Seaview HOTEL
Parking | Kitchenettes | WiFi Available
1760 Ocean Avenue
Santa Monica, CA 90401
310.393.6711
Starting from $88 + Taxes
BOOK DIRECT AND SAVE SeaviewHotel.com

INSIDE THE DAILY PRESS PODCAST
smdp.com/pod
ALSO AVAILABLE ON

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

WEEKEND EDITION
03.27.21 - 3.28.21
Volume 20 Issue 114

Crime Watch
Another machete in the pants.
Page 3

Basketball
USC and UCLA go prime-time.
Page 7

@smdailypress @smdailypress Santa Monica Daily Press smdp.com

Pudu Pudu wants to make pudding trendy again







Courtesy photos

PUDDING: Pudu Pudu opened on Abbot Kinney to jumpstart a new trend in desserts.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Pudu Pudu has popped up on Abbot Kinney with a mission to pull pudding out of grandma's pantry, reinvigorate it with exciting flavor combinations and launch a new dessert trend.

The instantly instagrammable locale features huge windows, bright hues of millennial pink, and dangling plants, which coupled with its affordable pudu mascot is designed to entice young passersby to try its sweet treats.

While the concept may be new, the product dates back to 1891 when the parent company, Dr. Oetker, first invented the pudding powder. Pudu Pudu elevates Dr. Oetker's classic recipe into the 21st century by incorporating superfood ingredients and funky toppings such as turmeric, spirulina, and edible flowers.

"I believe this is probably the very first pudding store worldwide. We haven't found anyone else who is doing this" said Florian Schneider, managing director of Dr. Oetker Hospitality. "Pudu Pudu has the aim to be bold and unexpected and welcoming and surprising."

The creators of Pudu Pudu believe that froyo and cronuts have long had their time in the spotlight and that the latest generation of foodies are ready for a different dessert craze. The recipe is designed to be lighter and use less sugar than traditional puddings and is served at precisely 32 degrees to optimize its fluffy consistency.

The Abbot Kinney location was specifically chosen to meet the brand's mission of launching a new dessert trend. While the storefront was ready to launch last March, the team decided to hold off on opening until there would be a steady stream of foot traffic and the ability to dine indoors to ensure the concept had the capacity to catch on.

The owners say the wait has paid off and they have been delighted by how many people have stumbled into the store since its grand opening on Monday.

"The feedback so far is very positive. People are surprised

SEE **PUDDING** PAGE 6

SMPD prepared for Floyd trial outcomes



Courtesy photo

POLICE: Interim Chief Jacqueline Seabrooks addressed residents this week.

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

The death of George Floyd in police custody last summer sparked protests in cities across America from Santa Monica to New York. And with opening statements in a former Minneapolis police officer's trial set to begin Monday, local police are ensuring residents that everything is under control.

It has been 10 months since Floyd was killed while handcuffed by Minneapolis Police but the tension from the events of last

SEE **SMPD** PAGE 4

SMMUSD to fully reopen schools next month

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has plans to fully reopen elementary schools on April 19 and secondary schools on April 26.

All schools will have strict Covid-19 safety protocols in place and parents will be asked to fill out a form indicating whether their child will attend school in-person or remain in distance learning.

Elementary students not returning in-person will be assigned a new teacher and new class with other distance learning-

SEE **SMMUSD** PAGE 6



**550 Rialto Ave.
Venice**

Windward Circle retreat
$25,000 / Lease

BULLDOG REALTORS
bulldogrealtors.com
2909 Main St., Santa Monica

Jennifer Hughes
310-383-7299
DRE# 01440438



In likely California recall, energizing Latino voters is key

KATHLEEN RONAYNE
Associated Press

California's Latinos, who have borne the brunt of coronavirus deaths and the pandemic's economic toll in the state, are a critical voting bloc for Gov. Gavin Newsom as he fights for his political life in a likely recall election driven by criticism of his handling of the health crisis.

Latinos are the largest racial or ethnic group in California and their share of the population is increasing faster than others. Their voter turnout is also rising, but it's still disproportionately low, leaving politicians room to grow support.

With a special election on whether to keep or replace Newsom now a near certainty for the fall, Latino advocates say their communities will be looking for engagement and a more robust policy response to address the effects of the pandemic.

"If Newsom fails to re-engage that group and give them reasons to vote for him he will lose," said Jacqueline Martinez Garcel, chief executive officer of the Latino Community Foundation. "People are exhausted, they want answers, to be seen, be heard and be addressed."

Newsom, a first-term Democrat, launched his anti-recall campaign last week. He is painting the effort as a partisan attack by pro-Trump Republicans on the state's progressive values, including what Newsom called the "browning of California."

The initiative's lead proponent, Orrin Heatlie, once posted online that immigrants should be microchipped, something Newsom references often. Heatlie says it was hyperbole but acknowledges he was inspired to pursue a recall after hearing Newsom speak on immigration.

"The real impetus of the recall goes back to my advocacy on behalf of our diverse communities," Newsom said Thursday in Santa Ana.

He chose the predominantly Latino Southern California city — the second-most populous in the political battleground of Orange County — to make a significant announcements on vaccinations: In three weeks all Californians 16 and older can begin getting shots. He also emphasized his commitment to ensuring equal vaccine access for Latinos.

Luis Alvarado, a Republican strategist, said if a GOP candidate can separate themselves from the Trump brand there is an opportunity to make the case to Latino voters, particularly small business owners, that Newsom's actions have harmed them.

"If they're successful in doing that then certainly the Latino vote could be persuaded to vote for the recall," Alvarado said.

One of the leading Republican candidates for governor is Kevin Faulconer, a former mayor of San Diego, which is about one-third Latino. He doesn't speak Spanish — nor does Newsom — but chose the local affiliate for the Spanish language network Univision for his first talk about his candidacy.

The issues on which Faulconer is targeting Newsom — school closures, the shuttering of businesses and job losses — matter to Latino voters, campaign manager Stephen Puetz said.

"Latino voters are incredibly important to our campaign, to Kevin personally, and to our pathway to victory," he said.

Newsom's campaign manager is Juan Rodriguez, the son of immigrants from El Salvador and a longtime fixture in California politics. He said the campaign is partnering with community-based organizations that understand the diversity within California's Latino communities and deploying surrogates to speak around the state.

State Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez, a San Diego Democrat, said she expects her community to stick with Newsom.

"We want more focus, we want more attention, we want more intentionality when it comes to our community," Gonzalez said. "But are we ready to abandon Gavin Newsom? No."

Democrats have a more than 3-to-1 advantage over the GOP in voter registrations among California Latinos, who made up about a quarter of the electorate in the 2020 presidential election but tend to turn out in lower numbers in off-presidential elections. Public polling prior to Newsom's 2018 election showed Latinos strongly favoring him over Republican John Cox, who is running again, contributing to Newsom's blowout victory.

But a recall isn't one candidate versus another. Voters will first be asked whether Newsom should be recalled then to choose from a separate list of candidates to replace him. The votes on the second question will only be counted if more than half of voters say Newsom should be removed.

Unlike 2018, all voters will be mailed a ballot. Latinos are less likely than other groups to vote by mail, said Dr. Mindy Romero, director of the Center for Inclusive Democracy at the University of Southern California.

For both sides, the key will be to connect their outreach to Latino voters' individual experiences, she said.

"The recall effort wants to say, 'you are experiencing all of this challenge because of the bad decisions of this governor,'" Romero said. Newsom, meanwhile, wants to show "that he's on the right track and he's got everyone's back, including the Latino community."

Latino advocates say Newsom can't take their vote for granted and they are pressuring him to pursue policies that benefit their communities. The governor thrilled many Latinos when he appointed Alex Padilla to the U.S. Senate to replace Vice President Kamala Harris.

More than 70 Latino leaders sent Newsom's administration a letter in February calling for a more urgent focus on vaccinating their communities, who make up 39% of California's population but account for nearly half the pandemic deaths.

"Latinos have been largely neglected from the state's COVID-19 vaccine rollout and response efforts," the letter said.

Latinos also make up nearly half of

SEE **RECALL** PAGE 5

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 249 CALLS ON MARCH 25

Domestic Violence 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:33 a.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 1:25 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 300blk Ocean Ave 1:34 a.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon Now 2100blk Delaware Ave 3:15 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2700blk Airport Ave 3:23 a.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 5:37 a.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 900blk 4th St 5:40 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 2000blk Washington Ave 6:36 a.m.
Encampment 1300blk Palisades Park 6:54 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 3100blk Pennsylvania Ave 7:26 a.m.
Burglary Report 2300blk Pico Blvd 7:28 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 2400blk Ocean Park Blvd 7:40 a.m.
Strongarm Robbery 1900blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:42 a.m.
Encampment 100blk Bicknell Ave 7:55 a.m.
Burglary Report 2400blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:03 a.m.
Found Property 300blk San Vicente Blvd 8:27 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1300blk 23rd St 8:31 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 1500blk Berkeley St 8:50 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Ocean Ave / Santa Monica Blvd 9:07 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2900blk Ocean Park Blvd 9:22 a.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 9:29 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 3000blk Urban Ave 9:34 a.m.
Grand Theft 2200blk 3rd St 9:37 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 300blk Olympic Dr 9:43 a.m.
Burglary Report 1400blk Broadway 9:46 a.m.
Burglary Report 2200blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:52 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 400blk Broadway 9:58 a.m.
Burglary Report 300blk Arizona Ave 10:04 a.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 2700blk Pico Blvd 10:18 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1200blk 25th St 10:18 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1500blk Cloverfield Blvd 10:20 a.m.
Encampment 18th St / Wilshire Blvd 10:23 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1700blk Cloverfield Blvd 10:39 a.m.
Panic Alarm 800blk 2nd St 10:41 a.m.
Found Property 1100blk 4th St 10:48 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1200blk 16th St 10:56 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1100blk 21st St 11:04 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 2000blk Idaho Ave 11:10 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 500blk Ashland Ave 11:14 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1000blk 17th St 11:16 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1400blk Yale St 11:46 a.m.
Red Zone Violation 2nd St / Marine St 11:51 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 200blk Bay St 12:02 p.m.
Burglary Report 3000blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:17 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 26th St / Montana Ave 12:22 p.m.
Keep The Peace 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 12:46 p.m.
Harassing Phone Calls Report 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:51 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 2200blk 7th St 12:54 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 700blk 14th St 12:56 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 500blk 21st St 1:03 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 700blk Strand St 1:04 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1400blk 5th St 1:08 p.m.
Fraud Report 1800blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:10 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 2000blk Colorado Ave 1:12 p.m.
Battery 100blk Broadway 1:13 p.m.
Juvenile Annoying Investigation 1100blk 5th St 1:25 p.m.
Bike Theft Report 1300blk 4th St 1:34 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 1700blk Main St 1:37 p.m.
Burglary Report 3000blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:49 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 20th St / Arizona Ave 2:07 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 100blk Ocean Park Blvd 2:13 p.m.
Burglary Report 800blk 18th St 2:22 p.m.
Sexual Assault 200blk Broadway 2:40 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 2300blk 29th St 2:41 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 800blk Euclid St 2:43 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 2200blk Ocean Park Blvd 2:52 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 300blk Civic Center Dr 2:55 p.m.
Burglary Report 500blk Washington Ave 3:00 p.m.
Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 1500blk Harvard St 3:07 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1000blk Pacific Coast Hwy 3:15 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 3000blk 17th St 3:21 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 20th St / Arizona Ave 3:26 p.m.
Keep The Peace 1400blk 5th St 3:40 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 2nd St / Idaho Ave 3:44 p.m.
Battery Report 2800blk Wilshire Blvd 4:00 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 17th St / Michigan Ave 4:02 p.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 4:05 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 10th St / Montana Ave 4:05 p.m.
Loitering 500blk Colorado Ave 4:20 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1400blk 5th St 4:48 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1700blk Cloverfield Blvd 4:50 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1700blk Main St 4:53 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 1400blk Palisades Park 4:53 p.m.
Bike Theft Report 1500blk 14th St 5:03 p.m.
Rape Report 2600blk 32nd St 5:14 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1900blk Wilshire Blvd 5:20 p.m.
Auto Burglary Now 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 5:39 p.m.
Fight 20th St / Pico Blvd 5:39 p.m.
Battery Report 1400blk Palisades Beach Rd 5:42 p.m.
Person With A Gun 500blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:02 p.m.
Loud Music 2300blk 18th St 6:03 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2500blk 4th St 6:18 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 3200blk Olympic Blvd 6:43 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1300blk 4th St 6:56 p.m.
Runaway 2300blk Hill St 7:01 p.m.
Loud Music 2000blk Ocean Ave 7:23 p.m.
Lost Property 2300blk Main St 8:02 p.m.
Illegal Weapon 1500blk California Ave 8:18 p.m.
Lost Property 1800blk 34th St 8:57 p.m.

Letter to the Editor

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

My child is a 4th grade student at Roosevelt Elementary. The past year has been academically challenging. However, I have not been disappointed in the response of our teachers, administrators, PTA, or our superintendent, Dr. Ben Drati, in this unprecedented pandemic year.

For the past four years, I have been an active volunteer at Roosevelt. Last year, I served our parents as the valet leader for two months. Thus, I was ultimately responsible for staffing and overseeing two valet stations with six volunteers each, every morning. My troubling experiences during this time, convinced me our parents have difficulty following rules and working together as a community.

First, we had issues staffing our valet. Ultimately, I discovered some parents refused to volunteer because they did not agree with the 2019 campus closure policy that ended parents entering campus during morning drop-off. Some parents walked their kids to school and felt valet was not their responsibility, despite the fact that the valet service was a vast improvement over the daily chaos that ensued on our block every morning before we instituted the service.

Second, parents had problems following basic traffic rules. Jaywalking parents would drag embarrassed children through the active valet line. Parents would impatiently drop their children at the end of our valet line at the light at Lincoln and Montana, and then pull back into traffic, needlessly endangering their children and others in the process. Some would start in our line, drop their children, and then drive through the valet cones to avoid the rest of the line.

Third, parents had problems following valet rules. We asked parents to drop their children at the very front of our lines for a specific reason. We needed as much room as possible at the back of the line to avoid clogging up traffic at Lincoln and Montana and at 9th and Alta. Our volunteers had no idea how long it would take each student to exit the vehicle, so it was imperative to stick to this basic rule. One father almost ran over my foot when I implored him to follow this rule. One of our fathers volunteered and then verbally accosted me on two separate occasions after I asked him to follow this rule.

It has taken me year to recover from this volunteer experience with our parents. As I look at the parents pushing to open Roosevelt's doors full-time, with 3 ft separation between desks, when covid cases seem to be rising in children, with a particularly worrisome version called MIS-C, I ask myself, "Can I trust these people to follow the basic covid rules in their daily lives that will keep our children safe?" As I hear more about our families traveling and gathering in large groups over spring break, the answer is, "No."

Edie Ortenberg, Roosevelt Parent

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.

SUNDAY, MARCH 14 8:08 A.M.

Officers responded to Vons on the 1300 block of Wilshire, regarding a subject taking items and fighting with employees. Police spotted a subject matching the description of the suspect and detained him. The suspect had several items he had taken from Vons on his person. Officers further found a machete hidden in the waist of the suspect's pants. After speaking to some of the employees at Vons, Officers learned that the suspect had swung his arms in an attempt to hit an employee that had asked him to return the stolen items and had threatened the employee. Hector Raul Cano was placed under arrest for 211PC (Estes robbery) and 21310PC (possession of a dirk or dagger).

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 33 CALLS ON MARCH 25

Automatic Alarm 1400blk 15th St 12:57 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 3000blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:21 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 3:05 a.m.
EMS 2100blk Delaware Ave 3:17 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 15th St 3:36 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 16th St 4:48 a.m.
EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 5:07 a.m.
EMS 1900blk 19th St 5:16 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 15th St 5:51 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 100blk Wilshire Blvd 6:15 a.m.
EMS 1900blk 11th St 6:36 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 15th St 7:48 a.m.
EMS 1400blk Franklin St 8:59 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 16th St 8:59 a.m.
EMS 3100blk Neilson Way 9:01 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 500blk Ocean Ave 10:31 a.m.
EMS 18th St / Carlyle Ave 10:34 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 15th St 11:57 a.m.
EMS Centinela Ave / Interstate 10 12:39 p.m.
EMS 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 1:22 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 7th St 1:25 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 1:28 p.m.
EMS 26th St / Santa Monica Blvd 1:37 p.m.
EMS 2200blk California Ave 2:42 p.m.
EMS 1100blk Pico Blvd 2:51 p.m.
EMS 2600blk 31st St 3:13 p.m.
EMS 1800blk Main St 3:26 p.m.
EMS 2500blk Pico Blvd 4:58 p.m.
EMS 1800blk Main St 5:30 p.m.
EMS 1200blk Wilshire Blvd 5:32 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 11th St 8:53 p.m.
EMS 100blk Broadway 9:39 p.m.
EMS 1200blk Chelsea Ave 11:54 p.m.

City of Santa Monica

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF PROPOSED 2021-22 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN ALLOCATING FEDERAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) & HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP ACT PROGRAM (HOME) FUNDS

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides annual CDBG and HOME entitlement funds to the City of Santa Monica. As a recipient of these federal funds, HUD requires the City to develop a five-year Consolidated Plan along with Annual Action Plans for housing and community development which identify high priority needs and the associated goals, strategies, and resources anticipated over a five-year period.

Notice is hereby given that the City of Santa Monica has developed the Proposed 2021-22 Annual Action Plan, which identifies the City's specific projects and activities for one-year use of CDBG and HOME funds to address the high-priority needs specified in the 2020-24 Consolidated Plan. The 2020-24 Consolidated Plan can be viewed at www.smgov.net/ccsgrants.

The Proposed 2021-22 Annual Action Plan is now available to the public for a 30-day review period beginning March 27, 2021. The proposed plan can be viewed at http://www.smgov.net/hsd. Hard copies are available upon request through the Housing and Human Services Division at telephone (310) 458-8701. Written comments may be submitted by April 26, 2021 by email to humanservices@smgov.net or by mail to: Housing and Human Services Division, 1685 Main Street, MS22, Santa Monica, CA 90401. All comments received will be incorporated into the final draft of the 2021-22 Annual Action Plan, due to HUD by May 15, 2021. The City Council is scheduled to consider approval of the proposed plan on April 27, 2021.

ESPAÑOL Esto es un aviso público para invitar a cualquier parte interesada a participar en el repaso del Plan Preliminar de Acción Anual del Año Fiscal 2021-22. Si necesita más información, por favor llame a Ivy Chang en la División de Vivienda y Servicios Humanos al número (310) 458-8701.

Local News Served the Way You Like It.

smdp Santa Monica Daily Press — Our flagship daily print newspaper.

smdp.com — Top news site on the Westside.

flavor magazine — Westside gastro-publication.

The CURRENT — Daily curated email newsletter.

dp — Inside the Daily Press Podcast.

LOS ANGELES MARATHON — Race guide for the 4th largest marathon in the US.

Most Loved Santa Monica — Our People's Choice Awards.



WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE BECAUSE OF THE CARELESSNESS OR NEGLIGENCE OF OTHERS.



Robert Lemle

OBTAIN MAXIMUM LEGAL COMPENSATION

MILLIONS RECOVERED

- CATASTROPHIC PERSONAL INJURIES
- WRONGFUL DEATH
- AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENTS
- BICYCLE/SCOOTER ACCIDENTS
- RIDE SHARE ACCIDENTS
- SPINAL CORD INJURIES
- TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURIES
- DOG BITES
- TRIP & FALLS

No recovery, No fee

310.392.3055
www.lemlelaw.com

LEMLE LAW GROUP, PC

Reopening hurdles linger for schools, despite rescue funding

CAROLYN THOMPSON
Associated Press

The latest federal coronavirus relief package includes $81 billion that began flowing to states this week with the goal of helping schools reopen quickly — with one obstacle being that many of the districts' problems can't be solved by money.

Many parents want to keep their children home. Teachers have pushed back at reopening plans. And some districts say state guidelines on social distancing keep them from bringing all students back at once.

The money is welcome assistance for districts that have had to spend enormous sums on ventilation systems, laptops and protective equipment. With the end of the academic year approaching quickly, however, many are looking ahead to how to best spend the new money next fall.

For some districts that have yet to bring large number of students back to classrooms, no amount of money can help in the near term.

The Hillsboro School District, one of Oregon's largest, plans to begin introducing limited in-person learning for some students this month but cannot bring all students back full time because of guidelines on issues such as social distancing and bus transportation, said Beth Graser, a district spokesperson.

"There simply aren't people to hire to drive the buses we have, much less the fact that we would need to go through a purchasing process to secure additional buses if we were to increase our fleet to the point where we could feasibly overcome the transportation constraints," Graser wrote in an email.

The money released this week is part of $122 billion included for K-12 schools in the $1.9 trillion virus relief bill. Schools are strategizing over how to use the money over the next couple years to undo the pandemic's damage to the pace of learning and students' mental well-being.

Nearly half of U.S. elementary schools were open for full-time classroom learning as of last month, according to a survey by the administration of President Joe Biden, who has pledged to have most K-8 schools open full time in his first 100 days in office. While the administration touted the relief package as a way to help reopen schools, officials in some districts say they won't tap into the new funding for months.

In Ohio's Youngstown City School District, where about 40% of students are back in classrooms part-time, CEO Justin Jennings doesn't expect the newest federal money to change those numbers before the school year ends.

That's partly because students already were offered the opportunity to return for in-person learning, and partly because the district doesn't even expect to draw on the latest funding until at least the summer, Jennings said. Then it may go to more protective equipment, upgrading schools' air filtration systems and broadband access, and investing in transportation to allow for better social distancing, he said.

About 60 of the 77 large urban districts that make up the Council of the Great City

SEE **SCHOOLS** PAGE 11

SMPD

FROM PAGE 1

May haven't waned much. As a result, staff recommended an urgency ordinance to City Council earlier this month that sought to prohibit the carrying of items that can be used as weapons, including poles, sticks, wood and metal pipes, which were used as weapons last year during the local May 31 riots.

Several cities, including Los Angeles, Beverly Hills and Covina, have adopted similar provisions, but local councilmembers opted to not consider the ordinance even though staff expressed uncertainty about when volatile protest activity may occur.

Interim Police Chief Jacqueline Seabrooks noted this week that Santa Monica and adjacent Westside communities have seen an increasing number of small demonstrations happening as the country approaches the trial of Derek Chauvin. As a result, Seabrooks thought it was important to take a moment this week to address local residents and share how the department is handling the situation.

"These events have largely gone unnoticed, even as your police department provided site safety and security," Seabrooks said, mentioning SMPD will continue to provide security for these activities and remains committed to allowing the public to peacefully exercise its constitutional rights of freedom of speech, expression and assembly. "Now, as we turn our attention to the criminal trial of the former Minneapolis Police officer involved in the death of Mr. George Floyd, we understand you may have concerns about the safety of our community. I want you to know that the Santa Monica Police Department remains steadfastly committed to your safety and that of this community. Because planning is an integral component of the police department's preparedness for any activity, we're actively collaborating with our municipal, regional and state partners to ensure that we are well prepared."

Safety and the protection of our community is job number one, Seabrooks added, so she found it important to highlight that the police department is diligently monitoring the events in Minneapolis and the local region for any leads.

"Currently, I'm pleased to report that thus far, there's been no indication of any threats or other activities specifically focused on our community," Seabrooks said. As the trial progresses, she'll continue to outline the department's safety plans. "I asked that if you see something suspicious, say so. Like masking up, it's a matter of community safety."

Brennon@smdp.com

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Brennon Dixson
brennon@smdp.com

Clara Harter
clara@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING
Steve Nakutin
steve@smdp.com

AWARD WINNER

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING AND PARTNERSHIPS
Jenny Rice
jenny@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra.

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

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

AWARD WINNER

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

The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 8,200 on weekdays and 8,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

PUBLISHED BY NEWLON ROUGE, LLC

© 2019 Newlon Rouge, LLC, all rights reserved.

WINNER

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters to the Editor can be submitted to letters@smdp.com. Receipt of a letter does not guarantee publication and all content is published at the discretion of the paper. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content. All submissions must include the author's name, address and phone number for the purposes of verification.

Hopeful signs as California adds 141,000 jobs in February

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

California added 141,000 jobs in February as more than a quarter of a million people returned to the workforce, state officials announced Friday, a reflection of loosening virus restrictions on businesses as more people get vaccinated.

Employment in restaurants and hotels surged by more than 102,000 people, welcome news for an industry hit hard by the on-again, off-again restrictions imposed by the government at the whims of an unpredictable virus.

The state lost 155,400 jobs in December and January when Gov. Gavin Newsom ordered a sweeping lockdown amid frightening increases of cases, hospitalizations and deaths. But California gained 91% of those jobs back in a single month, dropping the unemployment rate to 8.5%, according to new data from the California Employment Development Department.

"The California job machine has been turned back on after a dismal two months," said Sung Won Sohn, a professor of finance and economics at Loyola Marymount University.

But California's recovery appears to lag the rest of the country. Its unemployment rate is more than 2 percentage points higher than the U.S. as a whole, tying Connecticut for the third highest rate among states behind Hawaii and New York.

California has regained just 39% of the 2.7 million jobs lost in March and April of last year when the bottom fell out of the economy. Meanwhile, Sohn said the U.S. as a whole has regained 56% of jobs lost.

Overall, California had 1.2 million fewer jobs in February than it did a year ago. The state processed more than 108,000 unemployment claims last week, the second week in a row that new claims have surpassed 100,000 after a decline in February.

"Today's numbers are not consistent with the other employment indicators that we've seen in the last couple of weeks," said Michael Bernick, a former director of the California Employment Development Department now an attorney with Duane Morris. "I think these numbers need to be balanced with, as I say, other employment indicators."

Still, declines in the numbers of new coronavirus cases and hospitalizations point to improved job numbers in the coming weeks. More than 94% of the state's population now live in counties free from the state's most severe virus restrictions.

California has been receiving about 1.8 million vaccine doses per week. But that's expected to jump to 3 million doses per week by mid April — enough that Newsom announced on Tuesday all adults will be eligible to get the vaccine starting April 15.

"There is a growing confidence that the bottom is definitely behind us," Sohn said.

But the economic impacts of the pandemic are likely to linger. Close to 1 in 5 workers in California have claimed unemployment benefits for more than six months, according to an analysis by the nonpartisan California Policy Lab at the University of California.

People who are unemployed for long periods of time often have a harder time finding a job. And once they do, they typically earn less than they had been before they were unemployed, said Till von Wachter, professor of economics at UCLA and director of the California Policy Lab.

"You are more likely to take on debt, more likely to cut back on significant consumption the longer you are unemployed," he said.

Since the pandemic began, more than 45% of workers who were either employed or actively looking for work in February 2020 have claimed unemployment benefits. That figure is even higher for Black workers, with nearly 90% filing for benefits.

"African Americans have applied for unemployment benefits at astounding rates, further evidence of the inequities we must address to ensure a strong, equitable recovery," California Labor Secretary Julie A. Su and Dee Dee Myers, director of the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development, said in a joint statement.

RECALL

FROM PAGE 2

California's frontline workers and suffered more than half of all pandemic job losses through last September, according to December reports by the nonpartisan Legislative Analysts Office. Latinos account for the majority of farmworkers, construction workers, cooks and numerous other frontline jobs.

In early March, Newsom announced an overhaul to the vaccination system, promising 40% of doses for the least-advantaged ZIP codes. Race and ethnicity isn't a factor in determining where those doses go but the effort overlays heavily with Latino communities in Southern and Central California.

The point of the February letter was to "provide a Latino lens" that could inform better public policy, said Sonja Diaz, founding director of the Latino Policy & Politics Initiative at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Christian Arana, vice president of policy for the Latino Community Foundation, said Newsom should expand the state's government-run health care program to immigrants 65 and older living in the country illegally.

"There is no better way to energize a group of people who have supported you in the past to come out and defend you (than) if you get this policy done," Arana said.

Newsom said he is "deeply sensitive" to the pandemic's impact on Latinos, pointing to his actions like creating a housing program for farmworkers to isolate if they are sick and the recent change in vaccine allocation.

"It's very important to me, but I don't look at it, with all due respect, through an electoral lens. It's a very human thing," he said in a recent interview with The Associated Press.

MOVIEPOSTERPRINTER.COM
MOVIE POSTER PRINTER WE PRINT MOVIE POSTERS

SMALL BUSINESS
STARTUP?
LET ME HELP YOU SUCCEED
TAXES • BOOKKEEPING • STARTUPS • CORPS. • LLCS
(310) 395-9922
SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA
100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1800 Santa Monica 90401

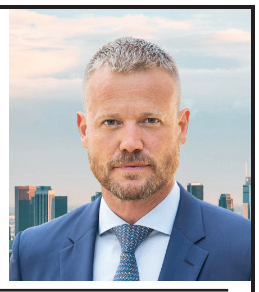
FINDING A NEW DENTIST IS TOUGH!!!
(BUT WE MAKE IT EASY!!!)
YOUR CHOICE
If you don't like what we have to say we will give you a copy of your x-rays at no charge
DENTAL CARE WITHOUT JUDGEMENT!
WE OFFER UNIQUE SERVICES
*Nitrous Oxide available
*No interest payment plans
*Emergencies can be seen today
*Our dentists and staff members are easy to talk to
TRY OUR NO OBLIGATION
$20 EXAM
INCLUDES FULL XRAYS
*Offer to non insured patients
OR
TRY OUR NO OBLIGATION
$99 EXAM AND CLEANING
For New Patients
INCLUDES FULL XRAYS
*Offer to non insured patients
AND OF COURSE WE DO
• Invisalign • Periodontist on Staff • Oral Surgeon on Staff
• Cosmetics and Implants • Zoom bleaching • and more
SANTA MONICA FAMILY DENTISTRY
DR. ALAN RUBENSTEIN
1260 15th ST. SUITE #703
(310) 736-2589


WWW.ALANRUBENSTEINDDS.COM

SIMON BEARDMORE

Top 1% of real estate professionals nationally

Committed to personalized service, confidentiality and attention to detail.





509 21st Place, Santa Monica

6 BR | 5 ½ BA | 0.18 acre lot | $5,150,000

Spectacular architectural in prime north of Montana. Formal entry with dramatic soaring ceilings, flooded with natural light. Impressive family room with fireplace, chefs kitchen, office, and additional en-suite bed and bath on first floor. Finished basement boasts high ceilings with skylights, home theater, and additional living room. Outdoor entertaining area and pool for true indoor/outdoor living.

SIMON BEARDMORE
310.892.6454
simon@simonbeardmore.com
DRE 01321605

Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

PUDDING

FROM PAGE 1

by what is possible with a product like pudding," said Schneider. "Everybody knows it from his or her childhood, but playing with all of these flavors makes it a very exciting experience for them."

So far the most popular dish has been the "Butterfly in the Sky", which is a bourbon vanilla pudding with green spirulina, banana cacao powder, chocolate curls and edible jasmine blossom. For vegans or lactose intolerant visitors there is also a dairy free pudding called the "Cool Ocean Dip". This bright blue dessert features a coconut-pineapple pudding with dried pineapple and coconut crunch.

There are also more savory flavors such as the "Sun Catcher" spiced turmeric pudding topped with pomegranate seeds and edible hibiscus flower. The recipes will be changed often to keep the offerings exciting and seasonal. Schneider said the team has already brainstormed over 80 different flavor combinations.



Courtesy photo

LOCATION: The restaurant is on Abbott Kinney.

Dr. Oetker Hospitality came up with the concept to expose their brand to more Gen Zers and Millennials. The business was founded in Bielefeld Germany in 1891 and now the Oetker Group owns more than 400 companies across the globe. In Europe, the Dr. Oetker brand is well known for its baking products, desserts, snacks, and pizzas.

Pudu Pudu is the brand's first unique dessert storefront and is a concept they hope will take off worldwide.

"The reason why we started in Los Angeles is that we believe this is a city where food trends are born," said Schneider. "We thought we would start here, expand in the US, and then bring the concept back to Germany, the rest of Europe and Asia."

Clara@smdp.com

SMMUSD

FROM PAGE 1

only students in the same grade. Secondary students continuing with distance learning will keep their same teachers.

Schools will not be opening in-person the first week after spring break as state guidelines require that anyone who left the state must quarantine for 10 days upon their return, and staff need time to prepare new schedules and protocols.

All schools will follow a program of modified distance learning the week of April 12. Secondary schools will have a hybrid in-person schedule the week of April 19 to give students and staff the opportunity to adjust before fully returning on April 26.

On Thursday a panel of doctors and administrators presented the measures the District is taking to protect everyone on campus, which include mandatory masking, classroom ventilation, three feet distance between desks, teacher vaccinations, diagnostic testing and contact tracing.

Experts said that if all these steps are followed the risk of Covid-19 transmission on campus will be minimal.

"I would assure parents that if we carefully follow the guidelines that we've set out, we can create schools that are safe for in-person learning," said Dr. Will Nicolas, a director at the L.A. County Department of Public Health. "I say this now that we have good evidence that, in general, schools are not hubs for Covid transmission. Transmission is lower in schools than it is in the community."

Per newly updated CDC guidelines that have also been approved by the L.A. County Department of Public Health, desks only need to be spaced three feet apart inside classrooms. This adjustment allows the District to bring all students on campus at the same time instead of relying on a hybrid model.

"The bottom line is that there was no measurable difference in the risk faced either by students or by the staff between the school districts that were using a three foot versus the six foot threshold," said UCLA Professor Dr. Lloyd-Smith, an expert in Covid-19 transmission.

Students will be required to wear their masks at all times unless they are eating or drinking and are not permitted on campus with any symptoms of illness. All classrooms have updated air circulation systems and all eating will be done outdoors with six feet between students. The District has strict isolation and contract tracing protocols and will share all information about potential outbreaks on their online Covid-19 dashboard.

"We will absolutely enforce the rules. We will be dogged about it. We are going to monitor things very carefully," said Superintendent Ben Drati. "I think the biggest prevention for us is going to be educating the parents and students and then establishing a social contract with each other."

Vaccinations are well underway for staff and are another key tool in safely reopening schools. According to Superintendent Drati, all staff members who want to get vaccinated have already received at least one dose. Students over the age of 16 are encouraged to get vaccinated once they become eligible on April 15.

Clara@smdp.com



SEND YOUR TIPS TO THE EDITOR

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

UCLA, USC go from late night to NCAA prime-time spotlight

JOE REEDY
AP Sports Writer

UCLA and Southern California games are usually late-night viewing for most college basketball fans during the regular season but both programs have prime time spots for the second weekend of March Madness.

The Los Angeles schools are among four Pac-12 teams in the men's Sweet 16, the first time since 2007 and third time overall that the Bruins and Trojans have both made it to the regional semifinals in the same tournament.

"To see UCLA, USC and all the other conference teams having this excellent success throughout this tournament, it's just very satisfying and inspirational," said former UCLA great Bill Walton, who announces games for ESPN and the Pac-12 Network.

Most of the country might be shocked about the Pac-12's success, but UCLA coach Mick Cronin isn't one of them.

"I coached in the Big East in the heyday, 11 teams in the NCAA Tournament (in 2011), so I know good teams," said Cronin, who is in his second season in Westwood after 13 years at Cincinnati. "Teams in the Pac-12 play hard. We have excellent coaching. It's way more competitive physically than the rest of the country knows because most people are sleeping when we play."

The conference is assured of at least one team in the Elite Eight with USC (24-7) facing Oregon (21-6) in a West Region matchup Sunday night. UCLA (20-9) also plays Sunday when it meets Alabama (26-6) for a spot in the East Region final.

The Bruins and Trojans are crosstown rivals but both have built tournament runs on similar traits — strong coaching, great defense and local players leading the way.

Cronin is one of only five coaches to direct teams to the last nine tournaments. The Bruins appeared to be in for a short stay when they trailed Michigan State by 14 in the first half of their First Four game, but they rallied for an 86-80 overtime victory.

Over the last five halves and overtime, which also includes wins over BYU and Abilene Christian, the Bruins are holding opponents to 38.8% shooting from the floor.

"We've continued to try to get better at the things that go into winning, whether it's executing and taking care of the ball on offense, being physical and rebounding, and being the better defensive team," Cronin said.

USC's Andy Enfield was the Pac-12 Coach of the Year after the Trojans were ranked for the final month of the regular season. This is the fifth time in eight seasons he has directed the Trojans to more than 20 wins.

USC demolished Kansas 85-51 on Monday, which marks the biggest win by a team over the Jayhawks in NCAA Tournament history. The Trojans held Drake and Kansas to 29% shooting in both games.

"USC basketball is on the rise. Over the last 80 years, it's been like a roller coaster. A lot of great players, coaches and teams, but we're trying to build the program and sustain the success," Enfield said.

Both teams are winning with rosters featuring area players. USC's Evan Mobley — who was raised in Riverside County — is the first player in conference history to be named Player of the Year along with capturing top defensive and freshman honors. The only other player to do that from a Power Five conference was Kentucky's Anthony Davis in 2012.

Mobley is expected to be the second straight USC player to be a lottery pick in the NBA draft.

UCLA sophomore Johnny Juzang, a Tarzana, California, native who began his career at Kentucky before transferring back home, is the first Bruins player since Reggie Miller to score 20 points or more in his first two NCAA Tournament games.

"Seeing players from California and Southern California on the rosters shows local guys that they can get on a national stage," UCLA athletic director Martin Jarmond said. "That is good and positive to not only our two schools but the conference. Kids want to win and they are seeing these are winning programs and that they can be successful here."

Juzang and Mobley both played for the Compton Magic AAU team while in high school. The program has eight former players competing this weekend, with four at UCLA and three at USC. The 2018 team was Adidas' top AAU squad that season and beat Nike's top team for bragging rights.

"It's awesome not only to see your kids play for top programs, but when they decide to remain at home. It's great for the families and for all of us," said Compton Magic founder and CEO Etop Udo-Ema.

USC and UCLA will face stiff challenges Sunday. The Trojans defeated Oregon in their lone meeting this season, but the Ducks played two fewer conference games due to the coronavirus and won the regular-season title by a half game.

Many also think the matchup is happening one round too soon and that one of the teams should have been on the other side of the bracket. Pac-12 Commissioner Larry Scott said the matchup is a double-edged sword.

"It's disappointing that one is not going to have a chance to go on. By the same token, Sunday night is going to be an incredible showcase for the conference," he said.

The Bruins will face an Alabama squad that leads the nation in 3-pointers made this season (341) as well as averaging 9.3 steals during an eight-game winning streak.

With the Lakers and Dodgers bringing championships back to Los Angeles within the past six months, USC and UCLA are hoping their runs can eventually end with the same result.

"That's a standard. Any level of competitiveness is contagious, and it drives you," USC athletic director Mike Bohn said. "When you see those other teams doing well, it inspires you."



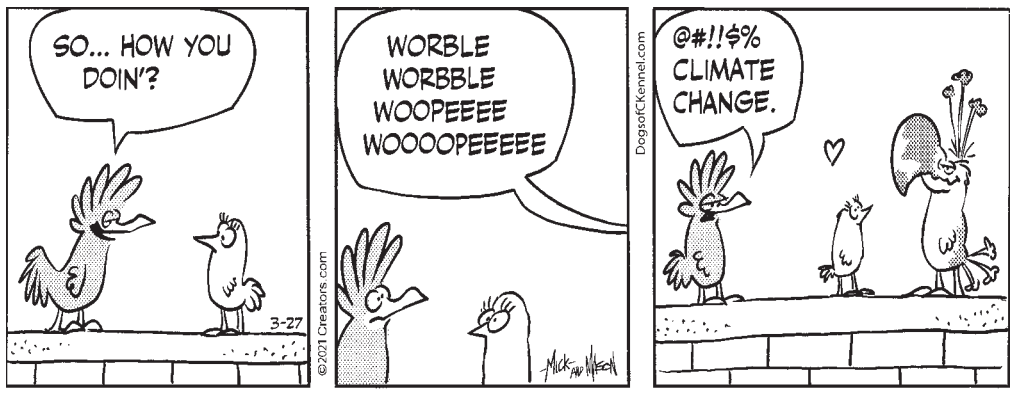
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



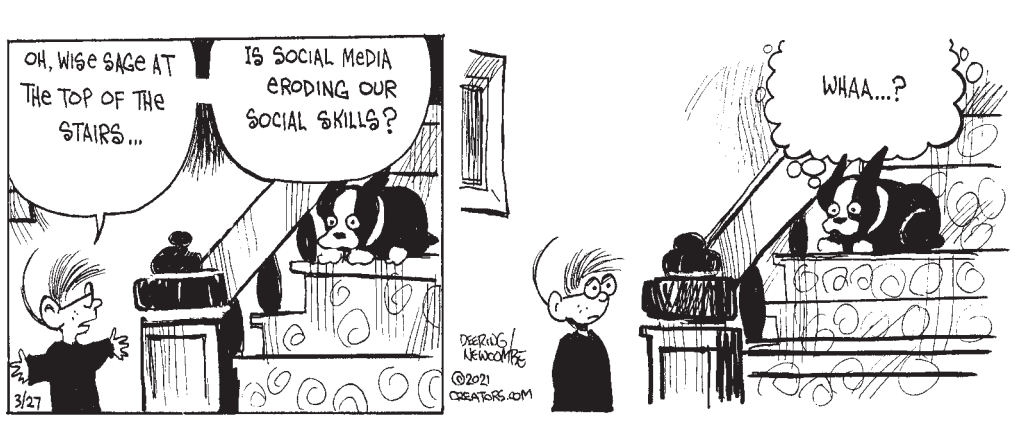
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



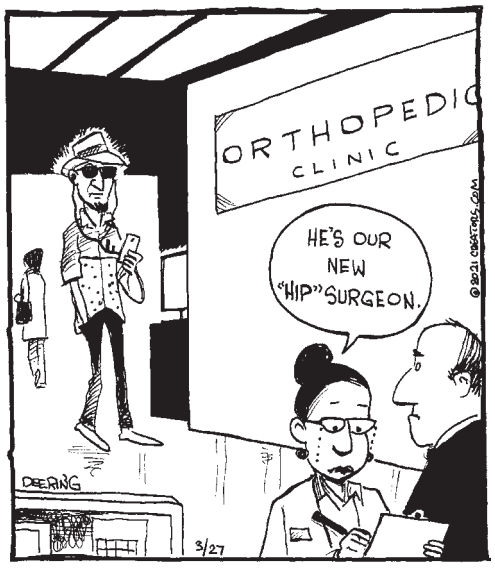
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 54.1°

SATURDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high
Peaky, modest blend of NW and SSW swell for exposed beachbreaks. Smaller but rideable for the south-facing points. Weak offshore flow and clean conditions for the morning.

SUNDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high
Might be fun on the small wave gear. Summer focal points west of Pt Dume have the most size. Small NW swell mix.

WEATHER

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 71.
Saturday Night: Clear, with a low around 53.
Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 75.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/03/27	Sat	02:56 AM	0.68	L
2021/03/27	Sat	08:59 AM	5.65	H
2021/03/27	Sat	3:29 PM	-0.76	L
2021/03/27	Sat	9:43 PM	5.02	H
2021/03/28	Sun	03:38 AM	0.14	L
2021/03/28	Sun	09:42 AM	5.54	H
2021/03/28	Sun	4:00 PM	-0.50	L
2021/03/28	Sun	10:12 PM	5.39	H
2021/03/29	Mon	04:22 AM	-0.28	L
2021/03/29	Mon	10:27 AM	5.19	H
2021/03/29	Mon	4:31 PM	-0.09	L
2021/03/29	Mon	10:44 PM	5.66	H
2021/03/30	Tue	05:11 AM	-0.54	L
2021/03/30	Tue	11:17 AM	4.65	H
2021/03/30	Tue	5:04 PM	0.45	L
2021/03/30	Tue	11:19 PM	5.77	H
2021/03/31	Wed	06:04 AM	-0.61	L
2021/03/31	Wed	12:14 PM	4.00	H
2021/03/31	Wed	5:37 PM	1.06	L
2021/03/31	Wed	11:59 PM	5.71	H
2021/04/01	Thu	07:04 AM	-0.51	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 3/24
4 9 17 27 38
Power#: 18
Jackpot: 238 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/23
12 23 35 38 55
Mega#: 11
Jackpot: 137 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 3/24
10 11 13 32 38
Mega#: 17
Jackpot: 32 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/25
5 15 20 24 26

Daily 3
Draw Date: 3/25
EVENING: 4 9 8
Draw Date: 3/25
MIDDAY: 9 0 4

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 3/25
1st: 02 - Lucky Star
2nd: 10 - Solid Gold
3rd: 05 - California Classic
Race Time: 1:45.49

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

RUN YOUR DBAs IN THE DAILY PRESS FOR ONLY $80
INCLUDES RECEIPT AND PROOF OF PUBLICATION. Call us today!
Santa Monica Daily Press office **(310) 458-7737**

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

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (MARCH 27)

Oh, how you are able to sharpen your talent into a highly effective and sought-after tool! The year brings glorious reunions and novel occasions. Relationships are a winding path. You'll thrill to the turns, especially the moment a stranger becomes an acquaintance, an acquaintance a friend, a friend becomes a love. Leo and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 2, 44, 13 and 9.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). People are born with open mouths and minds. Many adults are better at closing their minds than they are at closing their mouths, but your disarming approach sparks imagination and brings people back to openness.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Sure, living in the present is usually optimal -- but not always. When the past keeps pulling you into its dream, there's something for you there. The living you do in the past counts as living, too.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). As for the rituals and beliefs you no longer participate in, it's not because you lost them along the way, rather they got traded in the development of your soul. There's no part of your story that doesn't belong there.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). What was neutral or off-putting to you in the past has transformed into a cornerstone essential in the manner of a nutritious vegetable, once despised, now delicious.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There are those who will try to impress you with their discerning taste, but if this takes a turn toward being hard-to-please, consider that high-class and low-maintenance often go hand-in-hand.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The situation is not your responsibility, and yet whatever you do to improve it will make your life much easier. Despite your modesty and discretion these acts will still manage to reflect beautifully on you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Just because a relationship is a little ambiguous doesn't mean it's less than optimal. In fact, the ambiguity leaves room for each person's imagination to rush wondrously in.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The building goes up one brick at a time and so does your success. There is no glamour in it today (each move looks and feels like a weight-lifting repetition), but eventually, you'll dance in glory.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). When you can't figure out what you want, start with what you don't want. When you X out the negative space, form emerges. You're like a sculptor chipping away at anything that is not the masterpiece.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Listening well is a challenge, an art and a discipline. There are plenty who don't value the skill enough to even try. Your efforts to listen better will give you an edge in a highly competitive situation.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll be in the dance of a relationship, figuring out when to step forward and when to pull back. Don't overthink it. All will flow from respecting the space.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There is no reasoning with a dog in a storm going wild with anxiety even while inside the obvious shelter and warmth of home. There are feral instincts in you that cannot be reasoned with either, only comforted.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

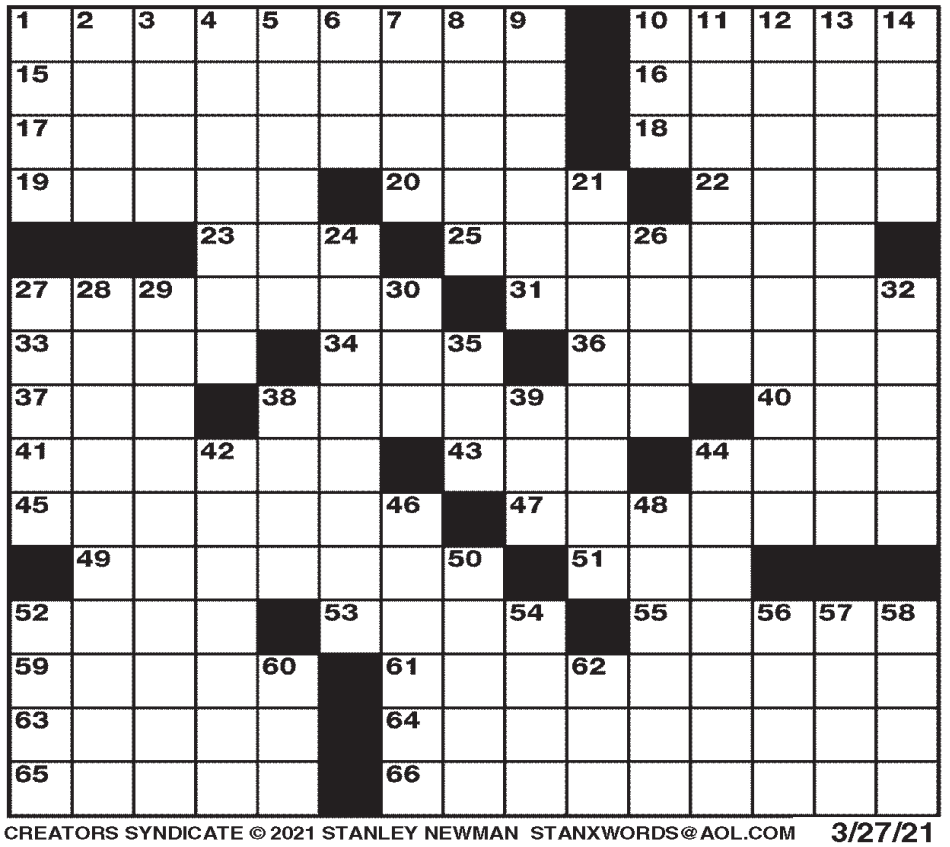
		6			5		4	
9	1			8			7	
					9	2		3
2		3		1				
		7				9		
				3		1		2
8		5	3					
	7			9			2	4
	9		7			3		

Newsday Crossword

THEMELESS SATURDAY by Brad Wilber
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Off-the-grid period
10 Tourist destination
15 Without much scrutiny
16 Very short story
17 Parade planners' contingencies
18 Electrical anomaly
19 Female name that sounds like Roman numerals
20 Digging a lot
22 Barely
23 Bagpiper's accessory
25 Work with glasses
27 Parisian's patron
31 No dreamer
33 Gift shop stuff
34 Certain ballot tally
36 White House money
37 Navigation aid
38 Registers
40 US' Asian ally since the '50s
41 Obedience school supply
43 Root for a fall
44 Put through tedium
45 Peanut butter Hershey bars
47 Unlocks to access
49 Engine cooler
51 Didn't face the music, maybe
52 Where a 37 Across leads
53 To-dos
55 Master of psychological drama
59 Platitudinous
61 Charismatic leader
63 Gush with lines
64 They're in a star's orbit
65 Group of jurors
66 Leaves worrying behind

DOWN
1 Zebra's parent
2 Series shortener
3 Where addresses are delivered
4 Touches off
5 Country music star Jason
6 Drone regulators
7 It means "not behind"
8 Gasoline additive
9 Something challenging
10 Ltrs. to the editor
11 Self-possessed
12 Swag supporter
13 Seller of banded and boxed merchandise
14 "__ by night, a chest of drawers by day": Goldsmith
21 Not a repeat customer
24 Attend (to)
26 Onset metaphor
27 Jazz Age sports car
28 What a daredevil might kiss when done
29 Do-it-all's bane
30 Delivery possibility
32 Nippers
35 It's in a star's orbit
38 Proof of purchase
39 Kind of blue
42 Warren's wife and *Bugsy* costar
44 Aruba neighbor
46 It's not quite upright
48 Google's home grounds
50 Bundler's buy
52 Not far at all
54 Gets fixed
56 "R for language" evaluator
57 Ideas on paper?
58 Low club
60 Escape artist of similes
62 What a 37 Across can't do without



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2021 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 3/27/21

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

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

Locally owned, and committed to local news reporting since 2001.

smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

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 24 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5065

Let's go camping

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

Akubra	Cocky	Glee	Mate	Room
Annexe	Cuppa	Heat	Milk	Scrub
Ants	Deet	Hike	Mugs	Skite
Arvo	Digger	Honey	Nelly	Snorkel
Aussie	Escarpment	Idle	Ocean	Squatter
Away	Esky	Info	Open	Swim
Bays	Fees	Inlet	Pack	Toast
Bread	Flies	Jump	Parks	Towel
Canoe	Food	Lair	Poles	Wowser
Catch	Friendship	Lazy	Rest	
Chat	Fuel	Maps	Rods	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
The weather is heating up

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER

Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

SCHOOLS

FROM PAGE 4

Schools are at least partially open, Executive Director Michael Casserly said, and most of the rest already had plans to reopen by the middle of April. The new funding will help with the return to in-person learning, he said.

"There's a fair amount of money that will go to just efforts to reopen the buildings and make sure that everybody is safe," he said. "Those will be one-time expenditures that the school districts will make that won't necessarily build any long-term capacity, but they will help open the doors."

In Hartford, Connecticut, Superintendent Leslie Torres-Rodriguez said she expects the relief money will help the district bring more students back by expanding efforts to connect with families of students who have been absent or disengaged. The district has done close to 4,400 home visits this school year but often has lacked the resources to address the root causes of the problems, she said.

"Additional social workers, mental health and wellness supports would be so important and most immediately needed," she said.

Amid signs of slipping academic achievement, the school district in Connecticut's capital is encouraging all students to return for in-person learning on March 29, including some 9,600 students who have opted for virtual learning.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said last week that students can safely sit 3 feet, instead of 6 feet, apart inside classrooms as long as they wear masks. But officials in some districts say that won't allow them to increase the number of days students learn in person unless state governments adopt the same guidance.

"If the guidance is permissible, we are excited to be able to do that," said Jeffrey Rabey, superintendent of Depew Public Schools in Buffalo's suburbs, where schools are operating with a hybrid model.

One of the biggest obstacles remains parent fears about the spread of the virus in schools, said Andre Perry, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. He said districts have to show parents they are safe, especially in traditionally underserved schools where bathrooms often lacked soap or working sinks before the pandemic.

In Fairfax County, Virginia, where schools last week completed the transition from fully remote to a mix of remote and in-person learning, surveys indicate many families in the state's largest district may not want more time in classrooms.

The percentage of parents who say they prefer in-person learning over online has decreased in recent months, down to 47% this month from 56% in October, according to the district, which said parents have to feel prepared and safe sending their kids back.

"We are still working on looking at factors that may be able to help bring back additional students in-person in the weeks ahead," a district spokesperson said via email.

In Ohio's largest school district, Columbus, most students are back in classrooms part time under a hybrid schedule. Social distancing requirements that put capacity on school buses is one hurdle, and it doesn't make sense to buy hundreds more buses, officials said.

Another hurdle, district treasurer Stanley Bahorek said, is uncertainty about what's ahead and how schools might have to adapt.

"We're in a situation where we don't have a choice but to respond to an ever-changing environment," Bahorek said. "And that's the perspective that I hope people on the outside consider when they say, 'Well, why don't they just bring the kids back to school?'"



Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

FOR QUOTES PLEASE CALL 310-573-8074 or email **cindy@smdp.com**

CLASSIFICATIONS					
Announcements	Pets	Rent	Storage Space	Business Opportunities	Personals
Creative	Boats	Houses for Rent	Vehicles for Sale	Yard Sales	Psychic
Employment	Jewelry	Roommates	Massage	Health and Beauty	Obituaries
For Sale	WantedvvTravel	Commercial Lease	Services	Fitness	Tutoring
Furniture	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Wealth and Success	
	Apartments/Condos	Real Estate Loans	Attorney Services	Lost and Found	

Help Wanted

We are looking for a dedicated, dynamic and result driven manager for our LA stores located in Walnut and Steven Son Ranch. The right candidate should have managerial experience , and knowledge of Indian spices. We are looking for a career oriented team member who can manage a motivated team of employees. Please email malhi@thecurrypizzacompany.com for more details.

Office Manager / Executive Assistant Our Firm is hiring for an accomplished Office Manager. This position requires extensive experience. Top notch benefits are included such as flexible schedule, robust benefits, growth opportunity and a positive, family oriented environment. Interested candidates must be available to start within 2 weeks. The ideal candidate will have exceptional organizational skills and a passion for customer service. Qualified applicants should contact us immediately. AceHench Events LLCSean Rooks140 E. Broadway Ave. Suite 136Tipp City, OH 45371614-918-9858

Real Estate

RETIRED COUPLE $$$$ for business purpose Real Estate loans. Credit unimportant. V.I.P. Trust Deed Company www.viploan.com Call 1-818-248-0000. Broker-principal DRE 01041073. No consumer loans. (Cal-SCAN)

Help Wanted

Data Entry Specialist We are looking for a focused Data Entry Specialist to continuously update our client's databases. The Data Entry Specialist will liaise with and follow up with employees within the company as well as with customers to collect information. Other responsibilities include: Gathering invoices, statements, reports, personal details, documents and information from employees, other departments and clients. Scanning through information to identify pertinent information. Correcting errors and organizing the information in a manner that will optimize swift and accurate capturing. Creating accurate spreadsheets. Available to start within 2 weeks The ideal candidate will have exceptional organizational skills and a passion for customer service. Qualified applicants should contact us immediately. AceHench Events LLC Sean Rooks140 E. Broadway Ave. Suite 136Tipp City, OH 45371614-918-9858

Health/Medical

Attention: Oxygen Users! Gain freedom with a Portable Oxygen Concentrator! No more heavy tanks and refills! Guaranteed Lowest Prices! Call the Oxygen Concentrator Store: 1-844-653-7402 (Cal-SCAN)

Miscellaneous

INVENTORS - FREE INFORMATION PACKAGE. Have your product idea developed affordably by the Research & Development pros and presented to manufacturers. Call 1-844-752-8272 for a Free Idea Starter Guide. Submit your idea for a free consultation. (Cal-SCAN)

The difference in winning and losing market share is how businesses use their advertising dollars. We deliver the largest consortium of trusted news publishers in California and beyond. For more info on multi-market solutions call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or cecelia@cnpa.com

The difference in winning and losing market share is how businesses use their advertising dollars. Mark Twain said, "Many a small thing has been made large by the right kind of advertising". So why spend your hard-earned dollars on social media where you already have an audience? For more info call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or cecelia@cnpa.com

The difference in winning and losing market share is how businesses use their advertising dollars. CNPA's Advertising Services' power to connect to nearly 13 million of the state's readers who are an engaged audience, makes our services an indispensable marketing solution. For more info call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or cecelia@cnpa.com

Miscellaneous

The difference in winning and losing an election is how campaign dollars are spent. Get the best ROI by using our deep relationships in every community in California. Our on-the-ground knowledge is indispensable to campaigns that want results. For more info on multi-market ethnic and non-ethnic solutions call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or cecelia@cnpa.com

Autos Wanted

DONATE YOUR CAR TO KIDS Fast Free Pickup – Running or Not - 24 Hour Response - Maximum Tax Donation – Help Find Missing Kids! Call 1-888-491-1453. (CalSCAN)

DONATE YOUR CAR, BOAT OR RV to receive a major tax deduction. Help homeless pets. Local, IRS Recognized. Top Value Guaranteed. Free Estimate and Pickup. LAPETSALIVE.ORG 1-833-772-2632 (Cal-SCAN)

DONATE YOUR CAR OR TRUCK TO HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. Free 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care Of. CALL 1-844-491-2884 (Cal-SCAN)

Insurance/Health

Lowest Prices on Health Insurance. We have the best rates from top companies! Call Now! 1-888-989-4807. (Cal-SCAN)

Announcements

Water Damage to Your Home? Call for a quote for professional cleanup & maintain the value of your home! Set an appt. today! Call 1-855-401-7069 (Cal-SCAN)

Become a Published Author. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing-Trusted by Authors Since 1920 Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution. Call for Your Free Author`s Guide 1-877-538-9554 or visit http://dorranceinfo.com/Cali (Cal-SCAN)

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-424-7581 (Cal-SCAN)

Autos Wanted/Luxury

WANTED! Old Porsche 356/911/912 for restoration by hobbyist 1948-1973 Only. Any condition, top $ paid! PLEASE LEAVE MESSAGE 1-707-339-5994. Email: porscherestoration@yahoo.com (CalSCAN)

Insurance

SAVE BIG on HOME INSURANCE! Compare 20 A-rated insurances companies. Get a quote within minutes. Average savings of $444/year! Call 1-844-410-9609! (M-F 8am-8pm Central) (Cal-SCAN)

Medical Supplies/Equip.

ATTENTION DIABETICS! Save money on your diabetic supplies! Convenient home shipping for monitors, test strips, insulin pumps, catheters and more! To learn more, call now! 1-855-702-3408. (Cal-SCAN)

Thinking about installing a new shower? American Standard makes it easy. FREE design consultation. Enjoy your shower again! Call 1-866-945-3038 today to see how you can save $1,000 on installation. (Cal-SCAN)

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 844-327-2824. (Cal-SCAN)

Life Alert. One press of a button sends help FAST, 24/7! At home and on the go. Mobile Pendant with GPS. FREE First Aid Kit (with subscription.) CALL 833-518-1049 FREE Brochure. (Cal-SCAN)

Cable/Satellite TV

DIRECTV - Every live football game, every Sunday - anywhere - on your favorite device. Restrictions apply. Call IVS - 1-888-641-5762. (Cal-SCAN)

Tax Services

ARE YOU BEHIND $10k OR MORE ON YOUR TAXES? Stop wage & bank levies, liens & audits, unfiled tax returns, payroll issues, & resolve tax debt FAST. Call 1-855-970-2032 (CalSCAN)

GENERAC

Prepare for power outages with a Generac home standby generator

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!
424-416-7340



FREE
7-Year Extended Warranty*
A $695 Value!

Offer valid February 15 - June 6, 2021

Special Financing Available
Subject to Credit Approval

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

The CURRENT
SPONSORED BY smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

THE MOST RELEVANT NEWS
in your email every morning



smdp.com/signup

SHOW YOUR LOCAL LOVE AND HELP REBUILD OUR ECONOMY

Travel responsibly by staying local this holiday season with special hotel discounts exclusively for Santa Monica residents at **SantaMonica.com/ExtraBedroom**.

Now's the time to **Buy Local**. Did you know that for every $10 spent at a Santa Monica business, as much as $7 stays in the community through taxes, payroll and other expenditures*?

For local business specials, ideas for outdoor and virtual activities visit **SantaMonicaShines.com**.

*Civic Economics, 2008

SANTA MONICA SHINES