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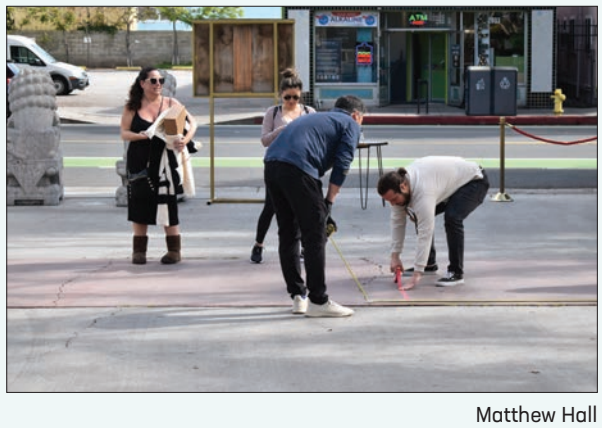
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Consumer Corner
Details about the eviction moratorium.
Page 3

An Expensive Non-purchase
A woman received $20,000 bail for stealing a pair of shorts.
Page 5







Matthew Hall



SUPPLIES: The Victorian has started a new kind of outdoor market to help connect customers to restaurant suppliers. The business said they noticed many of the in-demand items locals want to buy are in ample supply for restaurants but the eateries can't open due to coronavirus shutdowns. The temporary market allows people to buy direct from the vendors and includes meat, vegetables, alcohol and cleaning supplies. The market will be open through this Saturday from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. in the Victorian parking lot on Main Street.

18 local residents positive for coronavirus as county approaches 800 cases

MADELEINE PAUKER
SMDP Staff Writer

Public health officials said Wednesday that 18 Santa Monica residents have tested positive for coronavirus, out of 799 confirmed cases in Los Angeles County that include 34 in Brentwood and nine in Venice.

Barbara Ferrer, director of the county Department of Public Health, said Wednesday three L.A. County residents older than 65 with underlying health conditions died after contracting coronavirus, bringing the county death toll to 11. Officials are no longer including a child who died earlier this week in the total because the Centers for Disease Control is investigating whether the death resulted from coronavirus.

Ferrer said the county's coronavirus death rate is 1% and the national death rate is 1.5%.

Eighty percent of L.A. County residents who have tested positive for coronavirus are between 18 and

SEE **CORONAVIRUS** PAGE 4

Substance users and mental health patients struggle under self-isolation

MADELEINE PAUKER
SMDP Staff Writer

Statewide stay at home orders, while necessary to slow the spread of coronavirus, put people with substance use and mental health disorders at risk, experts say.

Behavioral healthcare providers said individuals with a history of substance use may turn to alcohol or drugs to numb their anxiety over coronavirus and its economic impacts, and people with depression and other mental illnesses may find it hard to cope with self-isolation and disruption to their daily routines.

Self-isolation during a pandemic won't lead to suicidal ideation among the general population, but it may exacerbate symptoms for people who are already depressed or coping

SEE **SELF-ISOLATION** PAGE 5

Pandemic forces SMMUSD to hold meeting online

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

Due to the recently enacted "social distancing" order, the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District held last Thursday's Board of Education meeting online, but that didn't stop dozens of local parents from sharing their opinions on a number of matters like layoffs.

The most recent meeting of SMMUSD's Board of Education was originally scheduled to occur in Malibu. The agenda listed a study session and major action that was to be discussed by the board but both items were postponed once the meeting was set to go forward online.

The meeting kicked off with a word from Superintendent Ben Drati on the recent COVID-19 pandemic, which has left many parents worried for one reason or another in recent weeks.

"We are in unprecedented times... Things have drastically changed in our lives and social order, and things are pretty much turned upside down right now," Drati said as he mentioned how staff is working diligently to ensure students, especially those without the necessary electronic resources, will have the opportunity to continue their learning in the future.

Prior to the conclusion of the Superintendent's Report, board member Oscar De La Torre asked if it was possible for the board to suspend layoffs, which was a subject that would dominate the public comment portion of the meeting.

Though public speakers were unable to attend last week's meeting, more than 50 residents submitted comments online that were read by staff. Due to the large number

SEE **MEETING** PAGE 11

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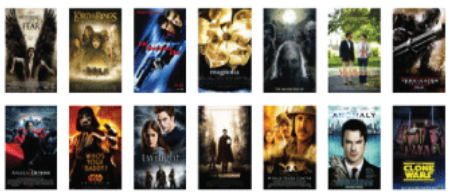
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California governor says banks to waive mortgage fees

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

Several of the nation's largest banks agreed to temporarily suspend residential mortgage payments for Californians affected by the coronavirus, Gov. Gavin Newsom said Wednesday.

The announcement comes as more than 1 million Californians have filed for unemployment benefits since March 13 because many businesses have had to shut down because of a statewide "stay at home" order to prevent the spread of the virus.

Wells Fargo, US Bank, Citi and JP Morgan Chase have all agreed to waive mortgage payments for people affected by the coronavirus. An additional 200 state charter banks and credit unions made similar commitments, he said.

But Newsom noted Bank of America agreed to suspend payments for one month. "I hope they will reconsider and join those other banks that are wiling to do the right thing," he said.

Newsom said everyone is eligible, regardless of how much money they make. He said homeowners must submit "some form of documentation," but he did not give details.

The news comes after Congress reached an agreement with the Trump administration on a $2 trillion economic stimulus package to keep the economy afloat during the crisis. The plan would increase weekly unemployment benefits by $600 more than what states are already providing.

Anticipating a surge of requests, Newsom urged homeowners to take their time to get their mortgage documents in order before contacting their lender.

"If every single person with a residential mortgage makes a phone call at the same time to their bank, those call centers will collapse," Newsom said.

Newsom continued to urge people to take the coronavirus threat seriously, reiterating the death of a teenager in Los Angeles earlier in the week who had tested positive for the virus. Los Angeles County health officials have since backtracked on their announcement that a child died from coronavirus, saying it's possible the death was caused by something else.

During their daily briefing, the county health department said the unidentified child from the city of Lancaster was among four new deaths.

"Though early tests indicated a positive result for COVID-19, the case is complex and there may be an alternate explanation for this fatality" and the case will need evaluation by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the statement said.

Lancaster Mayor R. Rex Parris said a 17-year-old boy had been hospitalized with respiratory problems and died from septic shock, a reaction to a widespread infection that can cause dangerously low blood pressure and organ failure.

Parris said the boy's father also has coronavirus and worked in a job where he had close contact with the public.

The mayor said the boy may have had long-term health problems in the past but was healthy recently. He said he doesn't doubt that the teen died from complications of COVID-19.

"We're the first city in the nation to lose a child, and that is unbearable to me," he said.

A report last week by the CDC found no coronavirus deaths in the U.S. among people 19 and under. That age group accounted for less than 3% of all hospitalizations.

As with many other communities, Lancaster, a Mojave Desert city of 170,000 north of Los Angeles, has been struggling to find tests and protective gear to deal with the virus. The city has ordered 100,000 test kits from Europe, Parris said.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 40 CALLS ON MAR. 24

EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 2:00 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 200blk San Vicente Blvd 2:34 a.m.
EMS 800blk 3rd St 2:58 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 3:03 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 12th St 5:13 a.m.
EMS 3100blk 18th St 6:44 a.m.
EMS 100blk Ocean Park Blvd 6:55 a.m.
EMS 400blk Expo Line 7:27 a.m.
EMS 1100blk 10th St 7:42 a.m.
EMS 600blk Ocean Ave 7:50 a.m.
EMS 1100blk 7th St 8:25 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 8:31 a.m.
EMS 100blk Broadway 8:58 a.m.
EMS 2400blk Pearl St 9:41 a.m.
EMS 800blk 2nd St 11:25 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 17th St 12:13 p.m.
EMS 1300blk Franklin St 12:43 p.m.
EMS 1800blk 19th St 12:45 p.m.
EMS 2500blk Virginia Ave 12:53 p.m.
EMS 1000blk 7th St 12:59 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200blk 15th St 1:12 p.m.
EMS 400blk San Vicente Blvd 1:30 p.m.
EMS Stanford St / Montana Ave 1:34 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 5th St 1:35 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 1:38 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2800blk Wilshire Blvd 1:39 p.m.
Broken Water Main Ocean Ave / Bay St 1:58 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 2:18 p.m.
EMS 1000blk Wilshire Blvd 2:34 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 2:51 p.m.
EMS 2200blk Colorado Ave 2:53 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 7th St 3:25 p.m.
EMS 2300blk 28th St 4:46 p.m.
EMS 1300blk Franklin St 6:12 p.m.
EMS 400blk California Ave 6:18 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 800blk 17th St 6:29 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 7:26 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 8:04 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 8:32 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Georgina Ave 11:31 p.m.

Consumer Corner

By Gary Rhoades

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Santa Monica's Temporary Moratorium of Tenancy Terminations and Evictions

On March 19, 2020, the Santa Monica City Council ratified the City's emergency moratorium on certain types of notices, terminations of tenancy, and evictions. The City passed the temporary moratorium as a part of its emergency order in response to the pandemic emergency related to the spread of COVID-19, and as a part of the necessary measures taken in order to protect the public health and safety of its residents, workers, and visitors.

Under the statewide and countywide shelter-in-place orders and guidance, tenants should be staying at home rather than being subject to evictions or forced to look for another place to live. Also, along with the Governor of the State of California's statewide shelter-in-place order, he has since expressly authorized cities to suspend evictions during the crisis.

Santa Monica's emergency order is now in effect through April 30, 2020, and the City Council may extend it.

The moratorium applies to all residential properties in Santa Monica, including single-family homes, rooms rented in single-family homes, duplexes, condominiums, income-restricted apartments (i.e., affordable housing), rent-stabilized apartments, market-rate apartments, and mobilehomes.

The moratorium applies to residential evictions that are based on the tenant's nonpayment of rent due to impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak. It also applies to no-fault evictions of tenants who are sick, quarantined, under a shelter order, or subject to an Ellis Act removals of property from the rental market. The moratorium does not apply to lawful evictions for substantial breaches of the lease such as crimes. (Note: commercial tenancies are also protected but this article covers residential tenancies.)

Tenants must do two things to qualify for relief from evictions for nonpayment of rent:

1. Show that they have been impacted by COVID-19. Examples of being impacted by COVID-19 include:

- job loss
- reduction in hours of work
- store, restaurant or office closure
- furlough or layoff
- the need to miss work to care for a home-bound co-habitants such as school-age children or the elderly.
- state or local emergency actions that prevent the tenant from working

2. Show a loss of income or new expenses due to COVID-19 or related emergency declarations by County, State or federal agencies. The tenant must provide documentation to the landlord showing they have experienced a loss of income or new expenses that create an inability to pay. Examples of documentation include:

- letter from an employer citing COVID-19 as a reason for reduced work hours or termination
- paycheck stubs from before and after the COVID-19 outbreak
- bank statements showing the tenant's financial situation before and after the outbreak
- bills from extraordinary out-of-pocket medical expenses or other expenses related to the outbreak

Tenants seeking protection under the moratorium should begin collecting this information as soon as possible and present it to their landlords. If the tenant presents it to the landlord before the rent is due, the landlord is prohibited from serving the tenant with a Notice to Pay Rent or Quit. If the landlord has already served a tenant with a notice, and the tenants then present the COVID-19 impact information, further steps toward termination and eviction are prohibited.

The response by Santa Monica owners and property management companies to the crisis and to the moratorium has been positive and cooperative, and their community has already provided helpful input to the City. In the rare case of a landlord will not cooperate with the moratorium and proceeds with Notices to Pay Rent or Quit, terminations, and eviction attempts, they could be fined for such attempts. Also, the tenant may use the moratorium protection as a defense in any unlawful detainer.

Owners should note that the City's Tenant Harassment Ordinance prohibits attempted terminations or evictions that are unjustifiable based on facts known to the landlord. A tenant's protection from termination notices and eviction attempts under the moratorium would be an example of such a fact.

The rent due is not waived, just deferred. When the moratorium ends, landlords may seek unpaid rent – i.e., past due rent that was not paid during the moratorium – from the tenant within six months after the end of the moratorium.

The moratorium does not apply to preexisting back rent the tenant may have owed prior to the moratorium. If the tenants already owed back rent, they may still be evicted for failure to pay that rent. Please note, however, that Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department has announced that they will NOT be conducting any writ of possession lockouts during the pandemic crisis or until further notice.

For tenants seeking protection from no-fault evictions (such as those pursuant to removals from the rental market and owner-occupancy), they must demonstrate that they are sick, in quarantine, or in self-isolation. Virtually all residents have been advised by state and local public health officials to self-isolate, and as stated above, the Sheriff's

SEE CONSUMER CORNER PAGE 11

City of Santa Monica

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CORONAVIRUS

FROM PAGE 1

65, with 40% between 18 and 40, Ferrer said Wednesday.

One hundred and sixty patients have been hospitalized at some point, representing 20% of all cases. Fourty-four people are currently hospitalized.

Ferrer said more than 6,300 people were tested as of Tuesday and 11% tested positive. The homeless and inmate populations are being tested but no cases have been confirmed in either group, she said.

L.A. County has 285 open ICU beds, 2,000 open non-ICU beds and 820 available ventilators, said Christina Ghaly, director of the L.A. County Department of Health Services.

L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti said Tuesday he believes California and L.A. County will see a rapid increase in infections and deaths in the coming weeks and months as testing capacity increases and the virus continues to spread. As of Wednesday, more than 2,600 Californians had tested positive and 55 had died.

Ferrer said the county is not yet seeing the same sharp rise in cases at New York City, which has nearly 18,000 confirmed cases and a slightly smaller population than L.A. County, but has the potential to see a similar-sized outbreak.

"We would be foolish not to prepare for (an acceleration of cases) in L.A. County," she said. "New York City is testing lots more people than we're testing here, so we need to be prepared as we test more people for a rapid acceleration."

As nearly 60,000 people in the United States tested positive for coronavirus Wednesday, lawmakers approved a $2 trillion federal stimulus package that will provide some relief for workers and businesses suffering under the economic upheaval caused by the pandemic.

In April, the federal government will send a $1,200 check to every individual who earned up to $75,000 in 2018 and married couples who earned up to $150,000. Smaller amounts of money will be available to taxpayers with earnings above those thresholds. Families will receive an extra $500 per child.

Individuals who earned $99,000 or more and married couples who earned $198,000 or more will not receive checks.

Workers who have been laid off or lost hours will receive $600 per week in addition to their state unemployment benefits for four months. People who are self-employed or work in the gig economy will also receive unemployment assistance. In Santa Monica, eleven major hotels have closed and restaurants have laid off workers, city officials said.

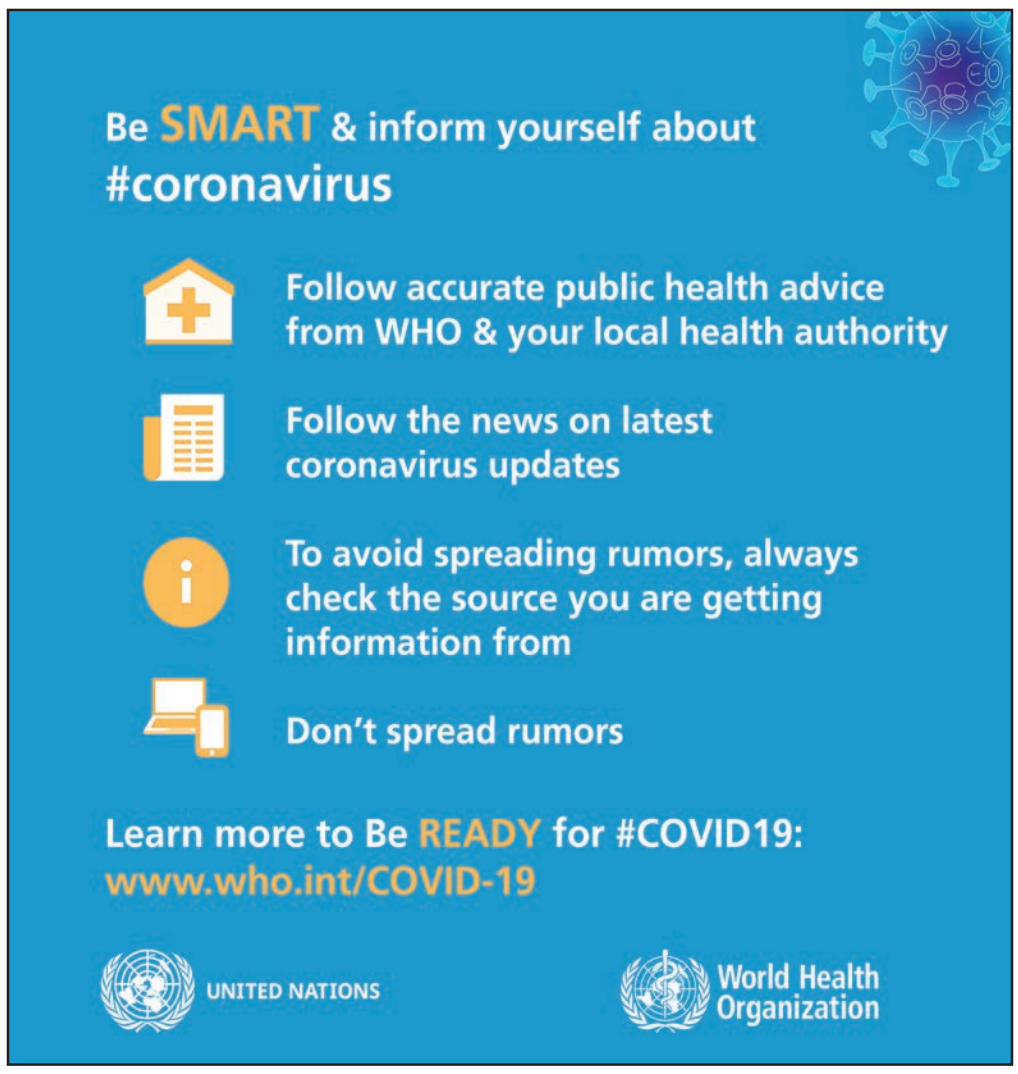
Gov. Gavin Newsom announced Wednesday that one million Californians applied for unemployment benefits in March and said homeowners financially impacted by coronavirus would be able to defer mortgage payments for three months. Although many cities across the state including Santa Monica have suspended evictions, there is no statewide moratorium on evictions.

Under the federal stimulus plan, small businesses will be able to access $350 billion in loans through the end of June. The loans will be forgiven if businesses keep paying workers during the pandemic.

Corporations will be able to borrow money from a pool of $435 billion and an additional $75 billion will be dedicated toward airlines and hotels.

The healthcare industry will receive hundreds of billions of dollars to accommodate a surge in coronavirus patients and pay for protective gear and tests.

madeleine@smdp.com



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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DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 194 CALLS ON MAR. 24

Traffic/Vehicle Stop Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 12:05 a.m.
Loud Music 1800blk 9th St 12:43 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 1500blk 5th St 2:31 a.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1400blk 25th St 2:56 a.m.
Party Complaint 800blk 4th St 3:52 a.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1400blk 25th St 4:19 a.m.
Petty Theft Now 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:31 a.m.
9-1-1 Hang Up 2700blk 6th St 5:19 a.m.
Loitering 1200blk 10th St 5:45 a.m.
Encampment 21st St / Pico Blvd 5:49 a.m.
Panhandling 1400blk Montana Ave 6:47 a.m.
Person With A Gun 700blk Broadway 7:05 a.m.
Forensics Request - Miscellaneous 1100blk 10th St 8:03 a.m.
Encampment Dorchester Ave / Virginia Ave 8:32 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 800blk 3rd St 8:37 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 100blk Broadway 8:57 a.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1200blk 21st St 9:07 a.m.
Encampment 1600blk The Beach 9:24 a.m.
Found Property 1200blk 5th St 9:28 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 800blk 4th St 9:28 a.m.
Found Property 11th St / Colorado Ave 9:31 a.m.
Encampment Centinela Ave / Exposition Blvd 9:48 a.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:05 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 800blk Princeton St 10:27 a.m.
Encampment 1100blk Broadway 10:32 a.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 600blk Wilshire Blvd 10:32 a.m.
Battery Report 2700blk Neilson Way 10:33 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 17th St / Colorado Ave 10:33 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 3200blk Wilshire Blvd 11:16 a.m.
Found Property 500blk Wilshire Blvd 11:23 a.m.
Traffic Hazard Lincoln Blvd / Ocean Park Blvd 11:39 a.m.
Identity Theft 1500blk 5th St 11:50 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 200blk 26th St 12:05 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1100blk 16th St 12:18 p.m.
Elder Abuse 500blk Olympic Blvd W 12:19 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 300blk Montana Ave 12:54 p.m.
Burglary Report 2800blk Neilson Way 12:57 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1300blk 18th St 1:08 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1400blk 4th St 1:20 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Stanford St / Montana Ave 1:34 p.m.
Traffic Control Request - Level 1 Stanford St / Montana Ave 1:39 p.m.
Burglary Report 2000blk Olympic Blvd 1:44 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 200blk Arizona Ave 1:53 p.m.
Family Disturbance 1600blk Lincoln Blvd 1:58 p.m.
Burglary Now 2400blk Cloverfield Blvd 2:17 p.m.
Loitering 900blk 5th St 2:47 p.m.
Fraud Report 1300blk 17th St 3:11 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 2200blk Olympic Blvd 3:12 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 200blk Broadway 3:15 p.m.
Found Property 2500blk Michigan Ave 3:17 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2800blk The Beach 3:29 p.m.
Battery Report 1100blk Pico Blvd 3:34 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1100blk 2nd St 3:42 p.m.
Found Property 7th St / Idaho Ave 4:06 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation Ocean Ave / Santa Monica Blvd 4:08 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 2000blk Ocean Ave 4:31 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2000blk 20th St 4:55 p.m.
Rape Report 1100blk 15th St 4:58 p.m.
Encampment 700blk Ozone St 5:15 p.m.
Encampment 700blk Ozone St 5:22 p.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 1500blk 17th St 5:22 p.m.
Battery Report 1000blk 17th St 6:03 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1800blk 20th St 6:17 p.m.
Family Disturbance 1200blk Ozone Ave 6:32 p.m.
Loitering 1500blk 10th St 6:36 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 2200blk Virginia Ave 6:43 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1700blk Oak St 6:59 p.m.
Battery Now 600blk Wilshire Blvd 7:54 p.m.
Fraud Report 2200blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:55 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 200blk Ocean Park Blvd 8:13 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2600blk Ocean Park Blvd 8:18 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon Just Occurred 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 8:29 p.m.
Loitering 800blk Ocean Ave 9:29 p.m.
Animal Related Incident Main St / Ocean Park Blvd 9:58 p.m.
Loud Music 2900blk Wilshire Blvd 10:50 p.m.
Living In A Vehicle 1800blk Idaho Ave 11:02 p.m.
Encampment 700blk Ozone St 11:03 p.m.
Traffic Control Request - Level 1 Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 11:20 p.m.

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

SELF-ISOLATION

FROM PAGE 1

with other mental illnesses, said Kita Curry, president and CEO of Didi Hirsch Mental Services, a local nonprofit clinic. She urged people to reach out to their friends, neighbors and loved ones.

"Without an end in sight, people who feel no one cares about them may grow increasingly helpless and hopeless, which is a risk factor for heightened depression and suicidal thoughts," Curry said.

Lisa Steele, CEO of Clare | Matrix, an addiction treatment center with locations in Santa Monica and Ontario, said it will be difficult for people struggling with addiction to abstain from substance abuse while self-isolating.

"Isolation and boredom are the number one triggers for relapse," Steele said. "That's why when people come into outpatient treatment, one of the first things we do is structure their time every hour between the time they leave our office and when they come back to treatment."

She said people in recovery from addiction need to continue structuring their time by participating in online counseling, 12-step meetings, meditation, religious services and exercise classes. Eating well, exercising and getting enough sleep are also critical, she said.

Didi Hirsch is continuing to treat clients via telehealth and teletherapy and has staff on site for clients who urgently need in-person care, Curry said. The organization continues to operate its 24/7 multilingual suicide crisis line (800-273-8255) which is receiving 40 times as many calls about coronavirus compared to February. Didi Hirsch is also part of Lifeline's 24/7 crisis chat service (www.didihirsch.org/chat).

"The pandemic has disproportionately affected the homeless and low-income families who live with mental illness — the very people we serve," Curry said. "They need us more than ever right now."

Clare | Matrix is still accepting new patients into inpatient and outpatient treatment, Steele said. The nonprofit's Santa Monica location has about 120 participants in its outpatient program and 200 beds that inpatient clients can use free of charge for 90 days. The organization mainly serves individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, she said.

"People who are addicted to substances are at such risk of losing their lives to the substance they take," Steele said. "We can't close our doors."

Nurses screen people for coronavirus before they begin treatment, taking their temperature and evaluating their symptoms in a tent in front of the building, and office space has been converted to isolation rooms for people in the inpatient program who develop COVID-19 symptoms, Steele said.

"Nobody has gotten sick yet, but in the event that people become symptomatic, we'll have dedicated staff just for their care," she said.

But Clare | Matrix's supply of protective gear for nurses and admissions staff is running low, with an especially urgent need for gowns, masks and cleaning products, Steele said. The nonprofit also has to replace staff who must care for children home from school and purchase laptops for employees working remotely and is asking for donations to cover those unanticipated costs.

Still, Clare | Matrix is determined to keep treating new patients, Steele said.

"We'll continue to take people until we're full," she said.

For a list of mental health resources available to L.A. County residents during the coronavirus pandemic, visit https://dmh.lacounty.gov/covid-19-information/.

madeleine@smdp.com

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 11

Krystal Shepperd, 32 years old, is accused of walking into Forever 21 in the Santa Monica Mall, selecting a pair of red shorts, putting them on and walking out without paying. Mall security spotted Shepperd near the food court. After a scuffle resulting in both security guards suffering minor scrapes and abrasions she was placed in handcuffs and held until officers arrived. Upon their arrival SMPD collected statements from all parties and placed the suspect under arrest. Shepperd was booked at the Santa Monica Jail for battery and released with a citation to appear in court. Bail amount was set at $20,000.



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This ad is underwritten through a partnership with the SMDP.

Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Hallelujah Choir, Or Hallucination?

WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO LIVE MUSIC?!

That I have no idea, is daunting. Especially — in my lifetime? At 72, it's possible I may have witnessed, reveled in, been spiritually renewed by, my last live performance. Wow. Yikes. Seriously? This pandemic urgency is not going to disappear in a few weeks, and in many months, if then, it will emerge very changed.

How many of our beloved local venues will be able to survive? What happens when their rent comes due? Will Congress really come to the rescue? And for how long? What do the owners and booking agents and other employees do with no income? How will they pay their own rents and other bills? Will they drift into other careers? Leave town? (And this is not even considering the devastating economic and artistic effect on musicians and other performers. Sure, you can write songs in your bedroom, you can record and stream, but you need that live audience experience at some point. And the income.)

SOME OF THE CASUALTIES

Harvelle's (also in LB), the Trip, the Jacaranda series at First Presbyterian Church, Soundwaves at our Main Library, the monthly Sanctuary concerts at the Church In Ocean Park — all in Santa Monica, the Cinema Bar in Culver City, LAX jazz club Sam First, UCLA Royce Hall, The Soraya in Northridge, Joe's in Burbank, Teragram Ballroom and The Theatre at the Ace Hotel in DTLA, Largo, El Rey, The Wiltern, Fonda Theatre, Popeye's jam nights and Alex's Bar in LB and the Sardine in San Pedro, In Sheep's Clothing, Echo/Echoplex, Lodge Room, Mr. Musichead Gallery, what about amazing Amoeba and their millions of pieces of music and great free live shows?!, the eight Saban/The Canyon venues, the special pop-up concerts radio 88.5 presents. And all the dedicated music people who fought through the destruction of fire to resurrect the Topanga Banjo Fiddle Contest and Folk Festival, still optimistically scheduled for May 17, its 59th straight year.

SPOKEN WORD TOO

The Ruskin Group Theatre and Library Girl and LA Cafe Plays at SMO, SM Playhouse, Odyssey Theater, The Actors Gang, Beyond Baroque, Kirk Douglas Theatre — what will happen to them? Ruskin does have some income from the classes they teach, now done on a reduced basis on Zoom. Will Geer Theatricum Botanicum owns their idyllic Topanga Canyon property but they employ a lot of actors who are paid professionals.

The Jazz Bakery rents their space at Moss Theater on a by-need basis but there are still expenses and no income there. McCabe's has the music store business, which can continue on a limited basis online but, when you get the notion to buy a guitar or mandolin, banjo or fiddle, you want to come in and see them, pull them off the wall, hold them and play them. And then, if you're a beginner, what happens to the expert lessons you used to be able to count on? All group lessons seem to be postponed. Can they do private lessons by Zoom? The concert operation there, which has blessed us with 50+ years of unforgettable acoustic concerts by the most important players in music, is a separate business, now ground to a halt.

Even the LA Philharmonic and LA Opera will have to cover large deficit expenses with no income, but they do have the benefit of benefactors and large grants. Still, enormous staff to pay, or not be able to pay, including all those musicians. Same for the Broad Stage here, and the Smothers Theatre at Pepperdine. And what about POP, Pacific Opera Project? Not so many big corporate donors there.

I WANTED TO PAY TRIBUTE

To all these venues (I probably missed some, sorry!) where I have sent you these past couple of years through the NOTEWORTHY column, for their hard work for usually little pay, and stellar accomplishments, and for the suffering, economic, artistic and psychic, that everyone associated with them are going through right now. It's quite a list but at the essence it is collectives of people, very talented people who believe in art at the highest levels and their proud part in bringing it to the world. Those people are sitting at home now, and that is not easy. I pray we will all meet again, in an even better rockin' pickin' singin' world, right here in LA.

We are all affected by this plague in so many personal ways. My life has revolved around live music since I was eight. It's why I moved here from NM, 40 years ago. It is so hard to endure, even for the near future, the prospect of not having that available, especially in the way that Santa Monica and LA has spoiled me.

IT'S STAGGERING

When I think of all the incredible, memorable shows all those venues have presented, even in just the last year. I've always said, and written, that we are so blessed to live in a city second to none in the world for live performance. Will that now be part of our history, but not our future? Only time will tell, but coming back from this is going to be hard and probably very slow.

But Angeleno artists are indomitable and nothing would surprise me. I am sure there are more of them trying to figure out how to remain vital and plan for the future, than those who are curled up in a corner in a fetal position. And even those — probably have a friend taking video for a vlog or future creation. "How I Got Through It — Barely."

Nicole has not thrown in the towel, no sir. Here's her latest —

NICOLE RECOMMENDS:

LISTEN TO MUSIC SAFELY IN YOUR HOME NEXT TO A FERN — (is the music label Leaving Records' COVID-19-compliant

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 11

Culture Watch

By Sarah A. Spitz

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Don't Go Crazy Without Me



Photo by James Reese

AUTHOR: Deborah Lott, author of the new memoir, "Don't Go Crazy Without Me."

Sometimes, even if you've known someone for a long time, there are things about them that can shock you. This is true about my friend (since the 1960s) Deborah Lott, whose riveting (and funny) new memoir, "Don't Go Crazy Without Me," published by Red Hen Press, reveals the extraordinary circumstances of her childhood and adolescence.

I was stunned.

When I asked how she'd pitch this book to a movie producer she said, "Neurotic Jewish girl in a gentile community grows up under the sway of an eccentric and eventually psychotic father." She thinks Jack Black could play her father (though the late Philip Seymour Hoffman would've been her first choice), but the child actress to play her hasn't yet been discovered.

Something you need to know about Deborah: She's super intelligent, highly educated and is a published author who teaches college students how to write trauma memoirs. "With my history, I think I bring a unique perspective, and my students are able to talk with me very freely about their own traumatic experiences."

Thanks to her father, she's also a confirmed hypochondriac who has genuinely serious health issues that have been with her all her life. Too complicated and a little too disturbing to describe here, these issues and how she was treated for them play profoundly into her life and development. (Read the book!)

A FEELING OF ISOLATION

Deborah grew up in La Crescenta, among the most goyishe (look it up) cities in the Southland, with a father who was raised in an Ultra-Orthodox Jewish household. Deborah's family didn't keep kosher because "without a kosher butcher in the area it wouldn't have been practical," but they didn't mix milk and meat at their table. Her mother came from "an austere Russian family that wasn't emotionally demonstrative," whereas her father "loved to have a good time, was a man of many appetites, ate to excess, and liked to hug and kiss whoever would allow it." She believes her mother let her father do her feeling for her.

He also loved ritual. They had a community-run Jewish Center (long since closed) where he led services as the lay Rabbi. Deborah says, "He had a real affection for Jewish ceremony and loved being a star on the stage; with his beautiful resonant radio announcer's voice, he loved to read Torah and prayers aloud for people. I don't think he was religious, but he loved the ritual, emotion and drama of it." And not just Jewish ceremony. "He used to love watching Christian mass on TV on Christmas Eve."

He was also a serious hypochondriac, a trait he passed on to Deborah and her two older brothers. "My father had all these rituals to ward off danger and illness, like believing that botulism was in every can. We opened cans with this elaborate procedure, all of us leaning in and listening for the 'whoosh' of the air entering the can (to prove it was properly sealed). But it was an empty ritual that had nothing to do with protecting us from botulism."

PSYCHOTIC BREAK

Her family ran an insurance business out of their home. Her father, she says, "Was a great salesman. He could sell anyone anything, he had a reassuring presence with clients on the phone, and he could really spin worst case scenarios, which is great for selling insurance." But increasingly her mother bore the burden of running both business and family. "She was trying to take care of my dad, run a home business, take care of my two older brothers, so she was just overwhelmed."

The tide of his eccentricities turned after his beloved mother died. "He could not cope with the loss and would not accept it, he was depressed, wandering around at night, looking out the living room window, talking to her in her grave. Then he became extremely hypochondriacal, relying on barbiturates; he

SEE CULTURE WATCH PAGE 11

World Health Organization

BASIC PROTECTIVE MEASURES AGAINST THE NEW CORONAVIRUS

- Wash your hands frequently
- Maintain social distancing
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth
- Practice respiratory hygiene
- If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early
- Stay informed and follow advice given by your healthcare provider

Santa Monica Daily Press



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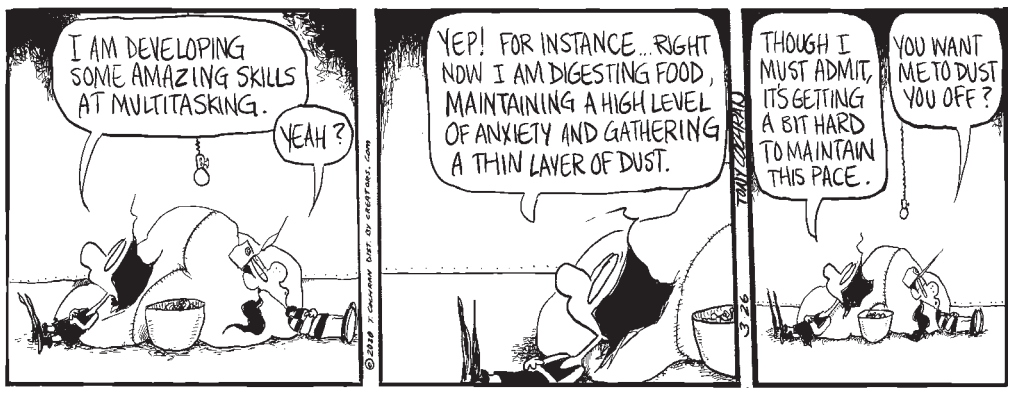


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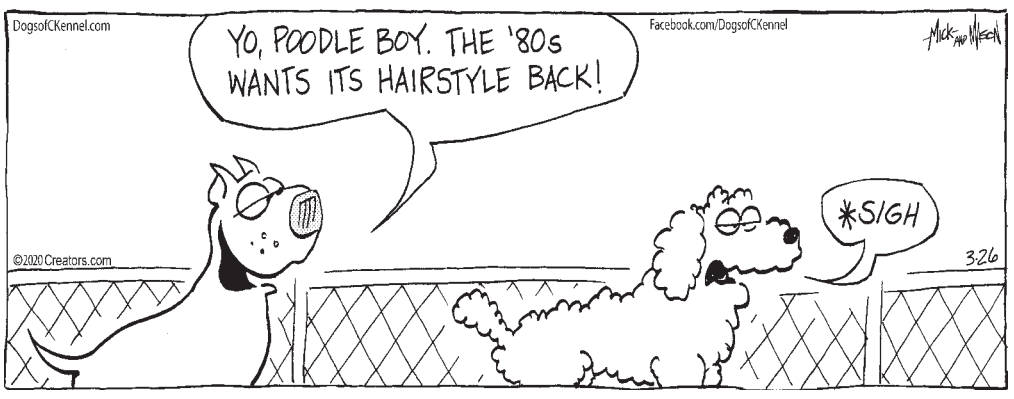
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



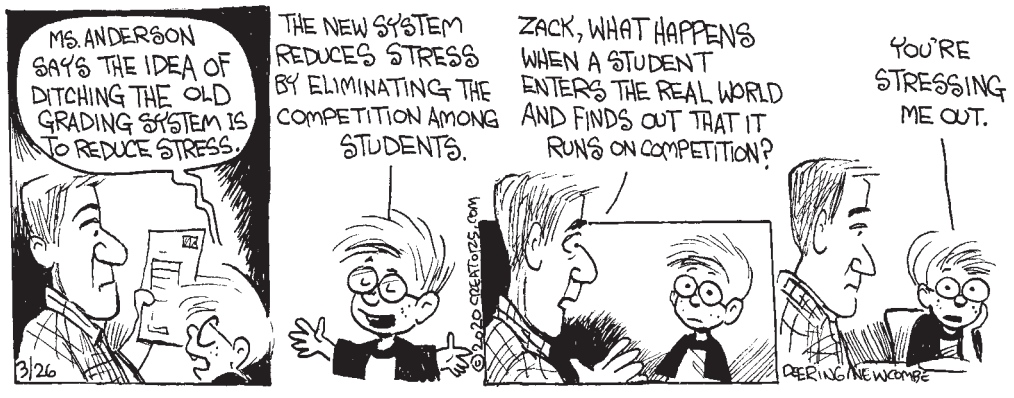
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

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Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"YOUR 2:00 FISH BOWL-ECTOMY IS HERE."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 61.3°

THURSDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft Waist to chest high
Long period SW swell peaks – most size, larger sets for west facing areas. Short period NW swell builds through the day. NW winds looking problematic.

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft Waist to chest high
SW swell lingers, new SSE swell builds. Short period NW swell has good size early before dropping. AM wind look light at this time.

WEATHER

Thursday: A chance of rain. Partly sunny, with a high near 60.
Tuesday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 50. West southwest wind 5 to 15 mph becoming north northwest after midnight.
Friday: Sunny, with a high near 62.
Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 50.
Saturday: Partly sunny, with a high near 62.
Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 51.

Date	Day of the Week	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2020/03/26	Thu	05:09 AM	0.44	L
2020/03/26	Thu	11:10 AM	4.10	H
2020/03/26	Thu	5:02 PM	0.89	L
2020/03/26	Thu	11:13 PM	.79	H
2020/03/27	Fri	05:45 AM	0.44	L
2020/03/27	Fri	11:48 AM	3.66	H
2020/03/27	Fri	5:21 PM	1.29	L
2020/03/27	Fri	11:38 PM	4.76	H
2020/03/28	Sat	06:27 AM	0.51	L
2020/03/28	Sat	12:33 PM	3.19	H
2020/03/28	Sat	5:39 PM	1.69	L
2020/03/29	Sun	12:06 AM	4.66	H
2020/03/29	Sun	07:17 AM	0.63	L
2020/03/29	Sun	1:36 PM	2.74	H
2020/03/29	Sun	5:54 PM	2.08	L
2020/03/30	Mon	12:41 AM	4.52	H
2020/03/30	Mon	08:27 AM	0.74	L
2020/03/30	Mon	3:52 PM	2.48	H

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date:03/21
2 23 40 59 69
Power#: 13
Jackpot:150 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 03/20
2 8 16 18 31
Mega#: 14
Jackpot: 107 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 03/24
8 9 22 32 39
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 13 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 03/24
4 18 19 30 36

Daily 3
Draw Date: 03/24
Evening: 2 5 6
Draw Date: 03/23
Midday: 0 3 3

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 03/24
1st: 09 - WINNING SPIRIT
2nd: 03 - HOT SHOT
3rd: 04 - BIG BEN
RACE TIME: 1:45.23

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 26)

Throughout your solar year, the problem will be people and the solution will also be people. Your skill grows, and you'll interact in ways that amaze you. You'll learn the quirks and patterns of admired ones. What you've learned the hard way in your life, you'll be able to teach the easy way, which will be quite lucrative for you. Leo and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 40, 2, 7 and 13.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Those who only do what they want to do are limited indeed. Most of the good stuff comes from doing what's right, helpful, challenging, interesting, gutsy... Your wise instinct to push yourself will kick in.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Knowing what someone values is like having the keys to their kingdom. You can speak their language, please and delight them. You can anger them. You can influence them. Good relationships involve good intel.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Humans crave certainty. Where none is available, fake certainty will do. So go with confidence or fake confidence. Humility may be a prerequisite for success, but if you lead with it, no one will follow you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). What does obedience mean to you? What will you obey willingly, begrudgingly or automatically? Figure out your own rules because they will guide the day.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Though everyone has access to higher intuition, many don't know how to use it. This is why you'll be watching out for yourself, loved ones, colleagues and everyone around you, even total strangers.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Somewhere in the world, a person thinks about you with love and beautiful intentions. In a related story, you'll fall into a good mood with no obvious reasons for why you're there.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A relationship keeps popping to mind. You'll see moments, wonder about how things might have worked if you'd have done it differently, and get golden insights and ideas for going forward.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You hear the song and then miss someone who doesn't even exist. That's the power of art, of music and of your own capacity to connect with it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Sometimes you can reverse-engineer a thing that's working well to duplicate the success. Sometimes you can't. Go ahead and try anyway because the alternative is to start from ground zero.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Emotional complexities vex others but not you. You accepted long ago that not every problem is meant to be solved. This is what allows you to relax and learn as you go.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There are many potential realities out there for you, and you don't have to dive too deeply into any of them to figure out whether or not they are for you. Today, it's like you're in the dressing room of life.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Suspicion is among the most fun emotions you'll feel today. There won't be much more satisfying than finding out that your suspicions were absolutely correct.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

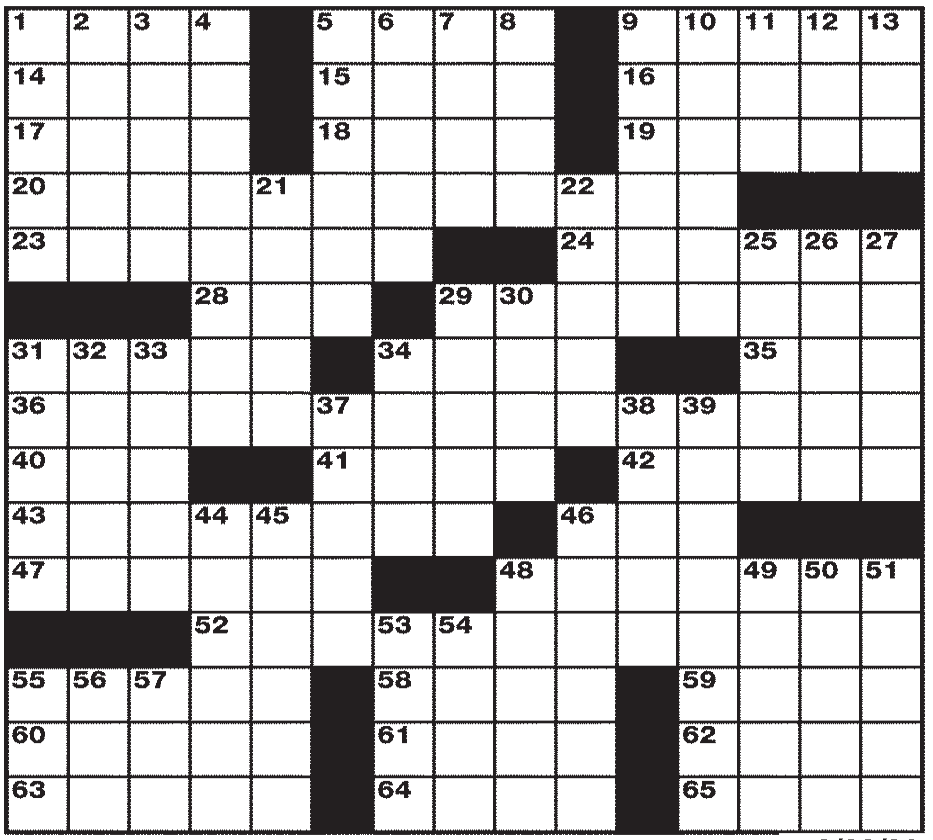
				9		4	5	
9	5			3			1	
3		4			1			2
2	9		3			5		6
		6		2		9		
7		5			8		2	1
8			2			1		5
	2			5			3	9
	1	9		7				

Newsday Crossword

SWITCHEROO by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 "Look __ now!"
5 Julio's home
9 One in a cast
14 Healthful husks
15 Cry of concern
16 Thick, as fog
17 "__ better believe it!"
18 Theta follower
19 Largest Greek island
20 Sequel to *The Absent-Minded Professor*
23 Skirmished
24 Something comparable
28 PBS "Science Kid"
29 Hectic lifestyle
31 Shooting sport
34 Isn't oneself
35 Confessional admission
36 Human Resources department
40 Feline constellation
41 Nothing other than
42 Tools with teeth
43 Enrolled in the service
46 USAF officer
47 Very small
48 Mixing up
52 Morning eyeopener
55 Iranian faith
58 *Doctor Zhivago* heroine
59 Pre-Euro money
60 What the three longest answers have in common
61 Airborne heroes
62 Env. info
63 Kvetchy phrase
64 Get out of town
65 Coin flip

DOWN
1 Deep chasm
2 Band of Boy Scouts
3 Hawaiian word for "mountain"
4 Supports publicly
5 Styled in a salon
6 Get __ of (obtain)
7 Annual DC speech
8 Whaler of literature
9 Corporate advancement
10 Round up
11 Calendar abbr.
12 Withdraw, with "out"
13 Cereal crop
21 Brand-name corn chip
22 Deep singer
25 Vision correction acronym
26 Chilling at the table
27 Chromosome contents
29 Pastureland
30 One who's with you
31 Get away
32 New Hampshire city
33 Diminish by degrees
34 One of two of Henry's six
37 Memo taker
38 Tolkien hero
39 Fail completely
44 Highly risky
45 Urbanize
46 Jewel box
48 Be in accord
49 "In that case . . ."
50 Brainy bunch
51 Cogwheels
53 Snowman in *Frozen*
54 Salt, symbolically
55 Proclaim disapproval
56 Flexible quantity
57 Carpool lane designation



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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

1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1
0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1
0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0
1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0

						0		0		1	
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0		1	1			1		1		0	0
	1	1			0			1			0



"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 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 4700

In the apple state

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

Alberton	Echidna	Nile	Tasmanian devil
Avoca	Ferry	Oaks	Temma
Boyer	Fish	Ouse	Tracks
Burnie	Heat	Owls	Trek
Cape Grim	Heka	Peak	Triabunna
Cold	Hobart	Penguin	Walks
Cool	Hythe	Pines	Water
Cradle Mountain	Magra	Risks	Wild
Dams	Maydena	Ross	Wynyard
Displays	MONA	Sailing	
Eagle	Nala	Snug	
	Neika	Targa	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
What a Heavenly smell!

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CULTURE WATCH

FROM PAGE 7

always liked downers, but he started taking more and more of them."

Deborah was under her father's influence for most of her young life, but, she says, "He finally had a psychotic break and lost touch with reality completely. There was a point at which he was hallucinating, seeing people outside the window who weren't there. And I finally realized, this is it. He's gone too far and I have to pull back."

TREATING HERSELF

Deborah got involved in social justice issues and the Civil Rights movement. "This helped me to identify with people outside my own experience and learn another way of reacting to the feeling of being oppressed and isolated within my community. I also volunteered for the Robert F. Kennedy Presidential campaign."

In fact, she was at the Ambassador Hotel the night he was assassinated. "And when he died, I came to a new reckoning about what it's like to feel grief as a normal emotion. The way my father reacted to the loss of his mother was not healthy. It helped me to see people grieving in a communal way and accepting loss differently than he had."

And this helped, too: "I think sex saved me! It gave me an entirely different experience of my body, a positive one, as a source of pleasure for me and to give pleasure to someone else." In case you're wondering, Deborah has been happily married for many years.

When I asked her why she wrote and why people should read "Don't Go Crazy Without Me," Deborah said, "I think a good memoir makes people reconnect with their own childhood and adolescence. For me, there's this secret wish that if I write about it and the language is beautiful enough, I'll redeem my childhood and make it better.

"But there's also a misconception that people 'get over' traumatic experiences. I don't think you get over anything, you learn how to function with that experience. But it's always there in the background."

Sarah A. Spitz is an award-winning public radio producer, retired from KCRW, where she also produced arts stories for NPR. She writes features and reviews for various print and online publications.

MEETING

FROM PAGE 1

of submissions, every comment was given a minute to be read.

One by one, staff shared letters that plead for SMMUSD to retain the various community liaisons and teachers who have received pink slips in recent weeks.

"This proposal is shocking to our school and so inequitable that I'm compelled to request respectfully that you vote against (it)," a comment by Rachel Chow read.

At the beginning of the public comment period, president of the Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers Association Sarah Braff said union members understand that the district needs to use the staffing formula when determining the cuts it will make, "however, the need to RIF more than 50 teachers is unnecessary given the current crisis."

"We have put teachers and their families unnecessarily in a stressful, vulnerable and insecure position. They do not deserve this," and SMMCTA looks forward to having most of these notices rescinded as soon as possible, Braff added before sharing the union's recommendations for the current budget.

"I want to thank the Board and the entire staff for all their hard work during this extraordinary time," Braff said. "It took endless hours and dedication and collaboration at a time of uncertainty and I am grateful for all we have done together."

With no remaining items on the agenda, board president Jon Kean moved to adjourn the meeting.

brennon@smdp.com

NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 6

adaptation of their regularly scheduled "listen to music outside in the daylight under a tree" concerts. Now everyone can listen from the safety of their homes as artists broadcast performances from their home studios via a Twitch stream. I watched this past Saturday and it was just what the doctor ordered, so to speak) — Every Saturday 1 p.m., www.twitch.tv/leavingrecords (you do not need to be a member to view), free.

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

CONSUMER CORNER

FROM PAGE 3

Department is not conducting any lockouts during the crisis or until further notice.

The eviction moratorium does not directly cover a landlord's entries into units. However, given the pandemic and the Governor's statewide shelter-in-place order, entries should be limited to cases of emergencies and essential repairs. Even greater caution and medical consultation should be taken with entering the homes of seniors and those with underlying health conditions. If an entry must occur, precautions taken should include gloves, masks, and sanitizing what is handled in the unit.

The City Attorney's Office will be publishing further guidance on the topic of entries later this week.

For more information about Santa Monica's eviction moratorium, please read our list of Frequently Asked Questions. If you have additional questions, please email consumer.mailbox@smgov.net or call 310-458-8336.

Please note that during this public health crisis, most city staff are teleworking.

Gary Rhoades is a Deputy City Attorney in the Public Rights Division of the Santa Monica City Attorney's Office.

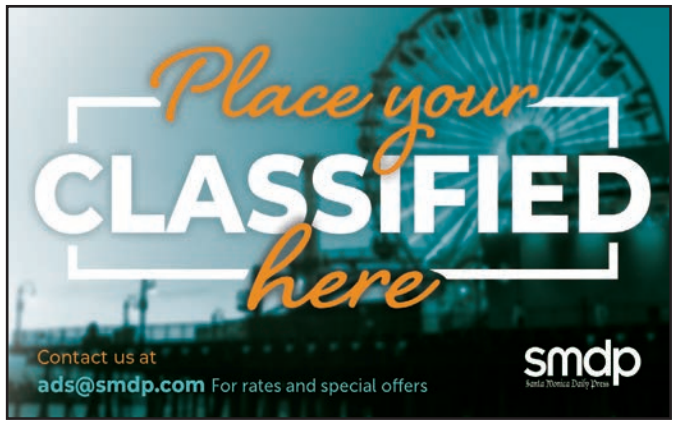


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