Oppose Malibu's Petition to Separate from SMMUSD

SEE TODAY'S SMDP BACK PAGE FOR THE LIST OF PROGRAMMATIC IMPACTS

SMMUSD
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

THURSDAY
04.15.21
Volume 20 Issue 130

Crime Watch
Drug deal at the pier.
Page 2

Noteworthy
We are an arts city.
Page 6

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Vaccine Distribution



Matthew Hall

VACCINE: The People Concern hosted a vaccine clinic at their Samoshel this week. The program brings mobile vaccine centers to individuals who might not be able to access the traditional distribution centers and is targeting a population that often has additional health conditions that make COVID more dangerous.

Shake Shack opens Downtown location







Courtesy photos

BURGER: The East Coast transplant is setting up shop at 5th and Wilshire.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

On Sunday at 11 a.m. Shake Shack will host the grand opening of its new downtown Santa Monica location at 501 Wilshire Boulevard.

The new shack is located in the space formerly occupied by Panera Bread and is just a few blocks from the beach, pier, and 3rd Street Promenade. It offers an indoor "garden room" with skylights, an outdoor patio, and a walk-up window.

For every burger sold on opening day, Shake Shack will donate a burger to the Westside Food Bank. In addition, the first 100 guests to place an order will receive a 16 oz

SEE **SHAKE SHACK** PAGE 7

City Council vetos improvised weapons ban with 4-3 vote

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Council has rejected a proposal to ban items from public gatherings that could become weapons if a peaceful protest became violent.

The proposal would have banned otherwise legal items from protests including sticks/poles larger than three inches in diameter, any length of metal pipe, all baseball bats, any aerosol spray (including tear gas, mace, pepper spray, smoke canisters or bear repellent), slingshots, catapults, chains longer than 20 inches, all blades, martial arts weapons, containers of noxious liquid, all glass bottles, open flames, shields, bricks or laser pointers.

"There are items that people can have ordinarily in the course and scope of their lives that are fine to have but within the context of showing up in a protest, you have to ask how is that contributing to the expressive conduct," said Interim Chief Jacqueline Seabrooks. "If we want to promote peaceful protest, and we want to encourage constitutional activity, which is the goal — that is a longtime goal of this organization to facilitate that — the circumstances have evolved such though that there are people who will come up with the intent of creating the chaos, creating the fear of injury, looking to escalate the circumstances. And they'll use these kinds of things to do exactly that."

After refining the motion to allow items used to support freedom of expression and establishing a sunset clause, Councilmembers Phil Brock, Christine Parra and Oscar de la Torre voted in favor of the new rules.

"I think with those amendments and those changes, this ordinance will protect residents who are demonstrating peacefully, and also support the First Amendment and give our law enforcement staff the tools to deal with individuals that are coming to a demonstration with other intention," said de la Torre.

However, Councilmembers Gleam Davis, Kristin McCowan, Kevin McKeown and Mayor Sue

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 5

CRIME WATCH BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

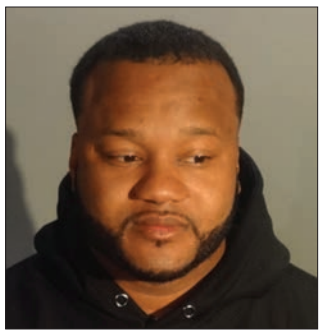
Crime Watch is culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

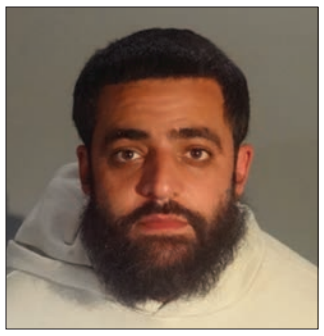
ON THURSDAY, APRIL 8 AT APPROXIMATELY 7 P.M.

SMPD officers seized over two pounds of marijuana, a 9mm handgun and a high-capacity 9mm magazine loaded with 16 rounds from a suspect with a prior conviction for 1st degree manslaughter. A second suspect was also booked on narcotics sales charges.

While on patrol, SMPD officers observed what appeared to be a hand-to-hand purchase of marijuana near Ocean Avenue and Colorado Blvd. During a traffic stop related to this narcotics violation, officers discovered a large quantity of marijuana, an unregistered firearm, and a loaded magazine in the rear of the vehicle.

Suspect #1: Ramirez-Sanchez, Randy Francis, a 32-year-old Black male from New York was charged with 29800(A)(1) PC - Convicted felon in possession of a firearm; 32310(A) PC - Possessing a high capacity magazine; 11360(A) H&S - Selling/transporting marijuana; 11359 H&S- Possession of marijuana for sale; and 12500(A)VC - Driving without a license.





File photo

Suspect#2: Pujols, Steven, a 36-year-old Hispanic male from New York was charged with 11360(A) H&S - Selling/transporting marijuana and 11359 H&S- Possession of marijuana for sale. Anyone with additional information pertaining to this incident is strongly encouraged to contact the Criminal Investigations Division at 310-458-8451 or the Santa Monica Department's Watch Commander (24 hours) at 310-458-8427.

Submitted Lieutenant Rudy Flores

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

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.

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

Red states on U.S. electoral map lagging on vaccinations

RUSS BYNUM
Associated Press

With coronavirus shots now in the arms of nearly half of American adults, the parts of the U.S. that are excelling and those that are struggling with vaccinations are starting to look like the nation's political map: deeply divided between red and blue states.

Out in front is New Hampshire, where 65% of the population age 18 and older has received at least one dose of the vaccine, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Following close behind are New Mexico, Connecticut, Maine and Massachusetts at 55% or greater. All have a history of voting Democratic and supported President Joe Biden in the 2020 election.

Meanwhile, at the bottom are five states where fewer than 40% have rolled up their sleeves for a shot. Four of them — Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana and Tennessee — lean Republican and voted for Donald Trump last fall. The fifth is Georgia, which has a Republican governor and supported GOP presidential candidates for nearly three decades before narrowly backing Biden.

The emerging pattern: Americans in blue states that lean Democratic appear to be getting vaccinated at more robust rates, while those in red Republican states seem to be more hesitant.

"We can draw a conclusion that red states and voters that voted for Trump are going to be more difficult to vaccinate because we have real good survey data to support that," said Dr. Howard Forman, a professor of public health and management at the Yale School of Medicine.

A poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research in late March found that 36% of Republicans said they will probably or definitely not get vaccinated, compared with 12% of Democrats. Similarly, a third of rural Americans said they were leaning against getting shots, while fewer than a fourth of people living in cities and suburbs shared that hesitancy.

Forman cautioned that in most U.S. states, which receive vaccine shipments based on population, demand for the shot still exceeds supply. So it's hard to know how many people are resisting until everyone wanting the shots gets them. But if states soon start seeing significant numbers of unfilled appointments with many people still unvaccinated, he said consequences could be serious.

"We could see substantial outbreaks for a long time," Forman said. "It will determine whether we go back to normal in some cases."

Past AP-NORC polls have shown more Republicans than Democrats say the government has exaggerated the threat posed by the virus. Republicans have also been more opposed to restrictions and mask-wearing.

The CDC reports that nearly 121 million American adults — or 47% of the U.S. adult population — have received at least one coronavirus shot. California, the nation's largest blue state, is slightly ahead of that pace, at 50%. The biggest red state, Texas, lags at less than 44%.

How swiftly states are vaccinating doesn't always correlate with how they vote.

Deeply red South Dakota ranks among the most successful states, with 54% of its population getting injections. Among blue states, Nevada lags furthest behind the U.S. at less than 44%, followed by Oregon and Michigan at 45% each.

New Hampshire, which leads the nation in adult vaccinations, has a Republican governor and a GOP-controlled Legislature. However, Democrats hold all of its seats in Congress and the state has consistently Democratic in every presidential election since 2008.

West Virginia, where Trump carried 66% of the vote last year, became an early success story in the vaccine rollout as the first U.S. state to cover all nursing homes. But while Republican Gov. Jim Justice has remained a vaccine cheerleader, West Virginia now lags the U.S. overall with less than 42% of its population receiving at least one dose.

Among those who say they won't get vaccinated is 58-year-old Martha Brown. Sitting outside her apartment complex in Charleston, West Virginia, Brown said she's afraid of having a bad reaction after a flu shot last year left her with cold symptoms.

"I'm OK without it," Brown said. "I wear my mask all the time."

Experts said it's too soon to tell whether pausing shots of the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine will increase reluctance to get vaccinated. Government scientists are investigating reports of unusual blood clots in six women who received the vaccine.

If the issue gets resolved quickly and it's deemed safe to resume Johnson & Johnson shots, there should be little impact on public confidence, said Claire Hannan, executive director of the Association of Immunization Managers. She hopes the response itself assures people "the system is working."

"It's really important to understand that's how closely we monitor everyone getting the vaccine" for potential problems, Hannan said. "We have systems in place to connect the dots."

In a suburb outside Chicago, Jennifer Rockwood was getting ready to get her Johnson & Johnson shot Tuesday morning when she heard about the recommended pause. She canceled her appointment after waiting months to get the vaccine.

"Did it give me hesitancy? Yes it did," said Rockwood, 49. "But I was immediately back at my kitchen counter flipping the laptop open again and seeing what I could do to schedule another one."

She booked an appointment to get the Pfizer vaccine Wednesday.

Trump has publicly urged Americans to get vaccinated but also received his own injections secretly, disclosing them only after he left office. As president, he spent much of the pandemic minimizing the dangers of the virus, even after being hospitalized with COVID-19.

Some Republican governors have likewise kept their own vaccinations quiet.

In Florida, where about 44% of the

SEE **RED STATES** PAGE 11

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 268 CALLS ON APRIL 13

Grand Theft 1500blk Berkeley St 6:03 a.m.
Person With A Gun 2400blk Ocean Front Walk 6:16 a.m.
Family Disturbance 2200blk Virginia Ave 6:53 a.m.
Death Investigation 1000blk 20th St 7:08 a.m.
Construction Noise 900blk 7th St 7:22 a.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 100blk Strand St 7:23 a.m.
Red Zone Violation 100blk Strand St 7:24 a.m.
Construction Noise 500blk 7th St 7:29 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1200blk 24th St 7:39 a.m.
Encampment 700blk Ozone St 7:50 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1900blk 18th St 8:11 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 8:15 a.m.
Burglary Report 1200blk 14th St 8:45 a.m.
Missing Person 1700blk 11th St 8:57 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 900blk 22nd St 8:59 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 200blk San Vicente Blvd 9:29 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1300blk Pico Blvd 9:30 a.m.
Silent Robbery Alarm 1400blk Wilshire Blvd 9:41 a.m.
Bike Theft Report 1200blk 6th St 9:42 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1500blk Ocean Front Walk 9:46 a.m.
Rape Report 1200blk 16th St 9:51 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2300blk Oak St 10:08 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 900blk 19th St 10:08 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2500blk 20th St 10:12 a.m.
Identity Theft 1000blk 20th St 10:12 a.m.
Found Property 300blk Olympic Dr 10:15 a.m.
Scar Investigation 3000blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:36 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1100blk 16th St 10:48 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1500blk 2nd St 10:54 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1300blk Harvard St 11:04 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 11:06 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 500blk San Vicente Blvd 11:07 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now Cloverfield Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 11:47 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 400blk Santa Monica Pier 11:48 a.m.
Lewd Activity 2400blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:48 a.m.
Battery Cloverfield Blvd / Olympic Blvd 12:14 p.m.
Battery Cloverfield Blvd / Olympic Blvd 12:15 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 700blk Michigan Ave 12:20 p.m.
Found Property 2000blk Ocean Front Walk 12:43 p.m.
Medical Emergency 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 1:03 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Barnard Way / Hollister Ave 1:12 p.m.
Fraud Suspect There Now 1600blk Ocean Ave 1:16 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper In Progress 300blk Santa Monica Pl 1:27 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 400blk Hill St 1:40 p.m.
Petty Theft 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 1:46 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2300blk Ocean Park Blvd 1:54 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1300blk 18th St 2:01 p.m.
Burglary Report 1200blk 14th St 2:10 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 800blk Princeton St 2:10 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 600blk San Vicente Blvd 2:33 p.m.
Fraud Report 1400blk 17th St 2:38 p.m.
Rape Report 800blk 21st St 2:41 p.m.
Battery 500blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:44 p.m.
Fraud Report 1000blk 18th St 2:50 p.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 3300blk Pico Blvd 3:18 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 3:19 p.m.
Petty Theft Now 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 3:25 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 600blk San Vicente Blvd 3:27 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 2000blk Main St 3:27 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1500blk 18th St 3:33 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 2800blk Wilshire Blvd 3:42 p.m.
Burglary Report 600blk San Vicente Blvd 3:51 p.m.
Loud Music 3000blk 11th St 4:06 p.m.
Found Property 1400blk 17th St 4:09 p.m.
Found Property 1200blk 12th St 4:11 p.m.
Overdose 2800blk Main St 4:17 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2200blk La Mesa Dr 4:19 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2100blk Lincoln Blvd 4:33 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved Lincoln / Maxella 4:47 p.m.
Burglary Report 2000blk Main St 5:02 p.m.
Loud Music 500blk 18th St 5:03 p.m.
Battery 1300blk Palisades Park 5:12 p.m.
Critical Missing Person 1600blk Ocean Ave 5:22 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 800blk Woodacres Rd 5:27 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 2700blk Neilson Way 5:33 p.m.
Person Down 2400blk Santa Monica Blvd 5:40 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 1100blk 20th St 5:43 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 20th St / Wilshire Blvd 5:44 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Centinela Ave / Colorado Blvd 5:59 p.m.
Battery 800blk Broadway 6:02 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 900blk 4th St 6:02 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2900blk Main St 6:11 p.m.
Petty Theft Lincoln Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 6:12 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Ocean Ave / San Vicente Blvd 6:28 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2300blk Lincoln Blvd 6:39 p.m.
Construction Noise 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 6:41 p.m.

SEE **POLICE LOG** PAGE 4

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 44 CALLS ON APRIL 13

EMS Ocean Ave / Arizona Ave 12:29 a.m.
EMS 1300blk Berkeley St 1:12 a.m.
EMS 1300blk Ocean Park Blvd 2:13 a.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire Ocean Ave / Arizona Ave 3:00 a.m.
EMS 2200blk Colorado Ave 3:24 a.m.
EMS 2600blk 26th St 6:43 a.m.
EMS 1000blk 20th St 7:06 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 7th St 8:11 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 8:59 a.m.
EMS 1500blk 7th St 11:19 a.m.
EMS 1900blk 22nd St 11:29 a.m.
EMS 1000blk 19th St 12:12 p.m.
EMS Cloverfield Blvd / Olympic Blvd 12:14 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 6th St 12:40 p.m.
EMS 100blk Pacific St 12:41 p.m.
EMS 6th St / Arizona Ave 12:44 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 15th St 12:50 p.m.
EMS 900blk 4th St 1:02 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 16th St 1:28 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 500blk Olympic Blvd W 1:33 p.m.
EMS 700blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:39 p.m.
EMS 900blk 6th St 1:42 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1100blk 4th St 2:45 p.m.
EMS 3000blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:17 p.m.
EMS 26th St / Santa Monica Blvd 3:37 p.m.
EMS 2800blk Wilshire Blvd 3:42 p.m.
Haz Mat - Level 1 900blk 6th St 4:11 p.m.
EMS 2800blk Main St 4:17 p.m.
EMS 20th St / Delaware Ave 4:52 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 3rd St 5:12 p.m.
EMS 1300blk Palisades Park 5:18 p.m.
EMS 2400blk Santa Monica Blvd 5:40 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 1100blk 20th St 5:43 p.m.
EMS 1900blk 11th St 5:51 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Centinela Ave / Colorado Blvd 5:59 p.m.
EMS 3200blk Pico Blvd 6:05 p.m.
EMS 600blk Wilshire Blvd 7:30 p.m.
EMS 1300blk Franklin St 7:35 p.m.
EMS 2600blk Broadway 8:33 p.m.
EMS 2400blk 23rd St 9:47 p.m.
Electrical Fire - No Fire Visible 2400blk Washington Ave 9:49 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 16th St 9:53 p.m.
EMS 800blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:33 p.m.
EMS 1100blk California Ave 11:48 p.m.

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SMMUSD
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING-MEASURE R PARCEL TAX

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District will conduct a public hearing on the matter of the 2021-22 Special Parcel Tax (Measure R) regarding applying a Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) adjustment. The public hearing will be held on May 6, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in the Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District Board Room at 1651 16th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404 – OR – As per Executive Order N-29-20 from Governor Newsom, the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education meeting may be in a virtual/teleconferencing environment via Zoom. The purpose of the Governor's executive order is to control the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) and to reduce and minimize the risk of infection by "limiting attendance at public assemblies, conferences, or other mass events." The Governor's executive order on March 12, 2020, already waived the requirement for a majority of board members to physically participate in a public board meeting at the same location. Refer to SMMUSD website https://www.smmusd.org/domain/2977 for the most up to date meeting announcement. Subsequent to the public hearing on May 6, 2021 at the regularly scheduled meeting, it is the intention of the Board of Education to adopt a resolution to levy the tax at the rate of $439.41 per parcel, which includes a 1.0% CPI adjustment. The CPI-U for Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, base year 1982-84=100, from February, 2020 through February, 2021, was used to calculate the adjustment. Measure R 2021-22 Senior Exemption applications forms are available on SMMUSD District website. New applicants must complete, sign and return exemption application by June 30, 2021. Those who received the senior exemption the prior year and continue to meet the eligibility criteria, will be automatically exempted for the upcoming year. For additional information, visit https://www.smmusd.org/Page/3905.



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



Robert Lemle

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Your column here

By Ralph Mechur

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Disappointed in Foster

I was disappointed to read School Board Member Craig Foster's published letter in early April regarding SMMUSD's response to the devastating Woolsey Fire. Foster's letter stated that the district did nothing to help the Malibu community during and after the Woolsey fire.

This is not true and Foster knows it. It's disappointing to see my former board colleague be so disingenuous.

These statements are contrary to his public praise of the district and the community of Santa Monica at the end of the board meeting of December 13, 2018. Craig made a particular point to thank the district for all its support and help. He stated, "I really really appreciate the unbelievable consideration that all of you had during this period for what was going on in Malibu.

The offers of personal support, community support, from this community, from you guys in particular, from staff..... this district, I think, has walked back from the fires as well or better than anybody could have hoped for. I am really happy with the deliberation and the consultation and the thoughtful steps to slowly but surely reopen the schools...."

Immediately upon notification of the fire, the district immediately mobilized its Emergency Operations Center to focus on all the needs of our families, staff and facilities, as had been practiced for just such an emergency. Foster participated in some of the EOC meetings and learned firsthand of the support and response of every district department.

The district was in direct contact with the agencies responsible for the overall emergency response, waiting for permission to visit our school sites to assess for any building, property and smoke damage. Immediately following the assessment, the district hired an industrial hygienist

team and specialized cleaning companies to conduct extensive top to bottom cleaning to ensure safety upon return to campuses for our staff and students. No expense was spared.

Santa Monica PTA leadership and other community groups rallied around Malibu, enveloping our Malibu families and staff with love, support, donations of food, clothing and places to stay.

A Thanksgiving week "Friendsgiving" dinner was provided for hundreds of Malibu families and Malibu staff at Samohi, organized by PTA, teachers and district staff. Truck loads of clothing were offered to families and staff in need. The remaining donations were trucked to the Malibu Boys & Girls Club for further distribution. Thousands of dollars in donations were collected in support of the Malibu community and Santa Monica was happy to help.

When Malibu schools were cleaned and reopened, district staff provided additional counseling, technology, and supplies to students who lost property in the fire. As Mr. Foster said, the district and community were considerate and thoughtful and there for Malibu.

It is unfortunate that in its drive to push the unification effort, some residents of Malibu are willing to be untruthful about actual events and to paint the Superintendent, School Board, district staff and Santa Monica residents as uncaring. Nothing could be further from the truth and Board Member Foster knows it.

Ralph Mechur, former member SMMUSD Board of Education; Santa Monica resident; parent of Samohi alumni

POLICE LOG

FROM PAGE 3

Encampment 1200blk 5th St 6:48 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 6:54 p.m.
Vehicle Cite & Tow (Parking Problem) 1100blk 11th St 7:04 p.m.
Public Intoxication 2700blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:21 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 7th St / Broadway 7:29 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 200blk San Vicente Blvd 7:47 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1200blk 16th St 7:49 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1500blk Michigan Ave 8:53 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 200blk Palisades Beach Rd 9:01 p.m.
Burglary Report 1200blk California Ave 9:05 p.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 400blk Euclid St 9:18 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 2000blk Ocean Ave 9:41 p.m.
Loud Music 1300blk 2nd St 10:34 p.m.
Loud Music 1500blk Berkeley St 10:47 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 1500blk California Ave 11:18 p.m.
Prowler 1200blk 10th St 11:58 p.m.

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR

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AWARD WINNER
AWARD WINNER
WINNER

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Malibu

Malibu's Polli-Power Program Offers Kids a Fun, Interactive Environmental Education Activity

April is Earth Month, a great time for local students in grades TK through 5 to participate in the City of Malibu Community Services Department's 2021 Polli-Power Program environmental education series. From April 12 through May 31, students can learn about pollinator species like insects and birds and their important role in habitats and environmental conservation through short films, activities, gardening and art projects.

The City will give away one hundred Polli-Power bags with art supplies and items to start a home pollinator garden. Families may register for a free bag and pick-up date at MalibuCity.org/Register.

The Polli-Power bag includes art supplies for students to create a spring suncatcher window display. After completing the art project, families may drop it off at various City locations to be included in the "Beauty in Bloom" art exhibition that will be on display at the Michael Landon Center at Malibu Bluffs Park May 3 through 31.

Visit MalibuCity.org/PolliPower for program details and deadlines and follow the Community Services Department on social media for information on upcoming programs.

SUBMITTED BY MATT MYERHOFF

LOS ANGELES

Former priest charged with sexually abusing children near LA

A former Catholic priest has been charged with sexually assaulting four children while serving at two Los Angeles area churches two decades ago, prosecutors said Wednesday.

Christopher John Cunningham faces 12 counts of committing lewd acts upon a minor, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office said in a statement.

It wasn't immediately known if Cunningham, 58, has an attorney who could speak on his behalf.

Prosecutors allege Cunningham sexually assaulted an 11-year-old boy on two occasions between 1995 and 1997 while he was an associate pastor at Saint Mary's Catholic Church in Palmdale.

He also molested another boy at the 11-year-old's home between 1996 and 1998, according to prosecutors.

After Cunningham was reassigned to Saint Lawrence Martyr Catholic Church in Redondo Beach, he allegedly abused a 10-year-old boy and a 12-year-old boy repeatedly between 1998 and 2001, the District Attorney's statement said.

"The victims were innocent children who have spent most of their lives with the trauma caused by the abuse alleged in this case," District Attorney George Gascón said in the statement. "My office is committed to holding accountable anyone who abuses and takes advantage of our children, especially when they hold a position of trust."

The Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles said in a statement that the announcement of Cunningham's arrest was the first time church officials were made aware of the criminal allegations against the former priest. The Archdiocese said it's cooperating with investigators.

"Fr. Christopher Cunningham has been out of ministry since 2005 after the Archdiocese received and investigated allegations of boundary violations, which are unrelated to the current criminal matter," the Archdiocese said.

"The Archdiocese was first informed through a media inquiry of an allegation of sexual abuse involving a minor in May 2015 when a civil lawsuit was filed, ten years after he had been removed from ministry. The Archdiocese was not aware of any information concerning these allegations prior to being advised of the civil lawsuit," the statement said.

The charges against Cunningham were filed earlier this month. An arraignment has yet to be scheduled.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

Himmelrich voted against the motion saying existing laws already provide police with the ability to intervene if objects become weapons and citing concerns over enforcement.

Councilwoman Davis said police have the ability to intervene in situations where items have become weapons without specific rules that preemptively ban the ownership of those items because officers don't have to wait for an assault to occur before stepping in if they see a dangerous situation.

"I mean if the ordinance banned swords, if we saw someone wade into a protest with a sword even if they hadn't cut anyone yet, I'm assuming that police would go up to that person and say, 'Whoa, you've got a sword.' I mean, I'm sort of stunned in that we don't think we could do anything absent this ordinance."

Members of the public called into the meeting criticizing the proposal in specific and saying that the general approach was misguided as it connected peaceful protest with criminal intent. Some speakers said the rules would contribute to unfair policing that targets minorities while others said the proposal was inappropriate given the lack of a public investigation into the police response to the protests and riots last year.

Craig Miller has been a vocal critic of the city's response and said while he understands the motivation behind the proposal, he thinks the city's focus is misplaced.

"So I don't think what Phil or anyone else was aiming to put into this emergency ordinance is necessarily wrong and I don't turn a blind eye to the real threat that exists," he said. "I just want to match the real threat with real credible action that will make a real difference. And that's in the reality and the correct learnings of what we all experienced on 5/31."

He said the first concrete legislative actions that come out of last year's incident should address the police actions that were far more of a threat to residents than stick sizes and signage rules.

"It's just, we have a whole set of issues to deal with," he said. "They're pressing, and we should take a balanced approach, not a singular and somewhat tangential approach."

editor@smdp.com

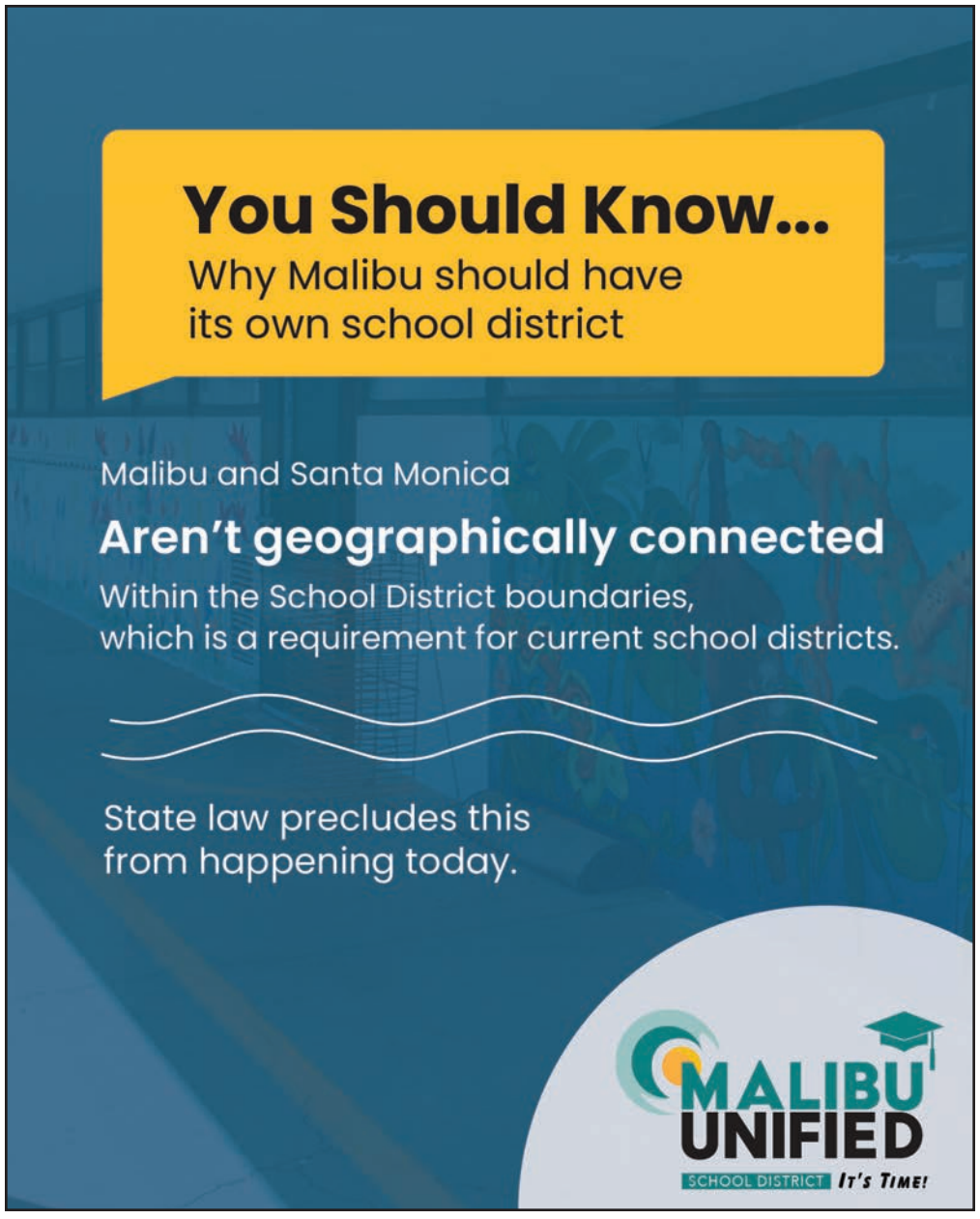
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Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

We Are An Arts City!



Courtesy photo

TALK IS CHEAP

When it is convenient, and when we want to puff up our collective ego, we brag about the arts in Santa Monica. We are such an art community. We are all in for the arts.

Except we're not, really, are we? When it comes right down to it. Our money's too often not where our mouth is, on important stuff. Tuesday night our City Council did the right thing, for arts and Pier businesses on city land, who pay rent to the city, who have been devastated by the closings brought about by the pandemic. Most have had zero income for more than a year and don't know at this point when that will end.

But they had to fight against an unexpected, two months early staff report that was all wrong, and that many, including Council members, felt was muddled and confusing. A report that proposed a mere three months of rent forgiveness for those arts and Pier businesses, with the balance to be made up immediately after, in effect doubling or tripling their rent at a time when they will be trying desperately to just recover their business.

CITY STAFF OUT OF CONTROL

It was yet another clear example of it, the tail trying to wag the dog, operating, it would appear, on individual agendas that make no sense for the good of the community. And often at odds with what the Council, ostensibly their employer, has indicated their priorities are. Oh sure, there are plenty of accomplishments in the arts that our City staff could point to. But there are way too many grievous errors and omissions for us to call Santa Monica a city of the arts.

Too bad. We should be known that way. The City pushes that narrative, sort of, but not too hard because there are too many recent embarrassments for it to ring true.

Cultural Affairs dragged their feet on support of Make Music Day, then funded counter to purpose, after initially starting the ball rolling, We nearly saw the destruction of the Chain Reaction sculpture, through misinformed studies and lack of City support. There was recently the installation of a half a million dollar art piece in the new City Annex building where you can only see it from the outside if you are standing on one specific spot. We lost the famed Millard Sheets mosaic mural to Orange County -- a few on City staff decided it wasn't worth the effort and expense, even though the building owner was generously offering to cover the $300,000 cost of removal and preservation, but City reps did not bring it to the attention of the Arts or Landmarks Commissions for six weeks after they knew the deadline, until it was too late (heads should have rolled on that blunder, but then, we didn't even fire out Police Chief on June 1). Two important murals on school property were destroyed, Muir Woods and a Cesar Chavez mural at Samohi -- not in the City's control but within our purview to at least speak out on behalf of preserving public art.

WE'RE 43% ARTS PEOPLE HERE!

According to a 2007 City study titled "Creative Capital, Culture Community Vision," 43% of Santa Monica's adults make all or part of their living in arts-related fields. That's extraordinary. That's six times the national average. And it's nothing new. Look at our history of the last hundred years or more.

What a resource! People, creative people! You have to attract that, and nurture it, you can't manufacture it. It feeds on itself if it is a known, supported community. What a potential economic engine -- the Arts! It's clean. No pollution, no skyscrapers, no huge manufacturing plants, no noise. It feeds the souls of both maker and consumer.

Imagine the kind of tourism we would have if we were known as the City of Arts: smaller numbers of millions but coming with the intention to spend locally on more than a hotel and a meal. Why, in this once-in-a-century post-pandemic time of reinvention, what a perfect time to truly become the City of Music, the City of Arts.

Instead, what does staff give us? A premature, confusing report blindsiding

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 7

NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 6

the arts community and City Council alike, that also recommends hiring three more City Planning staffers, at a cost of a million dollars a year. Because we must, must reinvest in development, and that requires more plan checkers and approvers. That's either insanity, or some hidden agendas that we need to purge.

Much praise goes to Council members Kevin McKeown, who spoke up early in the meeting to opine that three months' rent relief was kind of crazy, it should be six, nine months or a year. (I'm with him.) Gleam Davis made the motion that passed, granting nine months relief to our two theaters, City Garage and Ruskin Group, six months to other cultural and Pier businesses and three to six months to galleries. Kristin McCowan pointed out a couple of times how confusing the staff report was, and that was echoed by others.

Now, that's the way I like to see our City Council advocate and act, for the arts, but how about reducing the roadblocks to that good behavior.

NICOLE RECOMMENDS: -- TONIGHT!

DAKHABRAKHA LIVE(STREAM) TONIGHT -- DakhaBrakha is a genre-bending quartet from Kyiv, Ukraine. I was fortunate to see them open for Tuvan throat singing stars Huun-Huur-Tu at UCLA's Royce Hall several years ago, and was impressed by their poise and theatrical stage presence. Their music is a colorful fusion of international instrumentation that blends contemporary avant-garde with Ukranian folk, jazz, animal sounds, and some things so indescribable you just have to hear them for yourself. DakhaBrakha will be performing live through UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance website tonight at 7 p.m. PDT.

Link to view performance: https://online.cap.ucla.edu/videos/dakhabrakha

Link to digital booklet: https://cap.ucla.edu/archive/programnotes/note.php?n=313_FINAL_HP_DakhaBrakha_2021_Webpdf.pdf

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 3,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 34 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

SHAKE SHACK

FROM PAGE 1

custom Shake Shack glass featuring a decal of the Santa Monica Ferris wheel.

"After years of searching, we are thrilled to finally bring Shake Shack to Santa Monica," said Andrew McCaughan, chief development officer of Shake Shack.

The Santa Monica Shack will open with a limited menu, but Culinary Director Mark Rosati assures residents that all of the classics — including the Shack Burger, crinkle-cut fries and hand-spun shakes — will still be present.

In addition, the new location will feature some limited time offers including an avocado bacon cheeseburger and an avocado bacon crispy chicken burger.

Guests are welcome to dine indoors or outdoors and have the ability to pre-order via the Shake Shack website or the Shack Shack app. People can collect their order using the walk-up window, curbside pick-up or in-shack pick-up shelves.

Los Angeles-based artist Steph Hendrix designed a custom mural for the site. This location also has many "green" features in keeping with the company's sustainability commitment.

The shack incorporates reclaimed wood paneling by Pioneer Works and has solar panels on the roof. The location also utilizes Restore Foodware's AirCarbon cutlery and straws, which are made from compostable and carbon-negative biomaterials.

"I'm incredibly proud of our team for everything that went into this Shack; our commitment to sustainability via onsite renewables, a beautiful building by Michael Hsu Office of Architecture featuring our garden room, impactful local art by Steph Hendrix, and of course our Shack Track pick up window experience, making it easier for the people of Santa Monica to get their Shack," said McCaughan.

The Downtown Santa Monica shack will be open Sunday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and until 11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Clara@smdp.com



Courtesy photo

OPENING SOON: The restaurant will make a donation to the Westside Food Bank as part of their grand opening celebration.





Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



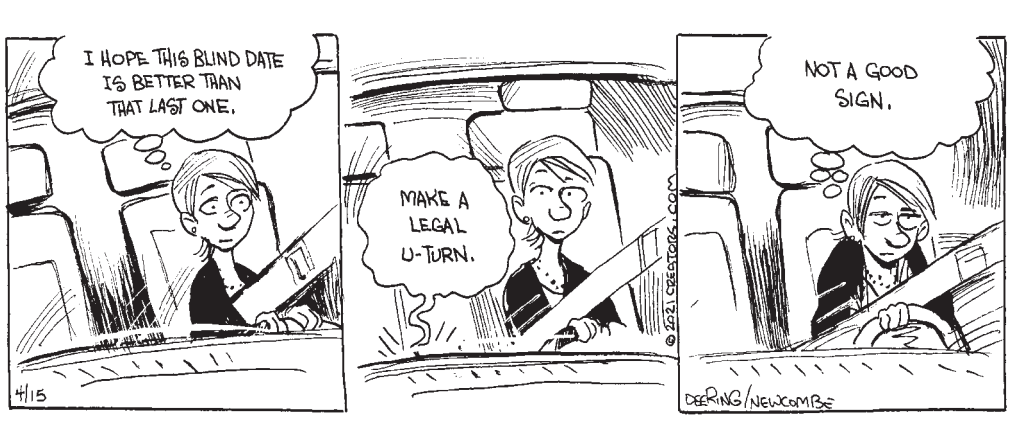
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



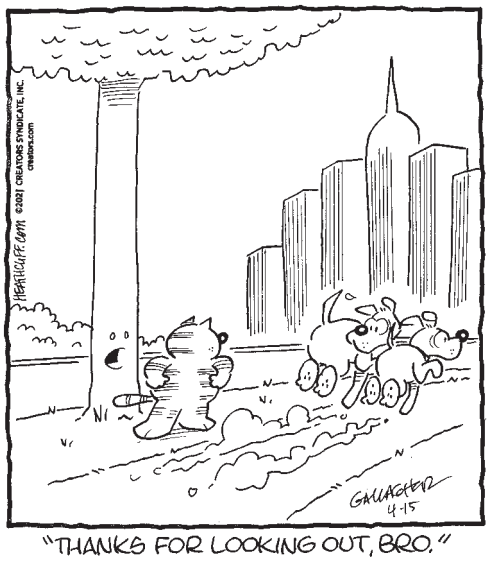
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 60.8°

THURSDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high
SW swell nudges up slightly, showing best for spots west of Pt. Dume. Wind looking favorable through the morning.

FRIDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high
W swell continues, showing best for spots west of Pt. Dume. Wind looking okay for the AM.

WEATHER

Thursday: Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny, with a high near 62.
Thursday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 53.
Friday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 65.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2021/04/20	Tue	03:25 AM	4.02	H
2021/04/20	Tue	11:43 AM	0.23	L
2021/04/20	Tue	7:19 PM	3.47	H
2021/04/20	Tue	11:36 PM	2.84	L
2021/04/21	Wed	05:00 AM	4.17	H
2021/04/21	Wed	12:29 PM	-0.02	L
2021/04/21	Wed	7:28 PM	3.82	H
2021/04/22	Thu	12:33 AM	2.24	L

DAILY LOTTERY

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

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 4/13
10 15 19 45 68
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: 240 M

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

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 4/13
10 13 15 28 31

Daily 3
Draw Date: 4/13
EVENING: 7 6 5
Draw Date: 4/13
MIDDAY: 7 9 1

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 4/13
1st: 01 - Gold Rush
2nd: 11 - Money Bags
3rd: 06 - Whirl Win
Race Time: 1:44.95

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 15)

Here come the exciting influences! There are definite emotional benefits from the changes over the next 10 weeks, and you'll find your mood on a steady rise. Because of this, you'll attract different situations in May than you do in August. You will leverage one resource for another more brilliantly suited to your needs. Leo and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 28, 1, 22 and 16.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Love fills your entire world because you see some version of it wherever your eyes land. Even the grass seems to sing love songs to the sun; the mountains give friendship to the sky.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You are discovering your inner rock star today, playing the scene like a power chord, right on time, with a charismatic attitude and the tone people need to hear.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It is said that math is the language of the cosmos, but emotion will be the universal tongue you speak today, projecting feelings that resonate in the world to bring unanticipated outcomes to life.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's better not to assume the intentions of others, as many act unintentionally and many more have intentions you would never guess. Therefore, it would be pointless to waste thought on.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Because you've made a decision to be in control of your life, relationships and circumstances in opposition to your goal have come to a standstill. Lack of common interests will do that, and, in this case, it's a welcome sign of progress.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When you find yourself around people with the attributes you admire, it's because you are either like this as well or developing in this direction. You were meant to be inspired and supported.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're not trying to change anyone. True, it would rather convenient for you if they did change, but there are plenty of remarkably accessible people out there who already embody what you need.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Of course, you want to focus on what's important, but today brings some confusion as to what fits the category. Hint: It's small, emotional in nature and couldn't happen on any other day.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It is normal to, at times, feel uncomfortable, displaced or lost in the unfamiliar. These feelings accompany the passages of life you will one day be most proud of.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It is so hard for you to take a compliment, and yet it is so easy for you to believe someone's unwanted critique. In general, this is a good day to ignore the opinions of others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). An intriguing future is taking form in your imagination. This is just one of many possibilities, so why are you already putting limits on it? Practice unbound visualization and watch your reality free up.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Bottom line, there are people who make you feel good and people who don't. To be with people in the latter category isn't a waste; you often learn the most from them. That said, why make them your first choice?

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

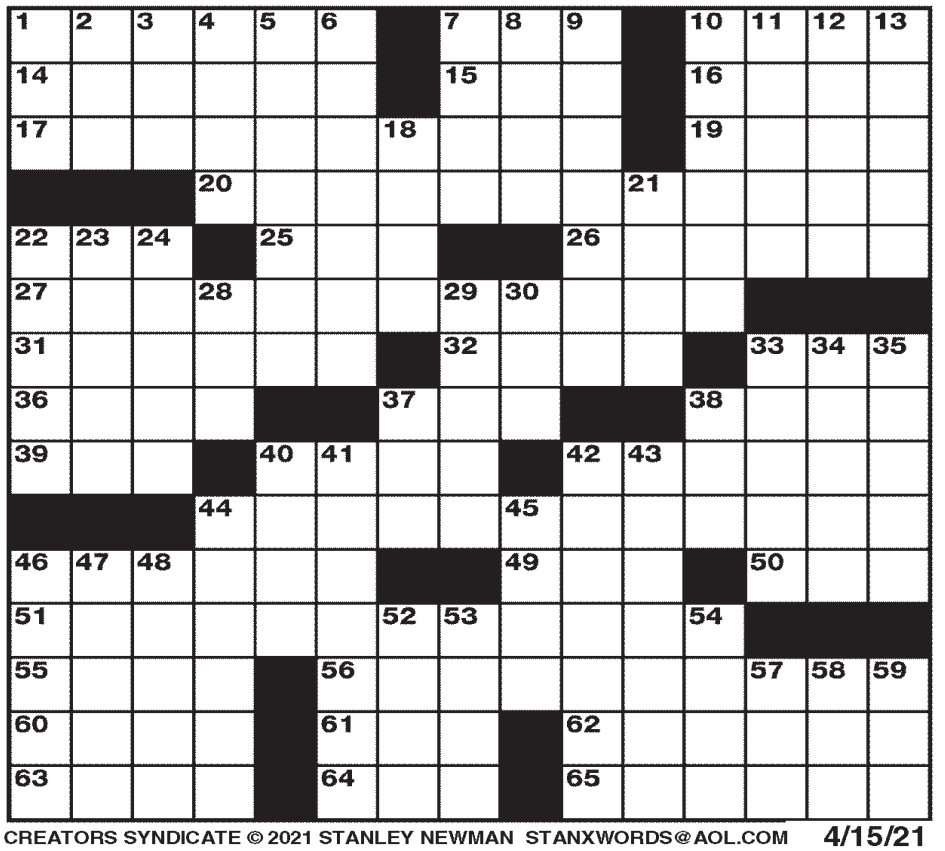
5		8			1		9	
	6			4		5	7	
1			3		2		8	
	1				6		2	
2			7	3	5			9
	5		2				3	
	3		5		7			8
	2	4		6			5	
	9		4			1		7

Newsday Crossword

MAKE YOUR ESCAPE by Greg Johnson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Globetrotters' home
7 Alias introducer
10 Equitable
14 Peaked and lofty
15 See 49 Across
16 Rounds for battles
17 It flows through Richmond
19 Barbecue briquette
20 French fowl serving
22 PC port
25 Pocketful of rhyme
26 Insignias
27 Fast-food appliance
31 Table salt, to chemists
32 Quarry commodity
33 Drs.' lobby
36 Squared away
37 Baby hamster
38 Thug
39 Slice of the spectrum
40 Speaker's stand
42 Extreme enthusiast
44 Excavators
46 Early year
49 *Life of Pi* director, with 15 Across
50 Monarch of Spain
51 Chrysler car
55 __ facto
56 Chilled
60 Cookie made with cocoa
61 Symbol of sturdiness
62 #40 nickname
63 Moved, as merchandise
64 OED listings
65 Pokes around

DOWN
1 Pilgrimage to Mecca
2 Rosa Parks' birthplace: Abbr.
3 Spin rate, for short
4 Wasn't straight
5 Made certain
6 "Good heavens!"
7 Part of TAE
8 Spine of a ship
9 Exercise adjective
10 Superficial appearance
11 Sitting with
12 What you see
13 Portrayals
18 Major global lumber user
21 Social standing
22 Poe title surname
23 Cut closely
24 Bundled for a barn
28 Your relatives
29 Hug too tightly
30 Race in a potato sack
33 Surfer since the '90s
34 Oscar actress Julianne
35 Unable to sit still
37 Something snapped
38 Bit of humor
40 Sup in style
41 Acknowledged a mistake
42 Barbed remarks
43 Incited
44 Be benevolent
45 Missile with feathers
46 "Catch you later!"
47 Start playing for pay
48 Henry Ford's son
52 Part of a whale, snail, or nail
53 Seeks clarification
54 Silver State city
57 "It's __-win situation"
58 Imbibe slowly
59 Summoned person's query



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2021 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 4/15/21

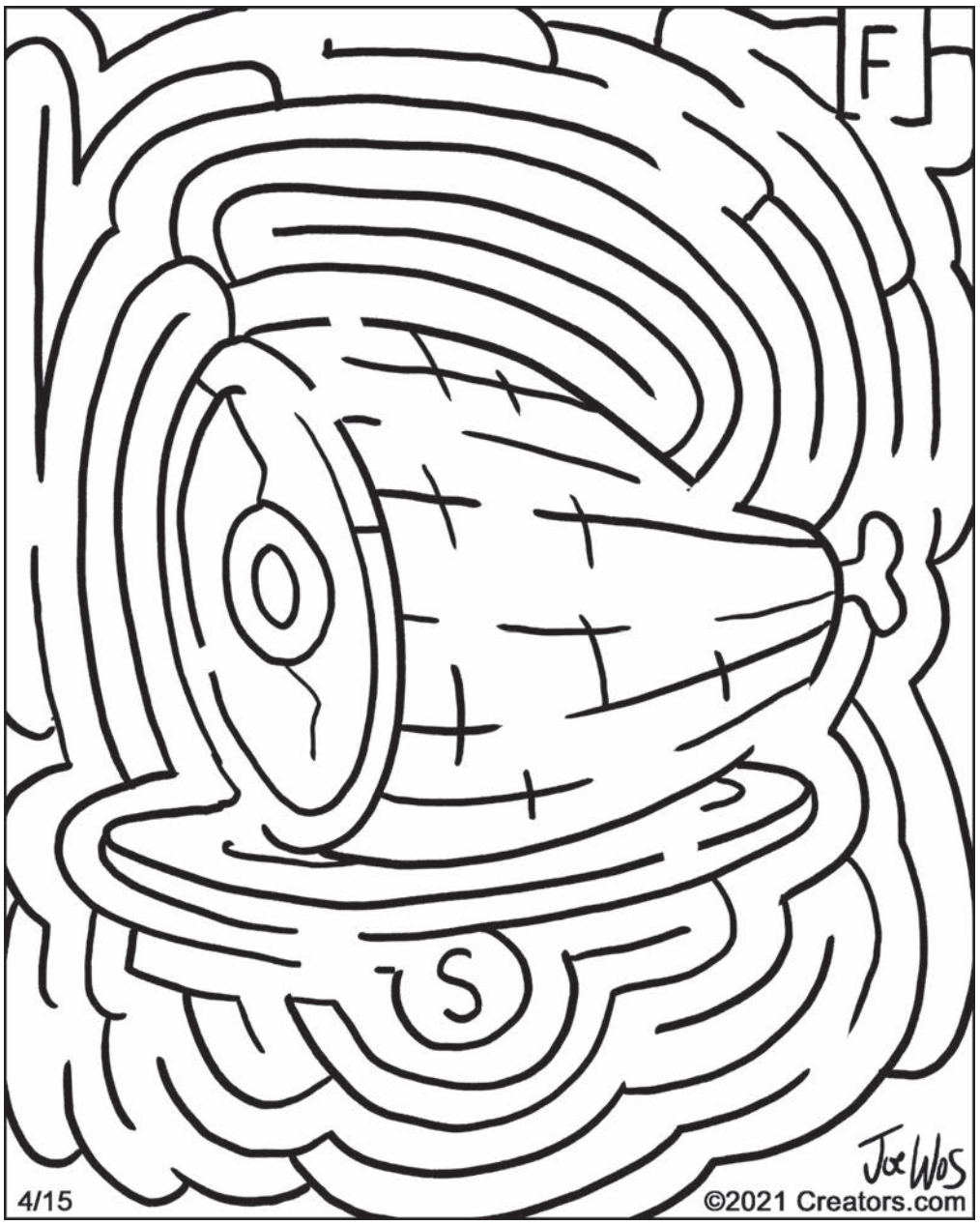
Binary Puzzle

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

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



"The City of Bell spectacle is what happens to communities without their own old-fashioned, diligent news coverage." - Terry Francke, Journalist

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FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 16 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

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The schoolyard

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

Academic	Desk	Loud	Sport
Arcs	Disruptive	Marks	Stroller
Bags	Essay	Miss	Sums
Books	Examinations	New	Talk
Buses	Fights	experience	Targets
Calculus	Garden	Noisy	Teacher's
Cane	Grass	Open	aide
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Governor pushes school reopening as many districts resist

JOCELYN GECKER AND JANIE HAR
Associated Press

Gov. Gavin Newsom on Wednesday urged all California schools to reopen, emphasizing that there are no state or health barriers to getting children back into classrooms and ending distance learning.

His frustration was evident: "Money is not an object now. It's an excuse," he said. "I want all schools to reopen. I've been crystal clear about that."

Newsom spoke at an elementary school in Santa Rosa that began welcoming students back this week. But his wishes remain an expectation rather than a mandate in California's decentralized education system, where 1,200 school districts negotiate separately with teachers unions and ultimately govern themselves.

Facing political pressure and a recall effort, Newsom said last week he plans to lift most of California's coronavirus restrictions June 15 in an effort to reopen the state to business-as-usual. He said he expects schools to join in.

More than a year after the pandemic forced California's classrooms to close, some of the largest school districts are reopening, including Los Angeles and San Diego. LA Unified's superintendent has said that communities hardest hit by the pandemic are more reluctant to send their children back to school.

Newsom said that more than 9,000 of California's 11,000 schools have reopened or have set plans to reopen, but that number is misleading because there is no uniformity in what it means for a school to be open. Some are offering one or two days of in-person instruction, mixed with distance learning on other days.

In San Francisco, where elementary schools began reopening this week, nearly 300 staff members have been given permission to work from home and teach classes via Zoom while students sit in classrooms with laptops and headphones.

Newsom reiterated Wednesday that his push to get the state's 6.2 million K-12 public school students back in classrooms was a plea, rather than an order.

"I don't have a closed fist on this I have an open hand," he said when asked if he would mandate reopening. "We must prepare now for full in-person instruction come this next school year."

Newsom's urging stands in contrast to the approach several other states have taken to order schools to reopen — including the Democratic-led states of Oregon and Washington — in part because of the outsized political power of California's teachers unions.

The governor made his frustration clear at having given schools and teachers what they said they needed to reopen. He prioritized educators for vaccinations, and at this point shots have been offered to every educator who wanted one, officials say.

Earlier in the pandemic, money was a huge problem as schools faced enormous expenses to overhaul ventilation systems, reconfigure classrooms and purchase protective gear for teachers and staff.

Newsom signed a $6.6 billion package earlier this year to fund safety measures for in-person instruction and expand learning opportunities. In addition, California schools are getting $15.3 billion in federal aid from the Biden administration.

Newsom pleaded with districts and teachers to "reimagine the school year" for the sake of children.

"Use this money to extend learning opportunities, extend the school day, extend the school year. Who says you have to end on June 1 or June 15?" he said.

Even as Newsom called on schools to reopen full time, he acknowledged that there is fear, particularly in the Latino community, which was among the hardest hit by the virus in California. He said instruction online and hybrid models will have to remain an option.

In Los Angeles, the second-largest school district in the nation, recent parent surveys have shown that more than half do not plan to send their children back this spring. About 80% of LA Unified's 600,000 K-12 students are Latino and many live in low-income neighborhoods that suffered during the height of the pandemic.

Newsom said the consequences of waiting are particularly profound in diverse communities. "And if they need more, let me know what more you need," he said.

California now has some of the lowest COVID-19 infection rates in the country and a much better understanding than a year ago of how effective masking is in containing the spread of the virus and evidence that children are not key transmitters.

RED STATES

FROM PAGE 2

population has gotten at least one shot, it wasn't disclosed that GOP Gov. Ron DeSantis got the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine until a reporter asked the governor's spokeswoman days later. Many other U.S. governors have gotten their shots on camera or held news conferences around them in an effort to assure people the vaccines are safe.

The Democratic governor of Kentucky, a Trump-voting state, is trying to persuade more people to get jabbed by promising to lift pandemic restrictions when vaccination rates improve. About 1.6 million people in Kentucky have gotten at least one dose, a rate equal to the U.S. overall.

Gov. Andy Beshear said Monday he'll lift capacity restrictions on restaurants, retail stores, concert halls and other businesses once Kentucky reaches 2.5 million people who have had shots.

"Every single individual's choices can get us closer to that normalcy we've been looking for," Beshear said.

AP writers Cuneyt Dil in Charleston, West Virginia, and Sophia Eppolito in Salt Lake City contributed.

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Notices

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Notice is given that proposals forOn-CallSubsurfaceServiceswill be received by the County of L.A. Dept. of Public Works, on May11,2021 by 4:00 p.m. T o access RFP documents, visit the link at https://dpw.lacounty.gov/general/contracts/opportunities/aspx. For additional information, call (626) 458- 2584.4/15/21CNS-3458802#SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

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Software Engineers (Levels 3 to 5) - multiple openings - sought by Snap Inc. in Santa Monica, CA. Dsg, dvlp & modify s/ware apps & systems. SWE3: B.S or for. eq. + 2 yrs exp OR M.S. or for. eq. Job Code #SWE3- SM-0321; SWE4: B.S. or for. eq. + 5 yrs exp. OR M.S. or for. eq. + 3 yrs exp. OR Ph.D. or for. eq. Job Code #SWE4-SM-0321; SWE5: B.S. or for. eq. + 7 yrs exp. OR M.S. or for. eq. + 5 yrs exp. OR Ph.D. or for. eq. + 2 yrs exp. Job Code #SWE5-SM-0321. Resumes: HalehHR, Snap Inc., 3000 31st St., Ste C, Santa Monica, CA 90405; Reference applicable Job Code when applying. EOE.

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Oppose Malibu's Petition to Separate from SMMUSD

What programmatic impacts will there be to Santa Monica students based on the current Malibu proposal? Reductions or elimination of the following starting in year one, to name a few:

Districtwide:

- Special education services
- Bilingual community liaisons
- Mental health coordinator and services
- English learner supports / staff / grades 1-4 summer language academy
- Technology support / staff
- Professional development
- Family engagement programs / staff
- Classified support staff

Elementary schools:

- Instrumental music
- Instructional coaches (K-8)
- Literacy and language interventionists
- Library coordinators
- Intensive intervention summer school (K-8)
- $1 million general fund contribution to Seaside and Bridges Early Learning Pathways PK-TK
- $200,000 for PK subsidies for unduplicated students and families
- Physical Activities Specialists
- Supplemental after school tutoring programs for unduplicated students (K-8)

Middle and high schools:

- Visual and performing arts
- Advisors and counselors
- Assistant principals / house principals
- Summer school (Credit Recovery and Get Ahead 9-12)
- CTE Incentive grant funds to support career technical education, career exploration, and pathway programs (9-12)
- Samohi's personalized project-based learning pathway (9-12)
- Centralized supports for the development and outfitting of career labs and/or Academies that integrate project-based learning and career exploration (9-12)
- Student Outreach Specialists (9-12)
- Subsidies for AP, PSAT, and SAT fees for unduplicated students
- Supplemental personalized online tutoring support

Join us:

Join us in opposing the Malibu unification proposal at the Committee for School Organization meeting on **Saturday, April 17, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.**

Public comment may be emailed to the County Committee up until 5 p.m. on the Friday, April 16. Any comments received shall be acknowledged at the meeting and shall become part of the administrative record. Comments may be emailed to the County Committee Secretary, Mr. Octavio Castelo at **castelo_octavio@lacoe.edu**.

Attend the virtual meeting

To join the virtual meeting webinar:
https://lacoe-edu.zoom.us/j/81101324358?pwd=TXdtc3VrYmVBNzNOMlFTaVVmSFBjUT09
Password: 547531

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+1 669 900 9128, 81101324358#, 1#,547531

SMMUSD
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Separation based on the current Malibu petition will not be in the best interest of all students due to lack of equitable conditions."

Angela Scott
SMMUSD Parent



"It is important for any split of the school district to be fair and equitable for both groups."

Judy Abdo
Former SMMUSD Principal,
Former City of Santa Monica Councilmember,
and child advocate



"In order to fully support social justice, equity, access, and diversity for all students ... the Malibu unification petition must be denied."

Sharon Hart
National Board Certified Teacher,
Lincoln Middle School, SMMUSD



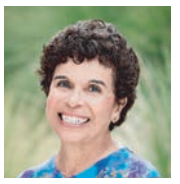
"To create two separate and radically unequally-funded districts is contrary to the purpose of equal public education. This proposal is so obviously discriminatory that its proponents should be embarrassed."

Joel Koury
SMMUSD Parent



"The Malibu petition to split up SMMUSD destabilizes the support that all students need. The Malibu petition to split up the SMMUSD is a serious mistake based on a parochial perspective and structural inequities. Deny the petition."

Cris Gutierrez
Santa Monica resident



"Malibu's proposal would create an immediate budget shortfall in the new Santa Monica School District, leading to teacher layoffs and cuts to services and programs."

Ted Winterer
SMMUSD parent
Former Santa Monica Mayor



"Any separation of Malibu from SMMUSD must be equitable and done in recognition of the demographics and needs of Santa Monica students."

Leslie Lambert
Santa Monica resident / parent of graduate



"Malibu's petition to separate is nothing less than opportunity hoarding. It would take much-needed resources away from students in the district who need them most, concentrating wealth among the most privileged. Everyone deserves access to a quality education, regardless of their zip code. That's why I oppose Malibu's petition."

Jason Islas
Samohi grad / Santa Monica resident

