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Santa Monica Daily Press

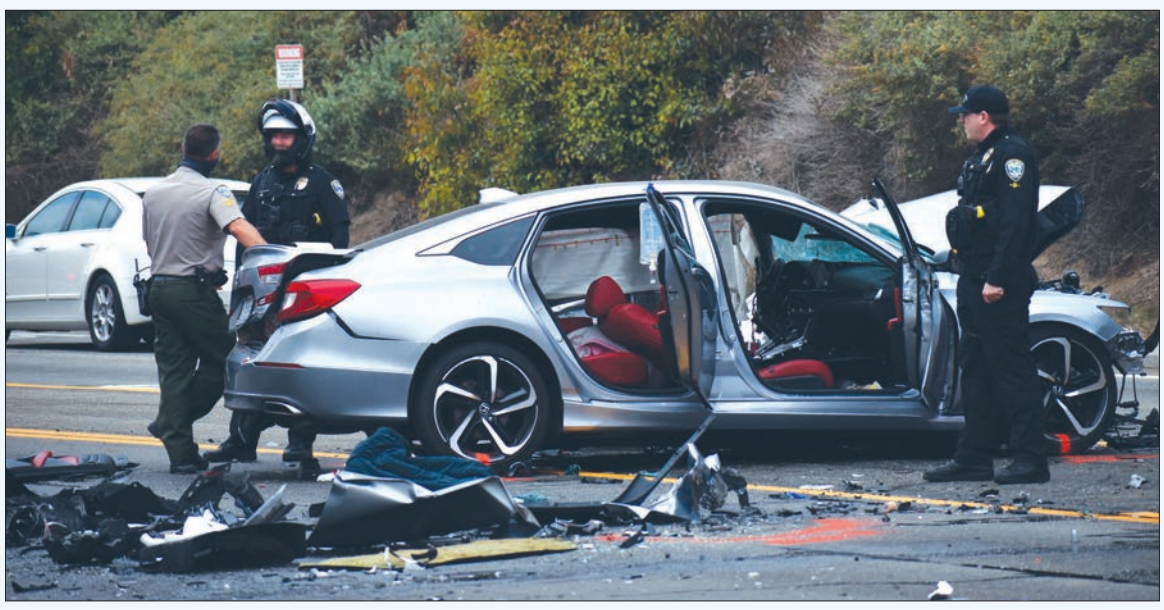
TUESDAY
05.11.21
Volume 20 Issue 152

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Crime Watch
Prowling leads to DUI and gun arrest.
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Balcony Collapse
Malibu house party turns dangerous.
Page 4

Freeway crash floods local streets with traffic







Brennon Dixson

ACCIDENT: A two car crash on the Pacific Coast Highway diverted traffic for several hours on Monday.

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

Sirens filled Santa Monica's downtown area Monday afternoon after a head-on collision just south of the California Incline shut down traffic in both directions on Pacific Coast Highway.

Investigation revealed that a silver Honda traveling northbound on Pacific Coast Highway swerved into the southbound lanes for an unknown reason and collided head-on with a black Jeep traveling southbound. North and Southbound lanes of Pacific Coast Highway were closed for approximately three hours.

Santa Monica Police and Fire Department officials reported the collision around 1:48 p.m. Monday as traffic began to back up on the popular roadway. Onlookers from above the bluffs

SEE **CRASH** PAGE 6

Man arrested for attempted murder

MATTHEW HALL
SMDP Editor

A man was arrested on May 9 for the attempted murder of his girlfriend after he attacked her with a knife.

According to the Santa Monica Police Department, officers were called to the 1900 block of Cloverfield Blvd. at about 8:44 p.m. on Sunday night.

The victim reported that her boyfriend, identified as Jeremy Gonzalez a 29-year-old Hispanic male, attempted to stab her with a large knife. Gonzalez was reported to have fled the area on foot but officers located Gonzalez in a vehicle in the 2200 Block of Virginia Ave. On contact, Gonzalez fled on foot. A perimeter was established, and a K-9 search was conducted with the assistance of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) Air Unit. Gonzalez was located and taken into custody a short time after.

Gonzalez was treated at a local hospital, after sustaining a cut to his hand while jumping over a

SEE **KNIFE** PAGE 11

Journalist bikes from Chicago to Santa Monica collecting Covid stories

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

After cycling 2,500 miles, conducting 100 interviews, and fixing five bike breakdowns, award-winning journalist Michael Comerford has arrived in Santa Monica. With him he carries a one-of-a kind oral history record of how Americans across the country are living through the pandemic.

Comerford set out from Chicago in late February swaddled in a winter jacket and riding a Craigslist bike he guesses is around 40 years old. Toting only as much as his saddle bags could carry and often sleeping under the stars, he journeyed the length of Route 66 taking video interviews of the strangers he encountered.

His project, dubbed 'The Story Cycle', captures the beliefs, prayers

SEE **JOURNALIST** PAGE 11



Clara Harter

DESTINATION: A writer finished his cross-country trip on the Santa Monica Pier.



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COMPASS

California expands drought emergency to large swath of state

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

Gov. Gavin Newsom on Monday expanded a drought emergency declaration to a large swath of the nation's most populated state amid "acute water supply shortages" in northern and central parts of California.

The declaration now covers 41 of 58 counties, covering 30% of California's nearly 40 million people. The U.S. Drought Monitor shows most of the state and the American West is in extensive drought just a few years after California emerged from a punishing multiyear dry spell.

Officials fear an extraordinarily dry spring presages a wildfire season like last year, when flames burned a record 6,562 square miles (16,996 square kilometers).

The expansion comes as Newsom prepares to propose more spending on both short- and long-term responses to dry conditions. He was set to release details during a visit to Merced County, in the agricultural Central Valley south of Sacramento.

The Democratic governor last month had declared an emergency in just two counties north of San Francisco — Mendocino and Sonoma.

The expanded declaration includes the counties in the Klamath River, Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Tulare Lake watersheds across much of the northern and central parts of the state.

The Sierra Nevada snowpack, which provides about a third of the state's water, was at just 59% of average on April 1, when it is normally at its peak.

This year is unique because of extraordinarily warm temperatures in April and early May, the Newsom administration said. That led to quick melting of the Sierra Nevada snowpack in the waterways that feed the Sacramento River, which in turn supplies much of the state's summer water supply.

The problem was worse because much of the snow seeped into the ground instead of flowing into rivers and reservoirs, the administration said.

The warmer temperatures also caused water users to draw more water more quickly than even in other drought years, the administration said, leaving the reservoirs extremely low for farmers, fish and wildlife that depend on them.

That all reduced the state's water supplies by as much as what would supply up to 1 million households for a year, officials said.

"It's time for Californians to pull together once again to save water," California Natural Resources Agency Secretary Wade Crowfoot said in a statement.

He urged residents to limit their use, whether by limiting outdoor watering, checking for leaks, or taking shorter showers and turning off the water when washing dishes or brushing teeth.

Newsom's declaration directs the State Water Board to consider changing the rules for reservoir releases and water diversions to keep more water upstream later this year to maintain more water supply, improve water quality and protect cold water pools for salmon and steelhead.

The declaration also allows more flexibility in regulations and contracting to respond to the drought, while speeding voluntary transfers of water between owners.

Newsom said he also wants lawmakers to spend more in the next fiscal year to both respond to the drought and build the state's long-term water supply.

The governor is spending the week previewing highlights of the revised budget he will present to state lawmakers Friday for the fiscal year that begins July 1.

Earlier Monday in the San Francisco Bay Area, Newsom proposed tax rebates of up to $1,100 for millions of lower- and middle-income Californians, one leg of a pandemic recovery plan made possible by an eye-popping $75 billion budget surplus.

The barnstorming comes as Newsom faces a fall recall election driven in large part by frustration over his handling of the pandemic, though he noted that he also previewed his budget proposals in the past when he wasn't facing a recall.

The governor's fellow Democrats, who control the Legislature, have until June 15 to pass a spending plan.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Man held in firebomb attack on Los Angeles police station

A man threw a firebomb at a Los Angeles police station and was chased down by officers and arrested, police said Monday. No one was hurt in the weekend attack.

Jonathan Rosin, 24, approached the Topanga station at 12:55 a.m. Sunday, lit a glass bottle containing a flammable liquid and threw it at the front window, where the bottle shattered and ignited, the Los Angeles Police Department said in a statement.

Police personnel witnessed the attack through the station's closed-circuit TV system and officers gave chase on foot while a supervisor extinguished the flames.

Officers took Rosin into custody without incident at a nearby intersection and "observed that he smelled like gasoline," the statement said.

The Los Angeles man was booked for investigation of igniting an explosive and an unspecified misdemeanor warrant, and was being held on $501,000 bail, police said.

It was not immediately known if Rosin had an attorney.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 391 CALLS ON MAY 9

Party Complaint 1500blk 6th St 12:01 a.m.
Loud Music 1300blk 2nd St 12:09 a.m.
Party Complaint 2400blk 23rd St 12:17 a.m.
Party Complaint 1400blk 26th St 12:21 a.m.
Party Complaint 800blk 15th St 12:22 a.m.
Party Complaint 900blk 19th St 12:36 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1100blk Yale St 12:37 a.m.
Loud Music 2100blk Ocean Ave 12:45 a.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation Lincoln Blvd / Ocean Park Blvd 12:47 a.m.
Party Complaint 2400blk 23rd St 1:26 a.m.
Party Complaint 1300blk Ozone Ave 2:37 a.m.
Loud Music 1200blk Marine St 2:39 a.m.
Party Complaint 1300blk Ozone Ave 3:01 a.m.
Fight 2500blk Lincoln Blvd 4:21 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2100blk La Mesa Dr 6:01 a.m.
Burglary Now 1300blk 2nd St 6:03 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1400blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:26 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1500blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:28 a.m.
Health & Safety Code Violation 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 6:30 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1900blk Ocean Way 6:40 a.m.
Burglary Report 400blk 22nd St 7:40 a.m.
Vandalism Report 2200blk Virginia Ave 7:41 a.m.
Vandalism Report 200blk Bay St 7:46 a.m.
Vandalism Report 200blk Bay St 8:14 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 2200blk 21st St 8:19 a.m.
Found Property 300blk Olympic Dr 8:51 a.m.
Public Intoxication 1600blk Ocean Ave 9:10 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 100blk Hill St 9:16 a.m.
Domestic Violence Now 2600blk Wilshire Blvd 9:20 a.m.
Encampment 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 9:31 a.m.
Found Property 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 9:45 a.m.
Burglary Report 400blk 19th St 10:27 a.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1400blk Arizona Ave 10:37 a.m.
Vandalism Just Occurred 2200blk Colorado Ave 10:46 a.m.
Vandalism Report 2400blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:46 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 900blk Franklin St 10:55 a.m.
Loud Music 2700blk Barnard Way 11:08 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 200blk Santa Monica Pier 11:33 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 100blk Wadsworth Ave 11:35 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2000blk Ocean Ave 11:37 a.m.
Construction Noise 800blk 20th St 11:52 a.m.
Bike Theft Report 1900blk 11th St 12:31 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 12:38 p.m.
Vandalism Now 1400blk 5th St 1:25 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 2000blk Lincoln Blvd 1:30 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 1400blk Broadway 1:38 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 500blk Georgina Ave 1:47 p.m.
Health & Safety Code Violation 600blk Wilshire Blvd 1:49 p.m.
Lost Property 300blk Santa Monica Pier 2:16 p.m.
Critical Missing Person 2400blk Delaware Ave 2:27 p.m.
Found Property 4th St / Hollister Ave 2:34 p.m.
Loud Music Ocean Ave / Hollister Ave 2:40 p.m.
Health & Safety Code Violation 2200blk Virginia Ave 2:44 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 400blk San Vicente Blvd 3:05 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 600blk Arizona Ave 3:16 p.m.
Fight 1700blk The Beach 3:35 p.m.
Fight 1700blk The Beach 3:36 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 500blk Colorado Ave 3:37 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 200blk Wilshire Blvd 3:40 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 200blk Hill St 3:51 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Ocean Ave / California Ave 4:02 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 2800blk Lincoln Blvd 4:22 p.m.
Domestic Violence Just Occurred 1100blk 17th St 4:24 p.m.
Loud Music 2000blk Montana Ave 4:34 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 900blk Palisades Beach Rd 4:38 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 600blk Georgina Ave 4:39 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 4th St / Colorado Ave 4:46 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 200blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:50 p.m.
Burglary Report 700blk Idaho Ave 4:52 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2500blk Michigan Ave 4:58 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 14th St / Bay St 5:23 p.m.
General Parking Problem 2000blk Ocean Ave 5:47 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 2400blk The Beach 5:49 p.m.
Vandalism Just Occurred 1700blk Main St 6:00 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Report 500blk Arizona Ave 6:18 p.m.
Burglary Report 1800blk Arizona Ave 6:22 p.m.
Vandalism Report 1200blk 4th St 6:32 p.m.
Found Property 2600blk Ocean Front Walk 6:41 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Barnard Way / Fraser Ave 6:44 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 500blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:50 p.m.
Child Endangerment 1100blk Pacific Coast Hwy 6:51 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1900blk Alta Ave 6:51 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 2600blk The Beach 6:57 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 2600blk Ocean Front Walk 6:57 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 16th St / Wilshire Blvd 6:59 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 2600blk 7th St 7:07 p.m.
Auto Burglary Now 1300blk 2nd St 7:08 p.m.
Burglary Report 1000blk 19th St 8:18 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon Just Occurred 1900blk Cloverfield Blvd 8:44 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation Yale St / Wilshire Blvd 9:01 p.m.
Elder Abuse 1300blk Franklin St 9:03 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1400blk Ocean Ave 9:25 p.m.
Party Complaint 400blk Colorado Ave 9:42 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred Berkeley St / Santa Monica Blvd 10:08 p.m.
Child Molestation 1100blk Franklin St 10:13 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1400blk 2nd St 10:19 p.m.
Loud Music 1700blk Ocean Front Walk 11:32 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 1300blk Ocean Ave 11:33 p.m.
Construction Noise 2200blk Oak St 11:34 p.m.

Letter to the Editor

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Only last week The Santa Monica Daily Press in an article stated that small businesses in our town were amongst the hardest hit by Covid in the nation and yet just a week prior I was alerted to the fact that the City of Santa Monica's staff has requested a Coastal Permit to demolish parking structure No. 3 and replace it with affordable and transitional housing. This will be brought to a vote this next Thursday at a virtual Coastal Commission Hearing. This structure in better times was one of the most widely used for access to the downtown commercial and especially the Third Street Promenade.

I say as I have said before what the hell are they thinking. First of all, we are hardly out of the pandemic. Businesses in the whole of downtown are not as yet recovered from the economic downturn it caused or for that matter the significant destruction from an out of control looting mob. This structure provided the most convenient access.

Its as if the City's administrators have decided that the business and property owner's interests are expendable. Meanwhile, the Council either is unaware of what is happening or has acquiesced to the staff. Who is at the helm? Is this a rudderless ship?

Now, affordable housing is a laudable use for a property but as I have said before perhaps there are more suitable sites that the City owns outside of downtown. Most certainly it is not the location for transitional housing for the homeless or a homeless shelter built at the expense of downtown merchants and property owners.

Samuel M. Tolkin, Santa Monica

CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

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

On May 8, at approximately 3 a.m., Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) Officers responded to the 900 block of Georgina Avenue to a report of suspicious behavior involving two individuals whom the reporting person believed were prowling.

Upon the officer's arrival, they witnessed the described vehicle leaving the area in a high rate of speed. The vehicle failed to obey several traffic signs and continued to be reckless until officers stopped it a short distance away. When officers made contact, the driver showed obvious signs of intoxication and inside the vehicle were open alcoholic beverages which led officers to conduct standardized field sobriety tests. Officers subsequently recovered a loaded firearm on the passenger's person.

The driver of the vehicle, Marcos H. Chino, a 19-year-old Hispanic male from Los Angeles was arrested and booked for 23152(g) VC – Driving under the Influence (drugs and alcohol). The passenger, Marcos J. Saquich, a 20-year-old Hispanic male from Los Angeles was arrested and booked for 25850(c)(6) PC – Carrying a Loaded Firearm – not registered.

DAILY FIRE LOG

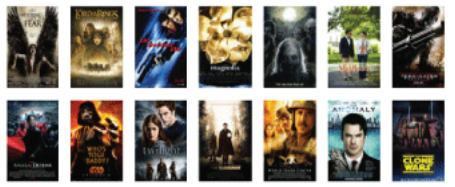
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EMS 1900blk Cloverfield Blvd 12:26 a.m.
EMS 2700blk Pico Blvd 1:18 a.m.
EMS 100blk Palisades Ave 1:43 a.m.
Flooded Condition 900blk 6th St 2:41 a.m.
EMS 6th St / Broadway 4:09 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 5:52 a.m.
EMS 2400blk Centinela Ave 7:34 a.m.
Ladder Request 300blk Pico Blvd 9:04 a.m.
EMS 1600blk Ocean Ave 9:37 a.m.
EMS 3100blk Main St 9:48 a.m.
EMS 500blk Ocean Ave 11:59 a.m.
EMS 600blk Wilshire Blvd 12:08 p.m.
EMS 800blk 2nd St 12:11 p.m.
Structure Fire 1300blk 15th St 1:51 p.m.
EMS 600blk 21st St 3:11 p.m.
EMS 500blk Colorado Ave 3:34 p.m.
EMS 500blk Colorado Ave 3:59 p.m.
EMS 800blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:11 p.m.
EMS 700blk Broadway 4:23 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 4th St / Colorado Ave 4:46 p.m.
EMS 400blk 21st Pl 4:59 p.m.
EMS 1000blk 11th St 5:04 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 17th St 5:10 p.m.
EMS 2400blk Virginia Ave 5:56 p.m.
EMS 800blk 2nd St 7:15 p.m.
EMS 800blk Pico Blvd 7:34 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Ocean Ave 8:25 p.m.
EMS 1900blk 19th St 8:59 p.m.
EMS Yale St / Wilshire Blvd 9:01 p.m.
EMS 1600blk 7th St 9:13 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 500blk Georgina Ave 9:21 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 12th St 10:04 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Cloverfield Blvd 10:10 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 10:15 p.m.
EMS 800blk 4th St 11:19 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300blk 2nd St 11:28 p.m.

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California governor proposes tax rebate as virus relief

KATHLEEN RONAYNE
Associated Press

Millions of poor and middle-class Californians would get tax rebates of up to $1,100 under a proposal unveiled Monday by Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom, as part of a broader pandemic recovery plan made possible by an eye-popping $75 billion budget surplus.

Taxpayers making between $30,000 and $75,000 a year would get a $600 payment. Households making up to $75,000 with at least one child, including immigrants in the country illegally who file taxes, would get an extra $500 payment.

"We believe people are better suited than we are to make determinations for themselves on how best to use these dollars," Newsom said during an event in Oakland to announce the plan.

The massive budget surplus is largely due to taxes paid by rich Californians who generally did well during the pandemic, and marks a major turnaround after officials last year said they feared a deficit of more than $50 billion.

The payments will total an estimated $8.1 billion, said H.D. Palmer, a spokesman for the state Department of Finance. The proposal also includes $5.2 billion to pay back rent and $2 billion for overdue utility bills for people who fell behind during the pandemic.

A law passed by voters in the 1970s requires the state to give some money back to taxpayers if the surplus hits a certain limit. The state estimates it will be $16 billion over that threshold. Newsom does not have to act immediately, but is choosing to do tax rebates now, Palmer said.

They are part of what Newsom is calling a $100 billion plan to boost the state's economic recovery. He'll be rolling out details of the plan all week ahead of releasing his revised state budget. The chairs of the state Senate and Assembly budget committees joined Newsom, indicating their support for a proposal that will go before overwhelmingly Democratic Legislature.

It comes as he faces a likely recall election later this year, and his Republican rivals quickly criticized the effort. Businessman John Cox, who campaigned alongside a bear last week for attention, accused Newsom of engaging in a publicity stunt.

"The governor's got a lot of money to hand out. And of course, he's worried about his own neck," Cox said at a campaign event in Los Angeles.

He and Kevin Faulconer, another Republican candidate, both said a one-time infusion of cash wouldn't solve California's problems.

"Californians need permanent, real tax relief, not just one-time stimulus checks," Faulconer, the former San Diego mayor, said in a statement.

It's the second round of cash payments given by the state in response to the pandemic. Earlier this year, people making less than $30,000 got a $600 payment. Immigrants making up to $75,000 who file taxes, including those also living in the country illegally, also got the check. State officials chose a higher eligibility limit for those people because they didn't get federal stimulus checks.

All combined, the state would spend $11.9 billion on direct cash payments.

Democratic Assemblyman Phil Ting, the chamber's budget chair, said the state has the ability to help the neediest people because of how well wealthier Californians did during the pandemic. The state's budget relies heavily on personal income tax from high earners.

"That budget surplus is going right back to the most vulnerable Californians, the ones who need help the most," he said.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MALIBU

9 hurt after balcony collapses during Malibu house party

Nine people were hurt and four of them were hospitalized after a crowded balcony collapsed during a party at a beachside home in Malibu, authorities said.

As many as 15 adults were on the balcony overlooking the Pacific Saturday evening when it collapsed and crashed up to 15 feet to rocks below, according to witnesses and the Los Angeles County Fire Department.

Four people were transported to hospitals with non-critical injuries, LA County Fire Captain Ron Haralson said Sunday.

Five others who fell were evaluated at the scene and declined transport, Haralson said.

Security camera footage from the home next door obtained by CBS 2 shows a group of people looking out at the waves when the balcony gives way.

Haralson said the accident happened during a large gathering at the house on a coastal stretch about 20 miles west of downtown Los Angeles.

The City of Malibu sent its wishes for a full and speedy recovery to the people who were injured during the collapse of a balcony at a house in Malibu.

According to city officials, the property in question had a valid short-term rental permit with the City in line with the City's short-term rental ordinance. Malibu Code Enforcement is investigating any potential violations of occupancy limits of that permit or any other issues with that property, and Building and Safety staff are investigating the incident as well.

In response to the balcony collapse, the building has been red tagged in conjunction with the Los Angeles County Fire Department.

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Your column here

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Close the gas facility

It's time to close the Playa Del Rey gas storage facility. Here's what officials must do next.

When a gas well at the Aliso Canyon underground storage facility exploded in the winter of 2015, it made news for the massive climate impact it created: irreversible emissions equivalent to burning nearly a billion gallons of gasoline—enough to essentially wipe out a year of climate progress in one fell swoop. The human toll has continued to this day, years after the well has been repaired.

The disaster forced thousands of Los Angeles residents to evacuate their homes, many of whom suffered from headaches, nausea, nosebleeds, dizziness and stomach aches. Some Angelenos have alleged that benzene released from the poisonous gas wells caused cancer.

We have worked to protect communities by advocating an end to new injections at Aliso Canyon, and for a regulatory roadmap to close the facility altogether. But five years later, Aliso Canyon remains perfectly operational—and thanks to lax regulation and distracted leadership, Los Angeles is now in imminent danger of another blowout.

This time, the health consequences could be even more catastrophic.

The gas storage facility at Playa Del Rey is a ticking time bomb. More than half a million people live within a 5-mile radius of the facility, which includes gas wells that were drilled, on average, more than 85 years ago—nearly twenty years older than the well that exploded at Aliso Canyon. Local leaders, including Mayor Eric Garcetti, have called for the eventual closure of the facility. But for the frontline communities in harm's way, the shuttering of these facilities cannot come soon enough.

Unfortunately, this is not an issue Los Angeles can address on its own. Shutting down Playa Del Rey hinges on Governor Newsom's implementation of a comprehensive strategy to transition away from dangerous natural gas and toward clean, safe sources of energy.

To support the closure of dangerous gas storage facilities—and a healthier, safer future for Southern California communities—state leaders should immediately pursue the following solutions:

First, regulators at the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) assessing the feasibility of closing Aliso Canyon should expand their inquiry to include Playa Del Rey. There are four gas storage facilities serving the metropolitan Los Angeles region. As SoCalGas has explained in regulatory documents, they are part of an "integrated system," which dynamically balances supply and demand as a whole. Therefore, reducing and ultimately eliminating our usage of one facility bears on our ability to do the same for another.

Second, the State should accelerate investment in healthier, more resilient infrastructure like renewables, demand-side solutions, and long-duration battery storage. There is promising precedent for such a strategy: in the aftermath of the Aliso Canyon blowout, Governor Brown ordered an accelerated storage procurement, which successfully brought more than 70 megawatts of storage online in less than six months. At the same time, we must incentivize the electrification of our homes and buildings. Supporting household upgrades to highly-efficient appliances for heating and cooking is a no-brainer: it creates good-paying jobs doing construction and electrical work, and it makes homes safer by eliminating the indoor air pollutants caused by the combustion of natural gas.

Finally, California must articulate a cohesive roadmap for transitioning away from risky, superfluous gas infrastructure. Los Angeles provides an instructive model, having recently procured reliably clean power from a solar and storage project at a price that outcompeted natural gas. And the City just issued a bold new plan to create thousands of new jobs transitioning affordably to 100% clean energy by 2035. Unbelievably though, in recent months, regulators at the CPUC have gone in the opposite direction, opening the door to new gas contracts, which would increase the kind of risks we face at Playa Del Rey for decades to come.

Advocates for fossil fuel infrastructure argue it is more reliable. But storage facilities prone to dangerous explosions and their resulting service disruptions strain the meaning of reliability. We have all the technology we need to reliably close Playa Del Rey. Recent experience shows that doing so will create economic growth, good jobs, and healthier communities. Now we need the right leadership to get us there.

Jake Levine is an attorney in Los Angeles. He served as Senior Counsel to State Senator Fran Pavley and as a climate aide to President Obama. V. John White is Executive Director of The Center for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technologies.

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Pfizer COVID-19 shot expanded to US children as young as 12

LAURAN NEERGAARD AND CANDICE CHOI
Associated Press

U.S. regulators on Monday expanded the use of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine to children as young as 12, offering a way to protect the nation's adolescents before they head back to school in the fall and paving the way for them to return to more normal activities.

Shots could begin as soon as Thursday, after a federal vaccine advisory committee issues recommendations for using the two-dose vaccine in 12- to 15-year-olds. An announcement is expected Wednesday.

Most COVID-19 vaccines worldwide have been authorized for adults. Pfizer's vaccine is being used in multiple countries for teens as young as 16, and Canada recently became the first to expand use to 12 and up. Parents, school administrators and public health officials elsewhere have eagerly awaited approval for the shot to be made available to more kids.

"This is a watershed moment in our ability to fight back the COVID-19 pandemic," Dr. Bill Gruber, a Pfizer senior vice president who's also a pediatrician, told The Associated Press.

The Food and Drug Administration declared that the Pfizer vaccine is safe and offers strong protection for younger teens based on testing of more than 2,000 U.S. volunteers ages 12 to 15. The agency noted there were no cases of COVID-19 among fully vaccinated adolescents compared with 16 among kids given dummy shots. More intriguing, researchers found the kids developed higher levels of virus-fighting antibodies than earlier studies measured in young adults.

The younger teens received the same vaccine dosage as adults and had the same side effects, mostly sore arms and flu-like fever, chills or aches that signal a revved-up immune system, especially after the second dose.

Pfizer's testing in adolescents "met our rigorous standards," FDA vaccine chief Dr. Peter Marks said. "Having a vaccine authorized for a younger population is a critical step in continuing to lessen the immense public health burden caused by the COVID-19 pandemic."

Pfizer and its German partner BioNTech recently requested similar authorization in the European Union, with other countries to follow.

The latest news is welcome for U.S. families struggling to decide what activities are safe to resume when the youngest family members remain unvaccinated.

"I can't feel totally comfortable because my boys aren't vaccinated," said Carrie Vittitoe, a substitute teacher and freelance writer in Louisville, Kentucky, who is fully vaccinated, as are her husband and 17-year-old daughter.

The FDA decision means her 13-year-old son soon could be eligible, leaving only her

SEE **PFIZER** PAGE 11

CRASH

FROM PAGE 1

looked below and in the sky to try to ascertain what was the cause of the commotion while fire engines squeezed by cars to join the Santa Monica Police Department forensic trucks on-scene.

An immobile upholstery truck didn't help the matter, but the road in both directions was completely clear of traffic less than a half-hour after the crash, which left plastic and glass all over the roadway.

SMPD officials cordoning the area said there were no deaths resulting from the traffic accident and those involved were transported to the hospital. Meanwhile, CalTrans encouraged drivers to avoid the area and divert to 4th street.

Anyone with additional information regarding the collision is asked to contact Investigator Matt Lieb at (310) 458-8993 or Sergeant Mike Boyd at (310) 458-2201 ext 2180.

Brennon@smdp.com



Brennon Dixson

INVESTIGATION: SMPD officers are trying to determine the cause of the head-on collision.



Judy Lyn Haggai Jones

BACKGROUND

Judy Lyn Haggai Jones, 64, was received in the arms of her Savior Jesus on 04/10/2021 at Providence St. John's Hospital in Santa Monica. She was born in Grand Rapids, Michigan on February 14, 1957 the daughter of Leo and Olive Haggai. She was only 2 years old when the family moved to Pacific Palisades, CA. Judy was a true California beach girl that loved the sun, sand and water.

She never wanted to leave her beach community even for employment so she found a way to live and work near the water. Even though Judy never had her own children, she discovered joy in caring for others. As a Nannie, she was able to find employment with grateful parents who not surprisingly lived on or near the blue Pacific. She was a devoted, compassionate and humorous person who was loved by many including animals. If she could she would take care of every stray dog and cat.

Even in the most difficult health and financial days of her life, she would faithfully visit her Father's grave, clean it and place flowers on his marker. She was only 13 when he went to be with the Lord.

She attended Malibu Middle School and Santa Monica High School. She married her long time love, Kevin Jones, while he was in the hospital battling cancer. She continued to personally care for him for the months preceding his death.

As a widow, she struggled alone with health and financial issues. As she cared for others, her Heavenly Father provided for her through one of his own, Tom Daspit. Tom, a good friend of 35 years made certain she had a home and care during the last 2 years of her life. He was truly a blessing from God.

FAMILY

Surviving Judy are 2 sisters, Leigh Haggai Basler of Grand Rapids, MI and Debbie Haggai of Lowell, MI, nephews Thomas John Haggai of Traverse City, MI, Brian James Hagness of Grand Rapids, MI, Eric Saenz of Jenison, MI, Benjamin Rhoads and niece Christina Saenz (Ben Rhoads) of Lowell, MI. She was preceded in death by her husband, Kevin Jones, father, Leo B. Haggai, mother Olive Krauss and her older brother, John Joseph Haggai.

SERVICES

She was laid to rest with her father Leo B. Haggai at Woodlawn Cemetery in Santa Monica, CA 90404

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

For those who wish, memorials may be made to the St. Monica's Catholic Church.

Amid outcry, NBC says it will not air Golden Globes in 2022

JAKE COYLE
AP Film Writer

Amid growing pressure on the Hollywood Foreign Press Association from studios, stars and large swaths of the film industry, NBC said Monday that will not air the Golden Globes in 2022, putting in doubt the viability of one of Hollywood's oldest and most-watched award shows.

Criticism of the HFPA, which puts on the Globes and has been denounced for a lack of diversity and for ethical improprieties, reached such a pitch Monday that Tom Cruise returned his three Globes to the press association's headquarters, according to a person who was granted anonymity because they weren't authorized to speak publicly about the decision.

In a statement, NBC said it believes the Hollywood Foreign Press Association — which is facing possible boycotts over the inclusiveness of its membership from Netflix, Warner Bros. and many Hollywood actors — is committed to reform. But change can't come quickly enough for next year's Globes.

"However, change of this magnitude takes time and work, and we feel strongly that the HFPA needs time to do it right," the network said. "As such, NBC will not air the 2022 Golden Globes. Assuming the organization executes on its plan, we are hopeful we will be in a position to air the show in January 2023."

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association, long a subject of ridicule from even its own telecast hosts, has come under fire following an investigative report in February by The Los Angeles Times that recounted the organization's questionable record on diversity — including, presently, no Black members among its roughly 90 voting members.

The press association has pledged to thoroughly reform, and last week approved a plan to, among other things, diversity its membership. But that hasn't stopped several studios from threatening to pull out of the Globes.

Last week, Netflix and Amazon Studios both said they would cut ties with the HFPA if it didn't swiftly enact more drastic changes.

"We don't believe these proposed new policies — particularly around the size and speed of membership growth — will tackle the HFPA's systemic diversity and inclusion challenges, or the lack of clear standards for how your members should operate," Netflix co-chief executive Ted Sarandos wrote in a letter to the group.

In a letter sent Sunday and shared with reporters Monday, WarnerMedia said it would cease holding screenings and other events for the HFPA until it made more substantial changes.

"For far too long, demands for perks, special favors and unprofessional requests have been made to our teams and to others across the industry," WarnerMedia executives said in a letter. "We regret that as an industry, we have complained, but largely tolerated this behavior until now."

The outcry against the Hollywood Foreign Press Association has gathered force over the last six weeks, as a film industry where racial and gender inequity long went unchecked has grown newly intolerant of the ways of the group, made up of mostly little-known journalists who profit considerably from the annual telecast.

Increasingly, Hollywood has abandoned the HFPA. A group of 100 entertainment publicity firms has said they would urge their clients to skip HFPA functions. Mark Ruffalo, a winner this year, recently said he "cannot feel proud or happy about being a recipient of this award" any longer. Scarlett Johansson said HFPA press conferences for her "meant facing sexist questions and remarks by certain HFPA members that bordered on sexual harassment."

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association didn't address the 2022 telecast in responding to NBC's decision, but board members of the group laid out its schedule of reforms — ultimately leading to a revamped membership and board by early August, as well as numerous other policy changes.

"Regardless of the next air date of the Golden Globes, implementing transformational changes as quickly – and as thoughtfully – as possible remains the top priority for our organization," the group said in a statement. "We invite our partners in the industry to the table to work with us on the systemic reform that is long overdue, both in our organization as well as within the industry at large."

Last week, the press association ratified plans to add at least 20 new members this year "with a specific focus on recruiting Black members" and with a goal of increasing membership 50% over the next 18 months.

For some, that timeline wasn't aggressive enough. In the next few months, several potential awards contending films are set to premiere at film festivals and elsewhere. Tina Tchen, president and chief executive of Time's Up, called the HFPA's pledges "window-dressing platitudes."

"These measures ensure that the current membership of the HFPA will remain in the majority and that the next Golden Globe Awards will be decided with the same fundamental problems that have existed for years," said Tchen.

The Globes, produced by dick clark productions, have suffered ratings drops in recent years but still rank among the most-watched award shows — usually third to the Oscars and the Grammys. The 78th Golden Globes, held Feb. 28, attracted 6.9 million viewers, a 63% drop from the 2020 telecast, watched by 18.4 million.



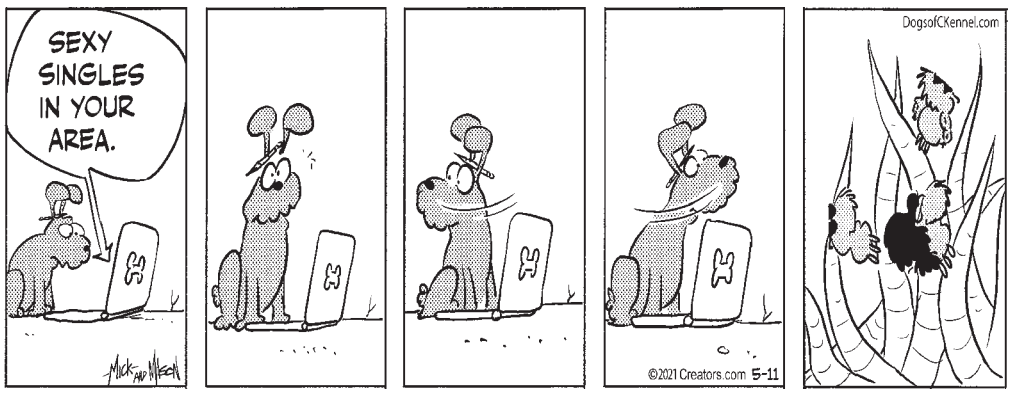
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



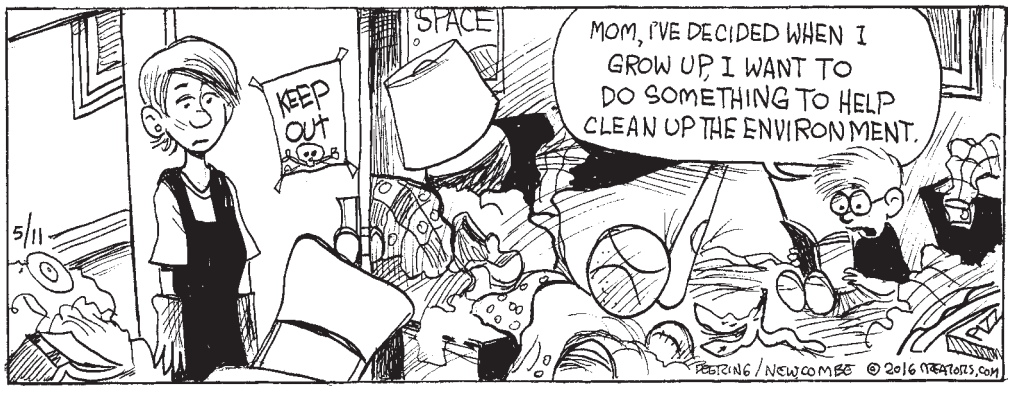
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



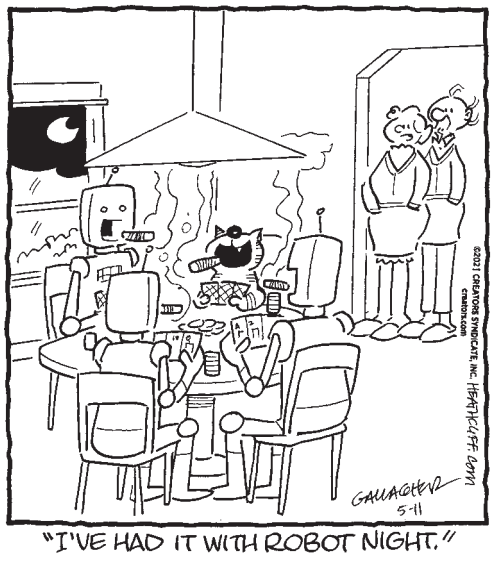
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 65.3°

TUESDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft Thigh to waist high
Mostly clean for the AM but slow/inconsistent. Fresh, long-period SSW swell gradually fills in. Maybe worth a check in the evening, if wind cooperates.

WEDNESDAY - **FAIR TO GOOD** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high
Glassy morning with incoming tide. Should be fun at summer points. More energy than the start of the week as long period SSW swell builds further.

WEATHER

Tuesday: Cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 64.
Tuesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 59.
Wednesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 62.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/05/11	Tue	04:08 AM	-0.27	L
2021/05/11	Tue	10:21 AM	3.65	H
2021/05/11	Tue	3:23 PM	1.61	L
2021/05/11	Tue	9:37 PM	5.56	H
2021/05/12	Wed	04:41 AM	-0.39	L
2021/05/12	Wed	11:01 AM	3.47	H
2021/05/12	Wed	3:45 PM	1.88	L
2021/05/12	Wed	10:01 PM	5.54	H
2021/05/13	Thu	05:16 AM	-0.41	L
2021/05/13	Thu	11:45 AM	3.28	H
2021/05/13	Thu	4:08 PM	2.15	L
2021/05/13	Thu	10:27 PM	5.45	H
2021/05/14	Fri	05:55 AM	-0.33	L
2021/05/14	Fri	12:38 PM	3.10	H
2021/05/14	Fri	4:31 PM	2.40	L
2021/05/14	Fri	10:56 PM	5.29	H
2021/05/15	Sat	06:38 AM	-0.20	L
2021/05/15	Sat	1:42 PM	2.96	H
2021/05/15	Sat	4:55 PM	2.64	L
2021/05/15	Sat	11:31 PM	5.06	H
2021/05/16	Sun	07:27 AM	-0.03	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERball
Draw Date: 5/8
12 17 20 21 26
Power#: 8
Jackpot: 168 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 5/7
5 10 19 21 50
Mega#: 10
Jackpot: 396 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 5/8
10 12 21 22 28
Mega#: 12
Jackpot: 45 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 5/9
2 12 22 24 36

Daily 3
Draw Date: 5/9
EVENING: 7 7 0

Draw Date: 5/9
MIDDAY: 7 4 5

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 5/9
1st: 10 - Solid Gold
2nd: 06 - Whirl Win
3rd: 01 - Gold Rush
Race Time: 1:44.21

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (MAY 11)

It is not possible for you to be spoiled with attention, because it's all deserved, earned somewhere along the way, and it's simply your turn to lavish in the love, as you do, with an appreciation that keeps it coming. You'll also reap the reward for something you've been working on for years. Keep saving for a 2023 investment. Gemini and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 3, 1, 5 and 29.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You are open to having a new perspective on the old scenery, but it won't happen by magic. You need a pattern interruption -- and possibly a nice sample of comparisons. Leave and come back.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Justice requires, among other qualities such as wisdom and thoroughness, the very rare quality of objectivity. Only those who can put their own interests aside can really see what is fair in a situation.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). History is, at the end of the day, a story. Even when the facts are true, the very choosing of one fact over another is an act of creativity instead of science -- something to factor into the persuasive stories of the day.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Opinions and feelings get passed around. Sometimes you're the inheritor, sometimes the predecessor. But what you feel now comes from no one else and stays with you -- an original invention, for you and you alone.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). No one has a deep connection with a person they are focused on impressing, because deep connections can't be made with pretension and posturing. They happen out of messiness and vulnerability.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You deserve to have people around you who support you through difficulty and celebrate your successes. Surprisingly, the second instance is a bigger demand and a harder person to find. Cherish those who fit the bill!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). To realize that there is a difference between what you want to want and what you actually want is to reach a new level of maturity. The reward of maturity is a perspective that gives you a greater range of choice.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Seize the chance to clean up your little corner of the world, even if it's technically not your mess. You probably sense what the enlightened masters know... to be one with the world makes responsibility an irrelevant matter.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Where's the spark, the passion? It would be wonderful to work while burning. The excitement is not gone, just dormant. Everything you need is right there; you just have to strike the match.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). "You have to spend money to make money" is the bon mot spouted by experts who should know, and by people who want you to spend money their way. Trust the former; doubt the latter.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). In foreign lands, it's always a benefit to have a map. However, you don't need directions to find the way to someone's heart. The way will be so familiar to you that you navigate it with your eyes closed.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Success is not something you achieve once to keep but something you have to re-earn in your own way every moment. The standard you hold yourself to will be apparent in even the smallest interactions of the day.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

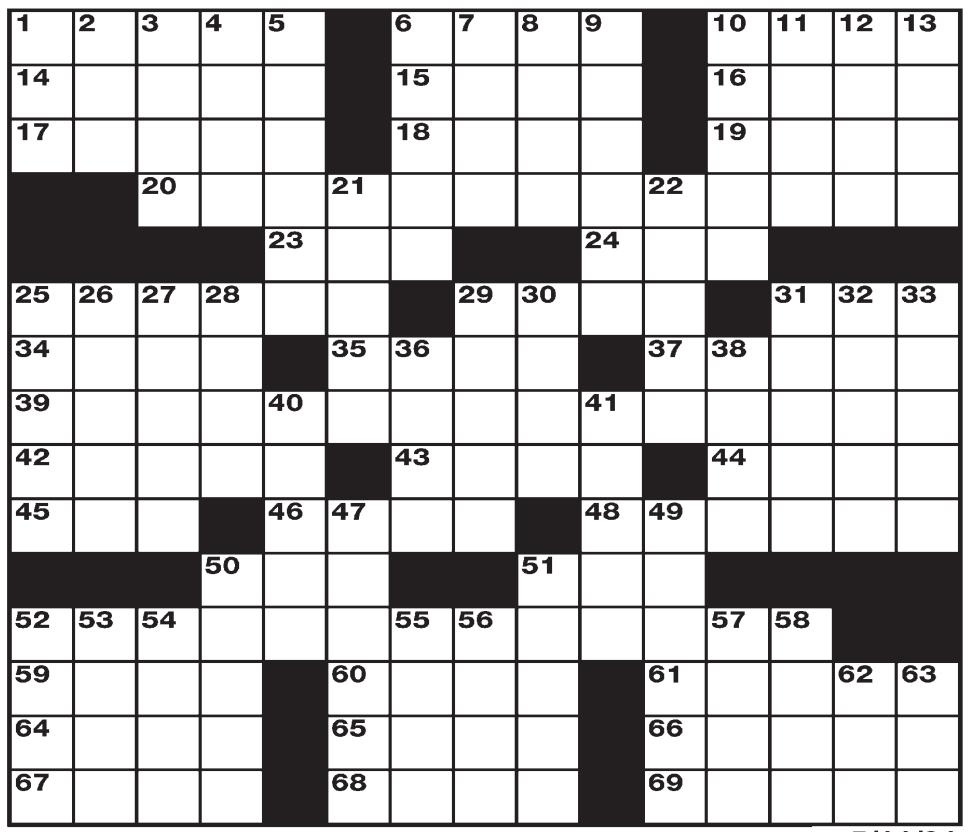
	5		8		1			
4						8		9
	7		4				1	
3		9		1	5			7
5								4
8			2	3		9		1
	8				7		4	
1		4						5
			5		6		9	

Newsday Crossword

IN ROTATION by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Middle-arm joint
6 Ado
10 IRS form experts
14 Prolonged attack
15 "Don't bet __!"
16 Part in a play
17 Tire in a trunk
18 Da Vinci's *Mona* __
19 Besides that
20 Hotel entrance, often
23 Bitterly cold
24 Menagerie
25 "Cool as a cucumber," for one
29 "__ reminds me . . ."
31 Athlete on a salary
34 Nights before holidays
35 Great Wall's continent
37 Very pale
39 Power company's precautionary strategy
42 Color associated with envy
43 Abound (with)
44 Not __ many words
45 Hurricane's center
46 Rapid
48 Heavily involved
50 Solar system's center
51 Point opposite NNW
52 Yarn maker's device
59 Voice above tenor
60 Extra amount
61 Cherished aspiration
64 Impolite look
65 Enthusiastic
66 Specialized slang
67 Domesticated
68 Narrow road
69 Fund, as a foundation

DOWN
1 Double-curve letter
2 Mustache neighbor
3 Animal seen by Goldilocks
4 Brute of a guy
5 Cotton farm pest
6 Unwise undertaking
7 Prof's employer: Abbr.
8 Strong Spanish assent
9 Anthem section
10 Short motto of belief
11 Sport played on ponies
12 "Not to mention . . ."
13 Clairvoyant
21 Blue area on a globe
22 Did so-so in class
25 Twilled suit fabric
26 Elephant tusk material
27 Free-for-all brawl
28 Land amidst water
29 Himalayan nation
30 __ and hearty (in good shape)
31 Texter's device
32 Deploy again
33 In first place
36 Cpl.'s superiors: Abbr.
38 Lose traction
40 As a joke
41 Simple-living sect
47 Bird or mammal
49 Pointy thing "in a haystack"
50 Sleep noisily
51 Stockholm native
52 Stuff in shakers
53 Urgent request
54 Line on a list
55 Halifax, __ Scotia
56 Wide smile
57 Ireland, in verse
58 Give temporarily
62 Before now
63 Cut the grass



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

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	I			O		I			I		



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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 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5110

Melbourne suburbs

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

Bars
Bass
Bays
Black Rock
Boats
Capital
Cliffs
Cold
Cool
Gatum
Glenroy
Greta
Gull
Hesse
Ivanhoe
Lara
Lime
Macleod
Marlo
Merri
Mitchell River
Parks
Pelicans
Phillip Island
Port
Preston
Princes Highway
Sale
Seabirds
Skye
Snow
Sorrento
South
St Kilda
The Age
Urban
Wail
Wine

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Who wants to go first?

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Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

JOURNALIST

FROM PAGE 1

and practices that Americans from all walks of life are using to navigate the trials and turbulence of Covid-19.

This ambitious endeavor is a form of 'slow journalism', a movement that strives to counteract the weaknesses of the click-driven breaking news cycle by taking the time to delve into stories the mainstream media misses.

As a veteran journalist, Comerford noticed that the majority of Covid-19 coverage focused on death tolls in hard hit urban centers, and neglected to investigate people's pandemic experiences in the rest of the country.

"It occurred to me that most people are not dying of Covid; they are living with Covid," said Comerford. "They are adapting to a worldwide pandemic, as they have throughout human history and they are adapting in ways that are astonishing."

From fatalism to folk wisdom, conspiracy theories to church services, and science to superstition, Comerford discovered a vast range of ways people are coping with pandemic life.

He met a rancher who drank cattle dewormer to cure Covid-19, a hotel housekeeper who found god in quarantine, and a fully vaccinated member of the Sac and Fox Tribal Nation who lost 19 family members to Coronavirus. Each of these interviews provide a look inside the current American psyche that cannot be seen through statistics or obituaries.

Comerford is a big believer that where you stand on things depends on where you're standing. By sharing videos of people speaking on their own turf, he hopes viewers will get a better understanding of why people believe unbelievable things.

"I want them to see where these people are coming from and why they feel the way they feel," said Comerford. "I want people to hear the inflection in their voice and see their eyes and know where they're speaking from."

Over the course of his 75 day journey, Comerford has been sharing interviews to 'The Story Cycle' YouTube channel through a partnership with The University of Florida's Samuel Proctor Oral History Program. This summer he will be producing a documentary and book using his footage.

Having arrived on the Santa Monica Pier on a balmy overcast Monday morning, he's not currently sure what conclusions he will draw from the project. The people he interviewed carried such varied perspectives it will take time to gather all the threads together.

"There's knowledge in just knowing the way people feel and think, but what this all means I can't tell you yet," said Comerford. "It's like the old saying that life has to be lived going forward, but can only be understood looking back."

Clara@smdp.com

KNIFE

FROM PAGE 1

fence. He was booked for attempted murder, domestic violence and criminal threats. The victim was not injured.

Gonzalez was previously arrested in 2013 in connection with a gang shooting. At that time, he was accused of shooting a known gang member in a vehicle near the intersection of 20th and Delaware. At that time he was charged with attempted murder, shooting at a vehicle, assault with a deadly weapon and promoting street gang activity. Additional information on his prior case was not available by press time.

Anyone with additional information should call (310) 458-8451 or the Watch Commander (24 hours) at 310-458-8427.

PFIZER

FROM PAGE 6

11-year-old son unvaccinated. The family has not yet resumed going to church, and summer vacation will be a road trip so they do not have to get on a plane.

"We can't really go back to normal because two-fifths of our family don't have protection," Vittitoe said.

Pfizer is not the only company seeking to lower the age limit for its vaccine. Moderna recently said preliminary results from its study in 12- to 17-year-olds show strong protection and no serious side effects. Another U.S. company, Novavax, has a COVID-19 vaccine in late-stage development and just began a study in 12- to 17-year-olds.

Next up is testing whether the vaccine works for even younger children. Both Pfizer and Moderna have begun U.S. studies in children ages 6 months to 11 years. Those studies explore whether babies, preschoolers and elementary-age kids will need different doses than teens and adults. Gruber said Pfizer expects its first results in the fall.

Outside of the U.S., AstraZeneca is studying its vaccine among 6- to 17-year-olds in Britain. And in China, Sinovac recently announced that it has submitted preliminary data to Chinese regulators showing its vaccine is safe in children as young as 3.

Children are far less likely than adults to get seriously ill from COVID-19, yet they represent nearly 14% of the nation's coronavirus cases. At least 296 have died from COVID-19 in the U.S. alone, and more than 15,000 have been hospitalized, according to a tally by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

That's not counting the toll of family members becoming ill or dying -- or the disruption to school, sports and other activities so crucial to children's overall well-being.

The AAP welcomed the FDA's decision.

"Our youngest generations have shouldered heavy burdens over the past year, and the vaccine is a hopeful sign that they will be able to begin to experience all the activities that are so important for their health and development," said AAP President Dr. Lee Savio Beers in a statement.

Experts say children must get the shots if the country is to vaccinate the 70% to 85% of the population necessary to reach what's called herd immunity.

In the meantime, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says unvaccinated people — including children — should continue taking precautions such as wearing masks indoors and keeping their distance from other unvaccinated people outside of their households.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

1 killed, 3 wounded in Los Angeles shooting at crowded party

One person was killed and three others were wounded in a shooting at a crowded party in Los Angeles, authorities said.

The shooters were believed to be two gunmen who walked up to the party late Sunday in a residential area of Hollywood near the Sunset Gower Studios.

Officers who were in the area heard numerous shots fired and went to the scene, where they found the four shooting victims and "an unruly crowd," the Los Angeles Police Department said in a statement Monday.

"It is unknown if this is gang related," the statement added.

Police Capt. Brian Bixler said the motive was unknown and he asked witnesses to come forward.

"We would really like to know exactly what transpired here," he said. "There was a lot of people, so we know somebody saw something."

One person died at the scene and three other gunshot victims were taken to hospitals, said Los Angeles Fire Department spokesman Brian Humphrey.

One wounded victim was in critical condition and the other two were in stable condition, the police statement said.

Another person had an unspecified, non-life-threatening injury and an additional person had an unspecified medical complaint, Humphrey said.

"It's the most egregious thing you can do – indiscriminate fire into any kind of party," police Lt. John Radtke said.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

GULF SHORES

Slater's ace helps USC beat UCLA for beach volleyball title

Sammy Slater dropped in a service ace to clinch the deciding match for USC and seal its 3-1 win over UCLA in the beach volleyball duals national championship on Sunday.

USC (30-4) won its third NCAA beach volleyball title in its fourth championship appearance. The Trojans lost back-to-back duals against UCLA (32-5) in the Pac-12 Tournament – the first of which snapped USC's 12-match win streak – on May 1.

The Bruins had won the previous two national titles in 2018 and 2019.

Slater, an AVCA all-America selection, and Julia Scoles – a graduate transfer from Hawaii – clinched the title with a 26-24, 21-15 win over UCLA's Lea Monkhouse and Devon Newberry which culminated with Slater's ace.

Hailey Harward and Haley Hallgren handed UCLA's duo of Abby Van Winkle and Lindsey Sparks its first loss (21-14, 21-17) to take a 1-0 lead. The Bruin pair had been 6-0 on the year and 10-0 all-time.

UCLA's Rileigh Powers and Jaden Whitmarsh won in two sets over Audrey and Nicole Nourse on court five 21-13, 26-24, their third-straight win over the Trojan twins, to tie it at 1-all before USC took the lead for good when Tina Graudina and Megan Kraft beat UCLA's Savvy Simo and Lexy Denaburg in two sets 21-16, 21-17.

ASSOCIATED PRESS



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