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Case Counts
Increasing locally.



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Is Santa Monica Little Italy?

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Horoscopes
Plus today's birthday.

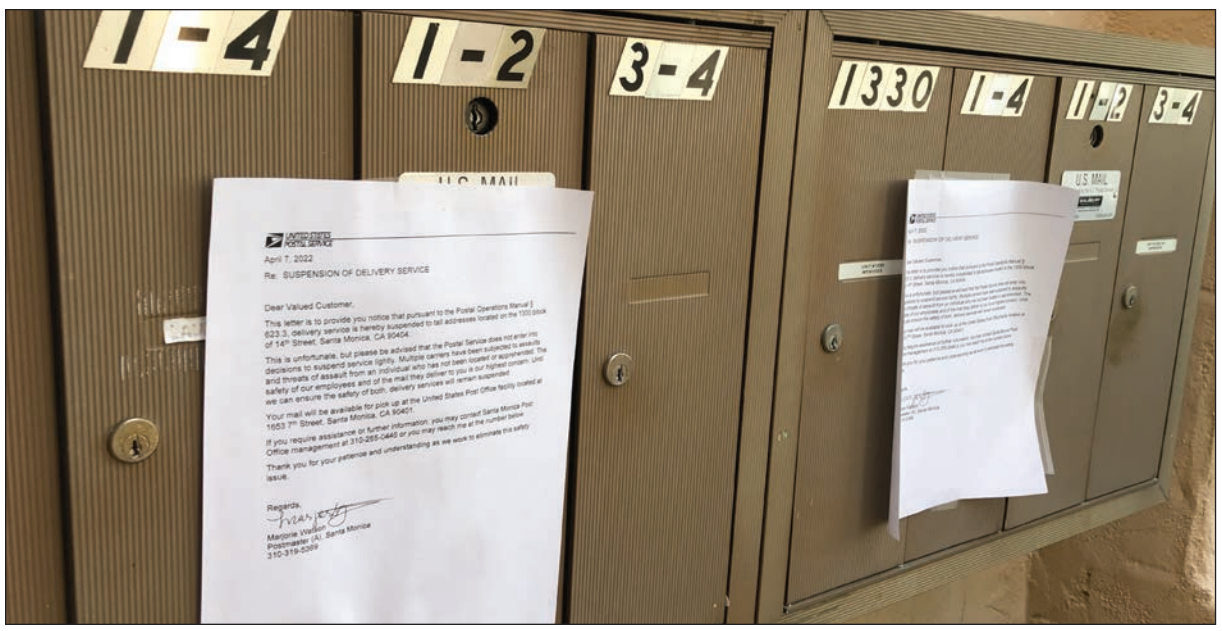
TUESDAY
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USPS suspends mail delivery on one Santa Monica block, citing 'assaults and threats of assault'



Matthew Hall

LETTER: Residents were notified last week of the suspension in service.

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

Scores of Santa Monica residents are being asked to walk or drive to the Post Office on 7th Street to pick up their mail after delivery service was suspended on the 1300 block of 14th Street.

"Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds," but a violent suspect wielding a broom has proven too large an impediment for local mail carriers, who announced in a letter dated April 7 that the USPS would suspend letter delivery for customers living on 14th Street between Arizona and Santa Monica Boulevard.

"This is unfortunate, but please be advised that the Postal Service does not enter into decisions to suspend service lightly. Multiple carriers have been subjected to assaults and threats of assault from

SEE **USPS** PAGE 7

BookMonster closes downtown shop





Emily Sawicki

CLOSED: BookMonster, Santa Monica's last traditional bookstore, closed its doors on April 3. The BookMonster website where customers can still buy and sell books appeared up and running as of April 11, though Santa Monica was the company's only U.S. brick and mortar location. Jennifer Taylor, Santa Monica economic development manager, said the City does not have a stand-alone "book store" category in its business licenses, but that Mystic Journey Bookstore and Angel City used books are both still operating in town, in addition to several other niche bookstores, the Santa Monica College book store, thrift stores with book sections and other shops.

SMPD says officer vacancies are at a historic level

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

In response to a controversial study that labeled Santa Monica as one of the least safe cities in the state, Police Chief Ramon Batista and City Manager David White released a joint statement, which detailed the steps being taken to keep the City safe and noted that SMPD vacancies are at a historic level.

The study by SafeWise.com, a company selling security systems, listed Santa Monica as the 224 safest city in California out of 300. City officials criticized the study's methodology and said it painted an inaccurate picture of crime in Santa Monica.

In a follow up statement on April 7, White and Batista listed the measures the City is taking to address safety concerns. One of

SEE **SMPD** PAGE 7

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Philadelphia to restore indoor mask mandate as cases rise

MICHAEL RUBINKAM
Associated Press

Philadelphia became the first major U.S. city to reinstate its indoor mask mandate on Monday after reporting a sharp increase in coronavirus infections, with the city's top health official saying she wanted to forestall a potential new wave driven by an omicron subvariant.

Health inspectors will start enforcing the mask mandate at city businesses starting April 18.

Confirmed COVID-19 cases have risen more than 50% in 10 days, the threshold at which the city's guidelines call for people to wear masks indoors, said Dr. Cheryl Bettigole, the health commissioner. Health officials believe the recent spike is being driven by the highly transmissible BA.2 subvariant of omicron, which has spread rapidly throughout Europe and Asia, and has become dominant in the U.S. in recent weeks.

"If we fail to act now, knowing that every previous wave of infections has been followed by a wave of hospitalizations, and then a wave of deaths, it will be too late for many of our residents," Bettigole said. "This is our chance to get ahead of the pandemic, to put our masks on until we have more information about the severity of this new variant."

Most states and cities dropped their masking requirements in February and early March following new guidelines from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that put less focus on case counts and more on hospital capacity. The CDC said at that time that most Americans could safely take off their masks.

Philadelphia dropped its mask mandate March 2, and Bettigole acknowledged "it was wonderful to feel that sense of normalcy again."

"I sincerely wish we didn't have to do this again. But I am very worried about our vulnerable neighbors and loved ones," she said.

The city is reporting more than 140 cases per day — a fraction of what it saw at the height of the omicron surge — and hospitalizations remain low at only 46 patients. About 750 Philadelphia residents died in the wintertime omicron surge, Bettigole said.

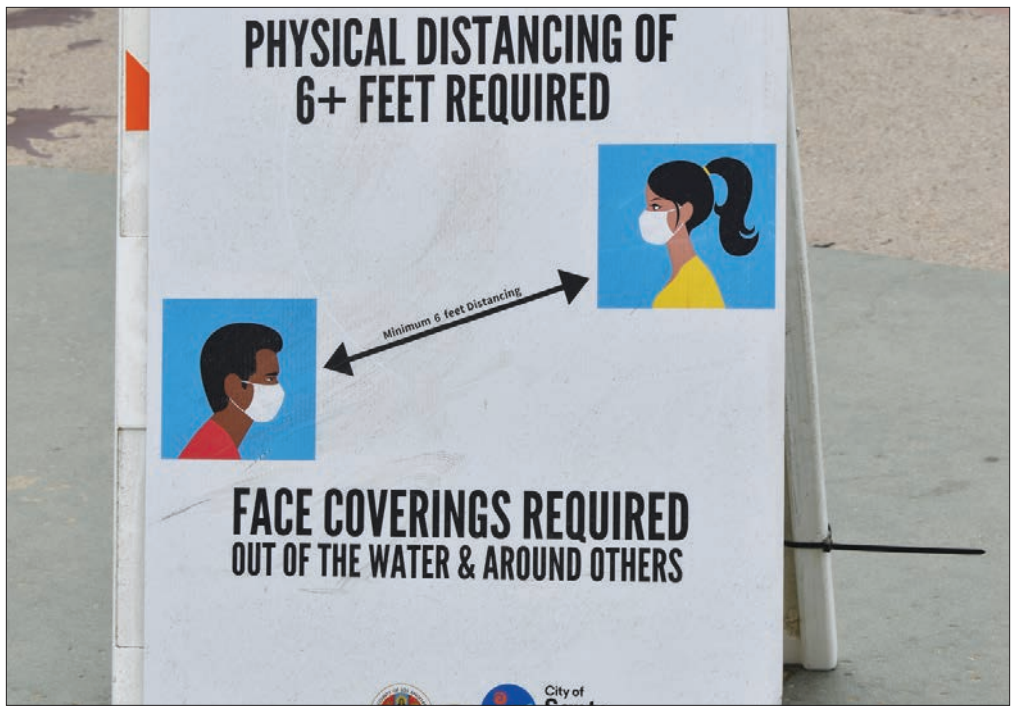
Health inspectors will start to enforce the mask mandate at city businesses starting April 18.

The restaurant industry pushed back against reimposed masking, saying workers will bear the brunt of customer anger over the new rules.

"This announcement is a major blow to thousands of small businesses and other operators in the city who were hoping this spring would be the start of recovery," said Ben Fileccia, senior director of operations at the Pennsylvania Restaurant & Lodging Association.

Bettigole said masking will help restaurants and other businesses stay open, while a huge new wave of COVID-19 would keep customers at home.

In New York City, Mayor Eric Adams has paused his push to unwind many of the city's virus rules as cases have risen, opting for now to keep a mask mandate for 2 to 4-year-olds in city schools and preschools. But Adams, a Democrat who has said New Yorkers should not let the pandemic run their lives, has already lifted most other mask mandates and rules requiring proof of vaccination to dine in restaurants, work out at gyms or attend shows.



SMDP image

MASKS: Cases are rising locally but officials have not discusses reimplementing masks.

Adams was asked at a virtual news conference Monday afternoon if he was considering reimposing the New York City mask mandate in light of Philadelphia's decision. The mayor said he would listen to his team of medical doctors for their advice on whether to bring back any restrictions. Adams himself tested positive for COVID-19 on Sunday.

New York City is now averaging around 1,800 new cases per day, about three times higher than in early March when New York began easing rules. That does not include the many home tests that go unreported to health officials.

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Audible Burglar Alarm 1200Blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:00 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Ocean Ave / Bay St 12:05 a.m.
Shots Fired 300Blk Olympic Dr 12:19 a.m.
Burglary 2700Blk Lincoln Blvd 12:50 a.m.
Battery 3000Blk Pico Blvd 1:40 a.m.
Party Complaint 500Blk Broadway 1:49 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1700Blk Appian Way 2:05 a.m.
Battery Moomat Ahiko Way / Ocean Ave 2:06 a.m.
Party Complaint 2900Blk Lincoln Blvd 2:53 a.m.
Domestic Violence Now 3300Blk Delaware Ave 2:59 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 3400Blk Ocean Park Blvd 3:04 a.m.
Prowler 2900Blk 2nd St 3:26 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2600Blk Wilshire Blvd 4:03 a.m.
Encampment 2000Blk Ocean Ave 7:02 a.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 2300Blk Oak St 7:03 a.m.
Petty Theft Now 1400Blk Lincoln Blvd 7:06 a.m.
Construction Noise 400Blk Wilshire Blvd 7:11 a.m.
Encampment 1800Blk The Beach 7:36 a.m.
Auto Burglary 2600Blk Ocean Front Walk 8:13 a.m.
Violation Of Restraining Order In Progress 1900Blk Arizona Ave 8:13 a.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 2100Blk Ocean Park Blvd 8:20 a.m.
Encampment 2000Blk Ocean Ave 8:25 a.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 2200Blk Delaware Ave 8:32 a.m.
Battery 4th St / California Ave 9:08 a.m.
Encampment 1000Blk Palisades Park 9:16 a.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 1300Blk 5th St 9:30 a.m.
Burglary 300Blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:38 a.m.
Burglary 1300Blk Ocean Ave 9:50 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1200Blk 7th St 9:51 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1600Blk Appian Way 10:02 a.m.
Burglary 3000Blk 3rd St 10:04 a.m.
Speeding 2800Blk Colorado Ave 10:06 a.m.
Speeding Stewart St / Colorado Ave 10:13 a.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 500Blk Olympic Blvd W 10:31 a.m.
Burglary 1900Blk 11th St 10:38 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 2nd St / Strand St 10:47 a.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 1300Blk 23rd St 11:07 a.m.
Encampment 1800Blk Euclid St 11:12 a.m.
Loud Music 2700Blk Barnard Way 11:15 a.m.
Bike Theft 2400Blk Ocean Front Walk 11:17 a.m.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered 2600Blk Barnard Way 11:21 a.m.
Found Property 11th St / Pearl St 11:42 a.m.
Fire Request Police 2800Blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:05 p.m.
Bike Theft 2400Blk Ocean Front Walk 12:06 p.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 1500Blk Alta Ave 12:39 p.m.
Encampment 1400Blk Broadway 12:56 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 600Blk Ocean Park Blvd 1:05 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 4th St / Pacific St 1:06 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1400Blk 19th St 1:19 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1000Blk San Vicente Blvd 1:49 p.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 1300Blk Yale St 1:56 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 1100Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 2:00 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1100Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 2:06 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1100Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 2:10 p.m.
Encampment 1100Blk Palisades Park 2:12 p.m.
Battery 5th St / Santa Monica Blvd 2:19 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3300Blk Barnard Way 2:23 p.m.
Encampment 1500Blk 4th St 2:28 p.m.
Found Property 1500Blk Michigan Ave 2:29 p.m.
Grand Theft 800Blk Lincoln Blvd 3:05 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 2600Blk Barnard Way 3:14 p.m.
Petty Theft 1400Blk 3rd Street Prom 3:16 p.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 1200Blk 14th St 3:23 p.m.
Petty Theft 600Blk San Vicente Blvd 3:26 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 2000Blk Ocean Ave 3:51 p.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 800Blk 7th St 4:03 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 2nd St / Santa Monica Blvd 4:08 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1400Blk Harvard St 4:10 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1400Blk Harvard St 4:11 p.m.
Person With A Gun 1700Blk Cloverfield Blvd 4:31 p.m.
Child Endangerment 1900Blk Lincoln Blvd 4:56 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1300Blk 2nd St 5:00 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1200Blk 2nd St 5:12 p.m.
Petty Theft 200Blk Broadway 5:27 p.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 100Blk Hollister Ave 5:28 p.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 1400Blk Harvard St 5:40 p.m.
Speeding 20th St / Santa Monica Blvd 6:14 p.m.
Found Person 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 6:16 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2100Blk 16th St 6:16 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 200Blk California Ave 6:18 p.m.
Extortion Investigation 2400Blk 21st St 6:21 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Ocean Ave / Santa Monica Blvd 6:31 p.m.
Petty Theft 1200Blk 3rd Street Prom 6:53 p.m.
Encampment 1800Blk California Ave 7:06 p.m.
Public Intoxication 1400Blk 3rd Street Prom 7:16 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1000Blk 12th St 7:20 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1200Blk 2nd St 7:28 p.m.
Domestic Violence 3rd Street Prom / Arizona Ave 7:41 p.m.
Critical Missing Person 2000Blk Ocean Ave 7:47 p.m.
Loud Music 400Blk 22nd St 7:56 p.m.
Of Shots Fired 800Blk 10th St 8:46 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 20th St / Santa Monica Blvd 8:52 p.m.
Speeding Interstate 10 / Lincoln Blvd 8:52 p.m.
Battery 100Blk Wilshire Blvd 8:59 p.m.
Of Shots Fired 1100Blk San Vicente Blvd 9:01 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1500Blk Wilshire Blvd 9:31 p.m.
Person With A Gun 1500Blk Ocean Ave 9:36 p.m.
Public Intoxication 400Blk Pico Blvd 9:40 p.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 200Blk Marguerita Ave 10:08 p.m.
Encampment 1800Blk The Beach 10:13 p.m.
Petty Theft 1100Blk 5th St 10:36 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 500Blk Georgina Ave 11:02 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2500Blk Wilshire Blvd 11:23 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOGS

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 28 CALLS ON APRIL 10

EMS 300Blk Olympic Dr 12:00 a.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Bay St 12:01 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Ocean Ave / Bay St 12:05 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 1:23 a.m.
EMS 3000Blk Pico Blvd 1:39 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 3400Blk Ocean Park Blvd 3:04 a.m.
EMS 1900Blk 18th St 7:08 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 8:31 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 8:59 a.m.
EMS 500Blk Olympic Blvd W 10:33 a.m.
EMS 500Blk Olympic Blvd W 10:46 a.m.
EMS 2nd St / Strand St 10:47 a.m.
EMS 1200Blk 20th St 11:00 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 11:03 a.m.
EMS 2800Blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:58 a.m.
EMS 500Blk 19th St 2:28 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 300Blk Santa Monica Pl 3:55 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 200Blk 22nd St 3:58 p.m.
EMS 2200Blk 29th St 4:18 p.m.
EMS 600Blk Arizona Ave 4:26 p.m.
EMS 900Blk 4th St 5:07 p.m.
EMS 1200Blk 3rd Street Prom 7:49 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 20th St / Santa Monica Blvd 8:52 p.m.
EMS 100Blk Wilshire Blvd 8:59 p.m.
EMS 2800Blk Neilson Way 10:18 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk Broadway 10:46 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 20th St 10:59 p.m.
EMS 900Blk 3rd St 11:02 p.m.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Los Angeles

New Cases and Daily Test Positivity Rate Increasing in LA County

The number of new cases and test positivity rates increased again this past week. The average number of daily new cases reported the last seven days increased to 960, a 23% increase from the average of 783 daily new cases the previous seven days. This past week, reported cases in LA county increased an average of 3.2% per day.

And while today's test positivity at 1.0% remains very low, it has been inching up these past couple of weeks.

COVID-19 hospitalization numbers remain stable with 265 patients currently hospitalized and deaths remain low, reflecting the relatively stable hospitalization numbers. Sadly, other communities in the country, including New York City, have started to see small increases in hospitalizations a few weeks after their recent rise in case numbers, reflecting past patterns where, within a couple of weeks of increasing case numbers, hospitalizations start to rise, followed, tragically, by increases in deaths.

With increased transmission across the County, being up to date on vaccines and boosters offers protection against severe illness and death. For the week ending March 25, unvaccinated people were five times more likely to be hospitalized compared to fully vaccinated residents. And the likelihood of dying for those unvaccinated was also higher. For the week ending March 18, unvaccinated residents were eight times more likely to die than residents who were fully vaccinated.

"I send my deepest sympathies and wishes of peace and comfort to the many families who have lost a loved one due to COVID-19," said Dr. Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "The evidence is becoming clearer that given the current approved vaccines and the reality of a mutating virus, some of us will need to boost our immune systems a couple of times during the year in order to be optimally protected. This includes those infected with Omicron over the winter, since natural immunity against SARS-CoV-2 also wanes over time. As we celebrate the spring holidays, let's do our very best to make use of the powerful tools at hand, vaccinations, boosters, testing, and masking, to keep ourselves and those most vulnerable to severe illness, as safe as possible."

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) today released the latest data on COVID-19. The number of cases and deaths are likely to reflect reporting delays over the weekend.

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WINNER

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Tesla CEO Elon Musk won't join Twitter's board after all

Billionaire Elon Musk, one of Twitter's biggest shareholders, is reversing course and will no longer join the company's board of directors, less than a week after being awarded a seat.

Twitter CEO Parag Agrawal announced the news, which followed a weekend of Musk tweets suggesting changes to Twitter, including making the site ad-free. Nearly 90% of Twitter's 2021 revenue came from ads.

"Elon's appointment to the board was to become officially effective on 4/9, but Elon shared that same morning that he would not be joining the board," Agrawal wrote in a reposted note originally sent to Twitter employees. "I believe this is for the best."

Agrawal didn't offer an explanation for Musk's apparent decision. He said the board understood the risks of having Musk, who is now the company's largest individual shareholder, as a member. But at the time it "believed having Elon as a fiduciary of the company, where he, like all board members, has to act in the best interests of the company and all our shareholders, was the best path forward," he wrote.

It was just a week ago that regulatory filings revealed Musk had swiftly amassed a slightly bigger than 9% stake in the social media platform. The mercurial billionaire had been buying shares in almost daily batches starting Jan. 31. Only Vanguard Group's suite of mutual funds and ETFs controls more Twitter shares.

Twitter quickly gave Musk a seat on the board on the condition that he not own more than 14.9% of the company's outstanding stock, according to a regulatory filing.

Now that Musk has backed out of the deal, he's free to build a bigger stake in Twitter, perhaps to try to take over the company or to push for a new slate of directors to change its direction.

"If you want to take over a company, you're usually in a better position to not be on its board," said Harry Kraemer, clinical professor at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management.

That's because a board member's responsibility is to get the best value for all the company's shareholders.

"Going on a board has a very specific responsibility to make sure you're not doing something in your own personal interest," said Kraemer, also a former chairman and CEO of Baxter International.

In a regulatory filing Monday, Musk said he had "no preset plans or intentions" about how to use his influence on Twitter but that he may discuss with its board and management his thoughts on potential business combinations, strategy and other matters. He added that he may express his views "through social media or other channels."

If Musk had taken a board seat, it may have discouraged him from rocking the boat too much, said Chester Spatt, a finance professor at Carnegie Mellon University and former chief economist at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

"There's an old cliché about keeping somebody inside the tent," Spatt said. "There were advantages to having him constrained a bit."

While Musk has been one of Twitter's loudest critics, the sudden withdrawal from the board, which became official Saturday, could signal that relations between Musk and Twitter will become more acrimonious.

"At some point he could throw the directors out, he could replace the board," Spatt said. "He could probably launch that with his current 9% stake and potentially be very successful."

In a letter to employees announcing Musk's departure, Agrawal wrote that, "There will be distractions ahead, but our goals and priorities remain unchanged."

Shares of Twitter Inc., which jumped nearly 30% after Musk's stake became public last week, were 2.8% higher on Monday after swinging between gains and losses through the morning.

Musk's 80.5 million Twitter followers make him one of the most popular figures on the platform, rivaling pop stars like Ariana Grande and Lady Gaga. But his prolific tweeting has sometimes gotten him into trouble.

In one famous example, Musk apologized to a British cave explorer who alleged the Tesla CEO had branded him a pedophile by referring to him as "pedo guy" in an angry — and subsequently deleted — tweet. The explorer filed a defamation suit, although a Los Angeles jury later cleared Musk.

He's also been locked in a long-running dispute with the SEC over his Twitter activity.

SEE **TWITTER** PAGE 8

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Biden aims at 'ghost gun' violence with new federal rule

MICHAEL BALSAMO AND ZEKE MILLER
Associated Press

President Joe Biden on Monday took fresh aim at ghost guns, the privately made firearms without serial numbers that are increasingly cropping up in violent crimes, as he struggles to break past gun-control opposition to address firearm deaths.

Speaking at the White House, Biden highlighted the Justice Department's work to finalize new regulations to crack down on ghost guns, and announced the nomination of Steve Dettelbach, who served as a U.S. attorney in Ohio from 2009 to 2016, to run the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

"Law enforcement is sounding the alarm," Biden said of ghost guns, briefly holding one up for cameras to see in the Rose Garden. "Our communities are paying the price."

He promised the new regulations would save lives.

Still, the announcement on guns highlights the limits of Biden's influence to push a sweeping congressional overhaul of the nation's firearm laws in response to both a recent surge in violent crime and continued mass shootings. Congress has deadlocked on legislative proposals to reform gun laws for a decade, and executive actions have faced stiff headwinds in federal courts — even as the Democratic base has grown more vocal in calling on Biden to take more consequential action.

Dettelbach's confirmation, too, is likely to be an uphill battle. Biden had to withdraw the nomination of his first ATF nominee, gun-control advocate David Chipman, after it stalled for months because of opposition from Republicans and some Democrats in the Senate.

Both Republican and Democratic administrations have failed to get nominees for the ATF position through the politically fraught process since the director's position was made confirmable in 2006. Since then, only one nominee, former U.S. Attorney B. Todd Jones, has been confirmed. Jones made it through the Senate in 2013 but only after a six-month struggle. Jones was acting director when President Barack Obama nominated him in January 2013.

The Biden administration's plan on guns was first reported by Politico.

For nearly a year, the ghost gun rule has been making its way through the federal regulation process. Gun safety groups and Democrats in Congress have been pushing for the Justice Department to finish the rule for months. It will probably be met with heavy resistance from gun groups and draw litigation in the coming weeks.

Gun Owners of America vowed that it would immediately fight the rule.

"Just as we opposed the Trump Administration's arbitrary ban on bump stocks, GOA will also sue Biden's ATF to halt the implementation of this rule," Aidan Johnston, the group's director of federal affairs said in a statement. The group believes the rule violates the U.S. Constitution and several federal laws.

But gun safety advocacy groups, like Everytown for Gun Safety, which pushed the federal government for years to take action on ghost guns, applauded Biden's moves and insisted that both Dettelbach's appointment and the finalized rule will help combat gun violence.

"Ghost guns look like a gun, they shoot like a gun, and they kill like a gun, but up until now they haven't been regulated like a gun," said John Feinblatt, Everytown's president.

Christian Heyne, the vice president of policy at Brady, another gun control group, said Dettelbach was "an unimpeachable public servant who has spent a career using the levers of government to hold negligent or nefarious actors accountable."

Justice Department statistics show that nearly 24,000 ghost guns were recovered by law enforcement at crime scenes and reported to the government from 2016 to 2020. It is hard to say how many are circulating on the streets, in part because in many cases police departments don't contact the government about the guns because they can't be traced.

The new rule changes the current definition of a firearm under federal law to include unfinished parts, like the frame of a handgun or the receiver of a long gun. It says those parts must be licensed and include serial numbers. Manufacturers must also run background checks before a sale — as they do with other commercially made firearms. The requirement applies regardless of how the firearm was made, meaning it includes ghost guns made from individual parts, kits, or by 3D-printers.

Federally licensed firearms dealers must retain key records until they shut down their business or licensed activity and then transfer the records to ATF as they are currently required to do at the end of licensed activity. Previously, these dealers were permitted to destroy most records after 20 years, making it harder for law enforcement to trace firearms found at crime scenes.

"A year ago this week standing here with many of you, I instructed the attorney general to write a regulation that would rein in the proliferation of ghost guns because I was having trouble getting anything passed in the Congress," Biden said.

The rule goes into effect 120 days from the date of publication in the Federal Register

For years, federal officials have been sounding the alarm about an increasing black market for homemade, military-style semi-automatic rifles and handguns. As well as turning up more frequently at crime scenes, ghost guns have been increasingly encountered when federal agents buy guns in undercover operations from gang members and other criminals.

Some states, like California, have enacted laws in recent years to require serial numbers to be stamped on ghost guns.

Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro, who was attending Monday's event at the White House, applauded the move and pointed to a serious uptick in ghost guns being found by police. Police in Philadelphia have seen nearly a 500% increase in the number of ghost guns recovered in the past two years, Shapiro said. And just last week, a police officer there was shot by a ghost gun-wielding 18-year-old, who police said had also shot three others.

"This loophole has caused our nation countless lives," Shapiro said in an interview. "Today is a critically important step to close that loophole."

He said the move is likely to help drive down

SEE **BIDEN** PAGE 8

Once a retail giant, Kmart nears extinction after closure

DAVID PORTER
Associated Press

The familiar sights and sounds are still there: the scuffed and faded floor tiles, the relentless beige-on-beige color scheme, the toddlers' clothes and refrigerators and pretty much everything in between.

There's even a canned recording that begins, "Attention, Kmart shoppers" — except it's to remind folks about COVID-19 precautions, not to alert them to a flash sale over in ladies' lingerie like days of old.

Many of the shelves are bare, though, at the Kmart in Avenel, New Jersey, picked over by bargain hunters as the store prepares to close its doors for good April 16.

Once it shutters, the number of Kmarts in the U.S. — once well over 2,000 — will be down to three in the continental U.S. and a handful of stores elsewhere, according to multiple reports, in a retail world now dominated by Walmart, Target and Amazon.

The demise of the store in the middle-class suburb, 15 miles (24 kilometers) south of New York City, is the tale of the death of the discount department store writ small.

"You're always thinking about it because stores are closing all over, but it's still sad," said cashier Michelle Yavorsky, who said she has worked at the Avenel store for 2 ½ years. "I'll miss the place. A lot of people shopped here."

In its heyday, Kmart sold product lines endorsed by celebrities Martha Stewart and Jaclyn Smith, sponsored NASCAR auto races and was mentioned in movies including "Rain Man" and "Beetlejuice." It was name-dropped in songs by artists from Eminem to the Beastie Boys to Hall & Oates; in 2003, Eminem bought a 29-room, suburban Detroit mansion once owned by former Kmart chairman Chuck Conaway.

The chain cemented a place in American culture with its Blue Light Specials, a flashing blue orb affixed to a pole that would beckon shoppers to a flash sale in progress. Part of its success was due to its early adoption of layaway programs, which allowed customers who lacked credit to reserve items and pay for them in installments.

For a time, Kmart had a little bit of everything: You could shop for your kids' back-to-school supplies, get your car tuned up and grab a meal without leaving the premises.

> "Kmart was part of America,"

Kmart was part of America, said Michael Lisicky, a Baltimore-based author who has written several books on U.S. retail history. "Everybody went to Kmart, whether you liked it or not. They had everything. You had toys. You had sporting goods. You had candy. You had stationery. It was something for everybody. This was almost as much of a social visit as it was a shopping visit. You could spend hours here. And these just dotted the American landscape over the years."

Kmart's decline has been slow but steady, brought about by years of falling sales, changes in shopping habits and the looming shadow of Walmart, which coincidentally began its life within months of Kmart's founding in 1962.

Struggling to compete with Walmart's low prices and Target's trendier offerings, Kmart filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in early 2002 — becoming the largest U.S. retailer to take that step — and announced it would close more than 250 stores.

A few years later, hedge fund executive Edward Lampert combined Sears and Kmart and pledged to return them to their former greatness, but the recession and the rising dominance of Amazon contributed in derailing those goals. Sears filed for Chapter 11 in 2018 and currently has a handful of stores left in the U.S. where it once had thousands.

Kmarts continue to operate in Westwood, New Jersey; Bridgehampton, on New York's Long Island, and Miami.

It didn't have to end this way, according to Mark Cohen, director of retail studies at Columbia University in New York and former CEO of Sears Canada. Trying to compete with Walmart on price was a foolish strategy, he said, and Lampert was criticized for not having a retail background and appearing more interested in stripping off the assets for their cash value.

"It's a study in greed, avarice and incompetence," Cohen said. "Sears should have never gone away; Kmart was in worse shape, but not fatally so. And now they're both gone.

"Retailers fall by the wayside sometimes because they're selling things people don't want to buy," he continued. "In the case of Kmart, everything they used to sell, people are buying but they're buying it from Walmart and Target."

Transformco, which owns Kmart and Sears, did not respond to an email seeking comment and a phone number listed for the company was not taking messages.

Nationwide, some former Kmarts remain vacant while others have been replaced by other big-box stores, fitness centers, self-storage facilities, even churches. One former site in Colorado Springs, Colorado, is now a popular dine-in movie theater.

Employees at the Kmart in Avenel found out last month that the store would close.

Unlike 20 years ago, when news of impending Kmart closures around the country prompted an outpouring of support from loyal shoppers and a Detroit radio station even mounted a campaign to try and save a local store, the closing of the Avenel location was met mostly with an air of resignation.

"It's maybe a little nostalgic because I've lived my whole life in this area, but it's just another retail store closing," said Jim Schaber, a resident of nearby Iselin who said his brother worked in the shoe department at Kmart for years. "It's just another sign of people doing online shopping and not going

SEE **KMART** PAGE 7

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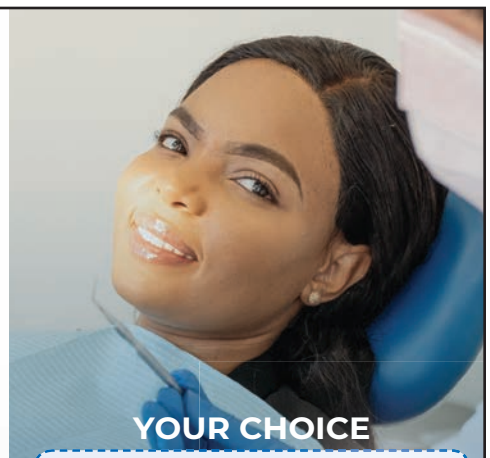
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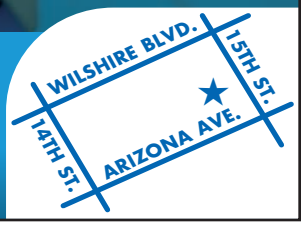
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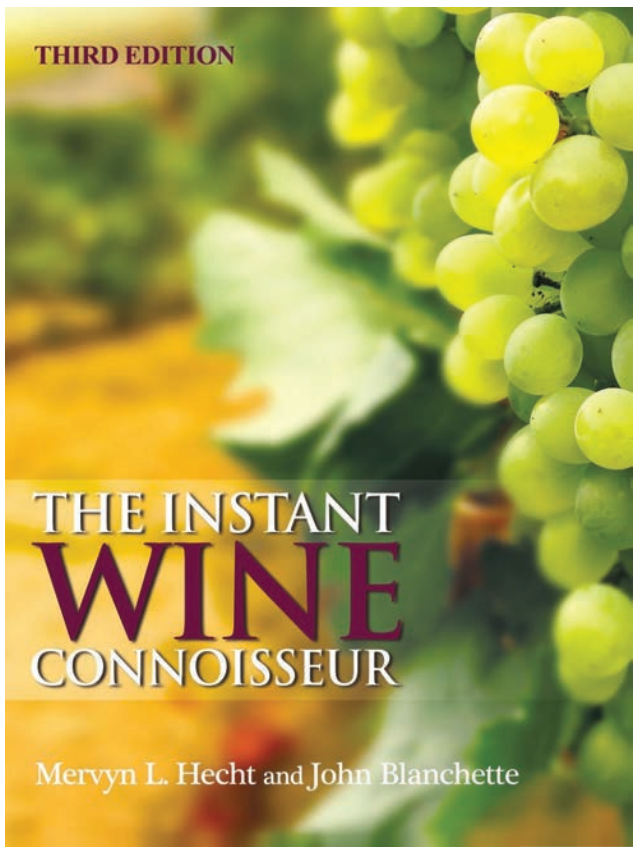
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OPINION **WHAT'S THE POINT?**

Dave Pisarra | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

IS SANTA MONICA LITTLE ITALY?

Santa Monica is a global city. We have residents from all over the globe, and businesses that serve a multitude of ethnic cuisines. There's a wide selection of Japanese from Ramen to Sushi, Vietnamese, French, Mexican and a smattering of other ethnicities. While we have three open Jewish Delis (Bagel Nosh, Fromin's and Wexler's) and Izzy's remains in remodeling limbo. But by far, in my wholly unscientific review, the most popular cuisine is Italian.

I believe there are at least 27 Italian restaurants, not including the Pizza Huts, Domino's, Bay Cities Deli, and Santa Monica Pizza Kitchen. My list of actual sitdown restaurants is Fritto Misto, North, Vito, Brunos, La Vecchia, Spumoni, Forma, Rosti, Piccolo, Uovo, Orto, Colapasta, Il Forno, Capo, Heroic, Stella Barra, Earth Wind & Flour, Milo and Olive, Caffe Delfini, Tar and Roses, Via Veneto, La Puglia, Locanda Portofino, Elephante, Giorgio Baldi, La Scalla, Felixe, and Fia.

One could easily make the argument that Santa Monica is really a little Italy on the coast with the wide variety of regional Italian presented. As a native Californian, though of Italian, Irish and German descent, it is the Italian I claim the most. Irish and Cuisine are two words that have a passing recognition at best. German Fare is hearty and filling, but generally not something one enjoys weekly, and I'm not sure there is even a German restaurant in town, maybe the closest would be Shoop's Deli?

I am sad to say however that I have not even eaten at all the Italian restaurants in town. As a creature of habit, who tends to hang with other creatures of habit, we end up at the same places repeatedly. That's a good sign, on the one hand, because we love the food and know what we're going get quality wise. For example, when I go to Fritto Misto with my buddy Paul, we're starting with a Greens and Gorgonzola Salad, and then a pasta dish.

Being a regular in a restaurant comes with benefits, the staff gets to know me, my likes and what I require in terms of service. I'm pretty low maintenance so long as the basics are hit. That makes it a much more enjoyable experience for both of us. They know that I'm unlikely to become a difficult patron and they can relax. I know that I'll get my needs met with a fair degree of regularity and no fuss.

Last week I was at Spumoni on Montana, where I regularly get the Matteo Salad for dinner and the couple next to me was clearly more regular than I was. The waitstaff were so in tune with their needs that it was a joy to watch.

As much as I'm a regular in some spots, I also love to explore, so in the near future I'll be hitting up the nine restaurants I haven't been to on my list above. I look forward to Tar and Roses, which I've heard about for years, but have never been to. La Puglia looks intriguing, and I hope to try it this month, as I keep walking by it as I head to Bagel Nosh in the morning for my lox on rye toast.

If I can find a special someone, or a special occasion, I want to try the romantic setting of Via Venetto, which just looks amazing and warm. I'm not enough of a celebrity to be noticed at Giorgio Baldi, but maybe I can sneak in as a TikTok content creator.

The warm summer nights are returning, so the open air, rooftop casualness of Elephante is calling for sunset snacks and light dinners before catching a movie at the Monica Film Center. Uovo is another popular choice that is just up the street from the theater for pasta that is flown in directly from Italy. It's a popular choice and was highly recommended by Jonathon Gold before his passing.

We are lucky to have such a fine array of amazingly talented chefs who have turned their skills and talents to bringing us such a variety of fine Italian cuisine. I hope you get to look at the list and find someplace you haven't tried, and make a date to go explore a bit of Italy in our backyard.

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

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USPS

FROM PAGE 1

an individual who has not been located or apprehended," according to the letter, which was taped to mailboxes around the neighborhood and shared by local residents on social media. "The safety of our employees and of the mail they deliver to you is our highest concern. Until we can ensure the safety of both, delivery services will remain suspended."

When reached for comment, the Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) indicated it had not been contacted by the Postal Service prior to the letters being posted.

A representative for the federal U.S. Postal Inspection Service who was reached on Monday did not appear familiar with the incident, which gained media traction on Monday resulting in a slew of local and regional news alerts about the suspended service.

The April 7 USPS letter included two phone numbers where concerned residents were directed to address questions; neither number was answered when the Daily Press called on Monday.

That was a similar experience to what the SMPD said happened when officers tried to call about the incident after they were informed of the suspended service via a social media link to a photo of the letter posted by a resident.

"The letter was brought to our attention late Saturday when it was posted on Twitter," SMPD spokesperson Lieutenant Erika R. Aklufi wrote in an email to the Daily Press. "Our Department has been asked several times to confirm the information in the letter and this is our response at this time. The USPS issued the letter and as far as we know did not contact our department before sending it. I tried calling the two phone numbers on the letter-- one went unanswered, the other had a voicemail box that is full."

Aklufi went on to write that when the SMPD looked into the alleged crimes, an officer familiar with the location helped track down a crime report for an assault with a deadly weapon (broomstick) incident against as USPS mail carrier on Jan. 19, 2022, which was "committed by a subject who lived in the area and is known to our officers and also to the mail carrier he attacked."

"The victim sustained a minor injury to his arm and did not require medical attention," Aklufi continued. "The officers who took the report contacted the United States Postal Inspection Service on the day of the incident to provide information for the incident should they wish to follow up. We do not know if the USPS did so."

Some local reports speculated that the alleged perpetrator was unhoused, but Aklufi put those rumors to rest: "The subject is not homeless, nor is he on the lamb (sic). He lives on 14th Street. We have had him in custody several times for crimes not related to the postal service; in fact, he was arrested late last week for an unrelated vandalism. He was released with a citation per the LA County bail instructions. As I mentioned, the January assault case was closed after the victim decided not to pursue prosecution."

There was no word as to when service may resume.

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SMPD

FROM PAGE 1

these measures is temporarily reassigning traffic cops and detectives to patrol duty in response to high police officer vacancy levels. The goal is to increase the presence of officers on the streets and the number of personnel available to respond to 911 calls for service.

In the joint statement, White and Batista said that SMPD is experiencing historic vacancy levels and connected this to the ongoing national labor shortage.

In a podcast interview with the Daily Press, Batista said that while the City and its business districts have been steadily growing for the last 15 or 20 years, the number of SMPD officers has remained relatively stagnant. He said that these staffing levels do not meet the needs that the department has today.

The Santa Monica Police Officers Association released a statement in response to the SafeWise.com study that criticized its methodology, but acknowledged that local property crime rates are high and said that more officers are needed to tackle this problem.

"For quite some time, but most notably the last couple of years, the Santa Monica Police Department has been faced with significant labor shortages. Personnel retirements, job related injuries and pandemic related compensation reductions relative to other law enforcement organizations continue to pose significant barriers to addressing the labor shortage issue.

The SMPD is understaffed for a population of 90,000, let alone the 300,000+ who come on our busiest days," stated the SMPOA.

According to SMPD statistics there are currently 14 sworn officer vacancies out of a total of 221 budgeted positions. In December 2020 these numbers were 10 vacancies out of a total of 228 positions, and in December 2019 they were 15 vacancies out of a total of 221 positions.

SMPD is currently using a variety of recruitment strategies including job fairs, community events, recruitment videos and social media pages. In order to reach a younger demographic they have launched the @JoinSMPD Instagram page and are planning to host virtual ride-alongs and live Q&A sessions. SMPD also matches applicants with a seasoned staff mentor to guide them through the application process and are hosting training and preparation classes at Santa Monica College and Santa Monica High School. During these classes interested candidates meet with police officers, gain insights into the testing process and participate in a practice physical fitness qualifier.

Clara@smdp.com

KMART

FROM PAGE 5

out to the retail stores."

The closing packed a little more of an emotional punch for Mike Jerdonek, a truck driver who recalled shopping at Kmart in Brooklyn and Queens in his younger days.

"It's like history passing right in front of our eyes," he said as he sat in his car outside the Avenel store. "When I was younger I didn't have any money, so it was a good place to shop because the prices were cheap. And to see it gone right now, it's kind of sad."



BIDEN

FROM PAGE 4

violence and aid both police and prosecutors in bringing their cases. The rule is also likely to help bring down the number of people who shouldn't be purchasing firearms before a gun lands in their hand, he said.

"There are two challenges: One, criminals can easily buy them without going through a background check. And two, they are unserialized and untraceable."

The critical component in building an untraceable gun is what is known as the lower receiver, a part typically made of metal or polymer. An unfinished receiver — sometimes referred to as an "80-percent receiver" — can be legally bought online with no serial numbers or other markings on it, no license required.

Police across the country have been reporting spikes in ghost guns being recovered by officers. The New York Police Department, for example, said officers found 131 firearms without serial numbers since January.

A gunman who killed his wife and four others in Northern California in 2017 had been prohibited from owning firearms, but he built his own to skirt the court order before his rampage. And in 2019, a teenager used a homemade handgun to fatally shoot two classmates and wound three others at a school in suburban Los Angeles.

AP writer Will Weissert contributed.

TWITTER

FROM PAGE 4

Musk and Tesla in 2018 agreed to pay $40 million in civil fines and for Musk to have his tweets approved by a corporate lawyer after he tweeted about having the money to take Tesla private at $420 per share. That didn't happen but the tweet caused Tesla's stock price to jump. His lawyer has contended that the SEC is infringing on Musk's free speech rights.

Musk's latest trouble with the SEC could be his delay in notifying regulators of his growing stake in Twitter.

"He's a serial offender with respect to SEC regulations," said Spatt.

Musk, before reversing course on the board seat, sent out a number of tweets over the weekend referencing potential changes at Twitter.

Many of them -- such as his proposal for an ad-free Twitter or turning the social media company's San Francisco headquarters into a homeless shelter -- have since been deleted.

Musk then posted a few cryptic tweets late Sunday, including one showing a meme saying, "In all fairness, your honor, my client was in goblin mode," followed by one saying "Explains everything." Another, later tweet was of an emoji with a hand over its mouth.

Musk has described himself as a "free speech absolutist" and has said he doesn't think Twitter is living up to free speech principles — an opinion shared by followers of Donald Trump and a number of other right-wing political figures who've had their accounts suspended for violating Twitter content rules.

Twitter's CEO and many of its board members had publicly praised Musk last week, suggesting they might take his ideas seriously. But the company had made clear that as a board member he could not make day-to-day decisions or change policies, such as overturning the Trump ban.

Agrawal's initial actions since taking over from co-founder Jack Dorsey in November have involved reorganizing divisions without making major changes. The company has long lagged behind its social media rivals and boasts far fewer users.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) will receive electronic bids from contractors holding a type **"B"** license, on the following: **Bid #22.13.SMS – DSA #03-121898 – John Adams Marquee Project at John Adams Middle School.** This scope of work is estimated to be between **$150,000.00 - $250,000.00** and includes the construction of a new Marquee Sign, as well as electrical and communication connection to the sign, a structural concrete bench, landscape work, an irrigation line and other associated improvements per bidding documents. All bids must be submitted electronically as per the instructions included in the bidding documents on or before 5/4/22 no later than 2:00 PM. All General Contractors and Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (M/E/P) Subcontractors must be pre-qualified for this project per bidding documents. To view the projects bidding documents, please visit ARC Southern California public plan room www.crplanwell.com and reference the project Bid #.

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Mandatory Job Walk: 4/14/22 @ 10:30 AM

Job Walk location: John Adams Middle School located in Santa Monica, CA – **All Attending Contractors MUST meet the District representatives at the campus entrance of John Adams Middle School located at, 2425 16th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90405. Bidders will be escorted onto the campus from that location.**

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Any further questions or clarifications to this bidding opportunity, please contact Sheere Bishop-Griego at smbishop@smmusd.org directly. In addition, any pre-qualification support issues relative to Colbi Technologies, Inc., website or for technical support please contact support@qualityBidders.com directly.

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Three key events will be particularly meaningful to you this year. Your ownership of them will say the action in a direction of your choosing. Good fortune comes of your pitches in the fall, your season of irresistibility. Though you'll enjoy solo accomplishments, the victories of your team make you prouder. Taurus and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 11, 4, 48 and 17.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Someone larger than life will open your eyes to possibilities you wouldn't have considered. This person could be in your daily realm or in the realm of history or media. You're open to influence from the greats.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). So much of daily life and social grace hinges on artifice. And yet, here you are, trying to give people something real, not something that only feels real in a transactional moment.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll relax your standards for certain people. You'll put up with them being a little late or messy because being around them gives you an overall good feeling and makes you laugh.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You've been trying to keep all the balls in the air and a smile on your face. Stop to consider who you are doing this for. Are these even your responsibilities to juggle? When was the last time you asked, "What's in it for me?"

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Work will happen when you're not technically on the job. Your unconscious mind will show off. It wants you to know how smart it is, so it will bring you the solution at an off moment, during a break or on the back of a distraction.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). In some ways, this is a key point in your development. Someone will come into your life for just a moment and change the way you think about your current scene and your role in it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Each person is unique, yet we tend to assume others share thought processes similar to our own. They don't. Avoid the mistake of assuming someone understands a thing just because it comes easily to you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You have put your time and effort into a thankless task. Now it's time for something different. All the excitement, adventure, pleasure and relaxation you feel you've been denied will be forthcoming.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There's a fantasy you revisit. Sometimes it calms you; other times it distracts or inspires. In any regard, this is something more than a diversion; it's a window into an aspect of you worthy of development.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Superficialities may attract people, but relationships are sustained by something deeper. The grounding of relationships happens with trust, which comes with repeated behaviors over time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). If the biggest issue between friends is who pays for an outing, there are much bigger issues at hand. Money is a symbol for things like effectiveness, status, power, respect and even love.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You don't want things to be difficult in love. And yet, you may not be convinced if it's really love until the relationship prevails under adverse circumstances.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

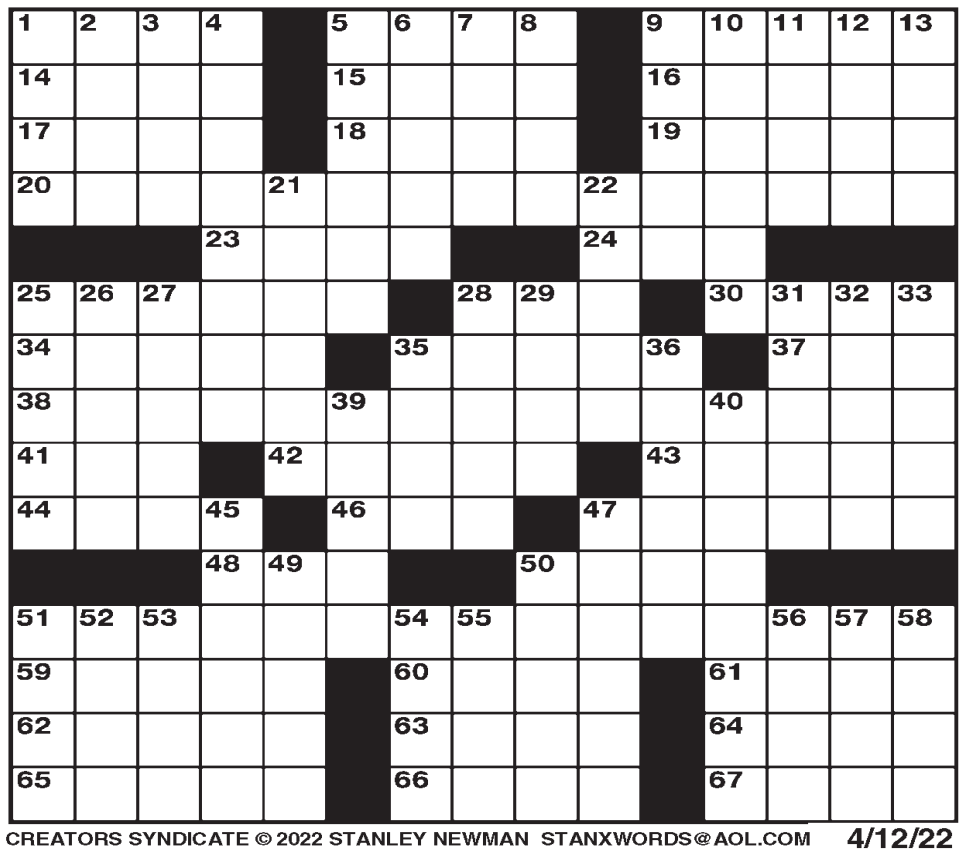
5				8				9
	8		9			6		1
9			4				8	
	4			7		9		
1		3				2		5
		2		5			6	
	5				1			3
3		9			8		5	
4				9				7

Newsday Crossword

EMAIL OPTIONS by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Kimono's wide belt
5 Clumsy person
9 Church keyboard
14 Woman's choir voice
15 Santa's laugh
16 Part of a poem
17 Nary a __ (no one)
18 Sci-fi saucers, for short
19 Get 100% on a test
20 Sondheim's "Isn't it rich?" tune
23 Deep black
24 Sch. in Tempe
25 Nearly all
28 Burglarize
30 Biggest of the Three Bears
34 Legendary sharpshooter Oakley
35 Fashion designer Vuitton
37 Nickname for a physician
38 The traditional newspaper industry
41 Showed the way
42 Hearts and clubs in a card deck
43 Not at all tight
44 Home for Eve and Adam
46 Colleagues of MDs
47 Supervisors at work
48 Swelled head
50 Jogger's pace
51 Focusing on the future
59 WWII submarine
60 Amazed
61 Environmental sci.
62 University of __ Dame
63 Grow weary
64 Toon bear or baseball great Berra
65 Classroom furniture
66 Matures
67 Stuck-up person

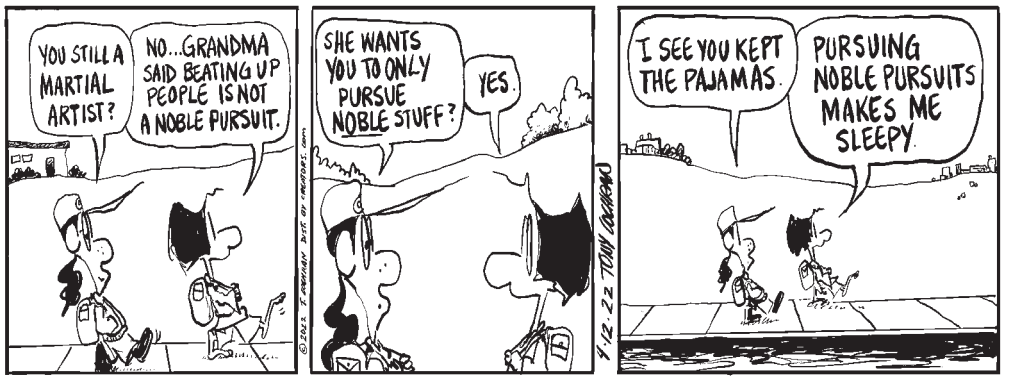
DOWN
1 Backtalk
2 __ vera (natural balm)
3 Astonish
4 Restrain one's emotions
5 Peanut butter that's not "smooth"
6 High, as a skyscraper
7 "Here comes trouble!"
8 Medicinal amount
9 Racetrack shapes
10 Gain back
11 Got taller
12 B __ "boy"
13 Tennis court dividers
21 Small bays
22 Log house
25 Pancake syrup flavor
26 NO TURN __ (urban road sign)
27 Rudely scornful
28 Lopsided wins
29 Yours and mine
31 Spanish farewell
32 Old West search party
33 Highest points
35 "Tender" beef cut
36 Old West tavern
39 One considering a verdict
40 What a locksmith can replace for you
45 New Jersey's largest city
47 Wedding figures with veils
49 Entryways through fences
50 "Been __, done that"
51 Endow, as a scholarship
52 Woodwind instrument
53 Goes bad, as fruit
54 Facts stored in computer files
55 Tiny branch
56 Image to click on
57 Canceled, at NASA
58 Slick-talking



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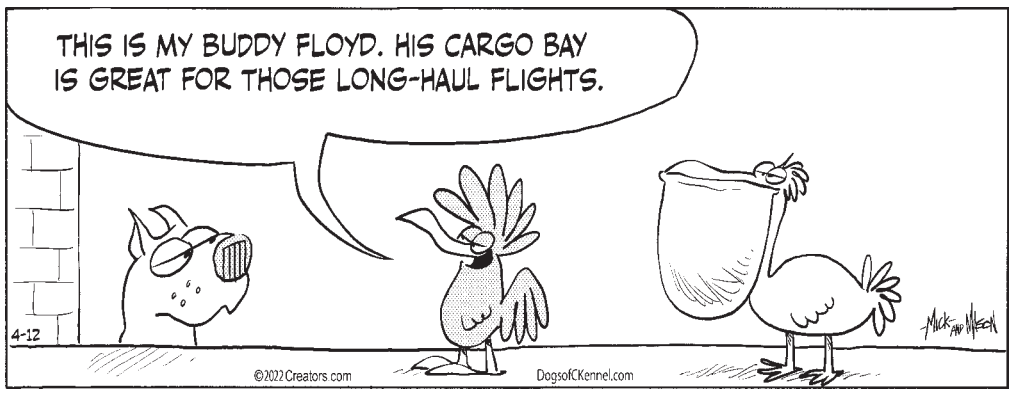
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



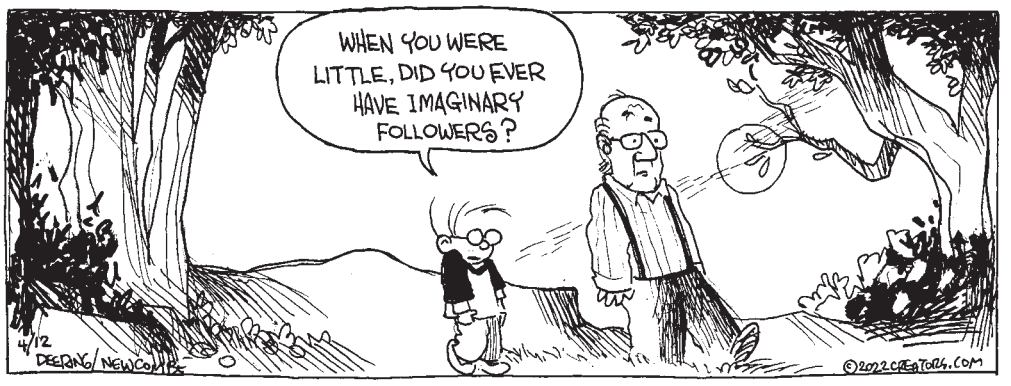
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



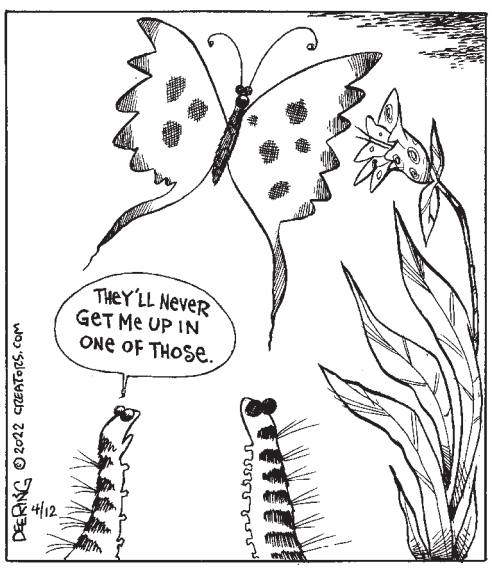
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



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 17 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 5447

In the garden

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

Acalypha
Acidic
Alder
Aster
Ball
Bask
Beds
Beech
Birds
Broom
Buds
Burn
Clip
Clothesline
Cover
Deckchair
Dirt
Dogs
Foliage
Fresh
Genus
Grass
Hats
Herbs
Hoes
Iris
Lawn
Leek
Lilac
Lizard
Melt
Mess
Mulch
Neat
Okra
Orange
Orchid
Pests
Primrose
Prune
Rake
Shed
Spade
Tools
Trees
Uniform
Urea
Users
Viola
Wheelbarrow
Wild

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

Where will we got next?

WISE & Healthy Aging
(310) 394-9871

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

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

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

A Veterans Benefit!

What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

TUESDAY | APRIL 12

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
The Zoning Administrator issues land use permits that are minor in nature and may adopt specific findings of fact to support the resulting decision, or require specific conditions. 10:30 a.m. https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Zoning-Administrator/

EAT AT WATER GARDEN
Water Garden will have a rotation of Los Angeles' most iconic food trucks every Tuesday and Thursday from 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Favorites like the Kogi Truck, The Grilled Cheese Truck and Flaming Grain will be pulling up and firing up our palates. Parking is always FREE on Food Truck Days. 1620 26th St.

WEDNESDAY | APRIL 13

TOURS OF THE MARION DAVIES GUEST HOUSE
Special Wednesday date for Spring Break. Santa Monica Conservancy docents share the rich history of the Beach House site from the 1920s onward. Free 20-minute visits docent tours are available on a walk-up basis, for groups of up to six people on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 12pm – 2pm. Just head to the Marion Davies Guest House where you will be greeted by a docent. Please note masks are required while indoors. Schedule subject to change, check the website calendar or call 310-458-4904 to confirm dates and hours. Annenberg Community Beach House

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET
Arizona Ave. (between 2nd & 4th)
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

THURSDAY | APRIL 14

STORYTIME AT CAYTON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM
11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Join organizers for fun stories, songs, and fingerplays and, after storytime, enjoy the museum for free! Registration is required. Register here: https://bit.ly/SMPLCayton.

RENT CONTROL BOARD
Regular meeting of the Rent Control Board. 7 p.m. https://www.smgov.net/Current_Board_Meetings.aspx.

ROCK N COMEDY
Carefully Curated Comedy Show at Rock N Pies in Santa Monica on the second Thursday of the every month. 8:30 p.m. doors open and the show starts at 9 p.m. $10 online $15 at door. Comedians from NBC, Netflix, Amazon Prime, BET and more. 1120 Wilshire Blvd

FRIDAY | APRIL 15

SEA SICK BY ALANNA MITCHELL
Award-winning journalist Alanna Mitchell is a master storyteller, and this power is center stage in her mesmerizing solo show, Sea Sick. Culled from her work with leading ocean scientists and infused with her innate ability to lure an audience in, Sea Sick tells Mitchell's most important story: her journey to the bottom of the ocean, the demons she discovered there and, most importantly, her hope for the future. 8 - 9:30 p.m. $35. https://thebroadstage.org/performances/2021-22/theatre/seasick

SATURDAY | APRIL 16

TOURS OF THE MARION DAVIES GUEST HOUSE
Award-winning journalist Alanna Mitchell is a master storyteller, and this power is center stage in her mesmerizing solo show, Sea Sick. Culled from her work with leading ocean scientists and infused with her innate ability to lure an audience in, Sea Sick tells Mitchell's most important story: her journey to the bottom of the ocean, the demons she discovered there and, most importantly, her hope for the future. $35. Broad Stage, 9:30 p.m. 1310 11th St. https://thebroadstage.org/

NOTABLE FICTION DISCUSSION GROUP
The Heart of the Matter by Graham Greene
11 a.m. to 12 p.m. A classic tragic novel of love and duty in a colonial setting. To register: library@santamonica.gov.

WELLNESS & WAVES
Whether you're looking to reset after a long and busy week, or are just wanting to get your sweat on, Wellness & Waves is here for you. Join us for a free yoga workout that includes good vibes, ocean breezes and epic views. Come elevate your practice by connecting with nature, and meditating with the sunshine. 9:30 a.m. Register at https://www.santamonicapier.org/wellnessandwaves.

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET
Arizona Ave. (between 2nd & 4th)
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

PICO FARMERS MARKET
Pico Blvd. & Cloverfield Blvd.
8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

SUNDAY | APRIL 17

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

For help submitting an event, contact us at
310-458-7737 or submit to events@smdp.com



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **62.1**

TUESDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:** 3-4ft Waist to chest	NW swell mix trends up a notch. Lully, long period SSW swell builds through the day. Conditions look best in the AM with northerly flow. Westerly winds kick up for the PM.
WEDNESDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:** 3-4ft Waist to chest	Combo of peaking SSW swell and NW swell mix. Quality conditions for the morning before afternoon westerly winds move in.

WEATHER

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 64. Breezy, with a north wind 20 to 25 mph.
Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 49. Breezy, with a north wind 15 to 25 mph.
Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 65. North northwest wind 10 to 15 mph.
Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 50.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2022/04/12	Tue	01:22 AM	1.96	L
2022/04/12	Tue	07:06 AM	4.53	H
2022/04/12	Tue	1:53 PM	-0.14	L
2022/04/12	Tue	8:24 PM	4.21	H
2022/04/13	Wed	01:57 AM	1.39	L
2022/04/13	Wed	07:48 AM	4.75	H
2022/04/13	Wed	2:19 PM	-0.17	L
2022/04/13	Wed	8:41 PM	4.59	H
2022/04/14	Thu	02:32 AM	0.80	L
2022/04/14	Thu	08:28 AM	4.85	H
2022/04/14	Thu	2:45 PM	-0.08	L
2022/04/14	Thu	9:01 PM	5.01	H
2022/04/15	Fri	03:08 AM	0.22	L
2022/04/15	Fri	09:09 AM	4.82	H
2022/04/15	Fri	3:11 PM	0.12	L
2022/04/15	Fri	9:25 PM	5.41	H
2022/04/16	Sat	03:47 AM	-0.29	L
2022/04/16	Sat	09:51 AM	4.64	H

DAILY LOTTERY

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

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 4/9
6 16 31 62 66
Power#: 18
Jackpot: 288 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 4/8
8 11 29 32 40
Mega#: 2
Jackpot: 106 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 4/9
2 7 10 33 37
Mega#: 11
Jackpot: 33 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 4/10
8 10 16 30 33

Daily 3
Draw Date: 4/10
EVENING: 5 8 4

Draw Date: 4/10
MIDDAY: 3 0 7

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 4/10
1st: 02 - Lucky Star
2nd: 09 - Winning Spirit
3rd: 03 - Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:40.18

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Santa Monica Daily Press



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Classes start
June 20
smc.edu/summer

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