smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

WEEKEND EDITION
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Free, virtual events.
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Broad Stage REVEAL series brings audience inside artists' minds and works



Photos courtesy of Alon Koppel Photography

BROAD: Scenes from "Reconstruction (Still Working but the Devil Might Be Inside)"

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

As the Broad Stage gears up for the return of in-person performances, it is launching an interactive virtual series giving viewers an intimate look inside the creative journey behind its newly commissioned works.

The series, which is entitled REVEAL, utilizes many of the technological tools that the Broad Stage adopted during the pandemic. From Zoom conversations, to virtual panel discussions, to videos from inside the practice room, the program offers a multitude of ways

SEE ... PAGE 6

'It's been a wild ride': LAPD Capt. Morrison Bids Farewell After 2 ½-year Assignment

JAMIE PAIGE
Venice Current / SMDP Staff Writer

If there is one thing certain about Captain Brian Morrison's time in Venice, he's a better cop—and Venice is a better community—because of his leadership.

Morrison recently finished a two-and-a-half-year run as patrol captain for the Pacific Division of the Los Angeles Police Department. He received a promotion that has him moving on and up through the ranks. Morrison has been assigned to the LAPD Emergency Service Division. His duties will include overseeing the Hazardous Devices and Materials Section (Bomb Squad and Haz Mat), LAX

SEE **CAPTAIN** PAGE 11

Broken gas main leaves residents in the dark for days







Brennon Dixson

GAS: The ruptured gas line supplies a large amount of power to Santa Monica so solving the problem has not been easy on nearby residents.

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

The smell and sound of natural gas rushing from one of the city's largest mains prompted the evacuation of residents in the city's northeast corner Friday morning, but those left behind have been stuck in the dark, without power, searching for information.

The situation started around noon Thursday when a private contractor attempting to install fiber optic lines on Stanford Street near Washington Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard struck a 16" gas main, which prompted a large response of state and local officials, some of whom said they have been working since 3 p.m. Thursday.

The ruptured gas line supplies a large amount of power to Santa Monica so solving the

SEE **GAS** PAGE 4



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DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 285 CALLS ON APRIL 29

72 Hour Psychiatric Hold Cloverfield Blvd / Kansas Ave 2:16 a.m.
Rape Report 1300blk 2nd St 4:09 a.m.
Loud Music 2000blk Ocean Ave 4:13 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1100blk Harvard St 7:08 a.m.
Battery 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 7:08 a.m.
Silent Robbery Alarm 700blk 25th St 7:34 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 7:52 a.m.
General Parking Problem 2400blk Virginia Ave 8:06 a.m.
Burglary Report 2800blk Neilson Way 8:33 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1400blk 2nd St 8:48 a.m.
Medical Aid Alarm 1200blk Ocean Ave 8:56 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2500blk 18th St 9:02 a.m.
Burglary Report 800blk Pearl St 9:05 a.m.
Person With A Gun 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 9:08 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 200blk Palisades Ave 9:21 a.m.
Found Property 2200blk Virginia Ave 9:22 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 400blk San Vicente Blvd 9:24 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1800blk Montana Ave 9:24 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 500blk Ashland Ave 9:30 a.m.
Health & Safety Code Violation 600blk Navy St 9:33 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 200blk Pacific St 9:50 a.m.
Burglary Report 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 9:51 a.m.
Person With A Gun 2500blk 7th St 10:00 a.m.
Petty Theft 1900blk Wilshire Blvd 10:02 a.m.
Death Investigation 1600blk 7th St 10:17 a.m.
Found Property 300blk Olympic Dr 10:44 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1200blk 2nd St 10:46 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 900blk 10th St 10:53 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1500blk Yale St 11:05 a.m.
General Parking Problem 800blk 11th St 11:08 a.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation Stanford St / Wilshire Blvd 11:11 a.m.
Encampment 2400blk Ocean Front Walk 11:19 a.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 400blk Pico Blvd 11:30 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 2400blk Chelsea Pl 11:41 a.m.
Medical Emergency 400blk Santa Monica Pier 11:57 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1200blk 14th St 12:26 p.m.
Petty Theft 2300blk Wilshire Blvd 12:33 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1500blk Lincoln Blvd 12:36 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 900blk 5th St 12:45 p.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 400blk Pacific Coast Hwy 1:06 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 1:09 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 1500blk 4th St 1:19 p.m.
Encampment 7th St / Olympic Blvd W 1:19 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 2700blk Broadway 1:29 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 900blk 4th St 1:33 p.m.
Fraud Report 2600blk Main St 1:48 p.m.
Petty Theft 2000blk Stewart St 1:58 p.m.
Missing Person 900blk 12th St 2:00 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 800blk 18th St 2:04 p.m.
Battery 1200blk 6th St 2:21 p.m.
Petty Theft 3000blk Wilshire Blvd 2:29 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 800blk 21st St 2:29 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 300blk Santa Monica Pier 2:31 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 200blk Broadway 2:48 p.m.
Elder Abuse 1300blk 20th St 2:56 p.m.
Encampment 2000blk Stewart St 3:10 p.m.
Health & Safety Code Violation 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 3:16 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 4th St / Interstate 10 3:32 p.m.
Person Down 2000blk Pico Blvd 3:49 p.m.
Indecent Exposure 600blk Wilshire Blvd 3:54 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1400blk Harvard St 4:20 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public Main St / Kinney St 4:34 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 5th St / Pacific St 4:39 p.m.
Identity Theft 900blk 7th St 5:03 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2300blk 14th St 5:18 p.m.
Burglary Report 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 5:21 p.m.
Loud Music 1300blk 2nd St 5:21 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 7th St / Georgina Ave 5:40 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 200blk Montana Ave 6:05 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 300blk Montana Ave 6:11 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 20th St / Ocean Park Blvd 6:14 p.m.
Grand Theft 200blk Broadway 6:37 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 7:01 p.m.
Burglary Report 1400blk 15th St 7:04 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1000blk Ocean Ave 7:32 p.m.
Arson 27th St / Pico Blvd 7:40 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1200blk 22nd St 7:43 p.m.
Person Down 500blk Wilshire Blvd 8:00 p.m.
Construction Noise Yale St / Wilshire Blvd 8:30 p.m.
Battery Report 900blk Harvard St 8:35 p.m.
Found Property 2500blk 7th St 8:44 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 8:49 p.m.
Found Property 300blk Olympic Dr 8:50 p.m.
Identity Theft 900blk 2nd St 8:52 p.m.
Illegal Weapon 7th St / Broadway 9:04 p.m.
Person Down 2800blk Highland Ave 9:06 p.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 700blk Ozone St 9:11 p.m.
Person With A Gun 2300blk Wilshire Blvd 9:26 p.m.
Vehicle Cite & Tow (Parking Problem) 300blk Hill St 9:28 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Ocean Ave / California Incline 9:50 p.m.
Loud Music 1000blk Ocean Ave 10:06 p.m.
Loud Music 1700blk Ocean Front Walk 10:27 p.m.
Petty Theft 800blk Pico Blvd 10:30 p.m.
Animal Related Incident Lincoln Blvd / Wilshire Blvd 11:01 p.m.
Battery 100blk Wilshire Blvd 11:26 p.m.
Party Complaint 700blk 20th St 11:26 p.m.
Loud Music Ocean Ave / Bicknell Ave 11:28 p.m.
Party Complaint 2200blk Colorado Ave 11:38 p.m.
Battery 400blk Colorado Ave 11:44 p.m.

Consumer Corner

Andrea Cavanaugh — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Section 8 Vouchers and Income Requirements

Rob was elated to receive a Santa Monica Section 8 voucher after a long, three-year wait. He has worked full-time at Santa Monica restaurants for many years, but has never been able to find a permanent home here. Instead, he has couch-surfed at friends' homes, stayed in a relative's studio apartment, and even slept in his car. Rob hoped that the voucher meant his long struggle with housing insecurity was ending.

Rob found a one-bedroom apartment where the advertised rent was an amount that he could afford with the help of his voucher, but he immediately hit a snag. The property manager told Rob that they would accept his voucher, but only if he could show proof of income equal to three times the amount of the rent. If Rob had that much income, he wouldn't need a housing voucher and wouldn't qualify for one. The property manager also first told Rob that a credit score of at least 600 was required to rent the unit, but changed it to 700-plus when they learned about the voucher.

The property manager was right to agree to accept the voucher – doing so is mandated under both local and state law – but requiring income equal to three times the amount of the rent and requiring a higher credit score than for other tenants both were discriminatory and violated fair housing laws.

Rob contacted the Public Rights Division of the Santa Monica City Attorney's Office's for help. The City Attorney's Office contacted the property manager, and they agreed to revise the policy. Going forward, the property manager would require all prospective tenants to show proof of income equal to three times the amount of their share of the rent, meaning that Rob, like others whose Section 8 vouchers cover most of their rent, could rent despite their lower incomes. The revised policy ensured that the landlord could find qualified renters, and tenants would find housing, without facing discrimination based on their source of income. The property manager also agreed to rely on a single credit-score requirement for all applicants for each unit.

The Section 8 program is funded by the federal government and administered by city and county housing authorities, which distribute vouchers to lower-income renters. Tenants pay around 30 percent of their income to the landlord and the voucher covers the rest of the rent. Although Rob hit a roadblock when trying to rent his Santa Monica apartment, we have come a long way when it comes to sheltering those who experience housing insecurity. For many years, landlords routinely included the words "No Section 8" in their rental ads. Now doing so is against the law.

Santa Monica led the way in passing a source-of-income discrimination law in 2015, and California followed in 2019. Landlords now cannot refuse tenants based on any lawful source of income, including vouchers. Landlords also cannot refuse third-party rent payments, so long as the person or organization paying the rent affirms that the rent payment does not establish a tenancy.

Housing vouchers are integral in providing safe housing for all residents, regardless of income. They benefit both landlords and tenants. If you encounter any kind of discrimination when applying for a rental unit in Santa Monica, please call the Public Rights Division at 310-458-8336.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 35 CALLS ON APRIL 29

EMS 1500blk 5th St 1:06 a.m.
EMS 1500blk 6th St 1:12 a.m.
EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 4:28 a.m.
Public Assist 1100blk 7th St 4:32 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2400blk 4th St 6:42 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 400blk 23rd St 7:29 a.m.
EMS 400blk Montana Ave 7:44 a.m.
EMS 800blk 2nd St 8:10 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 9:26 a.m.
EMS 1600blk 7th St 9:41 a.m.
Broken Gas Main Stanford St / Lipton Ave 11:36 a.m.
EMS 1400blk Ocean Ave 12:41 p.m.
EMS 2300blk Main St 2:28 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 3rd St 2:40 p.m.
EMS 2400blk 32nd St 2:58 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 20th St 3:08 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Harvard St 3:25 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 5:26 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 11th St 6:31 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 3200blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:27 p.m.
EMS 900blk Wilshire Blvd 7:37 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 4th St 8:00 p.m.
EMS 1900blk 11th St 8:02 p.m.
EMS 1500blk Princeton St 8:59 p.m.
EMS 2900blk Arizona Ave 9:00 p.m.
EMS 2800blk Highland Ave 9:11 p.m.
EMS 22nd St / Wilshire Blvd 9:36 p.m.
EMS 1700blk Cloverfield Blvd 10:23 p.m.
Odor Of Natural Gas 900blk 19th St 10:35 p.m.
Odor Of Natural Gas 1300blk Princeton St 10:48 p.m.
Odor Of Natural Gas 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:49 p.m.
Odor Of Natural Gas 2100blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:56 p.m.
EMS 5th St / Arizona Ave 11:06 p.m.
EMS 900blk 19th St 11:31 p.m.
Odor Of Natural Gas 1000blk Chelsea Ave 11:58 p.m.

Letter to the Editor

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

My husband and I were so excited when we heard from Mimi that she would be reopening after the Covid 19 closure.

I actually was already going to her original Chez Mimi restaurant when it started on West Washington Blvd! In the 1070's! One of my favorite restaurants.

I would love to see her and to be greeted in French.

I was not yet married. And now my husband is just as enthusiastic about her as I am.

It has now been 40 years of going to Chez Mimi

Her very personal and old fashioned way of advertising ... with personalized actual announcements in the mail as well as her personal greetings to each of us is part of the magic.

The rest is the fantastic food ... a blend of French, Quebecois and California cuisine.

Always delicious. Always friendly and warm.

I hope she's there for many more years.

We all grew up together.

Bravo Mimi,

Lolita and Joe Metscher, Santa Monica

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SMC Continues Communication, Media & Design Series Online May 3

Santa Monica College (SMC) continues its Communication, Media & Design Series this spring with Part 2 of an informative two-part talk and audience Q&A with installation artist, animator, and independent filmmaker Patrick Smith. In "Independent Animation Filmmaking with Patrick Smith - Part 2," he will discuss his evolving career over the past 20 years, including how he came to animation, his early work as storyboard artist with Disney, and his move into creating his own independent films and commissioned work.

The talk is free, and will be held online as a live virtual event at 7 p.m. on Monday, May 3. A Zoom link to the talk will be posted with the listing on the SMC Events calendar at smc.edu/calendar. To attend the workshop, the Zoom software must be installed on the viewer's computer. A free download is available at zoom.com.

The Communication, Media & Design Series is sponsored by the SMC Associates, SMC Communication and Media Studies Department, and SMC Design Technology Department.

Smith, who has made award-winning animated films for PBS, has also made more than 20 independent films that have shown in film festivals around the world. He is a fellow of the New York Foundation of the Arts, and has a YouTube channel with more than 200,000 subscribers. He is also a curator for multiple international film and animation festivals.

More information is available by calling 310-434-4100.

SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH

Malibu

City of Malibu's Summer Day Camps Open for Registration on May 17

The City of Malibu Community Services Department is proud to offer Summer Day Camps June 14 through August 12. Professionals and instructors will provide excellent sports, enrichment and surf camps for children and youth in the community during the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District summer break. Registration opens on Monday, May 17 at 8 a.m.

Sports Camps will be offered for basketball, baseball, softball, flag football, soccer and other sports presented in a fun and supportive training environment to highlight each sport's core skills.

Engaging, fun and educational Enrichment Camps will include Theater & Improv with the Young Actors Project, yoga, arts and crafts, comic book design and art history. Enrichment Camps will keep students engaged while learning about the visual and performing arts.

The hugely popular Aspects Surf Camp will be back again this year to offer eight weeks of Surf Camp for kids ages 8-13 at Malibu's world-famous Surfrider Beach, Tower 3. Instructors will provide a dynamic curriculum with a low participant-to-instructor ratio.

Register online at http://MalibuCity.org/Register or visit http://MalibuCity.org/DayCamps for more information.

SUBMITTED BY MATT MYERHOFF



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GAS

FROM PAGE 1

problem is not an easy task, according to officials on-scene. The Santa Monica Police Department initially tweeted Thursday that the problem would be resolved by Southern California Gas Company crews by the night's end. But residents like Karen Paris were out walking the street early Friday afternoon trying to talk to anybody who would share a bit of information.

As she avoided the 3-feet deep, square holes that checkered the street, Paris said she heard power could be out for as long as a week before she found an on-site command center Friday.

"They are going to be working around the clock, because there are multiple gas lines that feed into this one line, so they have to shut off every single one of them before they can repair that line," Paris said, "And because that transformer is there (right above it), they're afraid that if there's a spark of any kind that the whole thing will blow."

No injuries have been reported yet but some residents have been asked to evacuate the area, including Carrie Sedor's neighbors, who live feet away from the exposed line and transformer box.

Her neighbors are safe but Sedor intends to stay at home in "ground zero," she said jokingly Friday when she shared her experiences throughout the last week.

Having lived at her Stanford street home for some time, Sedor said she never expected the power lines to be a problem until a private contractor hit the gas line that is located just outside of her driveway.

"They hit the big one right here that apparently feeds all of Santa Monica, this guy said. And they don't want to shut down all of Santa Monica, so that's why they're doing it in increments," Sedor said, detailing how she has seen hundreds of workers out at the scene in the last few days. "They said I'm right next to the transformer that possibly could spark the gas line and, apparently, gas is under the street and could buckle the road or something."

While she stood from her porch, she noted how residents can easily see streams of gas shooting from the various excavation sites into the sky. Workers discouraged onlookers from taking pictures with their phones out of caution a spark could start a fire. Sedor said this is largely why vehicles have remained in driveways even as residents head to the nearby Hampton hotel for safety.

"I mean the whole front of my house right there is one huge dirt mound that they're digging to access the 16' pipe," she said, taking a side-to-side gaze to count the square holes that litter the front of every house.

Sedor added she isn't bothered by the work, but she has welcomed the fire department and many other state and local officials into her home.

"We've had everybody here, so it's a big deal. This is a huge deal," she said, before she stopped to help Emily de Leeuw, who has had no way to charge her phone or communicate with some of the neighborhood's 95-year-old seniors.

While she walked house to house collecting phone numbers and sharing where residents can head if they wanted to evacuate, Leeuw said she had a few conversations with the Crown Castle contractor who said crews were struggling to shut off one of the breached pipes.

"They tried 16 or 17 different places... I learned this from the contractor who is with Crown Castle. And the haz-mat guy said, 'If you're able to find a place to evacuate to, it's a good idea to evacuate because the gas seeps under the ground.' And our house, all night, was smelling of gas and our windows were closed and I was wondering why," de Leeuw added. "It apparently comes in through the basement or through the ground, and the haz-mat guy even said that part of the road is buckled because of the gas pressure building up, which makes it seem like it's a lot more dangerous than one would have initially thought."

De Leeuw said she isn't concerned for her safety just yet. She is merely focused on helping her fellow neighbors because they haven't been given much information about the matter.

"A few of the senior citizens are anxious. We have a couple who is 95 and in their 80s, and they were concerned so they're going to try to evacuate today," said de Leeuw. "And they're going to block off this street so we can't get in or out apparently for a while; I'm not sure but I do know they can't even start working on the problem until they have shut off the main and they are just starting to shut everything off."

SoCalGas did not respond to comment Friday but officials in the neighborhood said power should return by Saturday or Sunday at the latest. Southern California Edison they would have power restored as soon as repairs were complete to the gas line.

Brennon@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

SMC to Screen Performance of an Adapted Version of Oscar Wilde's The Importance of Being Earnest

The Santa Monica College Theatre Arts Department will present a free video of its performance of One Hour with 'The Importance of Being Earnest' May 3-August 29.

A YouTube link to the recently completed production will be available starting at 12 p.m. (noon) May 3 at smc.edu/theatreperformances. The video is free to view at any time of day until midnight August 29.

Written by Oscar Wilde and adapted by Dr. Adrianne Harrop, the satirical play skewers social hypocrisy with a story of two young men – each claiming to be named Ernest – who win the hearts of two women who fall in love with the wrong Ernest. As the bachelors struggle to keep up with their own stories, they become entangled in a tale of deception, disguise, and misadventure.

The play, first performed in 1895, is considered Wilde's best dramatic achievement. The SMC production is directed by Dr. Harrop.

SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH

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Disneyland reopening marks California's COVID-19 turnaround

AMY TAXIN
Associated Press

Disneyland swung open its gates to cheering visitors donning sequined Minnie Mouse ears and snapping selfies Friday, marking a dramatic turnaround in a state so overwhelmed with coronavirus cases just four months ago that patients were being treated in outdoor tents.

California's world-famous theme park, which reopened after an unprecedented 13-month closure, is admitting only state residents and operating under a limited capacity for now.

Once inside, guests decked in Disney gear waved excitedly at employees tidying up the park's hallmark Main Street, which was lined with hand sanitizing stations and signs reminding people to wear face coverings.

After spending the year mostly teaching her third-grade class from a tent in her backyard, Libby Birmingham was thrilled to be there. The 38-year-old, who attended the park regularly before the pandemic with an annual pass, took the day off work to make the trip down from Pasadena with friends.

"Disneyland is like my happiest place, to be totally honest," she said. "It's one of those places that I can always enjoy, and it lets me be the kid — not always be in charge of the kids."

The reopening highlights a big shift for the nation's most populous state from just months ago when COVID-19 cases were surging, hospitals were running out of ICU beds, and hundreds of people died from the virus each day.

Now, California boasts the country's lowest rate of confirmed coronavirus infections and more than half of the population eligible for vaccination has received at least one dose. Children have been returning to in-person classes, shops and restaurants are expanding business, and Gov. Gavin Newsom set June 15 as a target date to further reopen the economy, albeit with some health-related restrictions.

"It has such a symbolic nature to really quantifying that we're finally rolling out of COVID," said Caroline Beteta, president and CEO of state tourism promoter Visit California.

Theme parks were among the last California businesses allowed to reopen, in contrast to states with fewer restrictions such as Florida, where Disney World's Magic Kingdom resort has been up and running, though at lower-than-usual capacity, since July. Another major U.S. amusement park, Ohio's Cedar Point, opened last summer and will do so again for the upcoming season — only this time, it won't require masks on rides.

At Disneyland, visitors must wear masks and can remove them to eat only in designated areas. Hugs and handshakes with characters are off limits, and parades and fireworks shows have been shelved to limit crowding.

On Friday, an updated Snow White ride drew throngs of visitors who were methodically spaced out in a winding outdoor line to prevent congestion indoors. Other areas of the park had fewer people. In a section devoted to Star Wars, there was ample space for children to run freely, and visitors waved from a distance to Rey, who flashed a smile and waved from a platform overlooking the park.

Outside a popular boat ride, Allison Sanger and her 4-year-old daughter, Emily, stopped by a cordoned-off patio to chat with a parasol-twirling Mary Poppins and Bert. The 28-year-old said she was glad her daughter could get close enough to see the characters and snap photos even with the new rules.

"We honestly have so many memories here," she said. "We missed our memories and our magic."

There was even a marriage proposal.

Zach Bolger, 35, said he met his girlfriend, Mackenzie Brown, 26, some three years ago at Disneyland trading collectible pins. The couple returned to the park Friday, and Bolger pulled out a ring box near Snow White's wishing well. Brown cried tears of joy.

While California continues to "strongly discourage" anyone from visiting the state as tourists, the travel industry is banking on pent-up demand from its own nearly 40 million residents for a comeback. An advertising campaign encourages Californians to travel within the state, mirroring a pitch made after 9/11.

In a state with so many people shut in for so long, even in-state tourism could be a huge boost. Disney's California parks have long had a loyal local fan base while its Florida locations rely more heavily on international tourists, said Carissa Baker, assistant professor of theme park and attraction management at University of Central Florida's Rosen College of Hospitality Management.

Disneyland is a major economic engine in California, drawing nearly 19 million in attendance the year before the coronavirus struck, according to the Themed Entertainment Association. It and other such attractions were shuttered in March 2020 as Newsom imposed the nation's first statewide shutdown order.

For now, the park and neighboring Disney California Adventure are restricted to operating at 25% capacity under state health rules. Disney is only taking reservations from state residents, though California also allows fully vaccinated out-of-state visitors to attend theme parks.

The reopening was also welcomed by park employees eager to get back to work and owners of hotels and shops in the surrounding city of Anaheim. The city's convention center saw more than 300 cancellations since the pandemic and so far has rebooked a quarter of them, said Jay Burress, president of Visit Anaheim.

At an early morning flag ceremony, Disney chief executive Bob Chapek thanked the park's employees, many who greeted each other with fist-bumps and bright-eyes, though their smiles were concealed by constellation face masks. He asked them to "bring the magic back" for visitors who were kept away during the 412-day closure.

"We're not just another theme park," Chapek said. "We're something special, and we're something special because of all of you, because you bring magic to the world."

Associated Press photographer Jae C. Hong and writers John Seewer in Toledo, Ohio, and Mike Schneider in Orlando, Florida, contributed to this report.

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STAGE

FROM PAGE 1

for audience members to interact with the artists.

This is a unique opportunity for viewers, as theatres typically only allow patrons to experience an artistic production at its final stage of development. As part of the Broad Stage's mission to engage and activate its audiences, REVEAL provides a rare view into how a theatrical work moves from conception to enactment.

"REVEAL offers a sneak peek and insight into what an artist is working on at their starting point and what issues the artist may be grappling with as they build their piece," said Ilaan Mazzini, director of programs and activities. "To me it is like being a fly on the wall during rehearsal and listening to the collaborators work out their ideas or getting access to an artist's private video collection to learn about their history and how it shaped what they are making today."

The series begins with three episodes on May 6, 8, and 16, exploring the artistic journey behind Brooklyn-based theatre The TEAM's play "Reconstruction (Still Working but the Devil Might Be Inside)".

The Broad Stage has commissioned this play for its upcoming theatrical season and is greatly looking for welcoming viewers back to the theatre once its reopening dates are finalized.

Reconstruction is co-directed by Rachel Chavkin, Tony Award winning director of hit Broadway musical Hadestown, and Zhailon Levingston, director of Tina: The Tina Turner Musical. The play was written collaboratively by 23 different artists and shifts through time from the Reconstruction Era to the present day.

The play's themes are both timely and timeless as it poses questions about the pervasive power of white supremacy, the violence of gentrification, and intimacy between black and white individuals in America. The work features a live score and was collaboratively written by 23 different artists.

The first REVEAL episode explores how a 2017 play by the TEAM called "Primer for a Failed Superpower" both inspired and helped prepare the company to create Reconstruction.

The second episode centers around the Reconstruction practice room and explores the role of its Process Champlain. The final episode includes a live streamed panel and Q&A with the artists as they discuss how they created Reconstruction as a deeply reflective work that is useful to racially diverse audiences.

"I want everyone to get to know these artists! They all have important reflections and narratives to share that I think are worth paying attention to," said Mazzini. "I hope that by watching REVEAL, our audiences will connect to the subject matter and artistic voice of the commissioned works and will find a relevance to their own lives."

Mazzini said those interested in learning more or signing up to watch the episode livestream should visit thebroadstage.org/reveal. Future programs will explore other upcoming shows at The Broad Stage including the re-imagined opera "Iphigenia" and a part-play part-concert titled "Universal Child Care".

Clara@smdp.com





Photos courtesy of Alon Koppel Photography

BROAD: Scenes from "Reconstruction (Still Working but the Devil Might Be Inside)"

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Car crash closes Wilshire



Matthew Hall

CRASH: A two car crash temporarily closed the intersection of 5th and Wilshire on Friday afternoon. Two cars collided in the intersection and one driver was taken to a local hospital with minor injuries. Police officers and firefighters closed the 500 block of Wilshire during the investigation and diverted traffic to nearby streets.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Free, Live Virtual Shows on Spring Sky Highlights for Binoculars and Small Telescopes

Santa Monica College's John Drescher Planetarium continues its Friday evening events in May 2021 with free, live virtual shows presented online at smc.edu/planetarium. The friendly presentations will cover spring sky highlights and how to enjoy them through binoculars and small telescopes, and offer a view of the universe in microwaves through the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA).

The planetarium will start the month with a free special Sunday Afternoon Matinee on May 2 at 2 p.m. The Sunday Afternoon Matinee combines an abbreviated version of "The Night Sky Show" and the week's featured evening show, "Binocular and Small Scope Highlights of the Spring Sky."

The Friday evening shows are at 8 p.m. and are preceded by a streamlined, virtual digest of the popular Night Sky Show at 7 p.m., offering the latest news in astronomy and space exploration. The shows include the chance to chat with the planetarium lecturers and ask astronomy-related questions.

The planetarium is exploring a variety of ways to present its shows while the Santa Monica College (SMC) campuses are closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently, the planetarium is using the Zoom platform. To attend the shows, the Zoom software version 5.0 or higher must be installed on the viewer's computer. A free download is available at zoom.com.

The May 2021 shows are:

• Sunday, May 2, at 2 p.m.: Sunday Afternoon Matinee – "Binocular and Small Scope Highlights of the Spring Sky" – Senior Lecturer Jim Mahon. A shorter version of "The Night Sky Show" and the week's feature show, "Binocular and Small Scope Highlights of the Spring Sky," which presents some of the best seasonal Deep Sky targets available, with simulations of how they look in small telescopes and binoculars . Free. Zoom at smc.edu/planetarium.

• Friday, May 7, at 8 p.m. (following The Night Sky Show at 7 p.m.): "Binocular and Small Scope Highlights of the Spring Sky" – Senior Lecturer Jim Mahon. With the constellations of winter giving way to those of spring, small telescope and binocular users have new, seasonal Deep Sky targets available. The show will present some of the best, with close-ups and low-power views to simulate how they look in small telescopes and binoculars. Then, the show will switch to the freeware desktop planetarium program Stellarium and "locate" those targets in a virtual star party. Guests are invited to ask about locating a galaxy, cluster, or nebula they believe to be in the sky and bright enough for small instruments. Free. Zoom at smc.edu/planetarium.

• Friday, May 14 & 21, at 8 p.m. (following The Night Sky Show at 7 p.m.): "ALMA: Chile's Cutting Edge Microwave Array" – Associate Lecturer Sarah Vincent. High in the arid desert of Chile, the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA) looks through Earth's ocean of air observing diverse phenomena, from nearby comets to the hearts of distant galaxies. Show will explore the universe, not in visible light, but in microwaves. Free. Zoom at smc.edu/planetarium.

More information is available online at smc.edu/planetarium or by calling 310-434-3005. All shows subject to change or cancellation without notice.

Santa Monica College is a California Community College accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

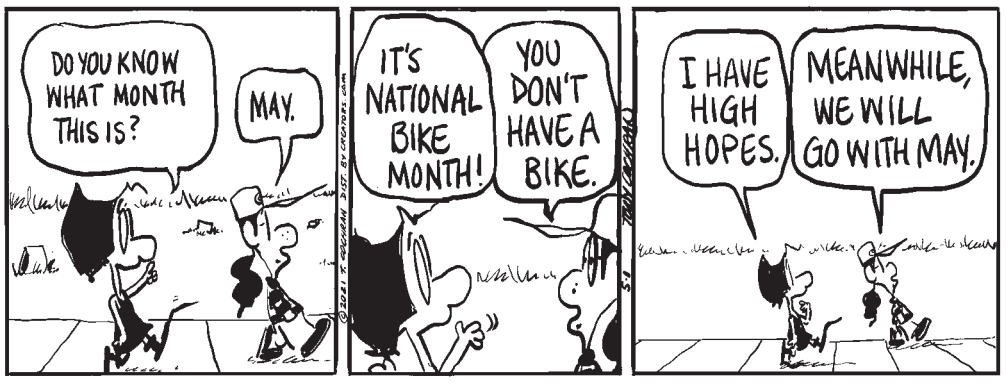
SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH





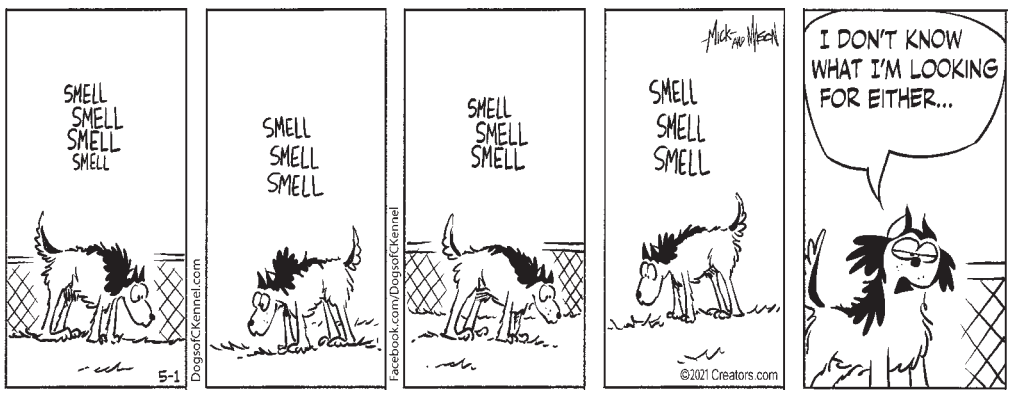
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



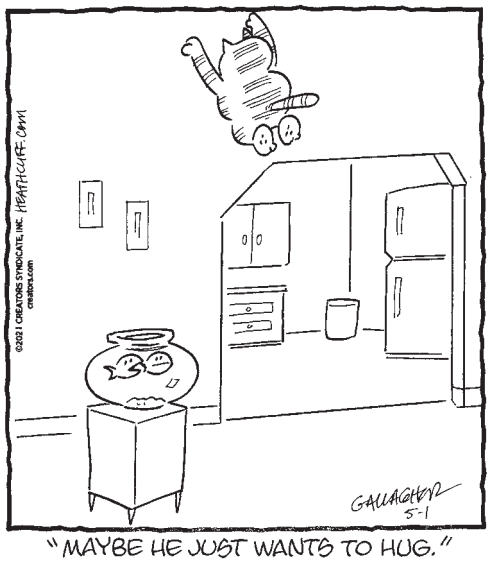
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"MAYBE HE JUST WANTS TO HUG."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 60.8`°

SATURDAY - **FAIR TO GOOD** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high occ. 5 ft
New round of SSW/S swell moves in as NW swell gets a reinforcing nudge. Fun-zone surf with wind looking to stay light through the early-AM low tide and subsequent tide push. Largest west of Pt. Dume.

SUNDAY - **FAIR TO GOOD** - SURF: 3-5ft Waist to head high
SSW/S swell expected to top out, blending with modest NW/WNW swells, most size west of Pt. Dume.

WEATHER

Saturday: Mostly cloudy, then gradually becoming sunny, with a high near 67.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 56.
Sunday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 65.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/05/01	Sat	12:21 AM	5.70	H
2021/05/01	Sat	08:04 AM	-0.81	L
2021/05/01	Sat	3:14 PM	3.23	H
2021/05/01	Sat	6:54 PM	2.67	L
2021/05/02	Sun	01:24 AM	5.15	H
2021/05/02	Sun	09:21 AM	-0.51	L
2021/05/02	Sun	4:54 PM	3.42	H
2021/05/02	Sun	8:39 PM	2.96	L
2021/05/03	Mon	02:46 AM	4.63	H
2021/05/03	Mon	10:40 AM	-0.32	L
2021/05/03	Mon	6:01 PM	3.77	H
2021/05/03	Mon	10:57 PM	2.74	L
2021/05/04	Tue	04:22 AM	4.31	H
2021/05/04	Tue	11:44 AM	-0.20	L
2021/05/04	Tue	6:46 PM	4.13	H
2021/05/05	Wed	12:18 AM	2.20	L
2021/05/05	Wed	05:44 AM	4.21	H
2021/05/05	Wed	12:35 PM	-0.07	L
2021/05/05	Wed	7:20 PM	4.46	H
2021/05/06	Thu	01:14 AM	1.62	L
2021/05/06	Thu	06:49 AM	4.19	H

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERball
Draw Date: 4/28
16 18 35 39 53
Power#: 21
Jackpot: 129 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 4/27
15 22 30 41 42
Mega#: 25
Jackpot: 319 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 4/28
14 18 19 33 37
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 42 M

Draw Date: 4/29

Fantasy 5
6 19 24 28 29

Daily 3
Draw Date: 4/29
EVENING: 3 1 0

Draw Date: 4/29
MIDDAY: 9 2 9

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 4/29
1st: 02 - Lucky Star
2nd: 01 - Gold Rush
3rd: 09 - Winning Spirit
Race Time: 1:49.70

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 (MAY 1)

This supportive quality you have will be what you're celebrated for. For brief moments it will feel like you're holding the whole thing up by yourself, and this only shows you your strength and position. Your team will kick in, following the example you bring. The sweet victories of the year will hit on multiple levels. Scorpio and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 32, 1, 28 and 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You, like the other animals, respond and adapt to your environment. The people, things and routines that rule your days have a stronger effect than willpower. Changing your lifestyle is what changes your habits.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). One approach to the problem at hand is to starve it out. Don't give it the fuel that your attention so readily provides. Ignore, neglect and shun the thing until it goes away.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You can't help the affinity you feel for those who need your help. You'll like them more because of your investment in them. They don't need to pay you back. Connecting you to the goodness of your soul is payment enough.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You've unhooked yourself from dozens of expectations you had of someone. Now you're able to experience the person as they are instead of as you hoped they would be.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). As for that unwanted behavior, it will help to give up the fight. Once you stop trying to stop it, you free yourself up to pursue an understanding of these coping mechanisms. You cannot influence that which you don't understand.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There is satisfaction to be mined from small gains if you're willing to accept the gift. Such acceptance will include a pause while you check out all the features and offer a gratitude most sincere and specific.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The places that used to energize you have gone stale or no longer exist. In these weird times, "new environments" can be taken as a metaphor. Go out in search of that very alive feeling.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Improvement is practically effortless today because it comes with a cosmic assist. You happen to want the thing that also is in the highest and best interest of yourself and many others.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). People think they know what's real but there are so many tricks around. Nature, light, fog, memory... and if that weren't enough, the tricks of the digital age are endless. You'll know what's real today because you'll feel it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You need to be your own advocate, and you will fulfill the role once you embrace it. Do you think you deserve an advocate? That's the first block to get over. Hint: You do.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It's odd enough, but people who are on top of the world and experiencing high-flying success may not be half as happy as those who are struggling. In your case, embrace these days as though they were the good ole days.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Someone asking for your service is, in a way, a compliment. It says that they trust you, and makes you want to rise to meet their expectation and then soar beyond it.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

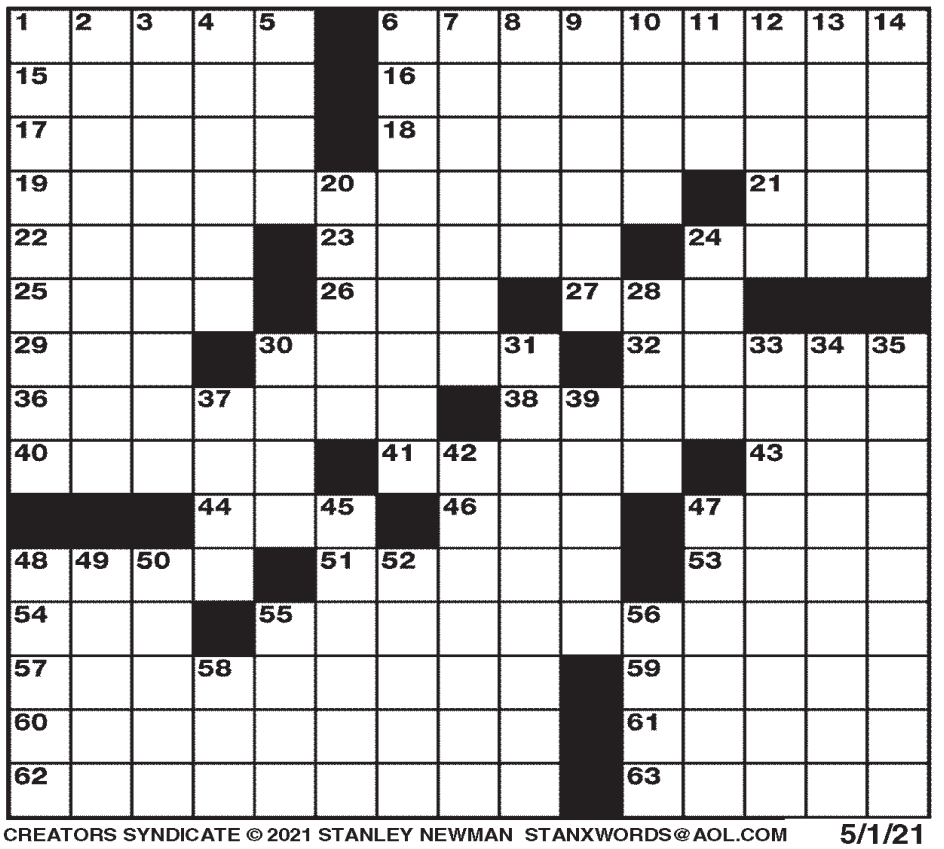
		5				2		
			6	1	5		7	
7				8		9		6
	2				6		1	
		1		4		6		
	4		2				9	
1		3		6				7
	6		7	2	9			
		2				8		

Newsday Crossword

THEMELESS SATURDAY by Greg Johnson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Floor or ceiling supporter
6 Outdoor accommodations
15 Keep interrupting, say
16 PI or spy
17 Were apart, then connected
18 What a fence may fix
19 Supermarket money saver
21 Director of Heath and Jake (2005)
22 Barefoot no more
23 Word from the Latin for "sharpened"
24 Deal precursor
25 Role models for the young
26 __-Town (timid-sounding place)
27 Little Italy moniker
29 Wind hdg.
30 Night spot
32 Person often dreaded
36 Super Glue solvent
38 Roof over dormer windows
40 The last Hindu monarchy (up to 2008)
41 "The Fox and the Stork," e.g.
43 The most you can spend
44 Listener's library
46 Get low
47 Get high
48 Herald
51 See 45 Down
53 Folk art tinware
54 Sci-fi staple
55 Time travelers of a sort
57 Antonym of "identical"
59 Eye-open swimming sleepers
60 Certain pressure sensor
61 Applaud, new-style
62 Set up
63 Netanyahu predecessor

DOWN
1 Brando rival
2 Do-or-die try
3 Past one's comfort level
4 What you've heard
5 Dash for cash, perhaps
6 High-ranking newspaper person
7 *Greystoke* costume
8 Qualify for
9 Holds dear
10 "I'll have what she's having"
11 Ending like -arian
12 Person to look up to?
13 Main __
14 Wearable wool
20 __ breakfast (grits, frequently)
24 Regrettably
28 His anthem is heard in Beethoven's *Wellington's Victory*
30 Asking the tough questions
31 Up against it
33 Brit's sedan
34 It's set for a suit
35 Customer data
37 Stickiness
39 Biodiesel source
42 Pacify
45 With 51 Across, rotini
47 Yearn (for)
48 Civilian outfit
49 Spray alternative to Sinex
50 They're heard early in *The Wizard of Oz*
52 Neutralize
55 Big beginning
56 Prop for a levitation trick
58 Vietnamese for "festival"



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2021 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 5/1/21

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

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

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



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

© australianwordgames.com.au 5100

Garden spruce-up

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

Alder	Clip	Grow	Melt	Seeds
Aphid	Daisy	Hats	Okra	Shed
Aster	Dirt	Hoes	Palm	Soak
Ball	Dogs	Hyacinth	Pansy	Soil
Bareroot	Fence	Iris	Path	Spade
Bask	Fern	Ixia	Pests	Spray
Beech	Flower	Lawn	Plant	Temperate
Birch	Fresh	Leek	Pond	Thaw
Blossom	Games	Lily	Rake	Trees
Buds	Genus	Lizard	Roses	Urea
Clean	Grass	Lupins	Scent	Users

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
I need to get away

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CAPTAIN

FROM PAGE 1

Bomb Detection K9 Unit and Emergency Management.

THE EARLY YEARS

Morrison, a third-generation police officer, initially set out to become a prosecuting attorney, but adrenaline would put him on the same path as his father and grandfather, who both wore the LAPD uniform before he did.

"My grandfather was a career Navy veteran who served in World War II–and later became a deputy court warden for the Port of Los Angeles," says Morrison. His father served in the LAPD between 1956 and 1995, retiring one year after his Morrison joined the force.

Morrison recalls the conversation he had with his father after taking the written police exam to get onto the force: "I asked my dad what I needed for the oral [police exam]. He asked, 'What did you do?' I took the [written] test and passed it," Morrison recalls.

Morrison has worked various assignments prior to being assigned to Pacific Division including "earning his stripes" in Patrol and CRASH. Morrison was also an Academy Firearms Instructor, a Field Training Officer and Senior Lead Officer.

In 2002, Morrison was promoted to Sergeant and worked Patrol, Vice, and Metropolitan Division. In 2013, he made the jump to Lieutenant and worked as a Watch Commander, Violent Crime Task Force and Gang Impact Team Officer-in-Charge and Bureau Gang Coordinator.

In December of 2018 Morrison was promoted to Captain and assigned to Pacific Patrol Division, where he provided oversight for Patrol and Beach Operations.

Although his law-enforcement background made him a good fit for the job in Pacific, so did his younger years as a self-professed "skate punk from the Eighties." He explains: "I identify with a lot of the culture that is Venice. My Venice roots date back to listening to and skating to Suicidal Tendencies," describes Morrison of his early years in training.

VENICE HOMELESS CRISIS

"If you turned the clock back five years, you would have pockets of homelessness, but a lot of times, they were free-spirited hippies," says Morrison in describing what has changed. "A lot of the crimes back then were [committed by] gangs looking to fight."

The LAPD would eventually get their arms around the local gang activity, and Venice started to flourish. But Morrison says that began to change again with the growing number of homeless—and new forms of criminal activity.

"It's overwhelming in Venice right now. Five years ago, you knew names and how many homeless people were living on the streets. Now you see encampments on Third and on the Boardwalk that are spilling over. It's too much."

The crimes have also changed. "We've had a shift in seeing a lot of narcotics and career criminals preying on the homeless. When as a police [officer] you are responsible for a reduction in fear and crime, that is an overwhelming task because we are challenged and limited by what we can and can't do."

SAFE DRIVING PLAN

Besides crime-fighting, a major undertaking of Morrison while in the Pacific Division was the development of a safe driving plan in collaboration with the Pacific Beach Officers and LA County Lifeguards — which to date is its only course of its kind in California approved by the California Peace Officers Standards and Training.

This initiative was prompted by a 2019 incident in which a 36-year-old was run over by police while lying next to the Venice Pier. That incident would lead to revitalizing beach patrols and creating the safety plan that took a year and a lot of effort by Morrison and the team to deploy.

"The plan included a lot of research on how to safely drive on the sand—things like checking for blind spots and different angles."

COVID CRISIS

COVID-19 also proved to be a significant challenge for Morrison while serving the Westside. "We were under intense pressure and scrutiny to maintain a safe atmosphere at the beach," says Morrison of working to keep the beach safe for all of the families who sought to get out of the house when so many other activities were discouraged or prohibited.

Morrison said May of 2020 was particularly a struggle when Southern California had its bioluminescent light show. Hundreds of onlookers flocked to the beach at a time when people were told to stay at home.

"The command [wanted us to avoid the] optics of thousands of people on the beach and boardwalk appearing on the six-o'clock news."

IT TAKES A TEAM

As the adage goes — the strength of each member is the team. Morrison said he could not have done his job without the support, hard work and dedication of the entire Pacific Division: "I cannot put into words my love and appreciation for all the dedicated men and women of Pacific," explained Morrison of the team he says he went to work with every day.

Morrison said the two officers who lost their lives during his tour has been devastating. "Officer Esmeralda Ramirez died in the line of duty due to surgery complications following a traffic accident and Officer James Rousseve died following a courageous battle with cancer.

WILD RIDE

With all of these challenges under his belt, Morrison says it's always local residents who bring back his desire to do better for the community. "I have enjoyed working with everyone in the community from Ted Hayes to Clabe Hartley [Cow's End] and Jennifer Park [Café Collage] to Alex and Edizen [Venice Paparazzi] to Jim Murez [Venice Farmers Market] and Jim Muir [Dog Town Skateboards].

"I like all the unique aspects of Venice," he says. "I like the personal connection. I didn't always have the time, but when I did, there were great shared moments."

Morrison says that Venice would be more of a challenge for someone who isn't from L.A. "I get the skate culture. I get the surf culture."

Though soft at heart, Morrison says he will always be tough on crime. "It's part of making a community safe. That's important."

He adds regarding all the time he has spent on the Westside: "It's been a wild ride, and I'm grateful for it."

This story was published in partnership with the Venice Current.

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