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Santa Monica Rugby Club scrums into postseason

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

Rugby can be a little difficult to describe to an American audience. Is it like soccer, but you can use your hands? Is it like football, but with no pads… and you can occasionally use your feet… and the clock doesn't stop…

Simply put, rugby is a sport all its own, and for the past 50 years it has been played competitively here in Santa Monica, thanks to the Santa Monica Rugby Club. Founded by former collegiate ruggers in 1972, the club now has kids leagues, a women's team and several men's teams for players of all ability levels.

On Saturday afternoon, the men's first team — the most competitive level of play on the men's side — will host Eagle Rock Rugby for the SoCal Playoffs on home turf at Samohi. If they win, the team will then head to CSU Long Beach for the SoCal Finals, before playing for the California Cup in San Luis Obispo. After that, they could be taking on regional teams with the possibility of advancing to the national championship game.

"We're pretty good," Santa Monica Rugby Club President Steven Johnson said. "I think we can make it a few more layers." In regular season play, the men's first team went 6-3 in its 50th anniversary season.

A championship would add to an impressive lineage for the club, nicknamed the Santa Monica Dolphins, which earned national championships in the 70s and again in the early 2000s, when Johnson, now 51, was playing on the first

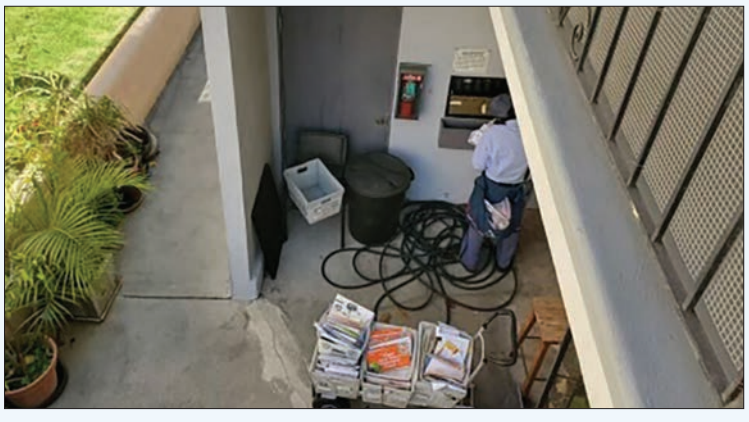
SEE **RUGBY** PAGE 6



Courtesy photo

DOLPHINS: The local teams are always looking for players.

Mail resumes



Courtesy photo

LETTERS: Mail service resumed on the 1300 block of 14th Street after a brief suspension due to assaults on mail carriers. The U.S. Postal Service sent a letter to residents on Thursday of last week announcing the suspension due to several alleged assaults on multiple carriers. However, SMPD has only one reported assault from January and in that case, the victim did not want to press charges. The suspension of service made national news after residents posted the letter on social media over the weekend and service officially resumed on Tuesday with letter carriers escorted by members of the United States Postal Inspection Service, a law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over the mail.

New rent control leases saw dramatic price decline in 2021

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

In a City known for its sky high rents, 2021 was an aberration as according to the Rent Control Board's annual report, market rate rents for newly leased rent controlled units dropped by an average of 9 percent.

Since vacancy decontrol began in 1999, rent controlled units reset to market rate whenever they are newly leased. In 2021, there was robust rental activity as 3,693 units entered new leases and median initial rent rates were significantly lower than those in 2020.

The average price drop was most pronounced for rent controlled units of three or more bedrooms, which fell by more than 13 percent from a $4,600 median initial rent in 2020 to a $3,995 median initial rent in 2021.

Median initial rents dropped by 7.7 percent for studios, from $1,894 to $1,750, and by 7.1 percent for one bedrooms, from $2,300 to $2,475. Two bedrooms experienced a drop of just under 6 percent, from $3,200 to $3,009.

The annual report speculates that a sharp increase in rentals on the market in 2021 led to more competitive pricing as landlords scrambled to fill vacant units. The 3,693 units re-rented in 2021 was by far the highest number recorded in the last 12 years and around one third higher than the 12 year average for re-rentals. In 2020, while many residents were sheltering in place, rental activity was much lower than normal, with only 2,492 units registered as re-rented.

In 2020 medium initial rent rates fell by 2.8 percent for studios and 1.5 percent for two bedroom apartments, but rose by 1 percent for one bedrooms and 7.1 percent for three or more bedrooms. The only other time that median initial rents have fallen since vacancy decontrol began was in 2009 and 2010 following the financial crisis.

The report also emphasized that though these drops are unusual, average rent rates in Santa Monica remain far from affordable.

"Assuming the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development standard that housing is "affordable" if no more than 30 percent of a household's income is spent on housing, not even a studio in Santa Monica is affordable to a household (of four) making the area's median income. By HUD affordability standards, a family would need an income of about $18,000 more than the AMI (which is $80,000) to "afford" a 0-bedroom unit," states the report.

According to the report, if there was no vacancy decontrol all rent controlled apartments would qualify as affordable housing. Without vacancy decontrol median rents would be $681 for a studio, $895 for a one bedroom, $1,125 for a two bedroom and $1,449 for a three

SEE **RENT** PAGE 4



Gary Limjap
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Biden waiving ethanol rule in bid to lower gasoline prices

WILL WEISSERT, JOSH BOAK AND MATTHEW DALY
Associated Press

With inflation at a 40-year high, President Joe Biden headed to corn-rich Iowa on Tuesday with a modest step aiming to trim gasoline prices by about a dime a gallon at a limited number of stations by waiving rules that restrict ethanol blending.

His announcement reflects the ways Biden is deploying almost every weapon in his bureaucratic arsenal to ease price pressures, yet the impact appears to be small and uncertain. Inflation has only accelerated in recent months, instead of fading as Biden once promised it would after the recovery from the coronavirus recession following last year's $1.9 trillion relief package.

Tuesday's government report that consumer prices jumped 8.5% in March from a year ago — the worst reading since December 1981 — only deepened Biden's challenge in defending Democrats ahead of this year's midterm elections. More than half the increase came from higher gas prices, which spiked in part because of Russia's war in Ukraine, but costs also jumped for housing, food and other items.

Most gasoline sold in the U.S. is blended with 10% ethanol, a biofuel that is currently cheaper than gas. Biden was announcing that the Environmental Protection Agency will issue an emergency waiver to allow widespread sale of a 15% ethanol blend that is usually prohibited between June 1 and Sept. 15 because of concerns that it adds to smog in high temperatures.

Senior Biden administration officials said the action will save drivers an average of 10 cents per gallon based on current prices, but at just 2,300 gas stations out of the nation's more than 100,000. The affected stations are mostly in the Midwest and the South, including Texas, according to industry groups.

Administration officials said the EPA has determined that the "emergency" step of allowing more E15 gasoline sales for the summer is not likely to have a significant air quality impact. That's despite some environmentalists long arguing that more ethanol in gasoline increases pollution, especially during warmer summer months.

Biden was announcing the move at a biofuel company in Menlo, west of Des Moines. Iowa is the country's largest producer of corn, key to producing ethanol.



SMDP Photo

GAS: Local prices have remained high despite a steady drop in other parts of the state.

The waiver is another effort to help ease global energy markets that have been rocked since Russia invaded Ukraine. Last month, the president announced the U.S. will release 1 million barrels of oil per day from the nation's strategic petroleum reserve over the next six months. His administration said that has helped to slightly reduce gas prices lately, after they climbed to an average of about $4.23 a gallon by the end of March, compared with $2.87 at the same time a year ago, according to AAA.

"Not only is this decision a major win for American drivers and our nation's energy security, it means cleaner options at the pump and a stronger rural economy," Emily Skor, CEO of the biofuel trade association group Growth Energy, said in a statement.

Members of Congress from both parties also had urged Biden to grant the E15 waiver.

"Homegrown Iowa biofuels provide a quick and clean solution for lowering prices at the pump, and bolstering production would help us become energy independent once again," said Iowa Republican Sen. Chuck Grassley. He was among nine Republican and seven Democratic senators from Midwestern states who sent Biden a letter last month urging him to allow year-round E15 sales.

The trip will be Biden's first as president to Iowa, where his 2020 presidential campaign limped to a fourth-place finish in the state's caucus. He will arrive saddled with sagging approval ratings and the high inflation while his party faces the prospect of big midterm election losses that could cost it control of Congress.

The president also planned to promote his economic plans to help rural families and highlight the $1 trillion bipartisan infrastructure law enacted last fall. That law includes money to improve internet access, as well as for modernizing wastewater systems, reducing flooding threats and improving roads and bridges, drinking water and electric grids in sparsely populated areas.

Biden had hoped Democrats could run on the low 3.6% unemployment rate and an agenda geared toward lifting the middle class, but inflation has hijacked those ambitions and given Republicans a target for criticism.

Iowa Republican Party Chairman Jeff Kauffman was unsparing in his criticism of Biden's handling of the economy and inflation. But, he said, the temporary move on ethanol was the right one.

"First of all, let me say that that's a good thing. Absolutely good thing. It would have been nice had he done it earlier," Kauffman said. "Am I glad about this waiver? Yes I am. Is it enough? Nope."

The high inflation also poses a threat to Biden's broader domestic agenda that likely hinges on the vote of Democratic Sen. Joe Manchin of West Virginia. Manchin released a statement saying that the Biden administration and the Federal Reserve failed "to act fast enough," to curb costs for the American people and that the problem of high prices predates the invasion of Ukraine.

Manchin, whose opposition doomed Biden's 10-year, roughly $2 trillion measure in December, had recently returned to the negotiating table with the White House. It remains unclear what impact the new inflation data will have on those negotiations.

After Iowa, Biden will visit Greensboro, North Carolina, on Thursday.

The EPA has lifted seasonal restrictions on E15 in the past, including after Hurricane Harvey in 2017. The Trump administration did so in the summer two years later but had that action struck down by a federal appeals court.

A group representing petroleum refiners blasted Biden's decision, saying the only emergency was his dropping poll numbers.

"We are right there with the administration on wanting to see relief for consumers at the pump, but an unlawful executive order is not how to solve the problem," said Chet Thompson, president & CEO of the American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers.

Josh Boak and Matthew Daly reported from Washington. AP writers Tom Beaumont in Des Moines and Farnoush Amiri in Washington contributed.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

NEW YORK

Vin Scully wins Baseball Digest lifetime achievement award

Vin Scully has won the second Lifetime Achievement Award presented by Baseball Digest.

The longtime Dodgers announcer was honored Tuesday with an annual distinction that recognizes a living individual "who has made significant contributions to the national game."

The 94-year-old Scully retired after the 2016 season, ending a 67-year broadcasting career that stretched back to when the Dodgers played in Brooklyn before moving to Los Angeles in the late 1950s. It was easily the longest tenure of any announcer with one team.

He was one of six finalists last year, when Willie Mays won the inaugural award. This year, a 17-member panel chose from a list of candidates that included Bobby Cox, Sandy Koufax, Rachel Robinson, Bud Selig and Joe Torre, among others.

"Any award that's already been won by Willie Mays, who certainly was one of my favorite players and one for whom I had great respect, is an honor," Scully said in a news release. "It's an honor to even have my name linked with his in some way. I was honored, delighted and surprised that I turned out to be the second winner of Baseball Digest's Lifetime Achievement Award. I'm proud of it and humble at the same time."

Scully won the National Baseball Hall of Fame's Ford C. Frick Award for broadcasting excellence in 1982 and received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2016.

"Vin Scully was not only the voice of the Dodgers, but was also the soundtrack of our national game for an incredible seven decades," Baseball Digest publisher David Fagley said. "We are honored to recognize his iconic career both as a broadcaster and as a wonderful ambassador for the sport he loves so much."

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DAILY POLICE LOGS

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 259 CALLS ON APRIL 11

Auto Burglary 1100Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 12:19 a.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 1500Blk The Beach 12:53 a.m.
Illegal Weapon 1600Blk Ocean Ave 12:53 a.m.
Loud Music 800Blk Broadway 2:07 a.m.
Domestic Violence 1700Blk Ocean Ave 3:10 a.m.
Party Complaint 1500Blk 7th St 4:01 a.m.
Fraud 900Blk 3rd St 4:24 a.m.
Encampment 2000Blk Ocean Ave 6:33 a.m.
Fight Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 6:57 a.m.
Vandalism Now 5th St / California Ave 7:33 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1000Blk Lincoln Blvd 7:38 a.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 1300Blk 11th St 7:41 a.m.
Petty Theft 800Blk 20th St 7:46 a.m.
Lewd Activity 1200Blk Wilshire Blvd 7:54 a.m.
Fight 2200Blk Pico Blvd 8:16 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 900Blk Ocean Ave 8:28 a.m.
Vandalism 2100Blk 3rd St 8:36 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2500Blk The Beach 8:43 a.m.
Encampment 1800Blk The Beach 8:49 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 500Blk Washington Ave 8:55 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 3100Blk Virginia Ave 8:57 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2300Blk Wilshire Blvd 9:00 a.m.
Encampment 1100Blk The Beach 9:04 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1700Blk Main St 9:09 a.m.
Vandalism 1100Blk 5th St 9:18 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 900Blk 14th St 9:23 a.m.
Expired Registration 1200Blk 15th St 9:43 a.m.
Burglary 800Blk Broadway 9:46 a.m.
Vandalism 2200Blk Virginia Ave 9:51 a.m.
Vandalism 1400Blk Lincoln Blvd 10:10 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 200Blk Mills St 10:12 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2600Blk 31st St 10:38 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 10:57 a.m.
Drinking In Public 1500Blk 16th St 10:58 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 200Blk Colorado Ave 10:58 a.m.
Expired Registration 1200Blk 7th St 11:04 a.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 1400Blk 18th St 11:07 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1400Blk 2nd St 11:08 a.m.
Public Intoxication 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 11:28 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1800Blk Lincoln Blvd 11:32 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 600Blk California Ave 11:39 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 2400Blk 34th St 11:47 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries Main St / Ocean Park Blvd 11:50 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3300Blk Barnard Way 11:53 a.m.
Burglary 1000Blk Lincoln Blvd 12:06 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 2600Blk Ocean Front Walk 12:17 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 14th St / Pearl St 12:20 p.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 100Blk Hollister Ave 12:21 p.m.
Vandalism Now 300Blk California Ave 12:33 p.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 1200Blk 12th St 12:35 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1200Blk Wilshire Blvd 12:46 p.m.
Burglary 1100Blk 10th St 12:48 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1600Blk Cloverfield Blvd 12:58 p.m.
Vandalism 500Blk California Ave 1:00 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2300Blk Ocean Park Blvd 1:01 p.m.
Grand Theft 1600Blk Montana Ave 1:04 p.m.
Vandalism 500Blk California Ave 1:07 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1700Blk 15th St 1:21 p.m.
Public Intoxication 2400Blk Colorado Ave 1:28 p.m.
Expired Registration 1400Blk 16th St 1:30 p.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 1100Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 1:53 p.m.
Grand Theft 500Blk Pier Ave 1:59 p.m.
Loitering 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 2:02 p.m.
Petty Theft 1400Blk 3rd Street Prom 2:07 p.m.
Vandalism 400Blk California Ave 2:21 p.m.
Petty Theft 1500Blk Ocean Ave 2:41 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 100Blk Hart Ave 2:49 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2200Blk 10th St 2:59 p.m.
Auto Burglary 900Blk 6th St 3:10 p.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 1100Blk 14th St 3:14 p.m.
Grand Theft Now 500Blk Wilshire Blvd 3:22 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1900Blk Ocean Ave 3:28 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 800Blk The Beach 3:29 p.m.
Animal Related Incident Ocean Ave / Montana Ave 3:30 p.m.
Silent Robbery Alarm 1200Blk 16th St 3:40 p.m.
Panhandling 1600Blk Lincoln Blvd 3:42 p.m.
Identity Theft 2300Blk 27th St 3:48 p.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 1100Blk Arizona Ave 3:54 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 800Blk 16th St 4:17 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1500Blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:18 p.m.
Loitering 1200Blk 19th St 4:27 p.m.
Burglary 1500Blk 15th St 4:38 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1400Blk Maple St 4:40 p.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 3100Blk Wilshire Blvd 4:45 p.m.
Battery Now 500Blk California Ave 4:50 p.m.
Fraud 500Blk Broadway 4:59 p.m.
Vandalism 300Blk California Ave 5:01 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1700Blk Ocean Ave 5:06 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 300Blk Colorado Ave 5:11 p.m.
Burglary 1000Blk Ocean Ave 5:14 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Stanford St / Arizona Ave 5:24 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2300Blk 4th St 5:31 p.m.
Theft Suspect In Custody 200Blk Broadway 5:35 p.m.
Expired Registration 100Blk Fraser Ave 5:36 p.m.
Petty Theft 1300Blk 4th St 5:52 p.m.
Vandalism 500Blk California Ave 6:13 p.m.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered 1400Blk 2nd St 6:15 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 21st St / Ashland Ave 6:27 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1600Blk Ocean Ave 6:31 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Lincoln Blvd / Interstate 10 6:32 p.m.
Found Property 300Blk Olympic Dr 6:37 p.m.
Burglary 800Blk Broadway 6:39 p.m.
Battery 500Blk Wilshire Blvd 6:56 p.m.
Burglary 800Blk Broadway 7:00 p.m.
Construction Noise 1000Blk 2nd St 7:02 p.m.
Person Down 3rd St / Pico Blvd 7:10 p.m.
Encampment 2200Blk 25th St 7:59 p.m.
Petty Theft 2400Blk Pico Blvd 7:59 p.m..
Fire Request Police 1400Blk 3rd Street Prom 8:54 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOGS

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 34 CALLS ON APRIL 11

EMS 1300Blk 2nd St 12:03 a.m.
EMS 800Blk 11th St 2:38 a.m.
EMS 1200Blk 11th St 2:41 a.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire Ocean Ave / Wilshire Blvd 4:27 a.m.
EMS 400Blk San Vicente Blvd 5:51 a.m.
EMS 1400Blk 21st St 6:32 a.m.
EMS 4th St / Colorado Ave 7:44 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 600Blk Pico Blvd 7:53 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 600Blk Pico Blvd 8:15 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 8:48 a.m.
EMS 1000Blk 6th St 9:54 a.m.
EMS 2800Blk Neilson Way 9:55 a.m.
EMS 2nd St / Colorado Ave 11:09 a.m.
EMS 2400Blk Hill St 11:32 a.m.
EMS 5th St / Washington Ave 11:42 a.m.
Elevator Rescue 600Blk Colorado Ave 11:49 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Main St / Ocean Park Blvd 11:50 a.m.
EMS 1000Blk 3rd St 12:06 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 14th St 12:56 p.m.
EMS 2000Blk Arizona Ave 1:14 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1500Blk 20th St 2:49 p.m.
EMS 10th St / Pico Blvd 3:04 p.m.
EMS 500Blk Olympic Blvd W 3:20 p.m.
EMS 500Blk Colorado Blvd 3:27 p.m.
EMS 800Blk Pico Blvd 4:39 p.m.
EMS 100Blk Ocean Park Blvd 4:43 p.m.
EMS 1900Blk 19th St 5:06 p.m.
Wires Down 500Blk Colorado Ave 6:35 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 300Blk Olympic Dr 7:44 p.m.
EMS 800Blk Ocean Ave 8:09 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300Blk 3rd Street Prom 8:42 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk 3rd Street Prom 8:53 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 9:05 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 9:08 p.m.

COMMUNITY NEWS

LOS ANGELES

California firms to pay $1.8B for avoiding import duties

Six Southern California companies have been ordered to pay $1.8 billion in restitution after evading import duties on aluminum from China and participating in a scheme to artificially inflate the revenues of a Chinese company, federal prosecutors said.

The scam involved raw aluminum extrusions that were spot-welded together to appear as finished and functional pallets, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California said in a statement Monday.

Prosecutors said the firms lied to U.S. Customs and Border Protection to avoid paying $1.8 billion in anti-dumping and related duties on extruded aluminum. Finished aluminum products such as pallets are not subject to the same duties.

The scheme was directed by Zhongtian Liu, the former president and chairman of China Zhongwang Holdings, Asia's largest manufacturer of aluminum extrusions, prosecutors said.

A federal jury last August found all six California companies guilty of conspiracy, wire fraud and passing false and fraudulent papers through a custom house. The companies are: Perfectus Aluminium and Perfectus Aluminium Acquisitions, along with warehouse owners Scuderia Development, Von Karman, 1001 Doubleday and 10681 Production Avenue.

The metal was stored in the warehouses around Southern California, and China Zhongwang Holdings told investors that high volumes of the metal were being sold, prosecutors said.

In fact, the pallets were not sold and were kept in warehouses around Southern California and in New Jersey.

Liu, China Zhongwang Holdings and others were charged in Los Angeles federal court in May 2019. The U.S. does not have an extradition treaty with China, and the defendants have not appeared in court.

The aluminum seized during the investigation is estimated to be worth about $70 million, federal officials said.

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PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra,
Matthew King,
Kimberly Jaffe.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com
Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Clara Harter
clara@smdp.com

Emily Sawicki
emily@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com
Diana Corona
diana@smdp.com
Julio Davalos
julio@smdp.com

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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

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WINNER

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COMMUNITY NEWS

LOS ANGELES

UCLA's Peyton Watson headed to NBA draft after 1 season

UCLA's Peyton Watson is entering the NBA draft after one season in Westwood and hiring an agent, which officially ends his college eligibility.

Watson announced his decision Tuesday on his social media accounts.

"I'm excited for the next chapter and I'm ready to fulfill my lifelong goal of being an NBA player," he wrote.

The guard-forward from nearby Long Beach averaged 3.3 points while shooting 32% and averaged 2.9 rebounds playing nearly 13 minutes per game. His 19 blocked shots ranked second on the team and he appeared in 32 games last season.

Watson was an honorable mention on the Pac-12 All-Freshman team.

"We are very excited for Peyton," coach Mick Cronin said. "We all know he has tremendous upside as a basketball player, and we were fortunate to have him in Westwood."

The Bruins finished 27-8 and lost to North Carolina in the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament. Watson played just three minutes in that game, equaling his fewest of the season.

"Although we didn't reach all of our goals as a team this season, my experience at UCLA made me a better person and a better player," he wrote.

Before coming to UCLA, Watson helped the U.S. win a gold medal at the FIBA Under 19 World Cup last July.

The Bruins already lost reserve guard Jake Kyman, who said he is transferring.

SUBMITTED BY ASSOCIATED PRESS

RENT

FROM PAGE 1

bedroom.

A portion of the report is dedicated to the financial challenges landlords and tenants faced as a result of COVID-19 and the outreach provided by the Rent Control Agency to address this. Much of these efforts centered on ensuring that struggling tenants and landlords submitted applications to the state's rent relief program.

"What we can see from this year's report is the expected: that both renters and landlords face challenges due to Covid and to the backlog of the rent relief programs, and that renters continue to experience speculation-related pressures," said Rent Control Commissioner Anastasia Foster. "It's our job to study and to navigate what is best for our community as a whole and the wide range of affordability we find in our rent-controlled housing stock."

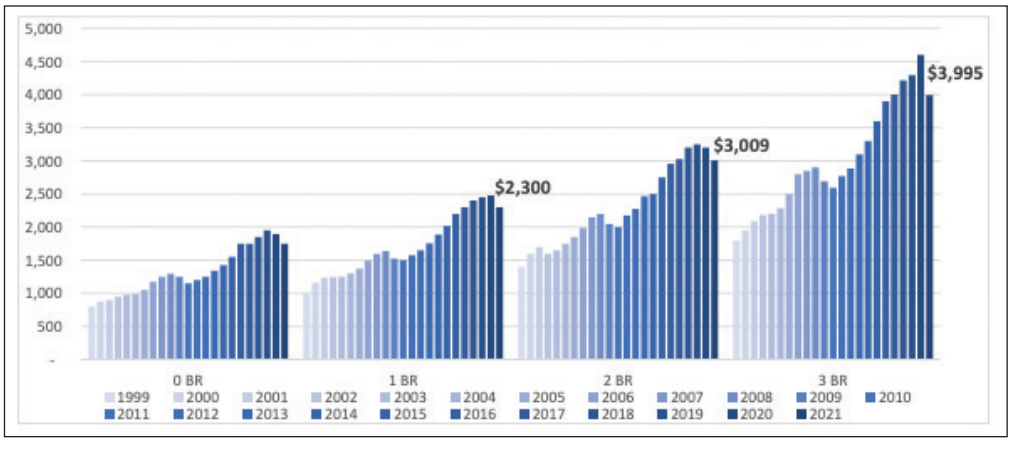
As of April 12, over 1,900 households in Santa Monica have received rental assistance from the state with an average of $15,369 of assistance given to each household. The combination of this rent relief and the repeated extension of eviction moratoria staved off a feared eviction tsunami during 2021.

However, there are still almost 1,000 households who have applied for rent relief and have yet to receive funds. With non-payment of rent eviction protections ending June 30, the future stability of local rental households is unclear.

"I continue to remain concerned about the overwhelming number of COVID-19 emergency rental assistance applications that remain unprocessed at the State, leaving many Santa Monicans vulnerable to eviction… we still do not know the impact these unprocessed applications will have on the stability of our rental housing stock," said Rent Control Commissioner Caroline Torosis.

The Rent Control Board will be discussing its annual report in an April 14 meeting. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. and can be streamed live at https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/fsabrgak.

Clara@smdp.com



Courtesy image

RENT: The pandemic dropped new rents over the past couple of years.

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Gunman opens fire on Brooklyn subway; at least 10 shot

JIM MUSTIAN, JENNIFER PELTZ AND MICHAEL R. SISAK
Associated Press

A gunman in a gas mask and a construction vest set off a smoke canister on a rush-hour subway train in Brooklyn and shot at least 10 people Tuesday, authorities said. Police were scouring the city for the shooter and a rental truck.

A scene of horror unfolded as frightened commuters ran from the train as others limped out of it. At least one rider collapsed on the platform.

"My subway door opened into calamity. It was smoke and blood and people screaming," eyewitness Sam Carcamo told radio station 1010 WINS. Smoke poured out of the train car as the door opened, he added.

Five people were in critical condition but expected to survive. At least 29 in all were treated at hospitals for gunshot wounds, smoke inhalation and other conditions.

The gunfire erupted on a train that pulled into a station in the Sunset Park neighborhood, about a 15-minute ride from Manhattan and predominantly home to Hispanic and Asian communities.

Police Commissioner Keechant Sewell said the attack was not being investigated as terrorism, but that she was "not ruling out anything." The shooter's motive was unknown.

Authorities were giving officers a photo they believed to depict the gunman, and the Arizona license plate number of a U-Haul truck to look out for, two law enforcement officials said. Officers were told that if they spotted the truck, they should stop it and detain all occupants immediately. U-Haul said it was ensuring authorities had any information needed.

Investigators recovered a handgun at the scene, along with multiple smoke devices and other items they are analyzing, said the officials, who were not authorized to discuss the investigation and spoke on condition of anonymity. They said the suspect is believed to have had at least two extended magazines.

Investigators believe the weapon jammed, preventing the suspect from continuing to fire, the officials said. The federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives has completed an urgent trace to identify the gun's manufacturer, seller and initial owner.

The attack unnerved a city on guard about a rise in gun violence and the ever-present threat of terrorism. It left some New Yorkers jittery about riding the nation's busiest subway system and prompted officials to increase policing at transportation hubs from Philadelphia to Connecticut.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority announced last fall that it had put security cameras in all 472 subway stations citywide, saying they would put criminals on an "express track to justice." But the cameras apparently malfunctioned in the station where the train arrived, Mayor Eric Adams told WCBS-AM.

One rider's video, shot through a closed door between subway cars, shows a person in a hooded sweatshirt raising an arm and pointing at something as five bangs sound. In another video, smoke and people pour out of a subway car, some limping.

"Someone call 911!" a person shouts.

Other video and photos from the scene show people tending to bloodied passengers lying on the platform — some amid what appear to be small puddles of blood — and another person on the floor of a subway car.

Rider Juliana Fonda, a broadcast engineer at WNYC-FM, told its news site Gothamist that passengers from the car behind hers started banging on the connecting door.

"There was a lot of loud pops, and there was smoke in the other car," she said. "And people were trying to get in and they couldn't, they were pounding on the door to get into our car."

As police searched for the shooter, Gov. Kathy Hochul warned New Yorkers to be vigilant.

"This individual is still on the loose. This person is dangerous," the Democrat said at a news conference just after noon. "This is an active shooter situation right now in the city of New York."

Fire and police officials had responded to reports of an explosion, but Sewell said at the press conference that there were no known explosive devices. Multiple smoke devices were found on the scene, mayoral spokesperson Fabien Levy said.

After people streamed out of the train, quick-thinking transit workers ushered passengers to another train across the platform for safety, MTA system chief Janno Lieber noted.

High school student John Butsikaris was riding the other train when he saw a conductor urging everyone to get in. He thought it might be a mundane problem until the next stop, when he heard screams for medical attention and his train was evacuated.

"I'm definitely shook," the 15-year-old told The Associated Press. "Even though I didn't see what happened, I'm still scared, because it was like a few feet away from me, what happened."

No transit workers were physically hurt, according to their union. Besides gunshot wounds, the injured riders were treated for smoke inhalation, shrapnel and panic.

In Menlo, Iowa, President Joe Biden praised "the first responders who jumped in action, including civilians, civilians, who didn't hesitate to help their fellow passengers and tried to shield them."

Adams, who is isolating following a positive COVID-19 test on Sunday, said in a video statement that the city "will not allow New Yorkers to be terrorized, even by a single individual."

New York City has faced a spate of shootings and high-profile incidents in recent months, including on the city's subways. One of the most shocking was in January, when a woman was pushed to her death in front of a train by a stranger.

Adams, a Democrat a little over 100 days into his term, has made cracking down on crime — especially on the subways — a focus of his early administration, pledging to send more police officers into stations and platforms for regular patrols. It wasn't immediately clear whether officers were already inside the station when the shootings occurred.

Danny Mastrogiorgio of Brooklyn had just dropped his son off at school when he saw a

SEE **SHOOTING** PAGE 8

EXPLAINER: Why US inflation is so high, and when it may ease

PAUL WISEMAN
AP Economics Writer

Another month, another four-decade high for inflation.

For the 12 months that ended in March, consumer prices rocketed 8.5%. That was the fastest year-over-year jump since 1981, far surpassing February's mark of 7.9%, itself a 40-year high.

Even if you toss out food and energy prices — which are notoriously volatile and have driven much of the price spike — so-called core inflation jumped 6.5% in the past 12 months. That was also the sharpest such jump in four decades.

Consumers have felt the squeeze in everyday routines. Gasoline is up an average of 48% in the past year. Airline tickets are up 24%, men's suits nearly 15%, bacon 18%.

The Federal Reserve never anticipated inflation this severe or persistent. Back in December 2020, the Fed's policymakers had forecast that consumer inflation would stay below their 2% annual target and end 2021 at around 1.8%.

Yet after having been merely an afterthought for decades, high inflation reasserted itself last year with brutal speed. In February 2021, the government's consumer price index was running just 1.7% above its level a year earlier. From there, the year-over-year increases accelerated — 2.6% in March, 4.2% in April, 5% in May, 5.4% in June.

By October, the figure was 6.2%, by November 6.8%, by December 7%.

For months, Fed Chair Jerome Powell and some others characterized higher consumer prices as merely "transitory" — the result, mainly, of shipping delays and temporary shortages of supplies and workers as the economy rebounded from the pandemic recession much faster than anyone had anticipated. Now, most economists expect inflation to remain elevated well into next year, with demand outstripping supplies in numerous areas of the economy.

So the Fed has radically changed course. Last month, it raised its benchmark short-term rate by a quarter-point and is expected to keep raising it, probably aggressively, well into 2023. In doing so, the Fed is moving decisively away from the ultra-low rates that helped revive the economy from the recession but also helped fuel surging consumer prices.

The Fed is making a high-risk bet that it can slow the economy enough to rein in inflation without weakening it so much as to trigger a recession. The overall economy is healthy, with a robust job market and extremely low unemployment. But many economists say they worry that the Fed's steady credit tightening will cause an economic downturn.

WHAT'S CAUSED THE SPIKE IN INFLATION?

Good news — mostly. When the pandemic paralyzed the economy in the spring of 2020 and lockdowns kicked in, businesses closed or cut hours and consumers stayed home as a health precaution, employers slashed a breathtaking 22 million jobs. Economic output plunged at a record-shattering 31% annual rate in 2020's April-June quarter.

Everyone braced for more misery. Companies cut investment and postponed restocking. A brutal recession ensued.

But instead of sinking into a prolonged downturn, the economy staged an unexpectedly rousing recovery, fueled by vast infusions of government aid and emergency intervention by the Fed, which slashed rates, among other things. By spring of last year, the rollout of vaccines had emboldened consumers to return to restaurants, bars, shops, airports and entertainment venues.

Suddenly, businesses had to scramble to meet demand. They couldn't hire fast enough to fill job openings or buy enough supplies to meet customer orders. As business roared back, ports and freight yards couldn't handle the traffic. Global supply chains seized up.

With demand up and supplies down, costs jumped. And companies found that they could pass along those higher costs in the form of higher prices to consumers, many of whom had managed to pile up savings during the pandemic.

Critics blamed, in part, President Joe Biden's $1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package, with its $1,400 checks to most households, for overheating an economy that was already sizzling on its own. Many others argued that the Fed kept rates near zero far too long, lending fuel to runaway spending and inflated prices in stocks, homes and other assets.

HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

Elevated consumer price inflation could endure as long as companies struggle to keep up with consumers' demand for goods and services. A recovering job market — employers added a record 6.7 million jobs last year and are adding 560,000 a month so far this year — means that Americans as a whole can continue to splurge on everything from lawn furniture to electronics.

Many economists foresee inflation staying well above the Fed's 2% annual target this year. But relief from higher prices might be coming. Jammed-up supply chains are beginning to show some signs of improvement, at least in some industries. The Fed's pivot away from easy-money policies toward an anti-inflationary policy could eventually reduce consumer demand. There will be no repeat of last year's COVID relief checks from Washington. Inflation itself is eroding purchasing power and might force some consumers to shave spending.

At the same time, new COVID variants could cloud the outlook — either by causing outbreaks that force factories and ports to close and disrupt supply chains even more or by keeping people home and reducing demand for goods.

HOW ARE HIGHER PRICES AFFECTING CONSUMERS?

The strong job market is boosting workers' pay, though not enough to offset higher prices. The Labor Department says that after accounting for higher consumer prices, hourly earnings for private-sector employees fell 2.7% last month from a year earlier, the 12th straight such drop.

There are exceptions: After-inflation

SEE INFLATION PAGE 8



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RUGBY

FROM PAGE 1

team.

On the women's side, the team just closed out a successful (5-2) regular season and will soon head to CSU Long Beach on April 23, along with the men, to compete at the SoCal Finals.

"The great thing about rugby is that it's a pretty tight-knit community," Women's Team President Anna Kobara said. "There are quite a bit of women's clubs that are sprinkled across the country, and the community is very close, so you can easily find a women's club in most cities in the US."

Santa Monica's women's club is especially competitive, Johnson said, with about 40 players. Kobara said that, down the line, the women were hoping to branch out into a first team and a second team.

"I think in the next few years, we would love to have enough players to have two sides," Kobara said. "One side for players that are looking for a high level of competitive play, and then the second side is if there are players who are looking for more of a social game — that would be the ideal goal for the next few years."

The teams are "always recruiting," both Johnson and Kobara shared, and pretty much anyone can join.

"Everybody is always welcome at any level: completely new, or, you know, the best player ever," Johnson said. Some members are longtime Santa Monicans, but many are international players who got a work transfer to LA and found a rugby team to join, or sought out the team for an opportunity to compete in athletics after college. "We're always open to new members," Johnson added.

Rugby also has a reputation for inclusivity.

"One of the most beautiful things about rugby is that it is very inclusive in terms of body type; no matter what body type you have, there's a place for you on the field," Kobara said. "It's a great sport in that way."

On the women's side, ages range from 17 to about 40; for the men, there are guys competing all the way up to the "old boys rugby" ages of 55 and up.

Because rugby is a relatively new sport to America — Los Angeles just got its first professional team, the Giltinis, in 2021 — even pro players can be in their early to mid 30s, many of whom didn't take up the sport until after college.

Johnson said the Dolphins' biggest hurdle has been, and continues to be, finding a reliable field to play.

"We don't have a home club, or a home clubhouse or a home field," Johnson said. "Whereas in some parts of the country, and most of the rest of the world, when you go to see a rugby game, you go to their rugby clubhouse, you go sit in their grandstands, and stuff like that."

Instead, the Santa Monica Rugby Club sometimes plays at Samohi, sometimes at John Adams Middle School. That makes it difficult to attract spectators, as well.

"We could build an audience — we could build a fan base — except that I couldn't tell you where we're going to be playing the next weekend," Johnson said.

One thing is for sure: The Santa Monica Rugby Club's men's first team will be playing at Samohi on Saturday, April 16, at 1 p.m. Rugby games consist of two 40-minute halves. Anyone is welcome to come and enjoy the game, but dogs, smoking and alcoholic beverages are not allowed, as the match will be played on school grounds. It is free to attend.

"It's such a fast-paced and full-contact sport," Kobara said. "It's a joy to watch and we have a lot of friends and family that come out to watch our games."

To learn more, visit santamonicarugby.com.

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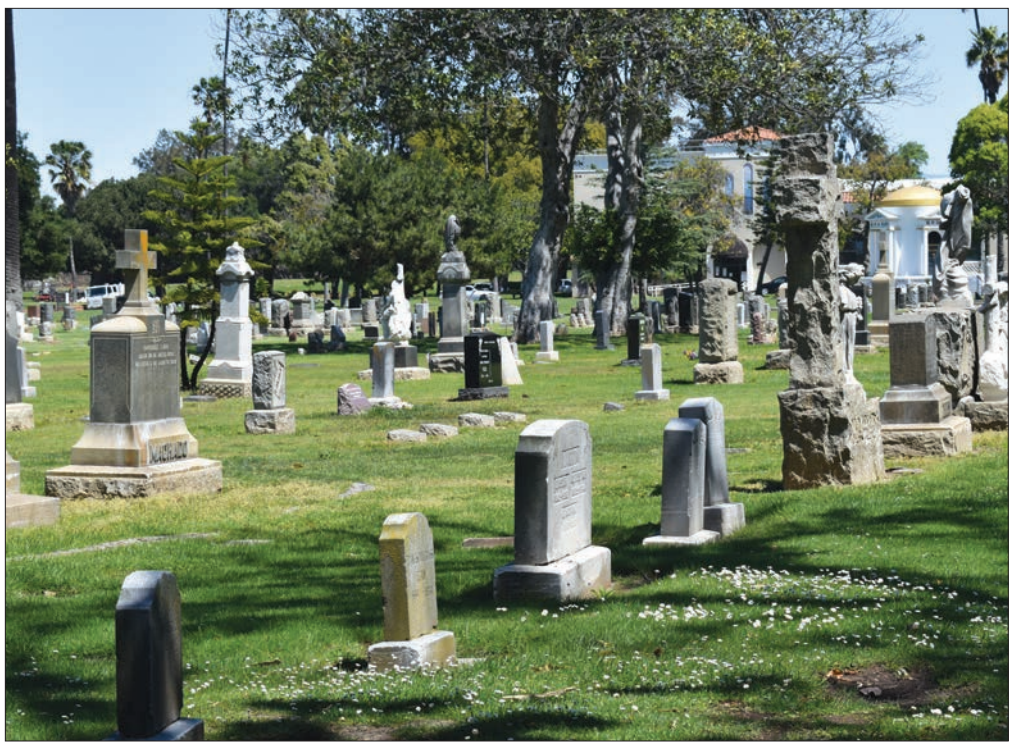




Joedee R. Photography

CLUB: The local club has options for players of all ages and welcomes new members.

COVID-19, overdoses pushed US to highest death total ever



SMDP Photo

DEATHS: Last year was the deadliest in U.S. history.

MIKE STOBBE
AP Medical Writer

2021 was the deadliest year in U.S. history, and new data and research are offering more insights into how it got that bad.

The main reason for the increase in deaths? COVID-19, said Robert Anderson, who oversees the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's work on death statistics.

The agency this month quietly updated its provisional death tally. It showed there were 3.465 million deaths last year, or about 80,000 more than 2020's record-setting total.

Early last year, some experts were optimistic that 2021 would not be as bad as the first year of the pandemic — partly because effective COVID-19 vaccines had finally become available.

"We were wrong, unfortunately," said Noreen Goldman, a Princeton University researcher.

> "We were wrong, unfortunately," said Noreen Goldman, a Princeton University researcher.

COVID-19 deaths rose in 2021 — to more than 415,000, up from 351,000 the year before — as new coronavirus variants emerged and an unexpectedly large numbers of Americans refused to get vaccinated or were hesitant to wear masks, experts said.

The coronavirus is not solely to blame. Preliminary CDC data also shows the crude death rate for cancer rose slightly, and rates continued to increase for diabetes, chronic liver disease and stroke.

Drug overdose deaths also continued to rise. The CDC does not yet have a tally for 2021 overdose deaths, because it can take weeks of lab work and investigation to identify them. But provisional data through October suggests the nation is on track to see at least 105,000 overdose deaths in 2021 — up from 93,000 the year before.

New research released Tuesday showed a particularly large jump in overdose deaths among 14- to 18-year-olds.

Adolescent overdose death counts were fairly constant for most of the last decade, at around 500 a year, according to the paper published by the Journal of the American Medical Association. They almost doubled in 2020, to 954, and the researchers estimated that the total hit nearly 1,150 last year.

Joseph Friedman, a UCLA researcher who was the paper's lead author, called the spike "unprecedented."

Those teen overdose deaths were only around 1% of the U.S. total. But adolescents experienced a greater relative increase than the overall population, even though surveys suggest drug use among teens is down.

Experts attributed the spike to fentanyl, a highly lethal drug that has been cut into heroin for several years. More recently it's also been pressed into counterfeit pills resembling prescription drugs that teens sometimes abuse.

National death trends affect life expectancy — an estimate of the average number of years a baby born in a given year might expect to live.

With rare exceptions, U.S. life expectancy has reliably inched up year after year. But the CDC's life expectancy estimate for 2020 was about 77 years — more than a year and a half lower than what it was in 2019.

The CDC has not yet reported its calculation for 2021. But Goldman and some other researchers have been making their own estimates, presented in papers that have not yet been published in peer-reviewed journals.

Those researchers think U.S. life expectancy dropped another five or six months in 2021 — putting it back to where it was 20 years ago.

A loss of more than two years of life

SEE **COVID-19** PAGE 8

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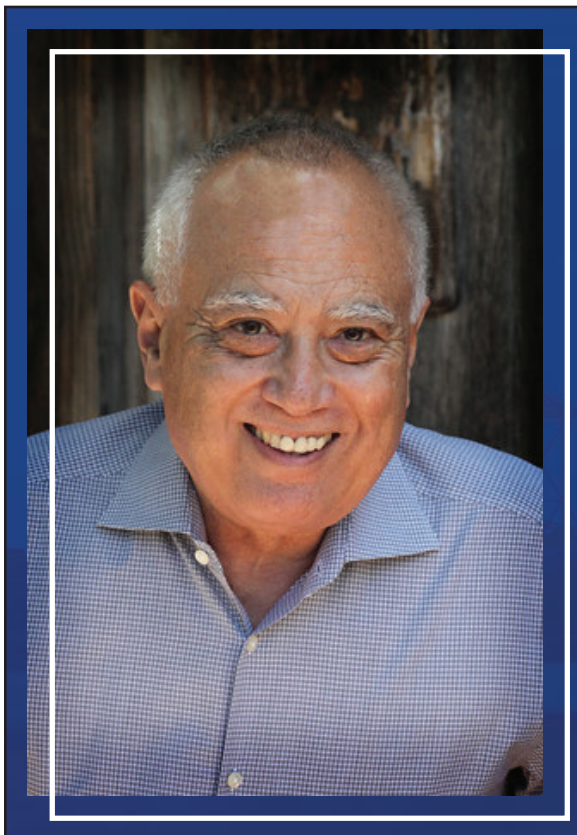
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SHOOTING

FROM PAGE 4

crush of panicked passengers, some of them wounded, running up the stairway at the nearby 25th Street station. At least two had visible leg injuries, he said.

"It was insane," he told the AP. "No one knew exactly what was going on."

Allan Lee was running his business, Cafe Nube, when a half-dozen police cars and fire vehicles suddenly converged on the block that contains the 36th Street station.

"Then they started ushering people that were on the block to the adjacent block and then closed off the subway entrance," Lee told the AP. When he noticed bomb squad officers and dogs, he was certain it was no everyday subway problem.

Associated Press reporters Michael Balsamo in Washington and Karen Matthews, Julie Walker, Deepti Hajela and Michelle L. Price in New York contributed to this report.

INFLATION

FROM PAGE 5

wages rose 8% for hotel workers and 4% for restaurant and bar employees in March from a year earlier.

Partisan politics, in the meantime, is influencing the way Americans view the inflation threat. With a Democrat in the White House, Republicans are far more likely than Democrats to say that inflation is having a negative effect on their personal finances, according to surveys of consumer sentiment conducted by the University of Michigan.

COVID-19

FROM PAGE 7

expectancy over the last two years "is mammoth," Goldman said.

One study looked at death data in the U.S. and 19 other high-income countries. The U.S. fared the worst.

"What happened in the U.S. is less about the variants than the levels of resistance to vaccination and the public's rejection of practices, such as masking and mandates, to reduce viral transmission," one of the study's authors, Dr. Steven Woolf of Virginia Commonwealth University, said in a statement.

Some experts are skeptical that life expectancy will quickly bounce back. They worry about long-term complications of COVID-19 that may hasten the deaths of people with chronic health problems.

Preliminary — and incomplete — CDC data suggest there were at least 805,000 U.S. deaths in about the first three months of this year. That's well below the same period last year, but higher than the comparable period in 2020.

"We may end up with a 'new normal' that's a little higher than it was before," Anderson said.

City of Santa Monica

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica will be holding a public hearing for the following:

2022 Annual Water Shortage Assessment Report

Beginning in 2022, the California Water Code requires urban water suppliers to conduct an Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment and submit an Annual Water Shortage Assessment Report to the California Department of Water Resources on or before July 1 of each year. The Draft 2022 Annual Water Shortage Assessment Report recommends the City of Santa Monica remain in a Stage 2 Water Shortage Stage and continue implementation of Stage 2 Water Shortage Response Actions, which are detailed in the City's Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

A Public Hearing for the 2022 Annual Water Shortage Assessment Report will be held on April 26, 2022, at 5:30pm. Effective May 5, 2020 public comment is conducted remotely until COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. Please visit the City Clerk's website for updates: https://smgov.net/departments/clerk/

A copy of the Draft 2022 Annual Water Shortage Assessment Report will be made available on the Water Resources Division website in advance of the City Council meeting at: www.santamonica.gov/UWMP

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HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You may have good reasons for feeling guarded around a certain someone. Perhaps your unconscious is receiving warning signs that your conscious mind has yet to pick up on.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You've grown and changed in both intended and unintended ways. Reassess. If you were a character in a novel, how would you describe yourself at this point in the journey?

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). With time and consistent effort in one direction, you can have what you want. You'll make cuts today. You'll let go of the distractions and dead weight that keep you from the aligned focus you need to be successful.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It is only through retrospect that you can understand the feelings, secrets and insights hidden in your psyche. Writing will improve your memory. The more you get down, the deeper you can go.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You appreciate helpful friendliness, although you don't always trust it. You like to know what everyone has to gain from a situation. Today you'll distinguish the genuinely kindhearted from those who are up to something.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). People need entertainment. Bored people are unpleasant at best, dangerous at worst. That's where you come in. You've a talent for keeping people occupied, amused and delighted.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The situation gets out of hand. This is how you know it's energized. You can use this! In time you'll figure out how to constructively apply the resource. For now, just notice. Determine what's under your control and focus there.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You can only do so much by yourself. Share ideas with a group. Seek those with different but complementary skills. You'll find you can help one another accomplish goals.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Before something exists, it doesn't. And when it doesn't, it's often unimaginable. Maybe right now you can't quite find a hopeful image to wrap your head around, but can you have faith in the unimaginable future?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Add joy to your day proactively and you'll avoid unwanted overindulgences. Trying new things counts, too, as it's possible that you have yet to meet the activity or interest that will bring you much continued pleasure.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When territorial instincts are triggered, all bets are off. Such issues hit at a primal and irrational level of being and will not be settled through logic — but you'll find other ways to harmonize the situation.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The important things will take longer than you expect because they are more involved than they seem on the surface. This pace is perfect, though; it gives you time to develop skills to meet the complexity of the situation.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

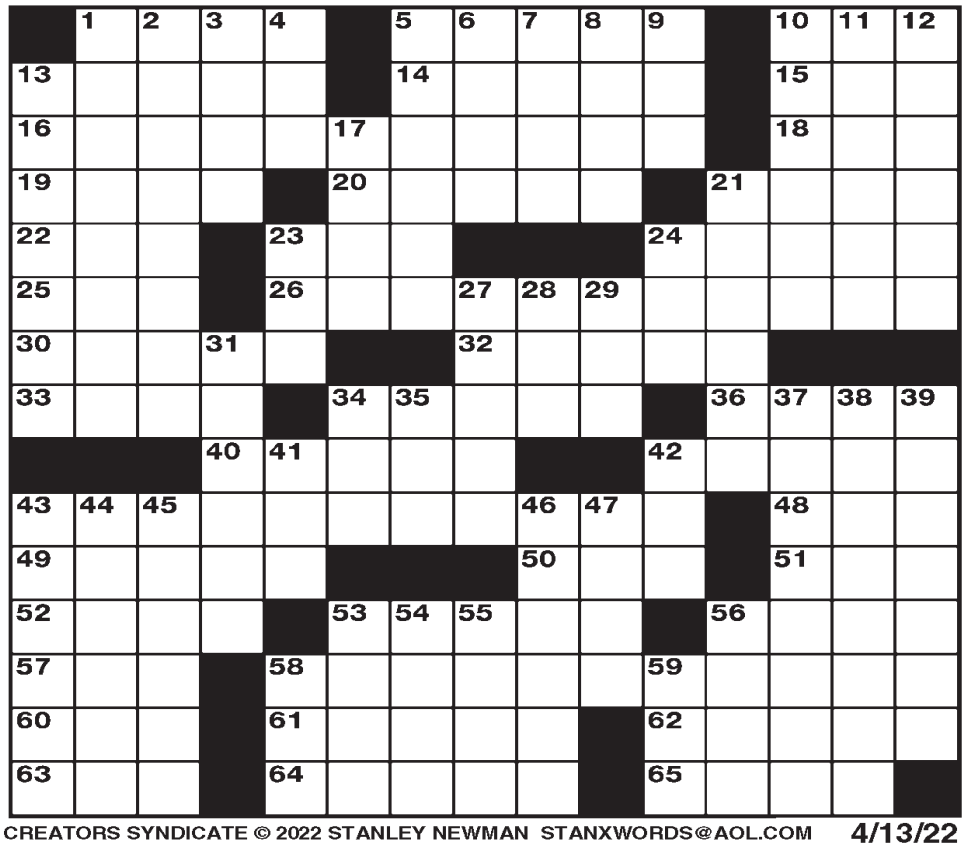
	8		7	3				
	4		5					6
1		5				9		7
	9				4			
8			2		6			9
			3				6	
7		4				5		8
3					5		9	
				2	7		1	

Newsday Crossword

FACE PAINTING by Jerry Clarkson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Aussie's greeting
5 Clock's wake-up sound
10 Sculpture or portrait
13 Slight remnant
14 Annoys
15 "For example . . ."
16 Very scary
18 Sample of soup
19 *Jane* __ (Brontë novel)
20 Rodeo rope
21 Short skirt
22 Mother's Day month
23 Crunchy sandwich, for short
24 Fire-setting crime
25 Jacket's sleeve
26 Attention-getting
30 Walk out the door
32 Hogwash
33 Narrow road
34 Not fresh, as bread
36 Make a fool of
40 Turtle's covering
42 Source of ancient fables
43 Delicious
48 3-D hospital scan: Abbr.
49 Cousins of bassoons
50 Leader of a big co.
51 Water east of the USA
52 Bridal covering
53 Wee hr. of the morning
56 Nabisco sandwich cookie
57 Make a blunder
58 Incredible
60 __ de Janeiro
61 French farewell
62 Mails away
63 Used a couch
64 Surprise attacks
65 Frosts, as a layer cake

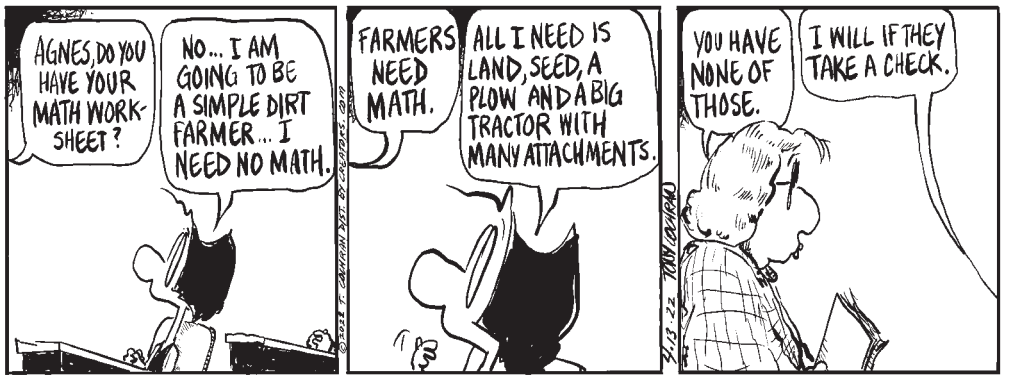
DOWN
1 Uncertain situation
2 Guy with cows to milk
3 Land measure
4 "__ out!" (ump's shout)
5 Pilot a plane
6 Not as much
7 What the Earth spins on
8 Nevada city
9 Flavor enhancer letters
10 Home of St. Francis
11 Spoil, as an outdoor event
12 Working at a keyboard
13 Grassy area near the Capitol
17 Partner in battle
21 Dr. Jekyll's evil side
23 "Busy" bug
24 High card in a royal flush
27 Blackboard accessory
28 "You've got mail" company
29 Tip of a slipper
31 See 34 Down
34 With 31 Down, ocean liner, for example
35 Gentle handling, for short
37 "Semper Fi" soldier
38 Is an omen of
39 Literary postscripts
41 Designation for Royal Navy vessels
42 Prior to now
43 Devoted fans
44 Spain's peninsula
45 Agatha Christie's Belgian sleuth
46 Mythical flier whose wings melted
47 "Finding" fish of a Disney film
53 "Look what I did!"
54 D-Day's conflict
55 Took too much, briefly
56 Oil cartel
58 Mayo holder
59 Tire pressure measure: Abbr.



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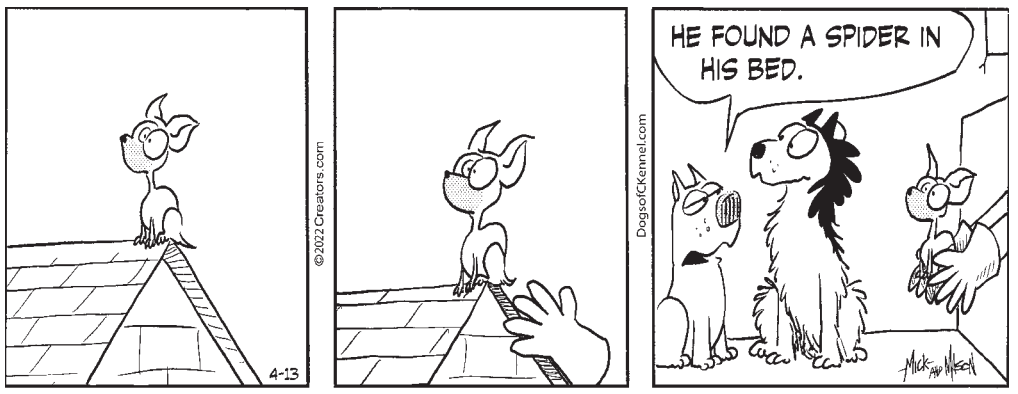
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



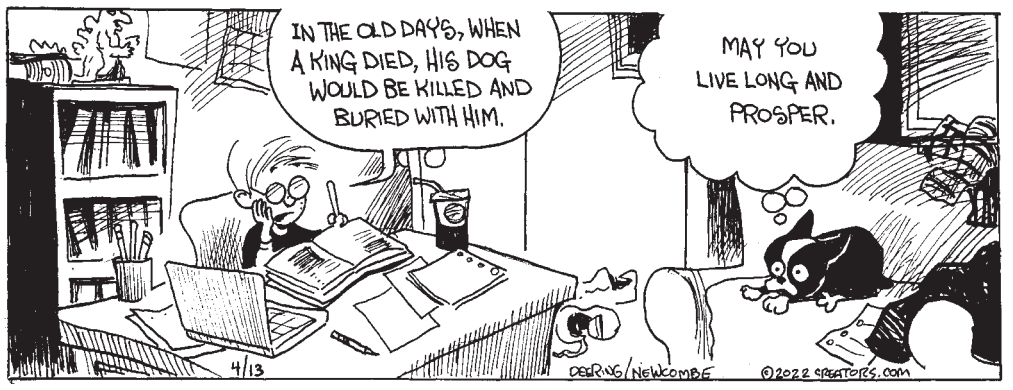
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



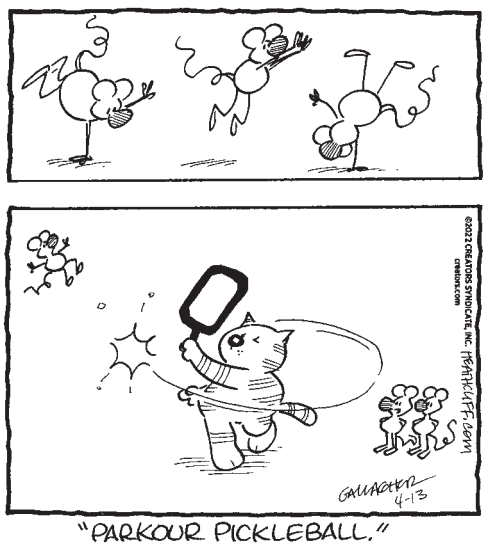
Zack Hill

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 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5448

Flood warning

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

Alarm	Crew	Lakes	Rivers
Alert	Damage	Levee	Ruin
Animals	Deluge	Lull	Runoff
Aware	Float	Plant	Ruts
Banks	Glacier	Rain	Silt
Caravans	Hazard	Remote	Stream
City	Height	Reports	Surge
Clean up	Hydrology	Rescue	Swim
Coastal	Inundate	Risk	Tide
Contamination	Labour	analysis	Torrent

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Companion planting

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smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

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.

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. On April 14 Flaming Grain will be pulling up and firing up palates. Parking is always free on Food Truck Days. 1620 26th St.

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.

MONDAY | APRIL 18

MAIN LIBRARY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
Join a community-led discussion of books selected by the group. This month's selection is A Woman of No Importance: The Untold Story of the American Spy Who Helped Win World War II by Sonia Pernell. Contact jeff.schwartz@santamonica.gov for the Zoom link. 7 - 8:30 p.m.

SNOOZER'S STORYTIME ADVENTURES
Checkers Library TV presents Snoozer's Storytime Adventures, a virtual series that brings children's books to life with an uplifting story, craft, and song. Access the program here: youtube.com/user/SantaMonicaPL/playlists. 12 - 12:30 p.m.

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



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **57.9**

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.
THURSDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:** 3-4ft Waist to chest	Continued combo of SSW and NW swells. Quality conditions in the AM before westerly winds crank back up. Tucked away points are the call in the PM.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 67. North wind 10 to 15 mph.
Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 53. West southwest wind 10 to 15 mph.
Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 66. Northeast wind 10 to 15 mph.
Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 54.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2022/04/16	Sat	3:38 PM	0.43	L
2022/04/16	Sat	9:52 PM	5.74	H
2022/04/17	Sun	04:30 AM	-0.68	L
2022/04/17	Sun	10:37 AM	4.32	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: 4/11
5 7 24 31 34
Power#: 4
Jackpot: 302 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: 4/11
10 22 25 28 30

Daily 3
Draw Date: 4/11
EVENING: 1 0 6
Draw Date: 4/11
MIDDAY: 7 1 3

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 4/11
1st: 07 - Eureka
2nd: 03 - Hot Shot
3rd: 02 - Lucky Star
Race Time: 1:43.13

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Santa Monica Daily Press



Life is about growing, sharing experiences and finding that next great adventure. It could be taking up a new hobby, meeting new friends or moving into a new home. You have the opportunity to do all these things and more at our communities. Come for a visit, and feel confident in starting a new adventure with us.

Welcome to Brookdale. Welcome Home.

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851 Second Street
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RCFE # 197606682

Brookdale Ocean House
Assisted Living
2107 Ocean Avenue
Santa Monica, California 90405
(310) 627-8002
RCFE # 198204758

*May be subject to health screening, face coverings, social distancing, proof of COVID-19 vaccination and/or proof of negative COVID-19 test. Requirements vary by community in accordance with state or local directives or recommendations by the CDC. Please contact us for details.

625000 FF

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