smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

TUESDAY
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Back To Normal?
David Pisarra tries not to kill pedestrians.
Page 6

Letter to the Editor
Former mayor opposes Malibu's request to split SMMUSD.
Page 5

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SMC Malibu campus takes shape



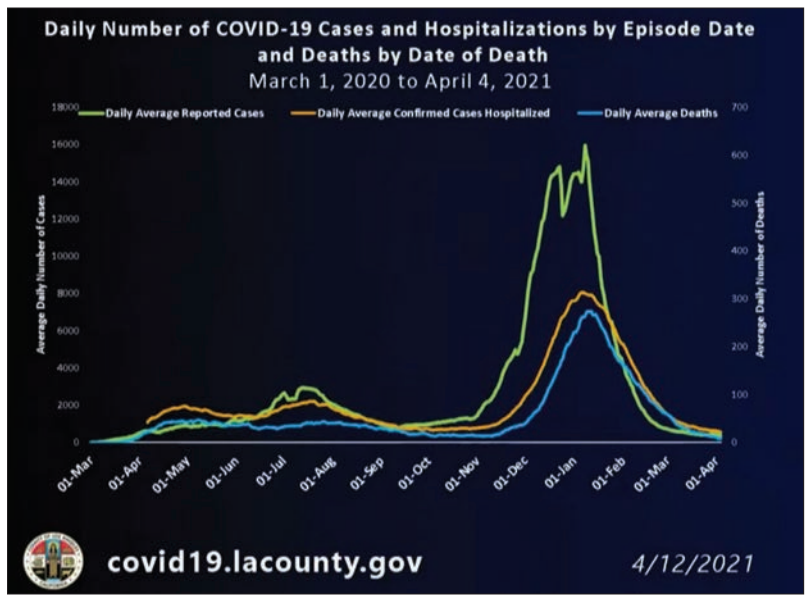


Jon Putman / Marco Pallotti SMC Corsair

SMC: Construction continued at the Santa Monica College Malibu campus/ Los Angeles County Sheriff's Substation on April 3, 2021 in Malibu. The new facility roughly sitting at 27,500 square feet will include classrooms, computer and science labs, an art studio, and a grand lecture hall. The ground level of the facility will also be shared with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's department to act as a new substation, allowing officers a midway point in their 22 mile coverage between Malibu and Angoura hills. This addition of the new substation for the police will be the first time the Malibu has seen a local active station since the 1990's.

As residents 16 and older become eligible for vaccination, live events may resume

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer



Courtesy image

CASES: Covid-19 cases have declined over the past few months and officials are contemplating additional openings as the supply of vaccines continues to expand to more young people.

The end of the pandemic may be on the horizon, as L.A. County expands vaccination eligibility to all residents age 16 and older on Thursday and continues to reopen sectors of the economy.

Newly eligible residents can begin scheduling appointments on Wednesday. Residents ages 16 and 17 must schedule an appointment at a site offering the Pfizer vaccine, as neither Johnson & Johnson nor Moderna vaccines have been approved for use on this age group.

Alongside expanded vaccine eligibility, new health orders will also take place on Thursday allowing for the resumption of live indoor and outdoor events as well as conferences, private group events and receptions.

These regulation changes come amidst the lowest case rates the County has recorded in over a year. The seven day average case rate was around 400 on April 4, compared to 660 on April 4, 2020.

In the last month alone daily deaths have dropped by 84 percent, daily hospitalizations by 56 percent and daily cases by 38 percent.

These promising health metrics, coupled with widespread vaccine availability, pave the way for a planned complete reopening of California's economy in two months.

"With the governor's new announcement that the state will be opening all sectors on June 15, hopefully we will have a real date in sight where we can see the end of this pandemic," said County Supervisor Hilda Solis. "We just need to make sure though that we don't slip up before then."

Subject to continued low case rates, June 15 will mark the reopening of all business sectors across the state. It will not, however, signal a return to pre-pandemic life. Mask mandates will remain in place and certain venues may require proof of vaccination for entry.

The live event and group gatherings beginning on April 15 must adhere to strict Covid-19 safety protocols.

Indoor live events and performances are open to in-state residents only. Attendees must purchase tickets in advance and wear their masks at all times, unless in a designated eating or drinking area.

All households must be spaced six feet apart and capacity is limited to 15 percent. This limit may increase up to 35 percent if all guests are tested or fully vaccinated.

While Los Angeles's vaccination and case trends continue to be positive, officials urged all residents to abide closely by health officer orders to ensure that the County's reopening can continue unhindered.

"Thankfully California and L.A. County have yet to see the increases that we've witnessed in so many other states across the country and across the world," said County Health Director Barbara Ferrer. "Like so many of you I do feel hopeful for the first time in a long time, which makes it even more critical that we all follow the safety measures. We cannot let up. Not now."

Clara@smdp.com

Rent Control Board supports Bloom's legislation to deter Ellis Act evictions

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

On April 8, members of the Rent Control Board voted unanimously to support AB 854, which strives to limit the use of Ellis Act evictions by speculative property investors.

Currently landlords can purchase rent controlled buildings and then immediately use the Ellis Act to exit the rental business, evict tenants, and sell the property for a higher price.

Assemblymember Richard Bloom (D-Santa Monica) and Assemblymember Alex Lee (D-San Jose), believe this goes against the original intent of the 1985 Ellis Act, which was enacted to help mom and pop landlords who couldn't afford to maintain their properties.

On March 22, Lee introduced AB 854, which was co-authored by Bloom and strives to end the speculator eviction loophole of the Ellis Act by requiring landlords own property for at least five years before invoking the act.

The proposed bill also intends to blunt the practices of "serial evictors" who continuously evict tenants from multiple buildings using the Ellis Act. If passed, AB 854 would prevent landlords from withdrawing additional property from the rental market, if that property was acquired within 10 years of a landlord previously using the Ellis Act.

"We need common sense changes to Ellis and similar acts that force those acts to be used in the way they were intended to be used," said Rent Control Commissioner Anastasia Foster. "So I applaud the bringers of this piece of legislation including Richard Bloom."

According to a memorandum prepared by Alison Regan, general counsel to the Rent Control Board, Santa Monica has seen a widespread increase in the number of Ellis Act evictions in recent years and, consequently, in the number of rent controlled tenants displaced.

"Building more housing is important, especially as the state begins its recovery from the pandemic, families, seniors, disabled people and young working adults need housing stability," said Assemblymember Bloom, who resides in Santa Monica. "We should not be pushing them out of their homes, their communities, because of legal loopholes in the Ellis Act."

While the initial 1985 law was targeted at small landlords,

SEE **ELLIS ACT** PAGE 2

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS CALLING FOR BIDS
SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
BID: 040121SF
TITLE: COSMETOLOGY CASEWORK REPLACEMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named California Community College District, acting by and through its Board of Trustees, hereinafter "the District" will receive up to, but not later than the below-stated date and time, sealed Bid Proposals for the Contract for the Work of the Project generally described as: All prevailing wage labor, materials, equipment, services, incidentals necessary for Cosmetology Casework Replacement. Includes removal of existing casework and replacement with new casework. New sinks and plumbing fixtures at casework and reconfiguration of existing plumbing lines as required for installation.

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the District bidding website at: https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=13721#.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE BID PROPOSALS: 05/05/21 AT 2:00PM
All Bid Proposals shall be submitted on forms furnished by the District. Bid Proposals must conform with, and be responsive to, the Bid and Contract Documents, copies of which may be obtained from the District as set forth above. Only Bid Proposals submitted to the District at or prior to the date and time set forth shall be considered.

MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK: 04/21/21 at 10:00am, sharp. Meet outside SMC Facilities Trailer at Receiving Lot by stadium bleachers 2121 16th St. Santa Monica CA 90405. Bidder attendance at Job Walk is mandatory. RSVP requested. Sign-In required & late arrivals not permitted.
Attendees required to maintain min. 6ft distance from others. Wear face covering over nose & mouth at all times. Small areas/rooms limited to 1 person at a time. Do not attend if sick or have cold/flu-like symptoms. Limit surfaces touched, do not touch equipment & building materials if not necessary.

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $96,400.

CONTRACT DAYS: 60 consecutive days

The Contractor is required to have CSLB B license & CADIR registration at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the District's Request for Bids.

Substitute Security- In accordance with the provisions of California Public Contract Code §22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the District to ensure performance under this contract.

Post dates: 04/13/21 & 04/20/21

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
CALLING FOR BIDS
DISTRICT: SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
BID: 041321SH
TITLE: KCRW BRIARCREST ELECTRICAL PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named California Community College District, acting by and through its Board of Trustees, hereinafter "the District" will receive up to, but not later than the below-stated date and time, sealed Bid Proposals for the Contract for the Work of the Project generally described as: KCRW BRIARCREST ELECTRICAL PROJECT.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE BID PROPOSALS: All Bid Proposals shall be submitted on forms furnished by the District. Bid Proposals must conform with, and be responsive to, the Bid and Contract Documents, copies of which may be obtained from the District as set forth above. Only Bid Proposals submitted to the District at or prior to the date and time set forth shall be considered.

MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK: April 21, 2021 @ 10am Sharp; No late arrivals.

CONTRACT DAYS: 60 DAYS

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the District bidding website at: https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=13721#.

The Contractor is required to have a C-10; CADIR license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the District's Request for Bids.

Substitute Security- In accordance with the provisions of California Public Contract Code §22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the District to ensure performance under this contract.

Santa Monica Daily Press office **(310) 458-7737**

California re-opens enrollment for health insurance coverage

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

California on Monday re-opened enrollment for its state health insurance exchange, hoping more people will buy coverage now that the federal government is offering new assistance that could lower monthly premiums by $1,000 or more in some cases.

Normally, people can only buy health insurance through the state exchange — known as Covered California — once per year during an open enrollment period. But last month, President Joe Biden signed a $1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package. About $3 billion of that money is coming to California in the form of new subsidies to help some people pay their monthly health insurance premiums. In some cases, people can buy coverage for as little as $1 per month.

The new subsidies are only available through December 2022 to people who buy coverage through a health insurance exchange, which were created as part of former President Barack Obama's health care law. Starting Monday, state officials said they would let people purchase plans on California's exchange through the end of the year.

To get the money, people must be legal U.S. residents who can't get affordable health insurance from their job and meet certain income requirements. About 1.4 million people in California already get federal subsidies that lower their monthly health insurance premiums. For those people, the new subsidies will automatically lower their premiums even more — about $180 on average per household per month.

The new federal subsidies are so generous that about 92% of people who don't get health insurance through their work will be eligible for help, according to an analysis by the Kaiser Family Foundation. In California, that means more than 1 million people are eligible for the subsidies but don't receive them, either because they don't have insurance or they purchase coverage off the exchange.

That includes people like Jack "Mitch" Huggins, a retired firefighter from Stockton. He lost his health insurance during the city's bankruptcy proceedings. Since then, he said it's cost him about $20,000 a year to buy coverage on his own. He wasn't eligible for a federal subsidy in the past, but he is eligible under the new law. He said he will save about $1,000 a month on his premiums.

"I couldn't believe it was true," he said. "It's going to be substantial savings to me and my wife."

The new federal assistance is more in line with California's health care policy goals, which have been driven by the state's Democratic-dominated Legislature and governor's office. The state has tried to get more people insured through aggressive, multi-million dollar marketing campaigns and taxing people who refuse to buy health coverage — both things that had been eliminated when President Donald Trump was in office.

"This is not like the days of old where, like, the federal government was going in a completely opposite direction than Covered California," said Anthony Wright, executive director of Health Access California, a consumer health care advocacy group.

Peter Lee, Covered California's executive director, believes the new federal subsidies will win over more people once they understand how cheap the plans are. That's why he's launching a $20 million statewide advertising campaign to tell people about the new subsidies and how they can get them.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates enough people will sign up in California that it will cost the federal government about $3 billion to pay for all of them. Lee said his goal is to beat that estimate.

"It may end up being $6 billion," Lee said. "If we do our job and get the word out there, if we enroll more people, it's actually going to cost the feds more, but for good reason."

The new subsidies are far more generous than what's available now. For example, Lee said premiums for one type of insurance plan would cost $1,945 per month for a family of four living in Oakland that earns $78,000 per year. Current federal subsidies reduce that premium to $583 per month. But the new federal subsidies would reduce the premium further, to $393 per month.

It's hard to say for sure how much each person could save because how much money they can get from the federal government depends on a number of factors, including how old they are and where they live.

ELLIS ACT

FROM PAGE 1

subsequent court decisions have allowed it to be interpreted vaguely and applied extensively.

"This is contrary to the spirit of the Ellis Act when it was passed more than 30 years ago. AB 854 restores that spirit," said Bloom.

Rent Control Board members believe AB 854 is in line with the regulatory functions of the Board, which include limiting the displacement of tenants from rent controlled units. As a result of their endorsement, letters of support will be sent to the bill's authors.

A hearing on the bill is currently scheduled in the Housing and Community Development Committee for April 15.

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DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 254 CALLS ON APRIL 11

Party Complaint 200blk Bay St 12:05 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 100blk Santa Monica Pl 12:11 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 1700blk Ocean Front Walk 12:21 a.m.
Party Complaint 1300blk 11th St 12:29 a.m.
Fight 500blk Marguerita Ave 1:17 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1500blk 16th St 1:38 a.m.
Fight 1500blk 2nd St 1:49 a.m.
Drinking In Public 2000blk Ocean Ave 1:56 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2400blk Lincoln Blvd 3:03 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1100blk Montana Ave 4:47 a.m.
Prowler There Now 1500blk 6th St 5:01 a.m.
Death Investigation 1300blk 26th St 5:15 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2000blk Main St 5:28 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2700blk Airport Ave 5:29 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2000blk Main St 5:41 a.m.
Encampment 1400blk Ocean Ave 6:51 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 2200blk Pier Ave 6:57 a.m.
Burglary Now 6th St / Broadway 7:04 a.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 900blk Ocean Ave 7:20 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1000blk 19th St 7:54 a.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 1400blk 4th St 7:56 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1300blk Ocean Park Blvd 8:00 a.m.
Loitering 400blk Pacific Coast Hwy 8:02 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 8:04 a.m.
Lewd Activity 600blk Palisades Beach Rd 8:25 a.m.
Petty Theft Report Ocean Ave / Montana Ave 8:26 a.m.
Burglary Now 800blk Marine St 8:46 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2000blk Ocean Ave 8:51 a.m.
Construction Noise 1000blk Euclid St 9:18 a.m.
9-1-1 Hang Up 1900blk 20th St 9:25 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 1900blk 22nd St 9:30 a.m.
Fraud Report 3100blk Lincoln Blvd 9:49 a.m.
Person With A Gun 1900blk Pico Blvd 10:34 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1500blk Ocean Ave 11:10 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 3300blk Barnard Way 11:16 a.m.
Lewd Activity 2600blk Main St 11:20 a.m.
Bike Theft Report 2100blk 20th St 11:20 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1200blk 4th St 11:25 a.m.
Encampment 600blk Kensington Rd 11:34 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries Lincoln Blvd / Olympic Blvd W 11:35 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Just Occurred 1400blk Pacific Coast Hwy 11:36 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 2400blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:45 a.m.
Keep The Peace 1200blk San Vicente Blvd 11:56 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Just Occurred 1900blk Cloverfield Blvd 12:19 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1400blk 4th St 12:42 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1400blk Olympic Blvd 12:46 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations Stewart St / Pennsylvania Ave 12:54 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Ocean Ave / Wilshire Blvd 1:25 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 2600blk 33rd St 1:25 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 1:26 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 2600blk The Beach 1:41 p.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 100blk San Vicente Blvd 1:42 p.m.
Lewd Activity 1200blk Wilshire Blvd 1:48 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 1200blk 2nd St 1:57 p.m.
9-1-1 Hang Up 1000blk 9th St 2:04 p.m.
Overdose Appian Way / Moss Ave 2:16 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 11th St / Wilshire Blvd 2:26 p.m.
9-1-1 Hang Up 1500blk Ocean Ave 2:31 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 3100blk 2nd St 2:33 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1400blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:50 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now Main St / Pacific St 2:53 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 800blk Pacific Coast Hwy 2:55 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 2600blk Barnard Way 2:56 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 1600blk 9th St 3:00 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 3:35 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 1700blk Ocean Ave 3:41 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1700blk Ocean Ave 3:49 p.m.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered 2600blk Barnard Way 3:50 p.m.
Arson 2300blk Ocean Ave 3:51 p.m.
Fight 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 4:05 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 4:15 p.m.
9-1-1 Hang Up 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 4:18 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 700blk Ozone St 4:37 p.m.
Panic Alarm 2000blk Broadway 4:41 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2000blk Pearl St 4:50 p.m.
Found Person Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 4:53 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1100blk The Beach 4:59 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 800blk 3rd St 5:35 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 100blk Ocean Park Blvd 5:59 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 3rd St / Marine St 6:14 p.m.
Battery Now 400blk Broadway 6:17 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 6:28 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 6:45 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 500blk Ashland Ave 7:08 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2900blk Arizona Ave 7:12 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1300blk 4th St 7:15 p.m.
Hit And Run Felony Investigation 2100blk 11th St 7:27 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 2nd St / Santa Monica Blvd 7:33 p.m.

SEE **POLICE LOG** PAGE 4

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 42 CALLS ON APRIL 11

EMS 2900blk Pico Blvd 2:01 a.m.
EMS 500blk Colorado Ave 2:25 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 4:07 a.m.
EMS 2200blk Montana Ave 4:26 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 5:12 a.m.
EMS 800blk 10th St 6:06 a.m.
EMS 1000blk 11th St 8:30 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 9:22 a.m.
EMS 1000blk 19th St 11:10 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Lincoln Blvd / Olympic Blvd W 11:36 a.m.
EMS 900blk 3rd St 11:51 a.m.
EMS 2400blk 31st St 12:10 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Bay St 1:09 p.m.
EMS 1000blk 9th St 2:16 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 2:19 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Main St 3:02 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 1600blk 9th St 3:02 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Wilshire Blvd 3:08 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 2nd St 3:30 p.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 2300blk Ocean Ave 3:49 p.m.
EMS 1800blk 16th St 4:20 p.m.
EMS 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:23 p.m.
Public Assist 1200blk Princeton St 4:39 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Arizona Ave 4:45 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Santa Monica Blvd 4:47 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Lincoln Blvd / Interstate 10 4:51 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 5:18 p.m.
EMS 1500blk Ocean Ave 5:24 p.m.
EMS 2800blk Neilson Way 5:54 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 2nd St 6:00 p.m.
EMS Lincoln Blvd / Wilshire Blvd 6:22 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 11th St 6:25 p.m.
EMS 700blk Broadway 6:55 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Arizona Ave 7:06 p.m.
EMS 2100blk 11th St 7:27 p.m.
EMS 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:08 p.m.
EMS 200blk Bay St 8:08 p.m.
EMS 2800blk Washington Ave 10:13 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Lincoln Blvd 10:17 p.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 10:38 p.m.
EMS 2200blk Main St 10:51 p.m.
EMS 700blk 12th St 11:49 p.m.

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US colleges divided over requiring student vaccinations

COLLIN BINKLEY
AP Education Writer

U.S. colleges hoping for a return to normalcy next fall are weighing how far they should go in urging students to get the COVID-19 vaccine, including whether they should — or legally can — require it.

Universities including Rutgers, Brown, Cornell and Northeastern recently told students they must get vaccinated before returning to campus next fall. They hope to achieve herd immunity on campus, which they say would allow them to loosen spacing restrictions in classrooms and dorms.

But some colleges are leaving the decision to students, and others believe they can't legally require vaccinations. At Virginia Tech, officials determined that they can't because the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has only allowed the emergency use of the vaccines and hasn't given them its full approval.

The question looms large as more colleges plan to shift back from remote to in-person instruction. Many schools have launched vaccination blitzes to get students immunized before they leave for the summer. At some schools, the added requirement is meant to encourage holdouts and to build confidence that students and faculty will be safe on campus.

"It takes away any ambiguity about whether individuals should be vaccinated," said Kenneth Henderson, the chancellor of Northeastern University in Boston. "It also provides a level of confidence for the entire community that we are taking all appropriate measures."

Northeastern and other colleges requiring shots believe they're on solid legal ground. It's not unusual for colleges to require students to be vaccinated for other types of diseases, and a California court last year upheld a flu shot requirement at the University of California system.

But legal scholars say the COVID-19 vaccines' emergency use status moves the issue to a legal gray area that's likely to be challenged in court, and some colleges may take a more cautious approach to avoid litigation.

Harvard Law professor Glenn Cohen, who teaches health law and bioethics, said there's no legal reason colleges wouldn't be allowed to require COVID-19 vaccinations. It makes no difference that the shots haven't been given full approval, he said, noting that many colleges already require students to take coronavirus tests that are approved under the same FDA emergency authorization. But there's also no federal guidance explicitly permitting vaccination mandates.

The biggest clashes could come in states taking a stance against vaccination requirements, he said.

In Florida, Gov. Ron DeSantis this month banned all businesses from requiring customers to show proof of vaccination. The order raises questions about Nova Southeastern University's plan to require students and staff to get vaccinated. The college's president said he's still confident in the plan, but he also promised to "respect the laws of our state and all federal directives."

The governor of Texas, the country's second-largest state, issued a similar order.

There's a parallel debate about whether to require vaccination for faculty and staff, an issue that employers across the nation are grappling with. At the University of Notre Dame, one of the latest schools to require student vaccinations, shots are still optional for workers. Northeastern is considering whether to extend its mandate to employees.

Even at schools making shots mandatory, there are exemptions. Federal law requires colleges to provide accommodations to students who refuse a vaccine for medical reasons, and most schools are also offering exemptions for religious reasons.

At Brown, students who forgo shots and have no valid exemption must file a petition to study remotely or take a leave of absence next fall, the school's president, Christina Paxson, told students in a letter last week.

But enforcing vaccine mandates will bring its own challenges. Cornell and Northeastern say students will be asked to show proof of vaccination, but there is no widely accepted vaccine credential. Cornell told students they can provide the card given out at their vaccination site, but card formats vary and

SEE **COLLEGES** PAGE 11

POLICE LOG

FROM PAGE 3

Critical Missing Person 1300blk Ocean Front Walk 7:43 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1700blk Appian Way 7:53 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 500blk Wilshire Blvd 7:54 p.m.
Violation Of Restraining Order In Progress 1100blk Pico Blvd 8:09 p.m.
Found Property 1200blk The Beach 8:12 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Lincoln Blvd / Olympic Blvd W 8:22 p.m.
Vehicle Burglar Alarm 1100blk 4th St 8:28 p.m.
Report Of Shots Fired 2000blk Stewart St 8:29 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper In Progress 300blk Wilshire Blvd 8:36 p.m.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered 300blk Olympic Dr 8:51 p.m.
Strongarm Robbery Just Occurred 5th St / Colorado Ave 8:51 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 2400blk Pico Blvd 8:54 p.m.
Person With A Gun 2300blk Ocean Ave 9:22 p.m.
Party Complaint 800blk 21st St 9:33 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 9:44 p.m.
Found Property 300blk Santa Monica Pier 9:57 p.m.
Strongarm Robbery Report Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 10:14 p.m.

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Proposal would let recall targets see who signed petition

KATHLEEN RONAYNE
Associated Press

California politicians facing recalls would be allowed to see the names of people who sign the petitions to oust them under legislation that cleared its first committee Monday.

If passed, it would take effect next year, meaning it would not apply to the expected recall election against Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom. But leaders of that effort showed up at the Capitol in opposition to the proposal, saying it would discourage people from signing future petitions for fear of retaliation.

"This is a dangerous and reckless bill," said Orrin Heatlie, the lead proponent of the Newsom recall. "It would stifle the process."

State Sen. Josh Newman, the bill's author, sees it differently. Newman, who represents parts of Orange and other counties, was recalled in 2018 before winning his seat back last November. He says the proposal would allow politicians to make sure voters weren't duped into signing petitions and let them explain to voters how to withdraw their signatures if they wish.

Petition signers would then have 45 days to remove their names. Currently, people have 30 days but finding and convincing people to walk back their signature is a difficult task.

"It is a fundamental tenet of the American justice system that the accused should always have the right to face his or her accusers," Newman said during a public hearing before the Senate elections committee.

He sought to distance the bill from the recall against Newsom, even praising the organizers in a break from Democrats who have painted the effort as deceptive about its ties to Republican movements.

"They have been nothing if not direct and honest with the people of California," Newman said. "Anybody who has signed their petition probably has a very clear understanding as to what they're asking and why."

California is one of 19 states that allow citizens to recall politicians, which means they are removed from office before their terms are up. In California, recalls can be used to remove governors and other statewide elected officials, state lawmakers and local elected officials. The pending recall against Newsom, which has not yet qualified for the ballot, is likely to be the second gubernatorial recall election in state history.

In order for a recall to qualify, organizers must get valid signatures from a certain percentage of the electorate when the target won office, 12% in the case of statewide officials and 20% for state lawmakers. But the signatures are not subject to the California Public Records Act and can only be viewed by people collecting them, election officials or state attorneys.

Newman's bill would let the target of the recall access the names of people who signed for certain purposes. The individual signatures would be redacted. Politicians or their representatives would have to sign under penalty of perjury that they won't share the names publicly and will only use them to determine whether signers understood the petition and want to remove their signatures. It prohibits officials from discriminating against people who sign the petition.

But opponents say it would still intimidate people out of participating.

"People were terrified — terrified — to sign this because they didn't want Newsom to know," said Shannon Hile, who collected signatures for the Newsom recall effort.

The Senate elections committee passed the bill, sending it next to the Senate judiciary committee. It still needs to win approval in both houses. It would only apply to elections with more than 50,000 registered voters.

Letter to the Editor

By Ted Winterer — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Oppose the petition

Have you heard the news? Citing irreconcilable differences, Malibu is seeking a divorce from Santa Monica.

After over 100 years of providing for the joint public education of the children in both cities through the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD), Malibu has filed a petition to form its own school district with the Los Angeles County committee which reviews such requests.

And those differences do appear irreconcilable, which is why the SMMUSD board supports a separation as long as the district's shared resources are divided fairly and equitably.

However, the current Malibu proposal, which will be considered April 17th, skews unjustly in favor of a Malibu district. If implemented it would require immediate teacher layoffs and cuts to services and programs in the new Santa Monica school system. And within five years Malibu would be spending $20,000 more per pupil annually than Santa Monica.

Moreover, the overwhelming majority of low-income students enrolled at SMMUSD attend schools in Santa Monica and would thus be impacted by the budget cuts to a new Santa Monica district. At a time when the COVID pandemic has profoundly exacerbated the economic and class inequities in our society, does a plan to cut the school funding for these kids sound like social justice?

I urge Santa Monica residents to sign up to share these concerns with the County committee at http://bit.ly./OpposePetition.

Malibu and Santa Monica can negotiate a divorce settlement which is equitable to both cities, but the current Malibu proposal is one-sided and unequal.

Ted Winterer is a former Mayor and current Santa Monica resident.

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*Our dentists and staff members are easy to talk to
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$20 EXAM
INCLUDES FULL XRAYS
*Offer to non insured patients
OR
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$99 EXAM AND CLEANING
For New Patients
INCLUDES FULL XRAYS
*Offer to non insured patients
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• Cosmetics and Implants • Zoom bleaching • and more
SANTA MONICA FAMILY DENTISTRY
DR. ALAN RUBENSTEIN
1260 15th ST. SUITE #703
(310) 736-2589



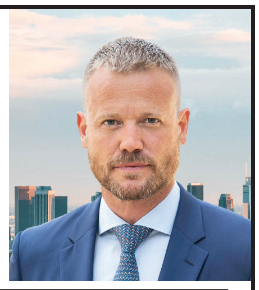
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What's the Point?

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Back to Normal Craziness

I almost killed three people this weekend. Well four really, if you count the kid who decided to keep going on his red light, while on a Bird scooter. Traffic has rebounded to pre-pandemic levels in my estimation, especially in the downtown corridor. This is where my trio of dangerous interactions with pedestrians came about as I was considering a HiHo Cheeseburger on Saturday night, they were packed and I didn't want to wait. Thankfully the traffic was so dense that I was not driving at anywhere near a dangerous speed, so when individuals decide to cross the street in the middle of the block, and not look, I could stop easily and quickly.

It seems that the vast bulk of us are done with being cooped up, and with the glorious spring weather here for the foreseeable future, we are ready to get back to normal, even if that means socially distanced seating, wearing masks and continuing to bring down the infection rates of Covid-19.

The hordes of local tourists, those from outside the city, are landing on the streets of Santa Monica, which is a blessing for those businesses that were able to weather the past year. I expect that the next eight months are going to be a boom time for our local eateries and hotels as travel is opening up again. The hospitality industry has been devastated and will take up to two years to get back to full staffing and normal operations is what I hear, but frankly I find that hard to believe with the numbers of people who are unemployed and looking for work.

International travel will be opening up specials and discounts soon, and with that will be bring us our usual coterie of foreign visitors. I look forward to that, as one of the things that I've always loved is hearing the variety of languages as I stroll the city.

Which brings me to the reminder that we all must be more aware as we drive the city, because it's getting dangerous out there again. Gone are the pandemic days of making across town in 5 minutes. We're back to the 20 minute commute down 2nd street from Wilshire to Colorado. One would have thought that the city planning and traffic control divisions would have taken advantage of the pandemic downtime to fix some of the endemic problems of traffic that we have. They certainly could have been working remotely and in Zoom rooms to come up with a new pattern for the flow of traffic and lights.

Santa Monica has been responsive to the needs of the community from a healthcare perspective, of that there is no doubt. But it's come at a cost to the businesses that are serving the public. The increased costs and requirements of PPE that are allowing us to get back to some semblance of normal are eating into the profits and I think that to counteract that the city should consider ways to increase access to the Promenade and making traffic flow better.

I'm not an expert, or even a hobbyist, on traffic patterns, but it seems to me that there has to be a better way to deal with the large numbers of cars and people that are coming to the downtown area than what we have. I am not proposing that we institute a toll or a "cost based" structure. The city charges too much money as it is in parking meters and those annoyingly expensive parking tickets I get at least twice a year (Seriously why is it a $63 fine for overtime parking? That's absurd and should be made a much more reasonable number.)

As we move towards the summer rush of people, let's all keep an eye out for those who feel that they can step into the flow of traffic with impunity. It's about to get very busy and crowded – for which we are all thankful – but we need to be on alert as we get back to normal.

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





California lifts COVID-19 limits on indoor worship services

ROBERT JABLON
Associated Press

California on Monday lifted its limits on indoor worship services in the face of U.S. Supreme Court rulings that struck down the coronavirus public health mandates.

However, the state Department of Public Health guidelines still said indoor gatherings were "strongly discouraged" and advised limiting the numbers to 25% of a building's capacity for the two-highest levels of the state's four-tier COVID-19 restrictions. The recommended capacity for the two lower levels — those areas with moderate to minimum spread — is 50% capacity.

"Location and capacity limits on places of worship are not mandatory, but are strongly recommended," the new guidance stated and said the changes were a response to recent court rulings.

The Center for American Liberty, which had filed a string of lawsuits against Gov. Gavin Newsom on behalf of churches, applauded the move.

"Governor Newsom should have done this a long time ago," said a statement from Harmeet K. Dhillon, the center's founder. "For over a year, the state of California has targeted the faith community for discriminatory treatment depriving them of their fundamental right to worship."

State or local restrictions on indoor worship to prevent the spread of COVID-19 had been in place for most of the pandemic. Most religious organizations had followed the restrictions but some churches fought them on grounds that they violated the constitutional freedom of religious expression.

Limits on indoor worship capacity were instituted in February to replace an all-out ban on indoor services that applied to most of the state because virus cases were high.

The U.S. Supreme Court struck down the outright ban in a case brought by California churches, although it left in place capacity limits and a ban on singing or chanting.

On Friday, however, the Supreme Court ruled that California can't enforce virus-related limits on home-based religious worship, including Bible studies and prayer meetings. The case involved two residents of Santa Clara County in the San Francisco Bay Area, who wanted to host small, in-person Bible study sessions.

California previously announced significant changes will go into effect Thursday that loosen restrictions on gatherings, including allowing indoor concerts and theater performances. The changes come as infection rates have gone

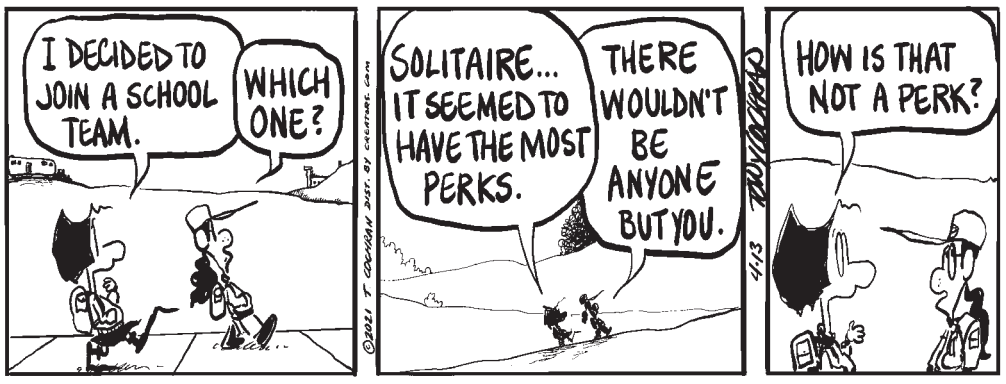
SEE **CALIFORNIA** PAGE 11





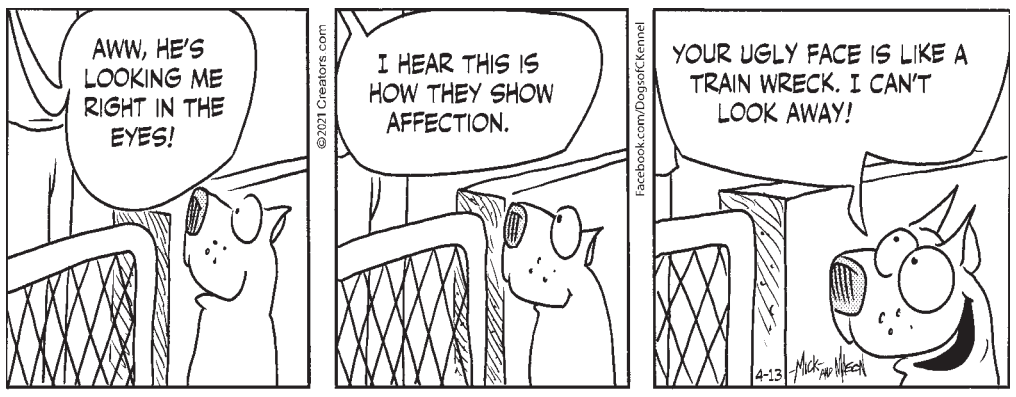
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



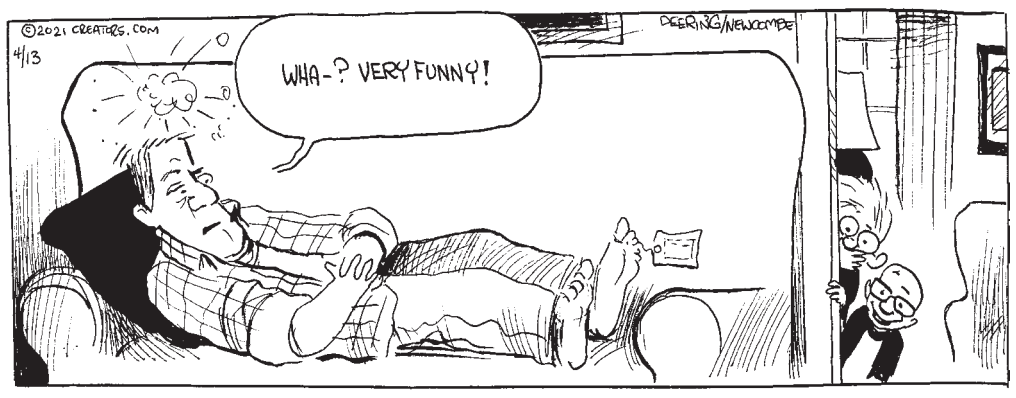
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

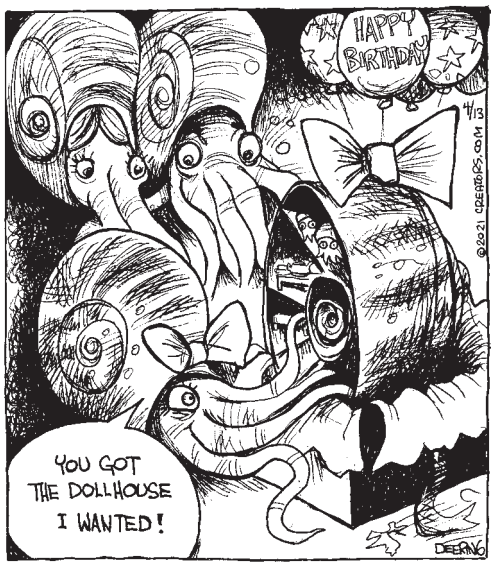
By PETER GALLAGHER



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Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 61.7°

TUESDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
Likely it will be another SE/S wind morning. Size rebounds but shape best at the points. Long period new SW swell builds and smaller NW swell blends in. Most size west of Pt. Dume.

WEDNESDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high
A bit more push but inconsistent. SW swell shows best west of Pt Dume with less size wrapping into the south facing points. Wind looks favorable for the morning and the tide is low-incoming.

WEATHER

Tuesday: Patchy drizzle and fog before 11am. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 63.
Tuesday Night: Patchy drizzle and fog after 11pm. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52.
Wednesday: Patchy drizzle and fog before 11am. Partly sunny, with a high near 63.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/04/13	Tue	04:53 AM	-0.01	L
2021/04/13	Tue	11:00 AM	3.87	H
2021/04/13	Tue	4:27 PM	1.22	L
2021/04/13	Tue	10:38 PM	5.15	H
2021/04/14	Wed	05:27 AM	-0.02	L
2021/04/14	Wed	11:39 AM	3.50	H
2021/04/14	Wed	4:46 PM	1.60	L
2021/04/14	Wed	11:00 PM	5.07	H
2021/04/15	Thu	06:06 AM	0.07	L
2021/04/15	Thu	12:26 PM	3.12	H
2021/04/15	Thu	5:03 PM	1.96	L
2021/04/15	Thu	11:25 PM	4.91	H
2021/04/16	Fri	06:50 AM	0.24	L
2021/04/16	Fri	1:29 PM	2.77	H
2021/04/16	Fri	5:15 PM	2.30	L
2021/04/16	Fri	11:55 PM	4.69	H
2021/04/17	Sat	07:46 AM	0.44	L
2021/04/18	Sun	12:34 AM	4.43	H
2021/04/18	Sun	09:06 AM	0.57	L
2021/04/19	Mon	01:38 AM	4.16	H
2021/04/19	Mon	10:39 AM	0.48	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 4/10
14 16 23 50 53
Power#: 3
Jackpot: 67 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 4/9
22 26 27 58 66
Mega#: 12
Jackpot: 220 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 4/10
7 8 29 33 47
Mega#: 20
Jackpot: 37 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 4/11
10 12 23 30 35

Daily 3
Draw Date: 4/11
EVENING: 4 8 6
Draw Date: 4/11
MIDDAY: 0 6 0

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 4/11
1st: 04 - Big Ben
2nd: 03 - Hot Shot
3rd: 08 - Gorgeous George
Race Time: 1:44.49

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

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (APRIL 13)

You've grown to such ability that what was once an insurmountable barrier to your dream has turned into a mere parking block you can easily hop over. You'll assist up-and-comers and derive great satisfaction from the teaching role. Relationships require social and emotional courage, and the risks prove worthy. Gemini and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 1, 12, 28 and 13.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The surface qualities of these offerings set before you will belie their substance. Shiny options could provide a quick hit of glee followed by nothing, whereas duller options here will sustain you for years.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You have excellent ideas, though it's not quite time to implement them. This learning mode you're in is golden. You'll do very well to follow the initiative of another.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your gut -- that's one thing to go by. Feelings count for something but not everything. Consider the data. It will produce a feeling in you, too, and then you'll have two things to go by.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). A long day feels longer if it feels like what you're doing is not recognized or appreciated. To ask for the props you need isn't vanity; it's actually good for everyone. Praise fuels the mission -- at least in part. Get yours.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The things and people you love just aren't getting enough of your attention right now. Duty calls, and responsibility is around every corner. Make a plan so the future can bring more of your favorite experiences.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You've done enough research. Now it's time to act. The first step is the hardest because it relies on its own momentum. Every step after will use some of the momentum already created.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You don't want to be the emotional support. Instead, you want the situation to be fair and balanced enough for everyone to support themselves. This will require a restructuring of sorts.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Regrets? Don't worry. In an alternate reality, there you are, enjoying the other thing (having made the other choice) and -- bonus -- dealing with problems that are different (and equal!) to the ones you have now.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It's challenging to see your own patterns, which is exactly what makes it a worthy exercise. What have you said a hundred times before? What state keeps repeating? What do you keep wishing you had?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You don't have to wait for permission. You already have the power to do the thing you've been wanting to do. What it takes is steady training over a long period of time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). This is no time for insisting on your way. There are many directions from which to come at life, several of them fun, delicious, interesting, lighthearted and yet extremely effective. Start there.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You know that you deserve to be happy, so you seek situations with potential for low-key good vibes (as opposed to situations built with incendiary material that will flame up with the first spark of drama).

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

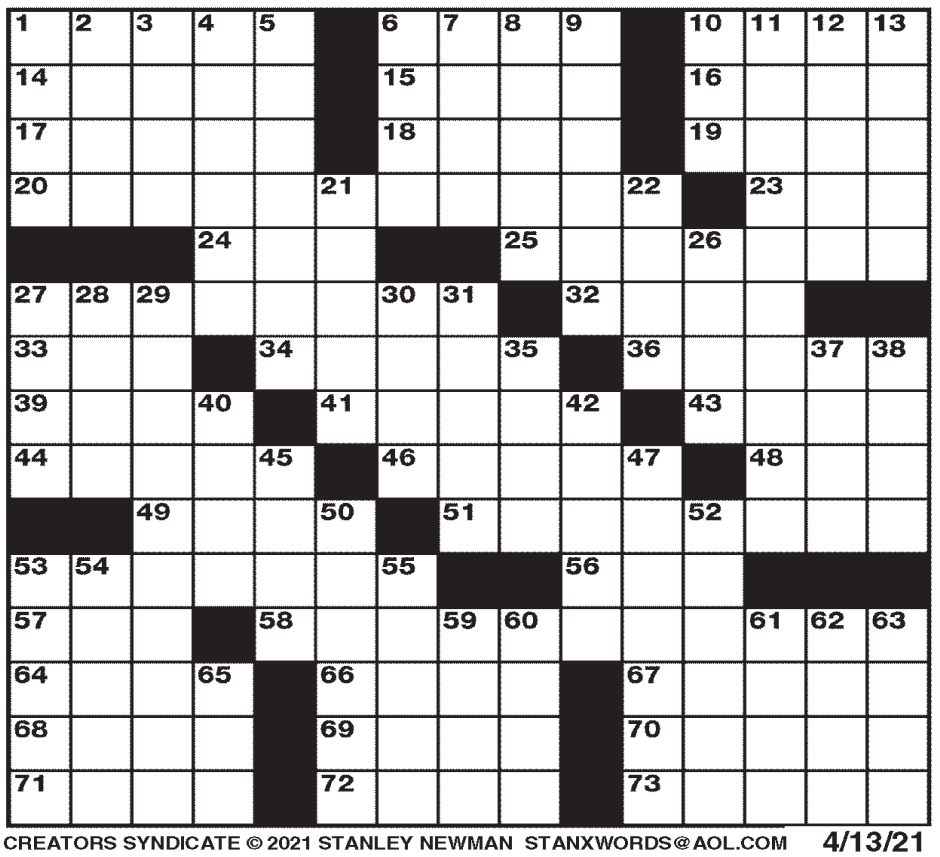
	6		1					2
1				8			6	
		5			6			9
		1			4	5		7
	3		6	2	5		1	
5		8	3			9		
7			9			4		
	9			4				3
3					8		9	

Newsday Crossword

THAT'S SHOE BIZ by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Sends junk email to
6 "Beware the __ of March"
10 "Don't rub __!"
14 Giant of industry
15 Car with a meter
16 Secret writing
17 "Just like me"
18 Editor's "Don't delete"
19 Was sure of
20 St. Louis landmark
23 Car tank filler
24 Tooth pro's degree: Abbr.
25 Having an overstuffed schedule
27 Removed cargo from
32 Burrowing rodent
33 Mermaid's home
34 Mentioned
36 "Me too"
39 Apiece
41 Present at birth
43 Desserts with a crust
44 Cattle drive animal
46 Blue jeans brand
48 Class for recent immigrants: Abbr.
49 Chick's chirp
51 Had as a tenant
53 Eight-legged web spinners
56 Martini liquor
57 Lubricate
58 Boneless seafood serving
64 Reach by phone
66 Brown quickly
67 Haul through the entrance
68 Round cabinet handle
69 Small plateau
70 Made a mistake
71 Plants, as seeds
72 Phase of a process
73 Noble actions

DOWN
1 Fawn's father
2 Leaning Tower city
3 Keep __ (persevere)
4 Managed somehow
5 Frosty of a Christmas song
6 Teeny
7 Facts and figures
8 Put forth, as effort
9 Funny TV series
10 "That's gross!"
11 Speechless
12 Creative thoughts
13 Full of the latest info
21 Something costing extra
22 Parka's head covering
26 Radar screen image
27 Puts to work
28 Tidy
29 Decorative cushion
30 And others: Abbr.
31 Discourage
35 Comedian Chappelle
37 Try out
38 Norway's capital
40 Follow, as advice
42 Industry slang
45 Coral ridge
47 Suppressed, as a laugh
50 Light refractors
52 Make certain
53 Woolen footwear
54 Concert keyboard
55 Frozen rain
59 Make more comfortable
60 Sandy golf hazard
61 Fairy tale monster
62 Fudged the facts
63 Terminates
65 Abbr. on dumbbells



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2021 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 4/13/21

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

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

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



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FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 17 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

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Townsville to Cairns

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

FROM PAGE 4

generally seem like they would be easy to forge.

At Northeastern, officials are still deciding whether students will have to provide a medical record proving they were vaccinated or whether they will be allowed to attest to having been immunized — essentially taking their word for it.

"We would expect students to be honest and forthright about any attestation they make to the university," Henderson said.

Northeastern student Tyler Lee said he thinks requiring vaccinations is the right move because it will help stop the virus' spread and protect the community around the downtown Boston campus. There has been some pushback from parents, but little from students, he said.

"It's Northeastern's decision," said Lee, a senior who is awaiting his second shot. "If I didn't like it, I would transfer. And that's what most students feel."

Ariana Palomo, an incoming freshman at Brown, said the university's mandate sends the message that it's serious about keeping students safe. She was "happy and relieved" when she heard about it, she said.

"I know that I'm going to feel so much safer on campus," said Palomo, 18. "This is the next step in protecting one another and preventing more lives from being lost."

Schools expect some pushback, and Republican student groups on some campuses have opposed mandates, saying it should be a choice.

Colleges are also grappling with what to expect of international students, who may not have access to vaccines in their home countries or who may get shots that are not used in the United States. Some colleges say they're planning to develop arrangements to make shots available for international students when they arrive.

Other colleges are using a lighter touch to promote shots, including at Dickinson State University in North Dakota, which is exempting students from a campus mask mandate two weeks after they are fully vaccinated.

Many others are hoping a word of encouragement will be enough. Campus officials at Bowdoin College in Maine said it's their "hope and expectation" that all students will get shots. Harvard University officials "strongly recommend" that students get vaccinated but have stopped short of a mandate.

Some, including Dartmouth College, are waiting for shots to become more widely available before making a decision. Diana Lawrence, a spokesperson for Dartmouth, said officials "cannot make a determination regarding required vaccination until vaccines are accessible for all students."

Associated Press writer Lisa Rathke in Montpelier, Vermont, and P. Solomon Banda in Jersey City, New Jersey, contributed to this report.

CALIFORNIA

FROM PAGE 7

down in the state and vaccination numbers have surged.

The Supreme Court has dealt with a string of cases in which religious groups have challenged coronavirus restrictions impacting worship services. While early in the pandemic the court sided with state officials over the objection of religious groups, that changed following the death of liberal Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg last September and her replacement by conservative Justice Amy Coney Barrett.

In November, the high court barred New York from enforcing certain limits on attendance at churches and synagogues in areas designated as hard hit by the virus.

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