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OIR Group nears completion of riot report

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

It's been nearly a year since large groups of people flooded Santa Monica after a peaceful protest to loot stores located in the Downtown area, but city leaders and residents are close to having an after-action report that details and analyzes what exactly transpired on May 31, 2020, and why.

During last year's chaos, which erupted shortly after a protest relating to the murder of George Floyd, SMPD deployed officers who would use tear gas and rubber bullets before National Guard troops were eventually called in to restore order.

Santa Monicans were initially promised two reports about the incident. The first would be an after-action report listing the timeline and facts. The second would provide an analysis of the facts. But when the Santa Monica Police Department said it was unable to prepare the

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City study finds Main Street al-fresco experiment a great success



Courtesy Photo

DINING: A City study highlights the many benefits of al-fresco dining.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

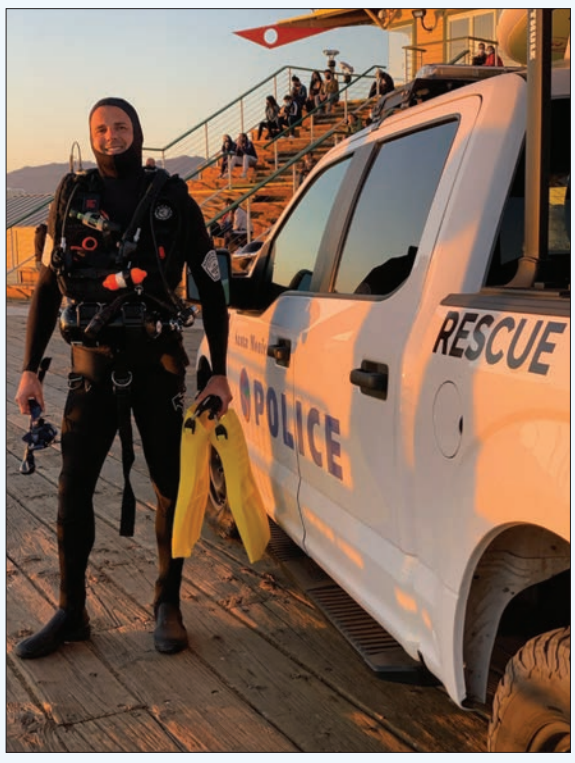
When Main Street launched its al-fresco program many feared it would be a parking and traffic disaster, but a recently released City study indicated the contrary and found the program to be a vital lifeline for merchants.

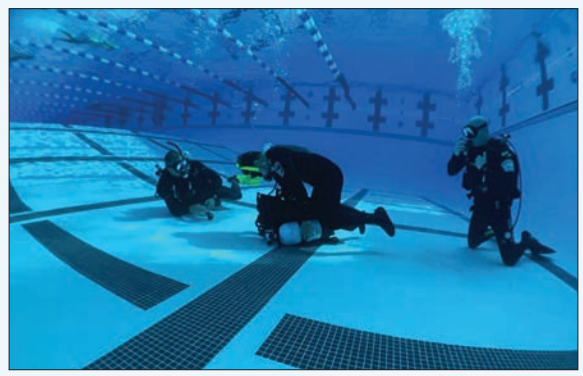
Al-fresco was rapidly pulled together in July by the Ocean Park Association and Main Street Business Improvement Association as part of the City's economic recovery efforts. Within a matter of days the street's center turn lane was removed and the parking lane was lined with K-rails to create dining parklets.

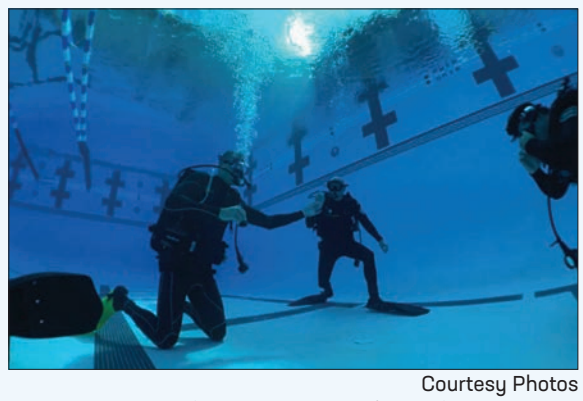
At the time, many concerns were raised. People worried that streetside dining would be dangerous, that it would drive up congestion on parallel residential streets, and that the loss of parking spots would decrease the number of visitors to the area.

SEE **MAIN STREET** PAGE 6

Unsung heroes routinely save victims drowning by pier







Courtesy Photos

RESCUE: Pier and Harbor Service Officers serve in Santa Monica Police Department's Harbor Unit.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

In the past 18 months, Pier and Harbor Service Officers who serve in SMPD's little-known Harbor Unit have performed over 105 ocean rescues in often deadly and dangerous conditions.

These intrepid officers frequently jump 25 feet off the pier into cold and turbulent waters, battle rip currents, and face heavy winds in order to complete rescues. In the last two months alone there have been several notable incidents where, without PHSO's intervention, victims would almost certainly have drowned.

Just a few weeks ago at 8:45 p.m. on April 8, a harbor officer rescued a suicidal jumper who was seconds away from drowning.

The victim was severely struggling and had swallowed water and disappeared below the waterline right before the officer dove in. In the dark of night, the officer miraculously made contact with the victim 10 feet below the surface and pulled him back up.

Tragically, these self-harming jumps happen far too often. However, there are also many incidents where people leap off the pier for a lark.

On the evening of March 9, for example, two young women decided to jump in on a dare. Their fun rapidly turned to fear as they hit the 57-degree water wearing only their underwear, where strong currents thrust their exposed bodies against the sharp barnacles covering the pier's pilings.

"One of them ended up clinging to a piling, then she was so exhausted that by the time our harbor guards rescued her she was face down," said PHS Supervisor Dan Buchanan. "It was super dangerous for all involved. She's lucky to be alive."

The quick action of Harbor Officers is essential for rescuing swimmers, who often find themselves pulled into the rip current that naturally forms underneath the pier. Many people are unaware both of the dangers of jumping from the pier and the fact that it is illegal to do so and could result in a misdemeanor charge.

"Once people get in the

SEE **PIER** PAGE 6



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California Senate OKs supervised sites for drug users

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

Instead of putting opioid-users in jail, a proposal moving through the California Legislature would give them a place to inject drugs while trained staff watch them to make sure they don't die from accidental overdoses.

The state Senate passed a bill on Thursday by just one vote that would allow the programs in Oakland, San Francisco and Los Angeles County. But the bill must still pass the state Assembly before it can go to Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom, who would decide whether to sign it into law.

Supervised injection sites have emerged around the world in recent years, part of a movement to rethink treatment for people addicted to powerful opioids — including heroin, fentanyl and some prescription pain killers.

People get very sick when they try to stop taking the drugs, making it hard to stop using them. Overdose deaths have surged nationwide in recent years, prompting debates in state Legislatures about how best to tackle a problem that is rooted in public health and public safety.

These sites are legal in Canada, but illegal in the U.S. The former Trump administration sued to block a proposed injection site in Philadelphia and a federal appeals court sided with the government in January. But supporters are appealing that decision, hoping new President Joe Biden's administration might drop the lawsuit.

"Unlike the Trump administration, President Biden takes a science-based approach to addiction," said state Sen. Scott Wiener, a Democrat from San Francisco who authored the California legislation. "We hope the administration will allow states to pilot evidence-based strategies like safe consumption sites."

In California, 45% of drug overdose deaths involved opioids in 2018, resulting in more than 2,400 deaths, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Prescription pain killers accounted for about half of the deaths. But the biggest increases in deaths have come from heroin overdoses, which more than doubled between 2012 and 2018. Overdose deaths involving fentanyl, a synthetic opioid, increased more than 800% during the same period.

"Forcing people to use drugs on our streets doesn't make anyone safer," Wiener said. "Let's, instead, take a public health approach to drug use, with trained professionals who can provide clean supplies, overdose prevention medication, and access to drug treatment programs."

All Republicans in the state Senate voted against the bill, along with two Democrats. The Senate Republican Caucus said in a statement that the bill would "establish taxpayer-staffed and funded drug dens."

"This is like giving a person struggling with alcoholism a gift card to BevMo," state Senate Republican Leader Scott Wilk said. "There is zero consideration for the neighborhoods in which these sites will operate, the victims of crimes resulting from addicts roaming the streets, or the families of individuals struggling with addiction who are praying their loved one gets treatment rather than drugs."

The idea behind so-called "safe injection sites" is to prevent accidental overdose deaths by supervising people while they use the drugs. The California bill would require workers at the centers to try to help these people by getting them into drug treatment programs or referring them to mental health care, social services programs and primary medical care.

The California Legislature passed a bill in 2018 to let San Francisco offer injection sites, but former Democratic Gov. Jerry Brown vetoed the bill, saying that "enabling illegal and destructive drug use will never work."

Now that Brown is out of office, supporters are trying again this year — hoping that Newsom will be more receptive.

By passing the bill, "the Senate has made it abundantly clear they are committed to doing whatever it takes to save lives," said Jeannette Zanipatin, California state director for the Drug Policy Alliance, a group that advocates for drug policy changes.



World leaders pledge climate cooperation despite other rifts

ELLEN KNICKMEYER, MATTHEW DALY AND CHRISTINA LARSON
Associated Press

The leaders of Russia and China put aside their raw-worded disputes with U.S. President Joe Biden on Thursday long enough to pledge international cooperation on cutting climate-wrecking coal and petroleum emissions in a livestreamed summit showcasing America's return to the fight against global warming.

Neither Vladimir Putin nor Xi Jinping immediately followed the United States and some of its developed allies in making specific new pledges to reduce damaging fossil fuel pollution during the first day of the two-day U.S.-hosted summit. But climate advocates hoped the high-profile — if glitch-ridden — virtual gathering would kickstart new action by major polluters, paving the way for a November U.N. meeting in Glasgow critical to drastically slowing climate change over the coming decade.

The entire world faces "a moment of peril" but also "a moment of opportunity," Biden declared, speaking from a TV-style chrome-blue set for the virtual summit of 40 world leaders. Participants appeared one after the other onscreen for what appeared to be a mix of live and recorded addresses.

"The signs are unmistakable," Biden said. "The science is undeniable. The cost of inaction keeps mounting."

Biden's new U.S. commitment, timed to the summit, would cut America's fossil fuel emissions as much as 52% by 2030. It comes after four years of international withdrawal from the issue under President Donald Trump, who mocked the science of climate change and pulled the U.S. out of the landmark 2015 Paris climate accord.

Biden's administration this week is sketching out a vision of a prosperous, clean-energy United States where factories churn out cutting-edge batteries and electric cars for export, line workers re-lay an efficient national electrical grid and crews cap abandoned oil and gas rigs and coal mines.

But Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell dismissed the administration's plans as costly and ineffective.

"This is quite the one-two punch," McConnell said in a Senate speech Thursday. "Toothless requests of our foreign adversaries ... and maximum pain for American citizens."

At the summit, Japan announced its own new 46% emissions reduction target and South Korea said it would stop public financing of new coal-fired power plants, potentially an important step toward persuading China and other coal-reliant nations to curb building and funding of new ones as well.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, one of the leaders shown watching summit proceedings in the coronavirus pandemic's familiar Brady Bunch-style multibox conference screen, said his nation would up its fossil fuel pollution cuts from 30% to at least 40%.

Travel precautions under the pandemic compelled the summit to play out on livestream, limiting opportunities for spontaneous interaction and negotiation. Its opening hours were sometimes marked by electronic echoes, random beeps and off-screen voices.

But the summit also marshaled an impressive display of the world's most powerful leaders speaking on the single issue of climate change.

China's Xi, whose country is the world's biggest emissions culprit, followed by the United States, spoke first among the other global figures. He made no reference to disputes over territorial claims, trade and other matters that had made it uncertain until Wednesday that he would even take part in the U.S. summit. And he said China would work with America in cutting emissions.

"To protect the environment is to protect productivity, and to boost the environment is to boost productivity. It's as simple as that," Xi said.

Putin and his government have been irate over Biden's characterization of him as a "killer" for Russia's aggressive moves against its opponents, and he is under pressure this week over the declining health of jailed opposition figure Alexei Navalny. But he made no mention of those disputes in his own climate remarks.

"Russia is genuinely interested in galvanizing international cooperation so as to look further for effective solutions to climate change as well as to all other vital challenges," Putin said. Russia by some measures is the world's fourth-biggest emitter of climate-damaging fossil fuel fumes.

Climate efforts in recent years have proved a forum where even rival world leaders want to be seen as putting aside disputes to serve as international statesmen and women, even though the cumulative output of fossil fuel emissions is still hurtling the Earth toward disastrous temperature rises.

The pandemic made gathering world leaders for the climate summit too risky. So Biden's staff built a small set in the East Room that looked like it was taken from a daytime talk show.

Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris joined Secretary of State Antony Blinken and White House climate envoy John Kerry at a horseshoe-shaped table set up around a giant potted plant to watch fellow leaders' speeches.

The format meant a cavalcade of short speeches by world leaders, some scripted, some not. "This is not bunny-hugging," British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said of the climate efforts. "This is about growth and jobs."

The Biden administration's pledge would require by far the most ambitious U.S. climate effort ever, nearly doubling the reductions that the Obama administration had committed to in the Paris climate accord.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel was one of many allies welcoming the U.S. return after Trump..

"I'm delighted to see that the United States is back, is back to work together with us in climate politics," Merkel declared in her virtual appearance. "Because there can be no doubt about the world needing your contribution if we really want to fulfill our ambitious goals."

Pope Francis contributed a video from the Vatican, saying, "I wish you success in

SEE **CLIMATE** PAGE 11

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 3141 CALLS ON APRIL 21

Battery Just Occurred 1600blk Ocean Ave 12:39 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1500blk Yale St 1:05 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 300blk Broadway 1:15 a.m.
Identity Theft 1600blk Wilshire Blvd 1:18 a.m.
Identity Theft 300blk Olympic Dr 2:01 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Ocean Way / Bay St 3:07 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 1300blk California Ave 6:22 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 2300blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:25 a.m.
Transport Prisoner 300blk Olympic Dr 7:19 a.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 400blk Wilshire Blvd 7:45 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 700blk California Ave 8:05 a.m.
Burglary Report 1200blk 6th St 8:06 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 800blk Pico Blvd 8:40 a.m.
Lewd Activity 3000blk 2nd St 9:19 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 11th St / Wilshire Blvd 9:32 a.m.
Identity Theft 1400blk Ocean Ave 9:44 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 1600blk Ocean Ave 10:04 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 800blk Pacific Coast Hwy 10:17 a.m.
Burglary Report 1800blk Euclid St 10:24 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 2900blk 3rd St 10:30 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 3000blk Urban Ave 10:34 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Main St / Olympic Dr 10:42 a.m.
Sexual Assault 1300blk 15th St 10:42 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Now 100blk Hollister Ave 10:48 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 2000blk Ocean Ave 10:49 a.m.
Assault Just Occurred 1200blk Lincoln Blvd 11:04 a.m.
Identity Theft 900blk California Ave 11:11 a.m.
Assault Just Occurred 1200blk Palisades Park 11:14 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 200blk Broadway 11:27 a.m.
Death Investigation 1500blk 5th St 11:39 a.m.
Fight 1800blk Cloverfield Blvd 11:58 a.m.
Domestic Violence Now 1200blk 14th St 12:08 p.m.
Burglary Report 600blk Broadway 12:43 p.m.
Burglary Report 1500blk 15th St 1:02 p.m.
Petty Theft Now 1600blk Cloverfield Blvd 1:42 p.m.
Sexual Assault 300blk Olympic Dr 1:58 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 1300blk California Ave 2:30 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Euclid St / Michigan Ave 2:46 p.m.
Critical Missing Person 1500blk Yale St 3:27 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1100blk 7th St 3:40 p.m.
Transport Prisoner 300blk Olympic Dr 3:55 p.m.
Person Down 800blk Montana Ave 4:13 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 900blk Montana Ave 4:58 p.m.
Fight 800blk Arizona Ave 5:08 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1300blk Montana Ave 5:26 p.m.
Fraud Report 1500blk Stanford St 5:35 p.m.
Fight 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 6:37 p.m.
Encampment 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 7:10 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:15 p.m.
Encampment 1400blk Centinela Ave 7:22 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1300blk 9th St 8:56 p.m.
Encampment 1500blk Ocean Ave 8:57 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1300blk Franklin St 9:37 p.m.
Battery Now 1500blk Ocean Ave 10:03 p.m.
Fight 1500blk Ocean Ave 10:07 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Just Occurred 1300blk Palisades Beach Rd 10:21 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 20th St / Interstate 10 10:42 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1400blk 16th St 10:46 p.m.
Fight 5th St / Colorado Ave 11:00 p.m.
Person With A Gun 400blk Colorado Ave 11:00 p.m.
Person With A Gun 500blk Colorado Ave 11:01 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 23rd St / Wilshire Blvd 11:04 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 30 CALLS ON APRIL 22

EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 3:40 a.m.
EMS 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 7:04 a.m.
Odor Investigation 200blk Montana Ave 9:11 a.m.
EMS 800blk Pico Blvd 10:08 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1600blk Franklin St 10:15 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 7th St 11:11 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Hill St 11:31 a.m.
EMS 1500blk 5th St 11:36 a.m.
EMS 800blk Ashland Ave 12:36 p.m.
EMS 600blk Broadway 12:41 p.m.
EMS 700blk Hill St 12:45 p.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 200blk Colorado Ave 2:36 p.m.
Elevator Rescue 1800blk 14th St 3:17 p.m.
EMS 800blk Montana Ave 3:40 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 21st St 4:04 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Pico Blvd 4:44 p.m.
EMS 800blk 4th St 5:12 p.m.
EMS 800blk 4th St 5:53 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 7th St 6:13 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 7th St 6:15 p.m.
EMS 1000blk 2nd St 6:41 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 6:52 p.m.
Broken Water Main 2300blk Montana Ave 7:09 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:15 p.m.
Broken Water Main 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 7:37 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 7th St 8:01 p.m.
EMS 1800blk 12th St 8:04 p.m.
EMS 1300blk Franklin St 9:40 p.m.
Smoke Investigation 1400blk 2nd St 10:24 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 20th St / Interstate 10 10:42 p.m.

Los Angeles County will appeal US judge's homeless order

Los Angeles County will appeal a federal judge's order requiring the city of Los Angeles and the county to shelter all unhoused residents of Skid Row within 180 days and audit any spending related to the homeless crisis.

The county filed a notice of appeal on Wednesday and will ask for the judge's order to be suspended, attorney Skip Miller, who represents the county, said in a statement.

"Deciding how to spend taxpayers' money and deliver services to people experiencing homelessness is a legislative, not a judicial, function," Miller said.

The order was issued Tuesday by Judge David O. Carter, who is presiding over a lawsuit by a group of business owners, residents and community leaders. It accuses the city and county of failing to comprehensively address the homelessness problem.

Carter's order came a day after Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti vowed to spend nearly $1 billion to get people off the streets.

Carter ordered the $1 billion placed in escrow, with a spending plan "accounted for and reported to the Court within seven days."

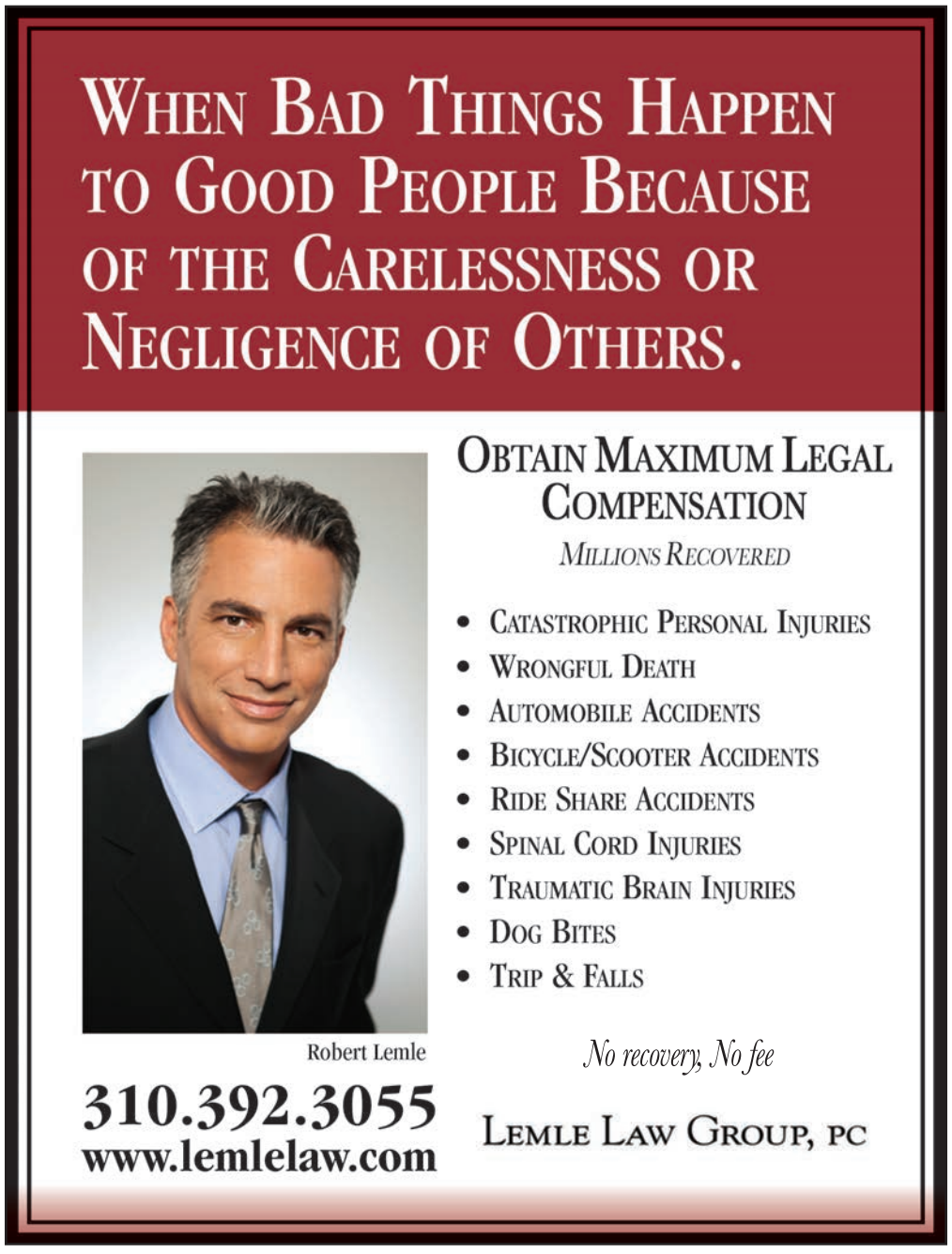
The order also requires an audit of all public money spent in recent years to combat homelessness.

This story was written by the Associated Press

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COVID-19 hospitalizations tumble among US senior citizens

MATTHEW PERRONE AND CARLA K. JOHNSON
Associated Press

COVID-19 hospitalizations among older Americans have plunged more than 70% since the start of the year, and deaths among them appear to have tumbled as well, dramatic evidence the vaccination campaign is working.

Now the trick is to get more of the nation's younger people to roll up their sleeves.

The drop-off in severe cases among Americans 65 and older is especially encouraging because senior citizens have accounted for about 8 out of 10 deaths from the virus since it hit the U.S., where the toll stands at about 570,000

COVID-19 deaths among people of all ages in the U.S. have plummeted to about 700 per day on average, compared with a peak of over 3,400 in mid-January.

"What you're seeing there is exactly what we hoped and wanted to see: As really high rates of vaccinations happen, hospitalizations and death rates come down," said Jodie Guest, a public health researcher at Emory University.

The best available data suggests COVID-19 deaths among Americans 65 and older have declined more than 50% since their peak in January. The picture is not entirely clear because the most recent data on deaths by age from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is incomplete and subject to revision.

Still, the figures suggest that the fall in deaths among senior citizens is driving the overall decline in lives lost to COVID-19, vindicating the U.S. strategy of putting elderly people at or near the front of the line for shots when the vaccine became available over the winter.

The U.S. trends mirror what is happening in other countries with high vaccination rates, such as Israel and Britain, and stand in stark contrast to the worsening disaster in places like India and Brazil, which lag far behind in dispensing shots.

According to U.S. government statistics, hospitalizations are down more than 50%, but most dramatically among senior citizens, who have been eligible for shots the longest and have enthusiastically received them.

Two-thirds of American senior citizens are fully vaccinated, versus just one-third of all U.S. adults. Over 80% of senior citizens have gotten at least one shot, compared with just over 50% of all adults.

At the same time, however, overall demand for vaccinations in the U.S. seems to be slipping, even as shots have been thrown open to all adults across the country. The average number of doses administered per day appeared to fall in mid-April from 3.2 million to 2.9 million, according to CDC figures.

"My concern is whether the vaccine uptake will be as strong in these younger age groups," Guest said. "If it's not, we will not see the positive impact for vaccines in these younger age groups that we've seen in our older population."

Also, new virus cases in the U.S. have been stuck at worrisome levels since March, averaging more than 60,000 per day, matching numbers seen during last summer's surge. The new cases are increasingly among people in their 30s, 40s and 50s, who also make up a larger portion of hospitalizations.

In Michigan, which has been battered by a recent surge of infections, hospitalizations among people in their 50s have increased 700% since late February, outpacing all other age groups.

In Seattle's King County, hospital physicians are seeing fewer COVID-19 patients overall, fewer needing critical care and fewer needing breathing machines. These younger patients are also more likely to survive.

"Thankfully they have done quite well," said Dr. Mark Sullivan, a critical care doctor at Swedish Medical Center in Seattle. "They tend to recover a little quicker because of their youth."

With enough people vaccinated, COVID-19 cases should eventually begin to fall as the virus finds fewer and fewer people to infect. Guest and other experts say Israel appeared to reach that threshold last month after it fully vaccinated roughly 40% of its population of 9 million people.

But the U.S. faces challenges in conducting mass vaccinations because of its far greater size, diversity, geography and health disparities.

On Tuesday, President Joe Biden announced new federal funding for small businesses so that employees can take time off with pay to get vaccinated or recover from the shot's side effects.

The challenge will be quickly vaccinating younger Americans, who feel they are less vulnerable to the coronavirus but are mainly the ones spreading the disease.

"To really feel that we're out of the woods we've got to see a lot less cases than we're seeing now," said Dr. Jesse Goodman, a vaccine specialist at Georgetown University. "It's going to take a wider, continuing effort."

In Chicago's Cook County, where 91% of adults 65 and older have had at least one shot, the patients in the hospital these days are younger and do better.

"That feeling of dread is definitely eased with older patients getting vaccinated," said Dr. Tipu Puri, a kidney specialist and associate chief medical officer for clinical operations at University of Chicago Medical Center.

At some moments, there's even joy, he said. He recently stopped to help an elderly couple find the hospital's vaccination clinic. The woman was pushing her husband's wheelchair.

"Those are people you hope you won't see in the hospital," Puri said. "We're not going to see them in the emergency room or in the ICU."

He added: "This is what coming out of the pandemic feels like."

AP Health Writer Tom Murphy contributed to this story from Indianapolis. Johnson reported from Seattle.

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AWARD WINNER
AWARD WINNER
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California's public universities to require COVID-19 vaccine

JOCELYN GECKER
Associated Press

Two of the nation's largest university systems say they intend to require COVID-19 vaccinations for all students, faculty and staff on University of California and California State University campuses this fall.

Several U.S. colleges and universities hoping to get back to normal campus life after months of online learning also have said they plan to make the vaccination mandatory. But Thursday's joint announcement from the 10-campus University of California and the 23-campus California State University is the largest of its kind in American higher education.

The CSU system in the nation's biggest four-year college system, with about 485,000 students and tens of thousands of staff, while the UC system has more than 280,000 students.

"Together, the CSU and UC enroll and employ more than one million students and employees across 33 major university campuses, so this is the most comprehensive and consequential university plan for COVID-19 vaccines in the country," CSU Chancellor Joseph I. Castro said in the statement.

Stanford University also announced a mandate Thursday for all of its 19,000 students to be vaccinated when classes start in the fall. At the private school, students who have an approved vaccination exemption for medical or religious reasons will be required to undergo regular COVID-19 testing.

The two public university systems would allow for similar exemptions.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has allowed emergency use of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, with health experts expecting formal approval of at least one of the shots by the fall. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is on pause due to concerns about blood clots.

CSU spokeswoman Toni Molle said the timing of a formal mandate will depend on when the FDA gives full authorization to one or more of the vaccines and also on discussions with labor unions. It could come before or after classes start.

"We are announcing now so that students and employees have time to receive a vaccination" by fall, when the proposed policy would take effect, she said.

The two systems have said they expect the majority of instruction and activities in fall 2021 to be in-person.

"The planned COVID-19 vaccine requirement will further enable the campuses to be repopulated," the statement said.

The University of California said in a separate statement that it will be requiring students planning to be on its campuses in the fall to update their immunization documentation to show they received a COVID-19 vaccination or have a medical exemption.

Students or staff who fail to comply with the mandate "will be barred from in-person access" to campus programs and facilities, including campus housing, the system said.

Across the country, colleges are weighing how far they should go to ensure students get vaccinated.

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

But some colleges are leaving the decision to students, and others believe they can't legally require vaccinations. At Virginia Tech, officials determined that they can't because the FDA has only allowed the emergency use of the vaccines.

Many schools have launched vaccination blitzes to get students immunized before they leave for the summer.

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

Associated Press reporter Collin Binkley contributed to this report.









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MAIN STREET

FROM PAGE 1

Fast forward nine months and none of these problems have materialized. Survey results have found both residents and merchants overwhelmingly in favor of the program, and City Council is considering expanding it even further.

"Al-fresco has really exceeded all expectations," said Ocean Park Association President, Marc Morgenstern. "You could very strongly argue that Al-fresco has kept much of the restaurant business alive, and by extension, really helped retail to hang on as well."

While parking and traffic was down across Santa Monica in 2020, City data found there was far more parking activity on Main Street during the pandemic than other commercial corridors.

While on average Santa Monica's parking lots saw a 41 percent decrease in activity in 2020, Main Street lots only saw a drop of 24 percent. Main Street also saw a smaller decrease in scooter and electric bicycle usage than comparable restaurant/retail areas on Montana Ave and Wilshire Boulevard.

There is no evidence that the loss of Main Street's center lane drove more traffic onto parallel streets. Traffic volumes on Neilson Way, for example, decreased far more in 2020 than volumes on Main Street did.

An OPA and MSBIA survey found that 85 percent of Main Street merchants believe the al-fresco program definitely helped business and 72 percent of merchants want to keep their parklets in the future.

Spurred on by this success, OPA and MSBIA are drawing up plans for an 'al-fresco 2.0' program, which will be discussed by City Council next Tuesday.

"Looking towards the future we'd love to see some weekend closures of selective blocks of Main Street," said Morgenstern. "We want to take what we've learned from Main Street al-fresco 1.0 and build on it in a way where we use data and experience to create a special weekend experience for residents, visitors and for the merchants themselves."

OPA and MSBIA are also looking to expand their art programming on Main Street. In December the organizations collaborated on a program to beautify parklet k-rails with murals painted by local artists and recently received another round of grant funding.

"One of the nice unexpected benefits of al-fresco is that we're in the process of reestablishing Main Street as a place of art," said Morgenstern. "In its earliest days there were a lot of very well known artists with studios on Main Street."

Back in the 80s the low-rents and ocean views on Main Street attracted a range of now famous artists including James Turrell, William Wegman, Robert Irwin and John Baldessari. Perhaps most notable of the lot was Richard Diebenkorn who over the course of 20 years created 145 paintings for his Ocean Park series.

Inspired by the response to the k-rail mural project, OPA and MSBIA are looking to engage further with Ocean Park's artistic history and use that as an additional reason to draw visitors to the neighborhood.

Clara@smdp.com

PIER

FROM PAGE 1

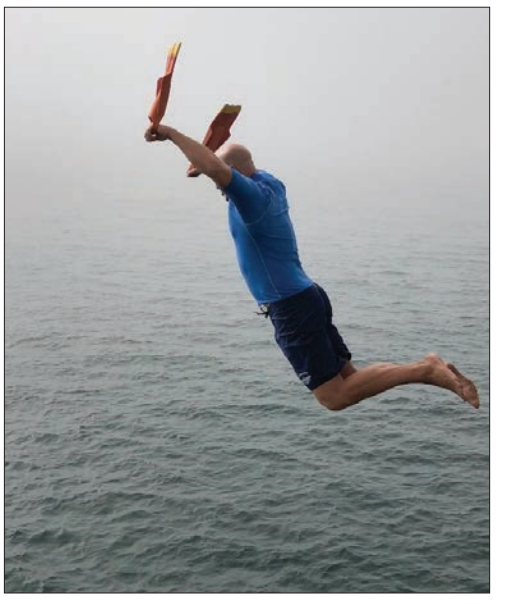
water, if they are fully clothed or their swimming abilities are not the best, they start aspirating ocean water and panic sets in pretty quickly," said Buchanan. "Having a lifeguard unit out there is imperative because saving lives is all about speed."

Despite harbor guards' frequent acts of heroism, few residents are aware that they are stationed on the pier and ensure public safety on the surrounding beaches and ocean areas 24/7.

These officers are rigorously trained and possess numerous qualifications. They are EMT certified, United States Lifeguard Association members, rescue boat operations, marine firefighters, and Scuba Rescue Diver certified.

Although the job is physically demanding, Buchanan said it's also incredibly rewarding, which is why he has served as a harbor guard for over 30 years.

"Most of the people that work here and then leave and go elsewhere always come back and say 'that was the best job I've ever had,'" Buchanan said, mentioning residents who want to show their appreciation for harbor



Courtesy Photo

RESCUE: The quick action of Harbor Officers is essential for rescuing swimmers. guards should not hesitate to say 'hi' or report anything suspicious they see at the pier.

Locals and visitors are also invited to follow the @SantaMonicaHarborControl Instagram page to learn more about the unit and the rescues they perform.

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California public schools see 'sharp decline' in enrollment

JOCELYN GECKER
Associated Press

California public schools have experienced a sharp decline in enrollment this year as the pandemic forced millions into online school, according to data made public Thursday.

The drop came as the state's school districts dawdled in bringing children back to the classroom, making California one of the slowest in the country to reopen schools.

The California Department of Education data shows that the number of students at K-12 schools dropped by more than 160,000 this academic year, most of them at the K-6 level, to a total of 6 million.

The drop is by far the biggest decline in years and represents the clearest picture yet of the pandemic's devastating toll on California public schools.

"The annual snapshot of fall enrollment shows a sharp one-year decline as the state and nation grappled with a deadly pandemic that disrupted all aspects of public education," the education department said in a statement.

The exodus was led by white students who account for just 22% of California's public school population but represent about half of the departing students for the 2020-21 school year, which could increase disparities in California's public education system.

California has the most students of all states in the U.S. and the overall student body has hovered at about 6.2 million in recent years. In previous years, the number of students fell by about 20,000 to 30,000 annually, led by declining birth rates, and that rate was expected to continue.

When the pandemic hit and Gov. Gavin Newsom ordered public schools to close in March 2020, no one expected the closures would last as long as they did.

Most of California's public schools started this academic year with distance learning and many continued that method into the spring. In-person classes started resuming this month in the state's largest urban school districts.

Among the concerned parents who switched to private school was Aurora Guel, a San Diego County mother who said distance learning sent her high school senior into a downward spiral.

"She became really depressed with all the isolation that started when school closed," said Guel.

Her 18-year-old daughter's grades had dropped to the point she was failing three classes; she lost motivation to apply for college and wouldn't leave her room, even for dinner with the family.

"We needed to do something to get her out of this deep hole she had fallen into," Guel said.

After transferring to a private Catholic school in October, the teen's spirits and her grades are up. She has a college acceptance and is looking forward to her prom, a milestone that many public schools have scrapped. "She's doing so much better now," her mother said.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond called the numbers concerning but said officials are optimistic that enrollment will rebound as more schools reopen to in-person learning. He said officials are working with schools and families to understand why so many families left and how to bring them back.

The public school exodus happened nationwide. There is no national data available on the 2020-2021 enrollment decline but an analysis from 33 states by the Chalkbeat nonprofit news organization covering education and The Associated Press published in December showed that public K-12 enrollment in the fall had dropped by about 500,000 students compared to the previous school year.

California's 2020-2021 enrollment declined 2.6% from the previous school year, driven by a combination of factors.

Fewer California parents enrolled their children in kindergarten, which accounts for a decline of 61,000 students and the largest drop in enrollment.

That could indicate that parents either held off sending their children to kindergarten or enrolled them in private schools, which saw an overall enrollment increase of 20,000, or 4%, from the previous year. The data also indicate that homeschooling surged in the fall, the CDE said.

Some of California's biggest urban districts had the largest declines.

Los Angeles Unified School District, the largest in the state, experienced an enrollment decline of almost 22,000, or 4%, to 575,000, the CDE said.

The data released Thursday was collected from all of the state's school districts in October, and education officials say it is too soon to know if the trend has continued since then.

Year-end figures won't be known for months but the data help illustrate how the pandemic upended public schools and has prompted concerns about funding for California's 1,000 school districts, which is tied to headcounts.

Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom's budget proposal calls for schools not to be penalized for enrollment declines, but education advocates are seeking extra money for low-income students, English learners and foster kids.

"Any changes in enrollment will have impacts on funding and equity," said Christopher Nellum, interim executive director for The Education Trust-West, an education equity advocacy group. "It's just going to exacerbate the problems that already existed."

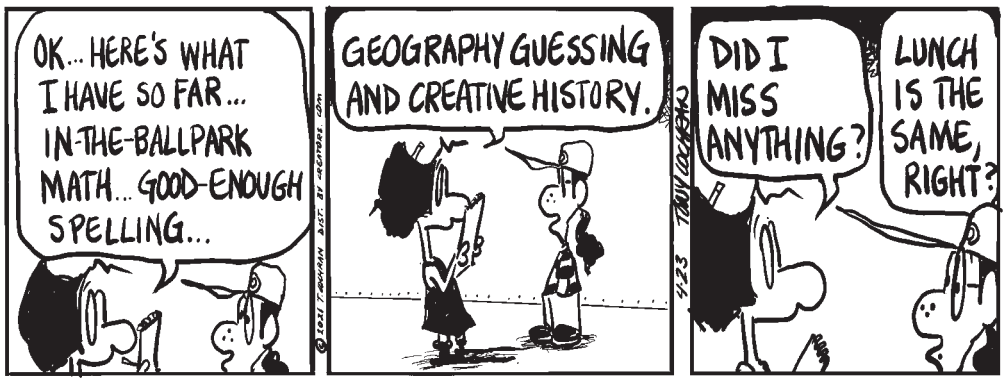
Nellum said schools will need to think strategically about how to engage Black and brown students, who were more likely to spend the year in distance learning than their

SEE **ENROLLMENT** PAGE 11



Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



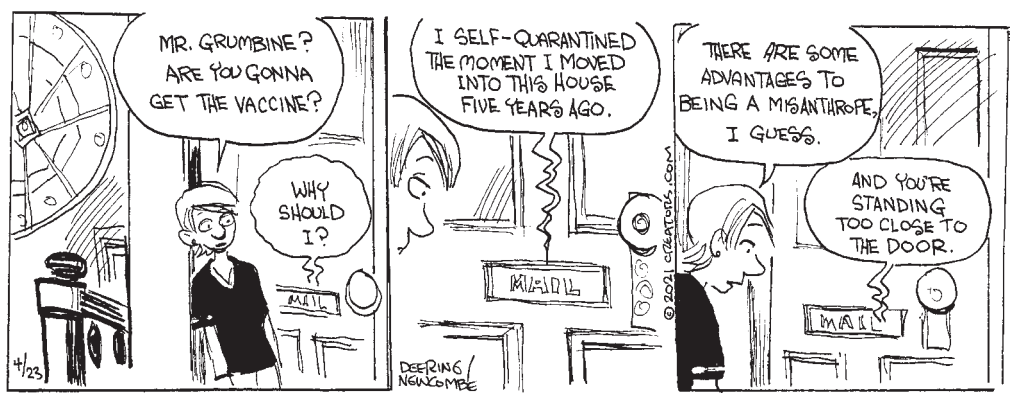
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



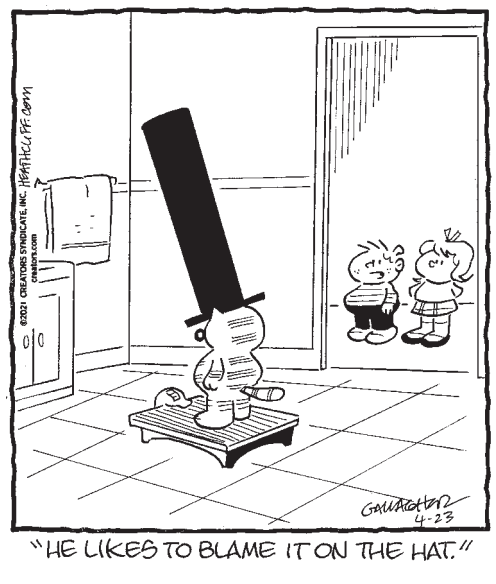
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE LIKES TO BLAME IT ON THE HAT."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 61.2°

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 4-6ft Shoulder high to 1 ft overhead
Stronger blend of long period S swells (one holds, the other builds). Shape will favor areas that have structure. The early high tide slows the DP, many breaks best as it drops mid AM.

SATURDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 4-7ft Shoulder high to 2 ft overhead
Second long-period S swell tops out with minor NW swell mix blending in underneath. Clean morning but a bit sluggish to start from the tide, wind looking to stay light as it drops into midday.

WEATHER

Friday: Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny, with a high near 61.
Friday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 52.
Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 62.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/04/23	Fri	01:18 AM	1.53	L
2021/04/23	Fri	07:05 AM	4.72	H
2021/04/23	Fri	1:40 PM	-0.28	L
2021/04/23	Fri	8:07 PM	4.75	H
2021/04/24	Sat	02:01 AM	0.77	L
2021/04/24	Sat	07:57 AM	4.89	H
2021/04/24	Sat	2:13 PM	-0.21	L
2021/04/24	Sat	8:33 PM	5.29	H
2021/04/25	Sun	02:44 AM	0.01	L
2021/04/25	Sun	08:46 AM	4.93	H
2021/04/25	Sun	2:46 PM	-0.01	L
2021/04/25	Sun	9:02 PM	5.79	H
2021/04/26	Mon	03:29 AM	-0.64	L
2021/04/26	Mon	09:35 AM	4.79	H
2021/04/26	Mon	3:19 PM	0.32	L
2021/04/26	Mon	9:34 PM	6.18	H
2021/04/27	Tue	04:16 AM	-1.11	L
2021/04/27	Tue	10:26 AM	4.49	H
2021/04/27	Tue	3:54 PM	0.75	L
2021/04/27	Tue	10:09 PM	6.39	H
2021/04/28	Wed	05:05 AM	-1.35	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERball
Draw Date: 4/21
21 25 32 63 67
Power#: 6
Jackpot: 104 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 4/20
6 23 43 49 52
Mega#: 5
Jackpot: 277 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 4/21
3 12 17 41 42
Mega#: 23
Jackpot: 40 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 4/21
5 23 24 27 33

Daily 3
Draw Date: 4/21
EVENING: 8 0 2

Draw Date: 4/21
MIDDAY: 9 4 9

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 4/21
1st: 03 - Hot Shot
2nd: 09 - Winning Spirit
3rd: 12 - Lucky Charms
Race Time: 1:40.79

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 23)

Though you don't feel like you're missing anything big, the exciting things that land in your world this year will inspire you to wonder later what you ever did before. A relationship will be sweet music, and then the song gets further orchestrated by an entire group playing along. You'll sculpt a new professional scenario in 2022. Leo and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 39, 20, 1, 4 and 8.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You don't set out to be original, but you're working with something other than what was available in the example. Using different ingredients and techniques yields unique results.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You could dismantle a thorny challenge by untangling one vine at a time, or you could do it like the goats and gardeners, not bothering to pick anything apart. Whether your chew it down or cut it up, you'll make quick work of this.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). They say, "Work smarter, not harder," though we can only work to the level of intelligence we have. It's not about working smarter; it's about being smarter. Take time off of work to read, get other experiences and develop skills.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It will be better to err on the side of assertiveness. If you don't get the response you hoped for, at least you'll feel good about speaking the truth and giving everyone a chance to know and participate in your reality.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). People run, but really there's no way to avoid it. Pain is as entwined with existence as is breathing. Accepting this inevitability makes pain-free times, such as you'll have today, all the sweeter. You'll live on wings of exuberance.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The thing about blame is that it's only one of many ways to package an outcome, and today it's an entirely unnecessary one at that. Forget about blame. There is only what happened, and various ways for it to not happen again.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You are not sure what you want from someone, but you're pretty sure it's not what you're getting today. This is worth thinking over. Give it a brainstorm today. What is your fantasy outcome?

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Can there be peace without understanding? Of course! Sometimes peace is accepting what is, whether or not you get it. Consider giving up the need to process every bit of information, at least right now.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There are many ineffective ways to handle fear, which include ignoring it, running from it, pretending to be cool about it or letting it stop you. The proper way is to accept fear so you can harness it and make it work for you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). It's like your heart is a search-light, scanning for the heart that reflects back a kindred glow. You'll illuminate other things along the way, though it's best to keep moving until you alight on what you were originally looking for.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It's amazing what you can solve when you put your mind to it. Don't even think about backing down from the wildly divergent problems because they will be the stage from which you shine brightest.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Those who believe that the universe speaks in mocking laughter may be selling themselves short with such cynicism. As for you, life seems to be, at this time, respecting many of your plans.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

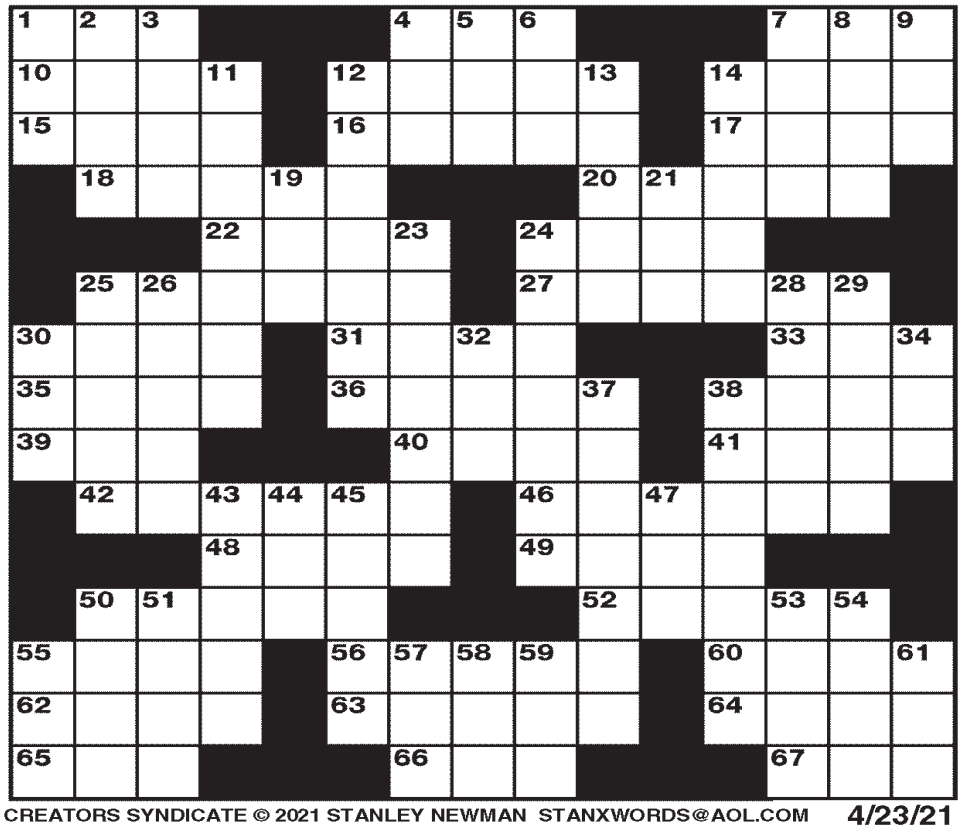
			7			1		5
				1			3	
		2	9		4			7
	8		1				9	
7		5		9		4		3
	6				3		2	
2			8		1	9		
	5			4				
6		1			9			

Newsday Crossword

T FORMATION by S.N.
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Touch lightly
4 Treatment for fuel injectors
7 Touch lightly
10 Type of frat party
12 Trot pompously
14 Typography selection
15 Telethon gift bag
16 Toon dog in *Mickey's Revue*
17 Theta follower
18 Tony actress LuPone
20 "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," e.g.
22 Therapeutic shampoo additives
24 Tip slightly
25 Tawdry and trivial
27 Too
30 TV actress Spelling
31 Try out
33 Turner of a rebellion
35 Trellis piece
36 Texas or Tabasco
38 Throw for a loop
39 Terrier or tabby
40 Tumult
41 Temporary shelter
42 *Tommy* rock band
46 Tubb of country music
48 Tenth grader, typically
49 Tax table percentage
50 Toyota 86 alternative
52 Tenor complement that included Pavarotti
55 Terse turndown
56 Together, on a score
60 Toulouse-Lautrec's being
62 "There are more . . ."
63 Tough to titillate
64 Table things
65 T as in AT&T
66 Tabloid terrorizers
67 Trigger, with "off"

DOWN
1 Tacoma hrs. in winter
2 Training on, as a bike
3 "Toodle-oo!"
4 Team in NL Central
5 Title role in a play about Capote
6 Throw, as a shot
7 Train sound
8 Two computer-animated films after *Toy Story*
9 Take Your Family to School Week sponsor
11 Tackle a task
12 Things to lift
13 "That means . . ."
14 Too-foul stuff
19 Typist's key
21 Typist's key
23 "Ten gallon" brand
24 Threadbare, comparatively
25 "Tenant wanted"
26 Temper tantrum
28 They'll give you a hand
29 Torment
30 Thyme amt.
32 Tended tykes
34 Tunnel blaster
37 "Trusty" antonym
38 Turned left, say
43 Trade online
44 Teary, for example
45 Track trials
47 "Tremendous" ordinal
50 Tiny particle
51 Titles are often seen in it: Abbr.
53 Touchdown stats
54 Tyrtov's *nom d'arte*
55 Tennis ball trapper
57 Tribe that named a state
58 Toddler
59 Twas, presently
61 Toss down



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2021 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 4/23/21

Binary Puzzle

Each cell should contain a zero or a one. No more than two similar numbers below or next to each other are allowed. Each row and each column is unique and contains as many zeros as ones.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

							I		O		
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		O					O		O		
I				O	O			I			O



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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 25 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5092

Roll up! Roll up!

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

Adagio	Droll	Joker	Roar
Antics	Dwarfs	Josh	Show
Arena	Event	Jumbo	Take
Arrow	Farce	Lights	Tame
Bands	Fold	Lions	Thrill
Big top	Funny	Loony	Trip
Cage	Gate	Marquee	Whimsical
Cats	Girls	Noise	Witty
Circus	Graft	Pirouette	Zany
Clem	Horses	Ringmaster	
Crier	Jocular	Riotous	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Love everything on the menu

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REPORT

FROM PAGE 1

document and handle regular police work, OIR Group was tasked with analyzing the events that led up to and followed the civil unrest that occurred in the city.

In the months since, Michael Gennaco, a former federal prosecutor who is heading the after-action analysis efforts, and his peers at OIR Group have heard from dozens of residents who had firsthand information to provide, along with a large portion of police officers and even former City Councilmembers in an effort to compile as much information as possible.

"In addition, we made a zillion requests for information from the police department and the city," Gennaco said, mentioning the materials received included a wealth of body camera footage from the officers, media reports that detailed the events right as they transpired, and a number of other pertinent visual sources.

"Once we accomplished the information-gathering phase and getting the pulse of the community, we then started doing an analysis so we took a look at best practices and we're currently involved in writing a final report, which will essentially be the after-action report of the event and that will tell the story of what happened during the lead up to the incident. There will be a narrative of what occurred but also an analysis of what occurred that will include our assessment of the strength of the police department and the City's response to the challenges of May 31. And then the aftermath and how the city rolled out information, responded to concerned queries and — this has been a little under the radar — but we'll also look at how the department handled subsequent protests in the several ensuing days or weeks after, after May 31," Gennaco said, adding, "We'll probably wait for the report to unfold before we get into some of the specific details."

But there will be a lot of information put forth to the public because all involved parties have been very cooperative throughout the process.

"We're appreciative of that; otherwise we wouldn't have been able to do our work," Gennaco said, noting the undertaking has been a massive project because it involves analyzing the decision-making and activity of scores of officers who had their body-worn cameras running. "So, there's a lot of material to digest, and it spanned the course of several hours so the challenges were significant. But it's not our first rodeo in this area and so we're well on our way to finalizing everything. And my understanding is we're expected to present a high-level report and answer any questions that Council might have during an upcoming Council meeting in May."

From there, it will be in the hands of city leaders to determine how to move forward.

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CLIMATE

FROM PAGE 2

this beautiful decision to meet, walk together going forward and I am with you all the way."

The new urgency comes as scientists say that climate change caused by coal plants, car engines and other fossil fuel use is worsening droughts, floods, hurricanes, wildfires and other disasters and that humans are running out of time to stave off catastrophic extremes of global warming.

Leaders of smaller states and island nations buffeted by rising seas and worsening hurricanes appealed for aid and fast emissions cuts from world powers.

"We are the least contributors to greenhouse gas emissions, but the most affected by climate change," said Gaston Alfonso Browne, prime minister of Antigua and Barbuda. He called for debt relief and more international assistance to recover from storms and the pandemic to prevent a flow of climate refugees. His people he said, are "teetering on the edge of despair."

Longtime climate policy experts, no strangers to climate summits with solemn pledges, watched some speeches with skepticism. After Brazil's President Jair Bolsonaro promised an end to clearcutting in the Amazon, Dan Wilkinson of Human Rights Watch's environmental programs noted, "It is going to be hard for anyone to take it seriously until they actually start taking steps."

This story was written by the Associated Press

ENROLLMENT

FROM PAGE 7

white peers who moved to private schools or other learning options.

Those families, who were disproportionately hit by the virus, have also been more hesitant to return their children to classrooms as they reopen. Schools will also need to find ways to convince private school defectors to return, he said.

For parents like Jonathan Alloy of San Francisco, that will be a lost cause.

Alloy kept his 8- and 10-year-old children in a distance learning "pod" as classrooms stayed closed but recently decided to abandon the school district and the city.

Alloy said he lost faith in the city's school district, which has been embroiled in scandals, infighting and lawsuits, including one launched by the city attorney for the district's failure to reopen schools more quickly. San Francisco still no timetable for returning middle and high school students to classrooms.

Because of that combined with San Francisco's high cost of living and more expensive private school tuition, Alloy is moving to Connecticut, closer to his wife's family.

"To leave is just crushing," he said.

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