11th St / Montana Ave 9:50 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 2100blk 20th St 9:51 a.m.
Person Down 7th St / Ozone St 9:53 a.m.
Fight 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 10:15 a.m.
Fraud Report 2100blk 22nd St 10:29 a.m.
Burglary Report 800blk 5th St 10:32 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1400blk 23rd St 10:43 a.m.
Fraud Report 2100blk 22nd St 10:48 a.m.
Attempt Auto Theft Just Occurred Lincoln Blvd / Ashland Ave 10:56 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 300blk California Ave 10:57 a.m.
Missing Person 800blk 16th St 11:04 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 2100blk Ashland Ave 11:04 a.m.
Burglary Report 800blk 5th St 11:09 a.m.
Silent Robbery Alarm 1200blk Montana Ave 11:14 a.m.
Stalking Report 2200blk 29th St 11:25 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 2100blk Ocean Park Blvd 11:41 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 2100blk 20th St 11:42 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1100blk 9th St 11:49 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 500blk Arizona Ave 11:59 a.m.
Battery Report 2800blk Neilson Way 12:06 p.m.
Burglary Report 800blk 5th St 12:12 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 800blk Harvard St 12:21 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1600blk 19th St 12:44 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 1900blk 19th St 12:49 p.m.
Lewd Activity 1200blk Lincoln Blvd 1:00 p.m.
Burglary Report 2600blk 31st St 1:10 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 200blk 4th St 1:52 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 2100blk 22nd St 2:30 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2800blk Wilshire Blvd 2:35 p.m.
Person With A Gun 6th St / Santa Monica Blvd 2:38 p.m.
Person With A Gun 2500blk Main St 2:40 p.m.
Traffic Hazard Main St / Bicknell Ave 2:44 p.m.
Traffic Hazard Cloverfield Blvd / Delaware Ave 2:46 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Neilson Way / Ocean Park Blvd 2:51 p.m.
Burglary Report 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 3:05 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 16th St / Wilshire Blvd 3:23 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 1000blk Ocean Ave 3:26 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1000blk 9th St 3:35 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1300blk Stanford St 3:57 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1600blk Ocean Ave 4:02 p.m.
Traffic Hazard Moomat Ahiko Way / Ocean Ave 4:02 p.m.
Overdose 500blk Colorado Ave 4:03 p.m.
Battery Report 6th St / Wilshire Blvd 4:19 p.m.
Loud Music 3rd Street Prom / Wilshire Blvd 4:46 p.m.
Harassing Phone Calls Report 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:53 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1300blk Ocean Ave 5:14 p.m.
Burglary Report 1300blk 16th St 5:37 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1500blk 14th St 6:33 p.m.
Red Zone Violation 1300blk Pacific Coast Hwy 7:29 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 7:47 p.m.
Armed Robbery/Auto Theft In Progress 300blk Olympic Dr 7:59 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 8:02 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 100blk Bay St 8:41 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 1300blk Ocean Ave 8:47 p.m.
Loud Music Ocean Ave / Bicknell Ave 8:55 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop Main St / Pico Blvd 9:00 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 2400blk Main St 9:14 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1400blk 4th St 9:26 p.m.
Found Property 1900blk Euclid St 9:28 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 1400blk Ocean Ave 9:40 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop PCH/No/Entr 10:09 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 4th St / Colorado Ave 10:17 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop Moomat Ahiko Way / Ocean Ave 10:37 p.m.

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WINNER

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Letter to the Editor

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Paul Scott's essay concerning the absurd decision by City Council to deny the construction of Tesla SuperChargers is absolutely correct. There are currently only nine SuperChargers in Santa Monica. Personal chargers are not an option in most condo/apartment buildings. As a result, there is often a long line at the nine stalls in Santa Monica Place.

It's clear that the Council members have absolutely no understanding of the need to charge cars efficiently. After writing to the city councilors, the lack of urgency in the responses shows the inability to recognize the necessities of modern life. It's easy to claim the city is a front runner in environmental accountability, but apparently those who drive zero-emission cars are not considered an important constituency.

Tesla is one of the few remaining tenants in the Santa Monica Place shopping center. One hopes that Elon Musk will come to the rescue. In the interim, the Council has turned its back on those of us who drive electric cars, blaming the need for affordable housing. Perhaps they should have considered that before building the hideous apartment buildings throughout the city that clog traffic and create more emissions.

Santa Monica is in decline. This decision pushes it even further. Punishing drivers of Teslas is short-sighted and environmentally indefensible; indicative of a Council out of touch and uncaring.

George Applegate, Santa Monica

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Malibu

City of Malibu Puts Out a Call for Artists for a New Poetry Anthology

The City of Malibu Cultural Arts Commission is supporting a Call for Artists organized by Malibu Poet Laureate Dr. John Struloeff and the Poet Laureate Committee. Local poets are encouraged to submit original literary work for a new Poetry Anthology exploring the theme "Who We Are" by Friday, April 5, 2021.

Since many community members have come to Malibu from elsewhere, potential contributors are encouraged to focus on two facets of their lives: poems that depict the contributor's Malibu life or poems that describe a previous time and setting in the contributor's life. Additionally, the anthology will include biographical information from each chosen contributor that will allow readers to immerse themselves in the diverse lives and identities that make up Malibu.

Artists may submit an application and a poem through the City of Malibu's website, MalibuCity.org/Poetry. For more information or assistance with online submissions, please contact Community Services Deputy Director Kristin Riesgo at KRiesgo@MalibuCity.org or call 310-456-2489, ext. 349.

For more information about the Poet Laureate program, visit the City's Arts and Culture website at MalibuArtsandCulture.org/Poetry.

SUBMITTED BY MATT MYERHOFF

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 37 CALLS ON MARCH 17

EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 1:42 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 4th St 2:34 a.m.
EMS 1400blk Ocean Ave 2:47 a.m.
EMS 3000blk 4th St 4:45 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1500blk Ocean Ave 4:52 a.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 7th St / Michigan Ave 6:30 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 14th St / Olympic Blvd 7:37 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 9:42 a.m.
EMS 1200blk Sunset Ave 9:44 a.m.
EMS 7th St / Ozone St 9:53 a.m.
EMS 2800blk Arizona Ave 10:43 a.m.
EMS 2200blk 29th St 11:04 a.m.
Odor Of Natural Gas 1000blk 4th St 12:18 p.m.
Broken Water Main Ocean Ave / San Vicente Blvd 12:29 p.m.
EMS 2700blk Wilshire Blvd 1:06 p.m.
EMS 1200blk Pine St 1:08 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 2nd St 1:32 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Pico Blvd 2:26 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1100blk 9th St 2:43 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 900blk 2nd St 2:45 p.m.
EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 2:53 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 2:54 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:10 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 2nd St 3:11 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:34 p.m.
EMS 500blk Colorado Ave 4:03 p.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 1900blk 6th St 4:49 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 17th St / Interstate 10 5:36 p.m.
EMS 1600blk Ashland Ave 6:19 p.m.
EMS 500blk Wilshire Blvd 6:34 p.m.
EMS 900blk 5th St 6:37 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 7:17 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 21st St 7:51 p.m.
EMS 2200blk 20th St 8:10 p.m.
EMS 2600blk 29th St 8:23 p.m.
EMS 200blk Ocean Ave 9:38 p.m.
EMS 2600blk Main St 10:29 p.m.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that bids will be received by the City of Santa Monica until 3:00 p.m. on the date indicated at which time they will be opened and posted for:

BID #4411 PUMP MAINTENANCE

Submission Deadline is April 8, 2021 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Bids must be submitted on forms supplied by the City of Santa Monica. Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the **City's Online Vendor Portal.** The website for this Notice of Inviting Bids and related documents is: ProcureNow (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for bid package and specifications.

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Legal Summons Notice

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso): 21SMCV00347 NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): CRESCENT BAY ABSTRACT COMPANY, a California Corporation, All PERSONS UNKNOWN, CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE RIGHT, TITLE ESTATE, LIEN OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT ADVERSE TO PLAINTIFF'S TITLE, OR ANY CLOUD ON PLAINTIFF'S TITLE THE RETO; and DOES 1 through 25, inclusive YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): WILSHIRE CENTERCAL, LLC a Delaware Limited Liability company NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of $10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. ¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Leal a información a continuación. Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) oponiéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de $10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso. The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles, Santa Monica CourtHouse 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Miller Starr Regalía Anthony M Leones (184499) W. Scott Shepard (14875) 1331 N California Blvd 5th Floor, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 (925) 935-9400 (925) 933-4126 DATE (Fecha): February 19th, 2021 Sharron R Carter Executive Officer/Clerk of Court, Clerk, by N. Valles (Secretario), Deputy (adjunto)

ANTHONY M. LEONES (Bar No. 184499) W. SCOTT SHEPARD (Bar No. 148475) MILLER STARR REGALIA A Professional Law Corporation 1331 N. California Blvd., Fifth Floor Walnut Creek, California 94596 Telephone: 925 935 9400 Facsimile: 925 933 4126 Email: anthony.leones@msrlegal.com scott.shepard@msrlegal.com Attorneys for Plaintiff WILSHIRE CENTERCAL, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, WEST DISTRICT WILSHIRE CENTERCAL, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, Plaintiff, v. CRESCENT BAY ABSTRACT COMPANY, a California corporation; ALL PERSONS UNKNOWN, CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN, OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT ADVERSE TO PLAINTIFF'S TITLE, OR ANY CLOUD ON PLAINTIFF'S TITLE THERETO; and DOES 1 through 25, inclusive, Defendants. Case No. 21SMCV00347 FIRST AMENDED VERIFIED COMPLAINT TO QUIET TITLE, FOR CANCELLATION OF INSTRUMENT AND DECLARATORY RELIEF Complaint Filed: February 18, 2021 Trial Date: Not yet set Plaintiff Wilshire CenterCal, LLC, alleges as follows: GENERAL ALLEGATIONS 1. Plaintiff Wilshire CenterCal, LLC ("Plaintiff"), is a Delaware limited liability company in good standing, organized and existing under the laws of the State Delaware, and admitted to and doing business and owning property in the State of California, and specifically in Los Angeles County, California. 2. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that defendant Crescent Bay Abstract Company ("Crescent"), prior to 1911, was a California corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of California, which owned property and did business in Los Angeles County, California. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that on or about November 30, 1911, the Secretary of State of California suspended Crescent from doing any further business in California based on a failure to make payments to the Franchise Tax Board. 3. Plaintiff is the owner of and holds fee title to the commercial real property commonly known as 1931 Wilshire Boulevard, Santa Monica, County of Los Angeles, California 90403 [also known as 1921 and 1933 Wilshire Boulevard] (the "Property") and more particularly described in Exhibit A to the Grant Deed recorded in the Public Records of Los Angeles County on January 6, 2020, as Document Number 20200014000, a true copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by this reference (the "2020 Grant Deed"), which Property has the following legal description: Lots 8, 9 and 10 in Block 8 of Green Acres, in the City of Santa Monica, County of Los Angeles, State of California, as per Map recorded in Book 9, Page 126 of Maps, in the Office of the County Recorder of said County. APN 4276-008-014 and 4276-008-015 Plaintiff acquired said Property on or about January 6, 2020. 4. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that defendant Crescent was the owner of and held fee title to following described portion of the Property prior to and up to April 29, 1908: Lot 10 in Block 8 of Green Acres, in the City of Santa Monica, County of Los Angeles, State of California, as per Map recorded in Book 9, Page 126 of Maps, in the Office of the County Recorder of said County. APN 4276-008-015 This smaller portion of the whole Property owned by Crescent up to and including April 29, 1908, will be referred to hereinafter as "Lot 10". 5. On or about April 29, 1908, Crescent transferred Lot 10 to Mary Reeves and O. Elliott by a Grant Deed which was recorded at Book 3331, Page 307 of the official records of Los Angeles County [the "1908 Grant Deed"]. (A true copy of the 1908 Grant Deed is attached hereto as Exhibit B and incorporated by this reference.) The 1908 Grant Deed states that: 1) no part of Lot 10 shall ever be used for business purposes (hereinafter "the Business Purposes Restriction"), 2) that no residence shall be erected, placed or permitted on said premises costing or being worth less than $1,200 nor situated less than 30 feet from the front of said lot (hereinafter "the Residential Use Restriction"), and 3) that the grantees shall not allow or authorize in any manner directly or indirectly said premises or any part thereof to be used for the business of vending intoxicating liquors for drinking purposes whether such vending shall be done directly or under some evasive guise (hereinafter "the Sale of Alcohol Restriction") (the Business Purpose Restriction, the Residential Use Restriction and the Sale of Alcohol Restriction shall be collectively all be referred to hereinafter as "the Use Restrictions"). The 1908 Grant Deed does not recite or state in any way that any of the Use Restrictions apply to or benefit any other real property. 6. The defendants herein named as "ALL OTHER PERSONS UNKNOWN, CLAIMING ANY LEGAL OR EQUITABLE RIGHT, TITLE, ESTATE, LIEN, OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN THE COMPLAINT ADVERSE TO PLAINTIFF'S TITLE, OR ANY CLOUD ON PLAINTIFF'S TITLE THERETO," are unknown to Plaintiff. Those defendants, and each of them, may claim some right, title, estate, lien, or interest in Lot 10 adverse to Plaintiff's title thereto. Any such claim or claims are without any right whatsoever, and those defendants have no right, title, estate, lien, or interest whatever in Lot 10 or any part thereof. Plaintiff further alleges that none of the unknown defendants named in this paragraph are in open or actual possession of the Property, or any portion thereof, including Lot 10. 7. Plaintiff does not know the true names or capacities of defendants sued herein as DOES 1 through 25, inclusive, and will amend this Complaint to set forth the true names and capacities of those fictitiously-named defendants when the same have been ascertained. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that at all times herein mentioned, each of those fictitiously-named defendants was the agent or employee of the other fictitiously-named or actually-named defendants and, acting within the course and scope of such employment or agency, took some part in the acts or omissions hereinafter set forth, or is the principal and took some part in

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said acts or omissions, or claims some right, title, or interest in Lot 10, by reason of which each of those fictitiously-named defendants is liable to Plaintiff for the relief prayed for herein. FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION (Quiet Title) 8. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference the allegations in Paragraphs 1-7, above. 9. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges as follows: on or about April 9, 1908, Crescent executed and caused to be recorded in the Public Records of Los Angeles County the 1908 Grant Deed, conveying the Lot 10 to Mary Reeves and O. Elliott (collectively the "Grantees"). The 1908 Grant Deed executed and recorded by Crescent also set forth certain use restrictions, the Business Use Restriction, the Residential Use Restriction and the Sale of Alcohol Restriction, relating to Lot 10. It is Plaintiff's allegation that the Business Use Restriction, the Residential Use Restriction and the Sale of Alcohol Restriction relating to Lot 10 were all personal between Crescent and the Grantees, do not benefit Lot 10 in any way, do not run with the land, Lot 10, do not burden or restrict the use of the land, Lot 10, once Lot 10 had been transferred by Grantees, and do not presently or currently burden or restrict Plaintiff's, or its lessees, successors or assigns, right to or ability to use Lot 10 in any way whatsoever. 10. On or about January 6, 2020, Plaintiff acquired the Property, including Lot 10, from Headland Properties, LLC, which the prior owner had leased out and used for a store for the retail sales of clothing and related items. Now, Plaintiff seeks to redevelop the Property, including Lot 10, into a residential and commercial mixed-use development, including a grocery store which will operate a commercial business and will sell products containing alcohol on the Property, including Lot 10. 11. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that for the vast majority of the time following the 1908 Grant Deed Lot 10 has been used for commercial business purposes, retail sales, including as a GAP retail store since at least 1985. Plaintiff is further informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that the three lots (Lots 8, 9 and 10) comprising the Property were the subject of a lot-tie agreement in 1976 making the three lots one cohesive unit of property for the future conduct of business purposes on the Property. 12. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that all defendants, and each of them, including Crescent, claim an interest adverse to the Plaintiff in Lot 10, owned in fee by Plaintiff, in that each such defendant claims to possess a right to enforce the Use Restrictions as they apply to Lot 10. 13. In truth and fact, no such claimed adverse or other right to enforce or apply the Use Restrictions in any way exists in favor of defendants, including Crescent, and the Use Restrictions do not bind, apply to and are not enforceable against Lot 10 or its owners or lessees. The claims or alleged rights of defendants set forth above are without any right or basis whatsoever and all such defendants, including Crescent, have no right, title, estate, lien, interest whatsoever or ability to in any way enforce the Use Restrictions in any way, manner or form over Lot 10 or any portion thereof, and the Use Restrictions do not bind, apply to and are not enforceable against Lot 10 or its owners, lessees or successors or assigns. 14. Plaintiff seeks to quiet title to defendants' claims and/or rights and that the Use Restrictions do not bind, apply to and are not enforceable against Lot 10 or its owners, lessees, successors or assigns as of the date of the filing of this Complaint. WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as hereinafter set forth. SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION (Cancellation of Instrument - Civil Code § 3412) 15. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference the allegations in Paragraphs 1-14, above. 16. The existence of any one or all of the Business Use Restriction, the Residential Use Restriction and the Sale of Alcohol Restriction in the 1908 Grant Deed is a cloud upon Plaintiff's title and unreasonably interferes with Plaintiff's use of the Property, which includes Lot 10, and if allowed to remain of record, will cause damage to Plaintiff by limited Plaintiff's ability to develop, use or lease the Property. 17. The Use Restrictions are not enforceable against Plaintiff and do not apply in any way to restrict the use of the Lot 10 because they were all personal between Crescent and the Grantees and do not run with the land, Lot 10, do not burden or restrict the use of Lot 10, once Lot 10 had been transferred by Grantees, and do not presently or currently burden or restrict Plaintiff's right to or ability to use Lot 10 in any way whatsoever. 18. Plaintiff has no adequate remedy at law and can only be made whole by a declaration by this Court that each and every one of the Use Restrictions contained in the 1908 Grant Deed, attached hereto as Exhibit B, are void and a judgment entered by this Court cancelling said Use Restrictions from the 1908 Grant Deed. 19. No offer to restore consideration by Plaintiff is necessary in this case as no consideration was ever exchanged between Plaintiff and Crescent. 20. Upon application of a party, the Court has the power under Civil Code section 3412 to order the cancellation of any portion of a written instrument in respect to which there is reasonable apprehension that if it, or any part of it, are left outstanding, may cause injury to another party. 21. Plaintiff prays that each of the Business Use Restriction, Residential Use Restriction, and Alcohol Sale Restriction in the 1908 Grant Deed attached hereto as Exhibit B be declared void and of no effect and that each of the Business Use Restriction, the Residential Use Restriction and the Alcohol Sale Restriction in the 1908 Grant Deed be declared cancelled. WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as hereinafter set forth. THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION (Declaratory Relief) 22. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates herein by reference the allegations in Paragraphs 1-21, above. 23. An actual controversy has arisen and now exists relating to Plaintiff's or its lessees ability to develop and use Lot 10 for business purposes and to sell alcohol or products containing alcohol. Plaintiff contends, and is informed and believes, and on that basis alleges, that all defendants deny, as follows: (a) That the Business Purposes Restriction does not burden Lot 10, does not run with the land and restrict Lot 10 in any way, does not apply to Lot 10 and does not apply to, effect or restrict Plaintiff or its lessees, successors, or assigns use of Lot 10 in any way. (b) That the Residential Use Restriction does not burden Lot 10, does not run with the land and restrict Lot 10 in any way, does not apply to Lot 10 and does not apply to, effect or restrict Plaintiff or its lessees, successors, or assigns use of Lot 10 in any way. (c) That the Sale of Alcohol Restriction does not burden Lot 10, does not run with the land and restrict Lot 10 in any way, does not apply to Lot 10 and does not apply to, effect or restrict Plaintiff or its lessees, successors, or assigns use of Lot 10 in any way. 24. Plaintiff is the owner in fee of the Property and of Lot 10 contained within the Property, and desires a judicial declaration of Plaintiff's title as the owner in fee of said Property and Lot 10 and that each of the Business Purposes Restriction, the Residential Use Restriction and the Sale of Alcohol Restriction do not burden Lot 10, do not run with the land and restrict Lot 10 in any way, do not apply to Lot 10 and do not apply to, effect or restrict Plaintiff, or its lessees, successors, or assigns, type of use of Lot 10 in any way and that all defendants have no rights whatsoever in respect to how Lot 10 may be used by Plaintiff, it lessees, successors and assigns. This is a proper action for determination of the rights of Plaintiff and of the defendants, if any, pursuant to the provisions of California Code of Civil Procedure section 1060. 25. A judicial declaration is necessary and appropriate at this time under the circumstances in order for the title to and the ability of Plaintiff and its lessees to develop and use Lot 10 for a residential and commercial mixed-use development, containing a grocery business which will sell alcohol and/or products containing alcohol issues to be resolved prior to the completion of Plaintiff's efforts to develop the Property for residential and commercial business purposes, including the sale of alcohol and products containing alcohol. WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as follows. PRAYER As to the First Cause of Action for Quiet Title: 1. For a judgment quieting title, declaring that fee title to the Lot 10 is quieted in Plaintiff, free and clear of any covenant, servitude or restriction of any kind, including the Business Use Restriction, the Residential Use Restriction and the Sale of Alcohol Restriction, preventing the use of the Property by Plaintiff, or its lessees, successors and assigns, in any way as a residential and commercial mixed-use development, for business of any kind or limiting or preventing in any way the sale of alcohol, alcoholic beverages or products that contain alcohol on the Property, as of the date this Complaint is filed; As to the Second Cause of Action for Cancellation of Instrument: 2. For an order and judgment that the Business Use Restriction, the Residential Use Restriction and Alcohol Sale Restriction in the 1908 Grant Deed attached hereto as Exhibit B are declared void and of no effect and cancelling the Business Use Restriction, the Residential Use Restriction and Alcohol Sale Restriction in the 1908 Grant Deed. As to the Third Cause of Action for Declaratory Relief: 3. For a decree of this Court adjudging and declaring Plaintiff's title as the owners in fee of Lot 10 and that: a) the Business Purposes Restriction does not burden Lot 10, does not run with the land and does not restrict Lot 10 in any way, does not apply to Lot 10 and does not apply to, effect or restrict Plaintiff or its lessees, successors, or assigns use of Lot 10 in any way, b) the Residential Use Restriction does not burden Lot 10, does not run with the land and does not restrict Lot 10 in any way, does not apply to Lot 10 and does not apply to, effect or restrict Plaintiff or its lessees, successors, or assigns use of Lot 10 in any way, and c) the Sale of Alcohol Restriction does not burden Lot 10, does not run with the land and restrict Lot 10 in any way, does not apply to Lot 10 and does not apply to, effect or restrict Plaintiff or its lessees, successors, or assigns use of Lot 10 in any way. As to All Causes of Action: 4. For costs of suit incurred herein; and 5. For such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper. Dated: February 23, 2021 MILLER STARR REGALIA By: W. SCOTT SHEPARD Attorneys for Plaintiff WILSHIRE CENTERCAL, LLC VERIFICATION I have read the foregoing FIRST AMENDED VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF, TO QUIET TITLE AND FOR CANCELLATION OF INSTRUMENT and know its contents. I am the authorized signatory for WILSHIRE CENTERCAL, LLC, a party to this action. The matters stated in the foregoing document are true of my own knowledge except as to those matters which are stated on information and belief, and as to those matters, I am informed and believe them to be true. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on February 23, 2021, at El Segundo, California. Sean Dennison, General Counsel Signature

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