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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Venice Baseball returns
After complaints, kids can take the field again.
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Chief resigns
Fire Chief is moving to Texas.
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Coastal Commission to hear Parking Structure 3 demolition and Beach Club renovation



File Photo

DEMOLITION: Plans are afoot to tear down the parking structure and replace it with housing.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

On Thursday morning the Coastal commission will hear a plan to demolish a Downtown parking structure and a renovation permit for the Santa Monica Beach Club.

During this meeting, which will be live-streamed on Cal-Span, the Commission will also discuss sand berms at the Bel Air Bay Club and an amendment to the City of Malibu's regulations on pesticide use.

PARKING STRUCTURE 3 DEMOLITION

The City of Santa Monica seeks to demolish Downtown Parking Structure 3, a six-story public parking garage containing 337 spaces, and build a new affordable housing structure.

The Coastal Commission staff recommends approving the demolition of PS3, which is located at 1320 4th St in close proximity to the Promenade. Plans to redevelop the site for a new housing project will need to be submitted to and approved by the Commission at a later date.

The staff's approval is based on a study prepared by Walker Consultants, which determined that demand from PS3 would not overflow into the greater area closer to the coast. The study concluded that Parking Structures 1, 2 and 4, provided sufficient alternative parking options within a reasonable distance of the project site.

Commission staff also highlighted the plethora of public transit options in the area including the Expo Line, bus services, and bike-share options.

Not all residents agree with this conclusion and believe that the structure provides a highly utilized parking resource that should be preserved for businesses and visitors. John Alle, a landlord who owns several Promenade properties, began a petition to save PS3 that has gained over 1,300 signatures.

SANTA MONICA BEACH CLUB RENOVATION

The Santa Monica Beach Club seeks a significant overhaul of its existing facilities that includes a retrofitting of the entire building and the renovation of its kitchen,

SEE **COASTAL COMMISSION** PAGE 11

City budget rebounds from pandemic losses

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

After dire warnings of multi-year shortfalls just last year, City Hall has released a new budget that projected no deficits in coming years.

The City of Santa Monica has released its proposed Biennial Budget for Fiscal Years 2021-23, and Interim City Manager Lane Dilg said Santa Monica's long-term goals are still attainable due to a combination of budget cuts and rebounding revenue streams.

Last year, in the midst of historic volatility and the economic devastation brought on by the pandemic, staff's forecast detailed an annual General Fund deficit of $48 million, $102 million and $74 million over the coming years. The proposed budget released Monday reflects no deficit — either now or in the associated five-year forecast.

"The City also retains its rare AAA bond rating from all three national credit ratings agencies; its broad community partnerships; its dedicated and talented municipal workforce; and, of course, its envy-invoking location on the Pacific. Such key assets secure Santa Monica's full recovery and bright future ahead," Dilg said, noting the FY 2021-22 General Fund budget is $349.5 million, almost $100 million less than the FY 2018-19 General Fund, so the Biennial Budget is not similar to ones seen in prior years of abundance.

"This decrease reflects not the strength of our local economy but the very nature of it," Dilg said. "During the pandemic, we have seen changes to the way we live and work. As people have engaged in less retail shopping, less business travel, and less office work in key entertainment and technology sectors, City revenue streams across tourism occupancy tax, sales tax, and parking have been diminished."

Despite its reduced footprint, the

SEE **BUDGET** PAGE 11

Bird thrown from perch atop local scooter companies

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Bird e-scooters are getting their wings clipped. The Santa Monica-based company has not been selected to participate in the City's second shared mobility pilot program and will have to remove all devices from the street by July 1.

City Chief Mobility Officer Francie Stefan made the call to approve Veo, Spin, and Lyft for the second pilot program. Her decision was based on the suggestions of a selection committee, which ranked each company's devices on a point based system and was allowed to recommend up to four providers.

While Birds' devices received the 4th highest score out of the eight companies that applied, they were not selected as a permitted service provider. Instead, the committee opted to choose just three companies.

If the decision is not appealed, these companies will be the only e-bike and e-scooter providers allowed in Santa Monica from July 1 to March 30, 2023.

Bird almost didn't make the cut for the first shared mobility pilot in 2018, due to its ranking compared to

SEE **BIRD** PAGE 11


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San Francisco plan returns seniors to school for just a day

Associated Press

After a full year of distance learning, San Francisco's high school seniors will get to return to classrooms for "at least one day" before graduation in a deal between teachers and the school district that drew quick criticism.

The teachers union announced the "exciting news" last weekend that the Class of 2021 will be able to return to classrooms starting Friday. But it left out the details: It calls for seniors to come back to school "for at least one day before the end of the school year," there will be no in-person instruction and just two of the city's 15 high schools will be reopened, the San Francisco Chronicle reported Monday.

Critics said the plan is merely a ploy to tap state funding while failing to serve students.

The announced return date for seniors is one day shy of a May 15 deadline public schools need to meet to qualify for their share of $2 billion in state reopening funds, part of legislation approved this year to encourage school districts that closed in the pandemic to bring students back.

Assemblyman Phil Ting, who authored the legislation, called the plan disappointing. He said he didn't know if the district's plan meets the state requirements to receive funding.

"It definitely doesn't meet the spirit of the law," the Democrat from San Francisco told the Chronicle. "Kids were supposed to come back in person. Kids were supposed to come back to learn."

The deal between the district and teachers union does not call for in-person instruction. Instead, it includes "in person supervision" in which students will have activities that might include "end of high school conversations," or "college and career exploration," said district officials. San Francisco public schools end the term in early June.

The school board was expected to discuss the plan in more detail at a Tuesday meeting.

San Francisco Unified School District was among the last large school systems in the country to bring students back after campuses were shuttered during the pandemic. Elementary students returned in April.

Its much -criticized reopening followed months of political back-and-forth, labor talks and a lawsuit.

District elementary schools and preschools reopened on a rolling basis, with about 22,000 of the district's 52,000 students in classrooms. Most middle and high school students have continued with remote learning, though 2,000 upper-grade students in at-risk populations such as special day classes, foster care and homeless situations returned on April 26.

Under Ting's legislation, school districts were eligible for their full share of funds if they reopened campuses to elementary students and at least one full middle or high school grade by April 1. Districts lose 1% of funding each school day they remain closed after that date and forfeit their entire share of grant funding if they do not meet the minimum requirements by May 15.

Some parents criticized the plan as a blatant money grab that does not address students needs.

"Does this show them that they matter, or just that the money matters?" a school reopening advocacy group, Decreasing the Distance, said in a statement. "One senior told us she wants to return, but not like this. Her reaction: 'It's too little too late. School's over.'"



Pentagon chief during Jan. 6 riot defends military response

ERIC TUCKER AND MICHAEL BALSAMO
Associated Press

President Donald Trump's acting defense secretary during the Jan. 6 Capitol riots plans to tell Congress that he was concerned in the days before the insurrection that sending troops to the building would fan fears of a military coup and could cause a repeat of the deadly Kent State shootings, according to a copy of prepared remarks obtained by The Associated Press.

Christopher Miller's testimony is aimed at defending the Pentagon's response to the chaos of the day and rebutting broad criticism that military forces were too slow to arrive even as pro-Trump rioters violently breached the building and stormed inside. He casts himself as a deliberate leader who was determined that the military have only limited involvement, a perspective he says was shaped by criticism of the aggressive response to the civil unrest that roiled American cities months earlier, as well as decades-old episodes that ended in violence.

The Defense Department, he will tell members of the House Oversight Committee on Wednesday, has "an extremely poor record in supporting domestic law enforcement," including during civil rights and anti-Vietnam War demonstrations in the 1960s and 1970s.

"And some 51 years ago, on May 4, 1970, Ohio National Guard troops fired at demonstrators at Kent State University and killed four American civilians," Miller will say, adding, "I was committed to avoiding repeating these scenarios."

He will also deny that Trump, criticized for failing to forcefully condemn the rioters, had any involvement in the Defense Department's response and will say that Trump had even suggested that 10,000 troops might be needed for Jan. 6.

Miller, expected to testify alongside former acting Attorney General Jeffrey Rosen and District of Columbia Police Chief Robert Contee III, will be the most senior Defense Department official to participate in congressional hearings on the riots. The sessions have been characterized by finger-pointing by officials across agencies about missed intelligence, poor preparations and an inadequate law enforcement response.

The Capitol Police have faced criticism for being badly overmatched, the FBI for failing to share with sufficient urgency intelligence suggesting a possible "war" at the Capitol, and the Defense Department for an hourslong delay in getting support to the complex despite the violent, deadly chaos unfolding on TV.

Rosen, for his part, is expected to tell lawmakers that the Justice Department "took appropriate precautions" ahead of the riot, putting tactical and other elite units on standby after local police reports indicated that 10,000 to 30,000 people were expected at rallies and protests, according to prepared remarks obtained by the AP.

Miller's testimony will amount to the most thorough explanation of Pentagon actions after months of criticism that it took hours for the National Guard to arrive.

In his remarks, he defends his resistance to a heavy military response as being shaped by public "hysteria" about the possibility of a military coup or concerns that the military might be used to help overturn the election results. Fearful of amplifying those suspicions — as well as the chance that a soldier might be provoked into violence in a way that could be perceived as an attack on First Amendment activities — he says he agreed in the days before the insurrection to deploy soldiers only in areas away from the Capitol.

"No such thing was going to occur on my watch but these concerns, and hysteria about them, nonetheless factored into my decisions regarding the appropriate and limited use of our Armed Forces to support civilian law enforcement during the Electoral College certification," Miller will say. "My obligation to the Nation was to prevent a constitutional crisis."

Democrats have signaled that they intend to press Miller on why it took so long for the National Guard to arrive despite urgent plans for help. Miller will contend that those complaints are unjustified, though he also concedes that the Guard was not rushed to the scene — a decision that he maintains was intentional.

"This isn't a video game where you can move forces with a flick of the thumb or a movie that glosses over the logistical challenges and the time required to coordinate and synchronize with the multitude of other entities involved, or with complying with the important legal requirements involved in the use of such forces," he will say.

Even after the Guard was requested, he said he felt compelled to send them "in with a plan to not only succeed but that would spare them unnecessary exposure and spare everyone the consequences of poor planning or execution."

"We appreciated the seriousness of the situation, but we did not want to piece-meal National Guard forces into the zone of conflict," Miller will say.

Although the timeline Miller offers in his remarks generally matches up with that provided by other high-ranking leaders, he notably puts himself at odds with William Walker, who as commanding general of the D.C. National Guard testified to what he said were unusual Pentagon restrictions that impeded his response and contributed to a three-hour delay between the time he requested aid and the time it was received. Walker has since become the House sergeant-at-arms, in charge of the chamber's security.

Miller will say that Walker was given "all the authority he needed to fulfill the mission" and that before Jan. 6 he had never expressed any concern about the forces he had at his disposal. He contends that he authorized the deployment of 340 National Guard personnel, the total amount Walker had said would be necessary, and authorized him to use a 40-member quick reaction force provided that Walker could provide him with a so-called concept of operations.

Miller said he approved the activation of the Guard at 3 p.m.. He said that though that support did not arrive at the Capitol complex until 5:22 p.m., the coordination, planning and deputizing of personnel by civilian law

SEE **CAPITOL** PAGE 11

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 289 CALLS ON MAY 10

Panic Alarm 2800blk 17th St 12:04 a.m.
Report Of Shots Fired 2200blk Delaware Ave 1:00 a.m.
Loud Music 1000blk Ashland Ave 1:41 a.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 200blk Washington Ave 2:51 a.m.
Arson 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 3:12 a.m.
Person With A Gun 4th St / Colorado Ave 4:16 a.m.
Battery 2100blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:16 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 26th St / San Vicente Blvd 5:10 a.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 800blk Grant St 5:18 a.m.
Vandalism 1000blk Ocean Ave 5:53 a.m.
Petty Theft 12th St / Wilshire Blvd 5:55 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 500blk 23rd St 6:38 a.m.
Burglary 1000blk Ocean Ave 6:56 a.m.
Encampment 1100blk Palisades Park 7:16 a.m.
Person Down Ocean Ave / Arizona Ave 7:22 a.m.
Battery 1100blk Pico Blvd 7:24 a.m.
Stalking Report 800blk 2nd St 7:25 a.m.
Found Property 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 7:28 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 900blk Ocean Ave 7:39 a.m.
Burglary Report 800blk Montana Ave 8:03 a.m.
Burglary Report 700blk Idaho Ave 8:48 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 3000blk Paula Dr 8:48 a.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 2100blk Pearl St 8:53 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:12 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 1100blk 5th St 9:21 a.m.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered 2900blk Arizona Ave 9:53 a.m.
Burglary Report 1000blk 19th St 10:05 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1900blk La Mesa Dr 10:07 a.m.
Panhandling 1600blk Lincoln Blvd 10:14 a.m.
Panhandling Lincoln Blvd / Olympic Blvd W 10:16 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 900blk Ocean Ave 10:30 a.m.
Encampment 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 10:43 a.m.
Bike Theft Report 2700blk Arizona Ave 10:53 a.m.
General Parking Problem 800blk San Vicente Blvd 11:00 a.m.
Encampment 400blk Interstate 10 11:56 a.m.
Missing Person 1000blk Pico Blvd 11:59 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2000blk 14th St 12:10 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2000blk 14th St 12:13 p.m.
Fraud Report 2600blk Pearl St 12:14 p.m.
Burglary Report 700blk Idaho Ave 12:18 p.m.
Lost Property 1600blk The Beach 12:41 p.m.
Petty Theft 2400blk Colorado Ave 12:44 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 22nd St / Montana Ave 1:14 p.m.
Indecent Exposure 300blk Santa Monica Pier 1:18 p.m.
Vandalism Report 1700blk Main St 1:22 p.m.
Vandalism Report 2600blk 7th St 1:22 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1400blk Ocean Ave 1:25 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 1000blk Pacific Coast Hwy 1:28 p.m.
Red Zone Violation 1300blk 14th St 1:33 p.m.
Bike Theft Report 1900blk 11th St 1:34 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1600blk Wilshire Blvd 1:47 p.m.
Found Property 1400blk 2nd St 1:50 p.m.
Sexual Assault 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 1:50 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 2000blk Ocean Ave 1:56 p.m.
Vandalism Report 2300blk Main St 2:10 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 200blk Santa Monica Pier 2:12 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1200blk Pacific Coast Hwy 2:16 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 800blk 3rd St 2:16 p.m.
Red Zone Violation 800blk Arizona Ave 2:21 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 3000blk 16th St 2:36 p.m.
Lewd Activity 600blk Adelaide Dr 3:10 p.m.
Petty Theft 3100blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:14 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 800blk Grant St 3:20 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Ocean Ave / Montana Ave 3:39 p.m.
Encampment Park Dr / Broadway 3:49 p.m.
Burglary Report 2700blk Neilson Way 3:49 p.m.
Person Down 1200blk 4th St 3:57 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 3rd Street Prom / Arizona Ave 4:07 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 200blk Santa Monica Pier 4:14 p.m.
Encampment 17th St / Colorado Ave 4:15 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 800blk 3rd St 4:22 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 4th St / Olympic Blvd E 4:22 p.m.
Vandalism Report 2000blk Delaware Ave 4:36 p.m.
Battery 1300blk 5th St 4:46 p.m.
Battery Ocean Ave / Broadway 5:01 p.m.
Vandalism Report 900blk Euclid St 5:07 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 23rd St / Marine St 5:19 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 4th St / Civic Center Dr 5:22 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 2600blk Pico Blvd 5:33 p.m.
Burglary Report 1500blk California Ave 5:42 p.m.
Burglary Report 1700blk Georgina Ave 5:43 p.m.
Person Down 21st St / San Vicente Blvd 6:00 p.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 1000blk 12th St 6:03 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 20th St / Washington Ave 6:10 p.m.
Drinking In Public 00blk Bay St 6:12 p.m.
Bike Theft Report 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 6:24 p.m.
Vandalism 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 6:45 p.m.
Petty Theft 2100blk 3rd St 6:54 p.m.
Arson Stewart St / Olympic Blvd 7:20 p.m.
Encampment 200blk Marine St 7:53 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 300blk Santa Monica Pier 7:53 p.m.
Loud Music 2000blk Ocean Front Walk 8:21 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1400blk 2nd St 8:30 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 8:31 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 9:00 p.m.
Stalking Report 800blk 2nd St 9:51 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1300blk 14th St 9:59 p.m.
Missing Person 1100blk Arizona Ave 10:06 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 4th St / Olympic Blvd W 11:54 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 34 CALLS ON MAY 10

EMS 400blk Expo Line 12:36 a.m.
Transformer Fire 22nd St / Delaware Ave 1:03 a.m.
EMS 14th St / Wilshire Blvd 2:17 a.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 3rd Street Prom / Arizona Ave 3:14 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 200blk Wilshire Blvd 4:24 a.m.
EMS 500blk Colorado Ave 4:36 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 7:52 a.m.
Wires Down 500blk San Vicente Blvd 8:09 a.m.
EMS 2400blk Colorado Ave 9:03 a.m.
EMS 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 11:48 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 11th St 12:43 p.m.
EMS 500blk Olympic Blvd W 1:07 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Ocean Ave 1:28 p.m.
EMS 20th St / Pico Blvd 1:30 p.m.
EMS 1300blk Franklin St 1:51 p.m.
EMS 1600blk Ocean Ave 1:56 p.m.
EMS 300blk Santa Monica Pl 1:59 p.m.
EMS 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 2:20 p.m.
EMS 900blk Wilshire Blvd 2:36 p.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 100blk Hart Ave 2:41 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 6th St 3:01 p.m.
EMS 900blk Stanford St 3:04 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Ocean Ave / Montana Ave 3:39 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 4th St 3:57 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 4th St / Olympic Blvd E 4:22 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 4th St 4:24 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 4th St / Olympic Blvd E 4:25 p.m.
EMS 1100blk Wilshire Blvd 5:01 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Broadway 5:04 p.m.
Structure Fire 500blk San Vicente Blvd 5:50 p.m.
Public Assist 1400blk Wilshire Blvd 6:30 p.m.
EMS 700blk 18th St 7:44 p.m.
EMS 2200blk 29th St 11:19 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 6th St 11:43 p.m.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

2020 Urban Water Management Plan and Water Shortage Contingency Plan

The Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) is updated every five years and must be submitted to the California Department of Water Resources on or before July 1, 2021. New legislation also requires the City to submit a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) with the UWMP.

A public hearing for the 2020 UWMP and WSCP will be held during the June 8, 2021 City Council meeting. Effective May 5, 2020 public comment is conducted remotely until COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. Please visit the City Clerk's website for updates. https://www.smgov.net/departments/clerk/

A copy of the Draft UWMP and WSCP will be made available on the Water Resources Division website in advance of the City Council meeting at: www.santamonica.gov/UWMP

For comments, questions, and inquiries, please e-mail: water.resources@santamonica.gov

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- TRIP & FALLS

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California governor proposes $12B to house state's homeless

JANIE HAR
Associated Press

California Gov. Gavin Newsom on Tuesday proposed $12 billion in new funding to get more people experiencing homelessness in the state into housing and to "functionally end family homelessness" within five years.

"As governor I actually want to get something done. I don't want to talk about this for a decade," he said at a former San Diego hotel that's been converted into housing for the homeless.

Newsom's proposal includes $8.75 billion to expand a California program created during the pandemic that converts hotel and motel rooms and other properties into housing for people in need. Roughly half of that money would go toward creating housing where mental health and other behavioral services are provided on site to people living there.

The nation's most populous state has an estimated 161,000 people experiencing homelessness, which is more than any other state.

Beyond the money for converting hotels, Newsom proposed spending $3.5 billion on new housing and rental support payments for families.

If Newsom's plan wins support from the state Legislature, it's implementation would depend heavily on the willingness of local governments to go along. Local leaders showed support for the plan during the pandemic by converting 94 hotels, motels and other properties across the state into housing for people experiencing homelessness, said Jason Elliott, a Newsom adviser who works on housing and homelessness.

Still, San Diego County Supervisor Nathan Fletcher, a fellow Democrat, acknowledged that tackling the issue is challenging and urged Californians to step up efforts to solve the politically difficult problem.

"Every community group that you go to demands that you solve the problem of homelessness, and then in the exact same meeting they'll demand you don't solve it anywhere near them," he said.

The new pending proposal came as part of a $100 billion pandemic recovery plan Newsom is rolling out this week. The massive amount comes from an astounding $76 billion estimated state budget surplus and $27 billion in new funding from the federal government's latest coronavirus spending bill.

Focusing on homelessness, a vexing issue for the state, could prove politically helpful for Newsom as he faces expected recall election later this year.

A new state database shows that nearly 250,000 people sought housing services from local housing officials in 2020. Of that number, 117,000 people are still waiting for help while nearly 92,000 people found housing.

Newsom — a former mayor of San Francisco, where the homelessness is very visible — seized the twin crises of homelessness and affordable housing even before the pandemic started last year.

He launched projects "Roomkey" and "Homekey," using federal funding to house homeless residents in hotels and motels during the pandemic and helped cities, counties and other local entities buy and convert motels and other buildings into housing.

Newsom officials said $800 million spent on the program last year created 6,000 more housing units from motels, houses, dorms and other repurposed buildings, providing shelter for 8,200 people.

The average cost to convert a unit into housing for people experiencing homelessness was nearly $150,000, Newsom administration officials said at a recent briefing. They said that is much cheaper than building housing from scratch.

Local leaders have welcomed Newsom's focus on the problem. Big city California mayors are seeking $20 billion from the state over five years to address housing and homelessness.

Advocates for the homeless say there's simply not enough affordable housing to help people who slip into homelessness, which is why tent camps and sleeping bags still clutter highway ramps and city sidewalks.

A February audit criticized the state for its fragmented approach to addressing homelessness, and urged the state to track spending and set statewide policy.

It identified at least nine state agencies that spent $13 billion on 41 programs to address homelessness without evidence to show what was effective.

Associated Press writer Kathleen Ronayne contributed from Sacramento, California.

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

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

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

AWARD WINNER

STAFF WRITERS
Brennon Dixson
brennon@smdp.com
Clara Harter
clara@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING AND PARTNERSHIPS
Jenny Rice
jenny@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

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

AWARD WINNER

Santa Monica Daily Press

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

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Fire Chief Bill Walker Announces Plans to Join Family in Texas and Lead Fire Department in Bedford

Santa Monica's Fire Chief Bill Walker announced he will be departing his post of five years to head up the City of Bedford Fire Department in Texas. Chief Walker has served as Chief of the Santa Monica Fire Department since 2016 and has led the department through a period of transformation through new technology, four new fire engines, the new Fire Station 1, and Fire Station 7 at the beach.

"Santa Monica could not have had a better leader to see us through a period of significant transformation as our fire department stepped into the 21st century while heading to the frontlines of California's most severe wildfires," said Mayor Sue Himmelrich. "Bill is one of the nicest people you will ever meet, and we've been fortunate to have benefited from his talents, expertise, and partnership over the last five years. Though we will miss him dearly, we understand and support his decision to prioritize being closer to his family in Texas, particularly after the last year of separation caused by the pandemic."

Upon announcing his decision to leave, Chief Walker shares:

"For the last five years it has been my honor to represent Santa Monica as the Fire Chief. This is an amazing place, and I am extremely proud of all the accomplishments we have made together.

My two kids are both in the Dallas Fort Worth area and graduating college soon, so we are excited about the opportunity to be reunited in Texas.

As I reflect on my time here, I am proud of the many key projects that we have completed. I say "we" because it was a team effort and it was our members that got so many things accomplished. We were able to completely transform our use of technology, improve our logistical support to our Firefighters- ensuring they had the uniforms, turnouts, tools, equipment, fire apparatus, and stations to do the job at the highest level. This included building the all new Fire Station 1 and establishing Fire Station 7. While there is always more to do, I know the team here in Santa Monica will continue to provide the highest level of service, and to make a difference every day.

I know that it is a challenge to have turnover in any organization, and I'm confident that the Santa Monica Fire Department is well prepared to handle this transition. We have an excellent group of leaders who will keep the fire department moving forward as always.

Thank you, Santa Monica for the opportunity to serve."

In addition to these accomplishments, under Chief Walker's leadership, SMFD leaned into its key role as first responders to support the City's commitment to addressing homelessness through a Community Response Unit and a new technology platform that allows first responders to share information with social workers and homeless services agencies to improve outcomes for people experiencing homelessness. SMFD also partnered with UCLA on a Mobile Stroke Unit to offer life-saving aid to people in cardiac crisis. SMFD is now in the process of administering COVID-19 vaccines to homebound seniors – another example of the department's dedication and service to Santa Monica.

Chief Walker's last day will be June 4, 2021. The City will appoint an Acting Fire Chief while the City conducts a nationwide recruitment. Chief Walker bio is available on santamonicafire.org.

SUBMITTED BY CONSTANCE FARRELL, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Citywide

L.A. County Metrics Continue to Show Progress; No New COVID-19 Deaths Among Healthcare Workers in 3 Weeks

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) has confirmed 18 new deaths and 224 new cases of COVID-19. Of the 18 new deaths reported today, five people that passed away were over the age of 80, nine people who died were between the ages of 65 and 79, two people who died were between the ages of 50 and 64, and two people who died were between the ages of 30 and 49.

To date, Public Health identified 1,235,970 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County and a total of 24,020 deaths.

There are 374 people with COVID-19 currently hospitalized and 21% of these people are in the ICU. Testing results are available for more than 6,592,000 individuals with 17% of people testing positive.

Los Angeles County remains in the least restrictive yellow tier in the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy that allows for expanded re-openings and increased occupancy limits across a wide range of sectors with required safety measures.

The State released updated blueprint tier numbers; L.A. County's adjusted case rate dropped from 1.6 new cases per 100,000 people to 1.4 new cases per 100,000. The overall test positivity rate remained at 0.7% and in areas with the fewest health affirming resources, L.A. County's test positivity rate dropped from 0.8% to 0.7%. Los Angeles County has closed the test positivity gap.

"While we are relieved that out metrics remain stable, we continue to mourn the loss of life and send our deepest sympathies to everyone who is missing a loved one who passed away from COVID-19," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "The most powerful tool to maintain our recovery progress is the vaccine and the most important work in front of us is to make it easier for residents to get vaccinated. With vaccination eligibility set to expand later this week to include adolescents between 12-15 years of age, there will be more opportunities to get vaccine into more arms to save lives and to build the County's protection against COVID-19. Getting vaccinated is the way we end this pandemic."

SEE **BRIEFS** PAGE 6



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BRIEFS

FROM PAGE 5

Healthcare workers began to receive COVID-19 vaccinations in December 2020 and since then, COVID-19 cases among healthcare workers sharply dropped. During the last week of December, there were nearly 2,000 new cases of COVID-19 among healthcare workers. Last week, there were only 43 new cases among healthcare workers reported across the entire county. This is the eighth week in a row that the number of new cases among healthcare workers is 50 or fewer a week.

To date, 262 healthcare workers have tragically passed away from COVID-19. At the peak of the surge, the week of January 3, 2021, 24 healthcare workers passed away. In the last three consecutive weeks, no COVID-19 deaths have been reported among healthcare workers.

Throughout the pandemic nursing facility staff have accounted for one-fourth of healthcare worker cases. Cases among nursing facility staff also dropped. The week of January 3, 2021 a total of 1,109 nursing facility staff tested positive for COVID-19. For the week of April 24, a total of 11 nursing facility staff tested positive for COVID-19.

Currently, 84% of skilled nursing facility staff received at least their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. Among the staff who received their first dose, 96% received their second dose and are fully vaccinated. High rates of vaccination are correlated with the low cases rate of among healthcare workers at nursing homes and at all healthcare facilities.

COVID-19 vaccinations are available at County-run sites and many community sites without an appointment. Anyone 16 and older living or working in L.A. County can get vaccinated. You should bring a photo ID with you and teens 16 and 17 should be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

The U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) expanded the emergency use authorization for the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for adolescents 12 to 15 years of age. Los Angeles County will offer the Pfizer vaccine for 12 to 15-year-olds once the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) affirms the FDA recommendation. For a full list of sites across the county offering Pfizer vaccines, please visit http://bit.ly/PfizerSites to find a site near you where teens can be vaccinated.

To find a vaccination site near you, to make an appointment at vaccination sites, and much more, visit: www.VaccinateLACounty.com (English) and www.VacunateLosAngeles.com (Spanish). If you don't have internet access, can't use a computer, or you're over 65, you can call 1-833-540-0473 for help finding an appointment or scheduling a home-visit if you are homebound. Vaccinations are always free and open to eligible residents and workers regardless of immigration status.

County Reopening Protocols, COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard, COVID-19 Surveillance Interactive Dashboard, Roadmap to Recovery, Recovery Dashboard, and additional actions you can take to protect yourself, your family and your community are on the Public Health website, www.publichealth.lacounty.gov.

SUBMITTED BY PUBLIC HEALTH

Malibu

Malibu is Prepared for Holiday Crowding on PCH, Canyons, Beaches and Trails

With Memorial Day weekend approaching and Malibu's beaches and trails already seeing increasing numbers of visitors, the City of Malibu is undertaking seasonal measures and coordinating with partner agencies to protect public safety on PCH and canyon roads, beaches and trails.

The City is coordinating with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors, California State Parks, Mountains and Recreation & Conservation Authority (MRCA), and the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to prepare for holiday and seasonal crowds.

"Let's all help keep Malibu safe during the holiday weekend and all summer long," said Mayor Paul Grisanti. "The City asks all visitors to the Malibu area, particularly on the beaches, trails and PCH, to be mindful of respecting our community's peace, safety and environment: please properly throw away all trash; do not engage in dangerous or excessively loud driving behavior on PCH and canyon roads; please watch for pedestrians crossing PCH to access the beaches, cyclists, and drivers pulling in and out of beach parking; and please adhere to the City's ordinance requiring facemasks to be worn while in public."

The City regularly funds a Sheriff's Department Beach Team from Memorial Day to Labor Day to assist with enforcement on the beaches. However, this year, the City requested the Beach Team to start working on weekends beginning May 1 in anticipation of early crowding at the beach due to loosening of COVID restrictions. The beach patrols are an important way to address alcohol consumption on the beaches, which is illegal, and thereby reduce drunk driving on PCH and canyon roads on busy beach days.

The MRCA plans to double patrols in its parks from Memorial Day to Labor Day. State Parks will have seven-day coverage and will also be monitoring and addressing litter. Beaches and Harbors will be increasing staffing in mid-May to assist with parking, maintenance, and trash. CHP will continue to implement its Street Racing Task Force.

For the Memorial Day weekend, the City Manager requested additional patrols by the Sheriff's Department and the Sheriff's Volunteers on Patrol (VOPs).

Although the City does not control access to the state and county beaches in Malibu, the City wants to reassure the Malibu community that it is working with its partner agencies on messaging to the public about the importance of following all LA County Department of Public Health (LADPH) guidelines of physical distancing, use of facemasks and other COVID-19 safety protocols, as well as PCH safety.

Residents can request assistance from CHP with street racing by calling 323-259-3200. Report drunk drivers by calling 9-1-1. Residents may sign up for the City's emergency and traffic alerts at www.MalibuCity.org/News (scroll down to "Alert Center").

SUBMITTED BY MATT MYERHOFF, MEDIA INFORMATION OFFICER

Venice High Baseball gets nod to play remaining home games following safety concerns for neighbors

JAMIE PAIGE
SMDP / Venice Current Staff Writer

The Venice High School varsity baseball team will play their last games of the season on home field. Until Monday evening — that was up in the air.

The new million-dollar Venice High baseball field recently went through significant renovations. Part of the improvement plans called to move the home plate 39 feet.

The move ultimately impacted where home run balls landed. Many in nearby backyards — something neighbors told the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) concerned them. "There has been a drastic increase of balls that have come across the fence in recent months," neighbors said in a letter sent to the school. "During the last eight weeks alone, at least 14 balls landed in the neighbor's yard. Every single one could have caused serious injury. Many of the residents have very young children, and right now, they are our priority."

As a short-term solution, the school district looked to move home games to another field until the issue could be fixed. The information did not bode well with parents and team members who said playing out the season [at home] meant a lot — especially after losing an entire season to COVID-19. "It's my last year to play with this team," said team captain Deon Dizon Jr. "To do things like have a senior night on our home field is important." Dizon has been playing baseball with many of his fellow teammates since freshman year. "We've been looking forward to ending our season together at home."

Not only would the players miss out, but parents also expressed their concerns about the possibility: "Most of us work –if they move the games, we might not be able to make them. Not only is our son going to miss out, so will we," said Mariaelena (Nena) Avila, Dizon's mom.

The baseball community came together. Many began writing letters and reaching out to the school including Dizon's cousin Paul Alvarez Jr.. "Venice baseball runs deep in my family," he wrote. "I've had cousins come before me and play on that very field and I now have a cousin currently on the team. Deon Dizon Jr already had his junior year torn away from him over this whole pandemic. Now you're allowing someone who bought a property knowing the baseball field was already there to rip away his senior year.

Don't you remember being in high school and at that age?" the letter went on to say. "I do. Some of the most pure and fun times I had was on that field with my friends who have given me friendships for a lifetime. I'm 30 years old now and when I look back on my days at Venice, baseball is one of my fondest memories. I plead and beg you to let the kids be kids have fun while they can. For most of them, this will be the last time they play organized baseball other than a beer league on Sundays. For others, you're ripping away a future. Some of these kids are being scouted and let's face it, a lot of play better on our own home turf. Hence the term, 'home-field advantage.'"

The efforts paid off. Over the past several weeks, Mark Hovator, the Chief Facilities executive for Venice High and other LAUSD employees, came up with a game plan for long and short-term solutions.

"We're going to have a fence that is going to go straight up and beyond the height of a home run," explained Hovator. Hovator said that along with the extra fence and net, changes also call for more panels that will be "visually aesthetic."

"This means you'll be playing at home," Hovator told attendees.

"If you could've seen the reaction of my Dude [Dizon] when he heard that he could finish off his season at home. I had tears," said Avila.

"It took a Village; now our Village is shifting all our energy to help our softball girls."

"I feel so blessed to know that they're so many good people in the world who helped us fight for what was fair and what was right."

There are four remaining home games for baseball and two for softball.

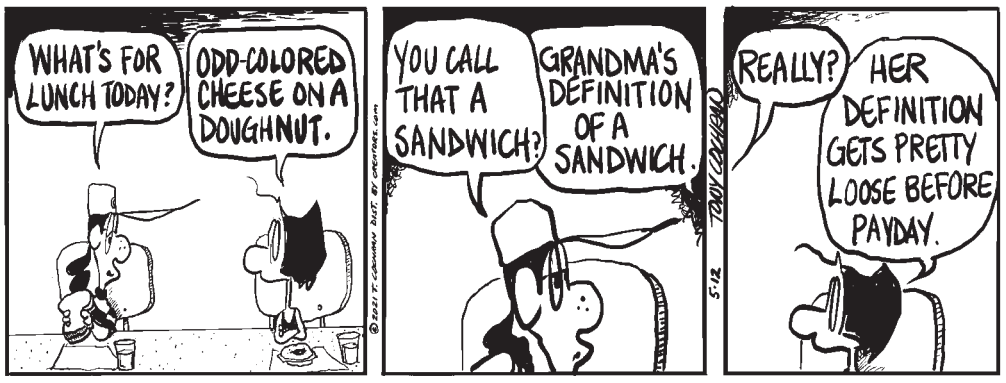
This story was published in partnership with the Venice Current.

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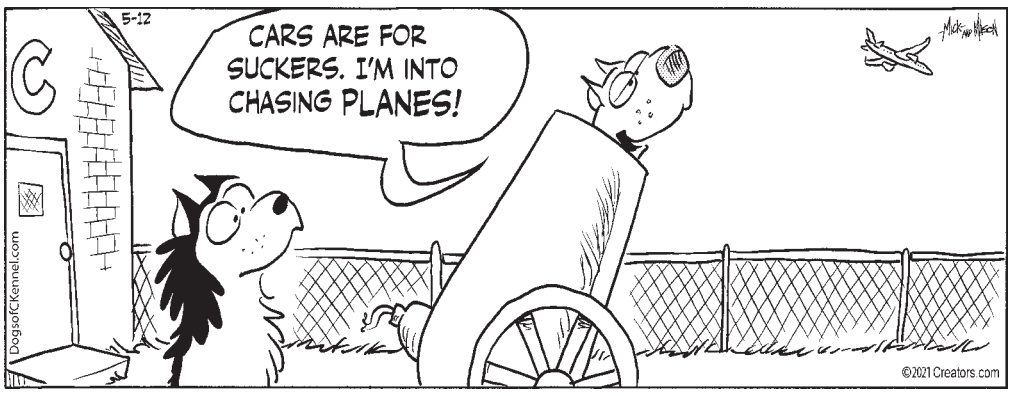
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



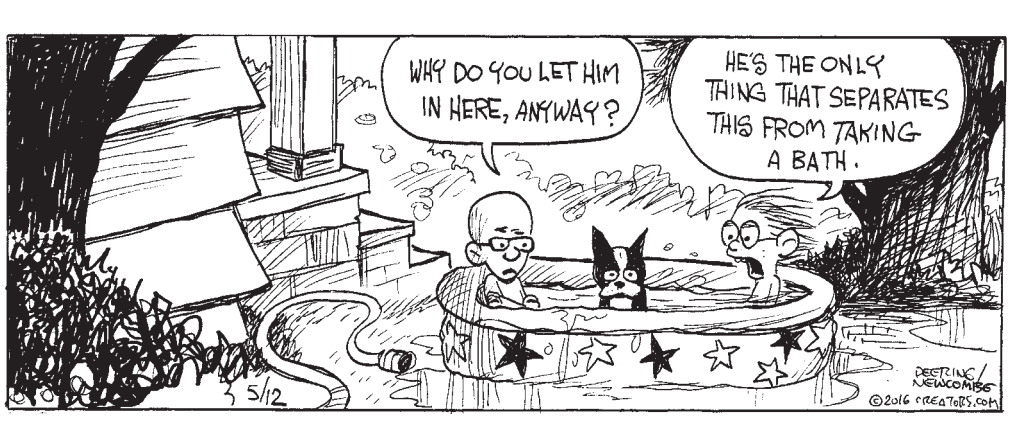
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



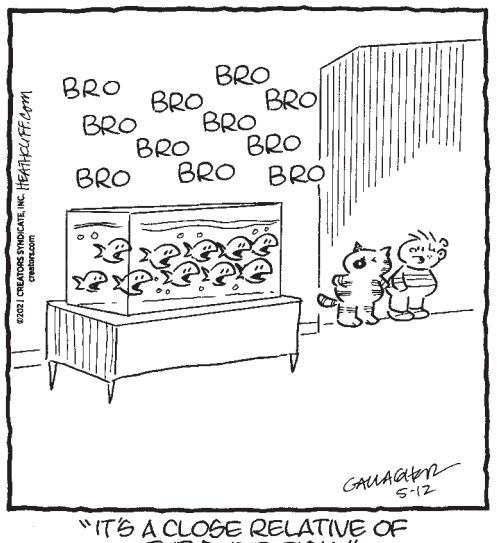
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 63.5°

WEDNESDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high occ. 5 ft
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. PM wind looks manageable too.

THURSDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 3-5ft Thigh to waist high
Long period SSW swell tops out as small NW swell blends in. Morning looking nice with clean conditions and a tide push.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 69.
Wednesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 59.
Thursday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 69.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2021/05/16	Sun	3:15 PM	2.95	H
2021/05/16	Sun	5:23 PM	2.88	L
2021/05/17	Mon	12:14 AM	4.79	H
2021/05/17	Mon	08:26 AM	0.13	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: 5/10
2 4 7 8 18

Daily 3 — Draw Date: 5/10
EVENING: 5 9 3

Draw Date: 5/10
MIDDAY: 1 9 9

Daily Derby — Draw Date: 5/10
1st: 01 - Gold Rush
2nd: 06 - Whirl Win
3rd: 07 - Eureka
Race Time: 1:44.75

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (MAY 12)

Many of your relationships will pay off, though none so handsomely as your investment in people. You bring out an honesty in others that makes for interesting and fortifying interactions. You'll make many friends, yet each relationship will be unique. You'll build a structure, company or ideology together – a collective legacy. Leo and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 20, 1, 11 and 17.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You choose business arrangements that serve common interests and friendships with people who have complementary qualities. And you choose your passions based on... well, the methodology there is mysterious, even to you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). To know requires being open to knowing. You cannot shun, ignore, negate, reject or protect yourself against that which you are in the process of understanding. Awareness, by its very nature, is a welcoming state.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). All those things that happened before were happening right now. All the things that haven't happened yet will also occur right now. To live right now is to live in the only time.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It would seem that we have to fight against the situations we don't approve of, but to do so only creates more conflict and holds negative feelings in place. What are you willing to understand about it? This is the key.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Social media posts give the impression that everyone is coping beautifully, working efficiently, radiating confidence and living their best life. You know better, and you'll lead with awareness and compassion.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). No one makes you feel love, annoyance or anything else. Those feelings are a reaction to your thoughts about people. You'll examine and change your thoughts to cultivate a better mood.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Thoughts cause feelings, and then feelings cause thoughts, and then the cycle rolls along like a bike headed downhill. Is it exhilarating? Does it go where you want? Much depends on whether you know how to balance and steer.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You learn much about yourself by interacting with the ones who are attracted to you. Your repeat customers resonate with you for reasons that will be a delight to discover.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It's so fun to be able to save the day, and you'll be in just the right place and time with all the right stuff (willingness, awareness, kindness) to do this for someone.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You say yes to what is happening, and that will turn out to be the only word you need. "Yes" will affirm the present, add energy and open the gates to the route of ease.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It's generally believed that animals lack rich interior lives, but the time you've spent with animals has definitely convinced you otherwise. You'll be favorably impacted by a member of the animal kingdom today.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Silent strangers put you in touch with your expectation and fantasies in a way that relationships with known, talking people cannot. The magic question: What did you want before you heard what the other person wanted?

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

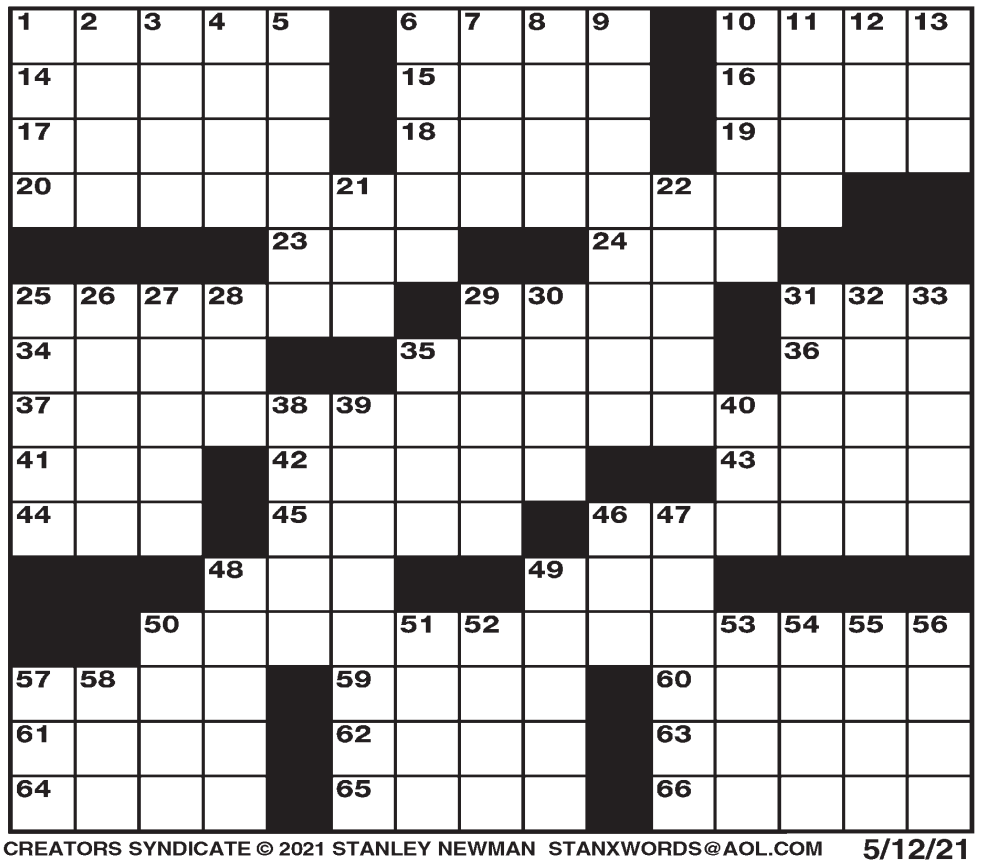
	5					4		6
		3					9	
		8	6	7		3		
			8			6	7	
2			3		6			1
	1	6			4			
		2		8	9	1		
	3					5		
7		1					4	

Newsday Crossword

CRAFT-Y by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Work behind home plate
6 What ovens provide
10 Minor quarrel
14 Central Florida city
15 Curved part of the foot
16 Manage somehow
17 Storm-tracking device
18 Important Egyptian river
19 Lariat
20 Precious-gem artisan
23 Get the __ of the land
24 Line of theater seats
25 Rapid
29 Goad into action
31 Knock softly
34 __ Grey tea
35 Bides one's time
36 College URL ender
37 Pioneer's covered wagon
41 Part of TGIF
42 Accumulate
43 Acting part to play
44 Sailor's "Yes"
45 Change now and then
46 Frankfurter
48 Wooden pin
49 Weakness in a mattress
50 Squad car
57 Mix with a spoon
59 PBS science series
60 Physically nimble
61 Nearly colorless
62 At any time
63 Standards of society
64 Ripened, as cheese
65 Declare to be false
66 Engage in __ of strength

DOWN
1 Heavy string
2 Trendy berry
3 "Look what I did!"
4 Chowder morsel
5 Novelist Robbins or playwright Pinter
6 Good at home repairs
7 Explorer __ the Red
8 Rights advocacy grp.
9 "Level with me!"
10 Wood fastener
11 Low-quality
12 Tablet download
13 Collarless shirt
21 Senate disapproval
22 Sculpture of a body
25 Brown photo tint
26 Social gathering
27 Clean off a blackboard
28 Yale student
29 Fresh-mouthed
30 Photos
31 Part of a carpentry joint
32 British singer of "Skyfall"
33 More pristine
35 Slip into
38 Entangle, as yarn
39 Dreamed up
40 Mine extraction
46 __ games (military practice)
47 Mexican lizard, possible pet
48 Studied carefully, with "over"
49 Frightening
50 Untidy stack
51 Small sheltered bay
52 Make level
53 "Have __ news for you!"
54 Kingly address
55 Shade trees
56 Relaxation
57 Masseuse's workplace
58 Label on luggage



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2021 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 5/12/21

Binary Puzzle

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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



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Santa Monica Daily Press

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 24 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5111

Junior athletics

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

Activity	Image	Season
Approach	Laps	Shotput
Attempt	Leap	Small
Basic	Lose	Smiles
Best	Modified	Speed
Caber	Organisation	Sports
Cardiovascular	Pace	Start
Compete	Pole	Summer
Enjoy	Pride	Team
Event	Record	Timekeeper
Food	Relay	Trials
Gala day	Roster	Walk
Hope	Saville	Zone

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Somewhere in Melbourne

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COASTAL COMMISSION

FROM PAGE 1

bar, and seating areas.

Currently, the club has many structures that were developed without permit approval. As part of the renovation plan, the club will remove several of these features and seek after-the-fact approval to retain others.

The Club seeks to keep its playground, patio, privacy fence, parking lot and bocce ball structures. Unpermitted developments to be removed include the sand volleyball court with its surrounding fencing, two outdoor tents, a beach hut, and a storage shed and private property signs within 40 feet of the bike path.

The Commission's ecological staff determined that these removals will provide an opportunity for the environmentally sensitive sand dune area to expand naturally inland.

The redevelopment will also create two view corridors that improve visual access to the beach from the PCH. The commission staff recommends approving the plan with minor adjustments.

MALIBU PESTICIDE POLICY

The City of Malibu generally prohibits the use of pesticides, insecticides, and herbicides within or near to environmentally sensitive habitat areas. The City is proposing expanding this policy to apply citywide and narrowing the circumstances under which there are exceptions to these restrictions. Commission staff members have a proposed modification that places even further limitations on these chemicals' use.

BEL-AIR BAY CLUB SAND BERMS

The Bel-Air Bay Club is seeking follow-up approval for sand berms installed under emergency coastal development permits between December 2018 and December 2020. These 430 ft long berms were installed to protect the club's facilities from wave uprush and extreme high tide events.

This item also includes a security guard training program and payment of funds to the Boys and Girls Club of West San Gabriel Valley's Fast and Fun sailing program.

The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. on Thursday, May 13 with an hour of public comment on any of the agenda items. It will be live-streamed at tinyurl.com/CoastalCommissionMay13

Clara@smdp.com

BIRD

FROM PAGE 1

other companies. It was ultimately allowed to participate because of its local Santa Monica connection.

Bird has yet to respond to a request for comment, leaving it unclear whether they plan to file an appeal. The deadline to do so is May 26, and will be passed to Transportation Director Ed King for final consideration.

As Jump and Lime pulled their devices from the City at the beginning of the pandemic, Bird is the only current service provider that will have to leave as a result of this decision.

Under the selection committee's ranking, Bird scored lower than approved companies on criteria including affordability, customer service, safety, and sustainability.

The top scoring company was Spin, followed by Veo and then Lyft. Starting July 1, the companies are collectively allowed to place 2,000 devices across the city.

Veo is approved for 200 two-wheel scooters and 500 e-bikes; Spin is approved for 500 two-wheel and 200 three-wheel e-scooters; and Lyft is approved for 600 e-bikes.

Notably, Lyft's e-scooters are not included in these new device allowances, although they were part of the first pilot program.

The approved device numbers are based on current device demand. If utilization rises these numbers are allowed to increase up to 3,250 total devices.

Clara@smdp.com

BUDGET

FROM PAGE 1

FY 2021-23 Biennial Budget supports a first-class local government capable of meeting essential community needs and providing a solid foundation for regrowth, Dilg added, acknowledging there may be a disconnect will remain between City resources, which have been reduced as a result of the pandemic, and community expectations, which have not.

Still, city leaders believe revenue streams will replenish thanks to stimulus from the federal government and the new revenue sources and partnership opportunities now available to the city, including the recently adopted Measure SM, the SaMo Small Business Recovery Grant Program and the City's new We Are Santa Monica Fund.

"The FY 2021-23 budget recognizes our interconnectedness as a community," Dilg summarized. "As we recover from the pandemic, we seek rebirth as a more equitable, more inclusive community, with an economic recovery that lives up to our values by keeping our most vulnerable residents in their homes, supporting development of affordable housing to invite others to join us, celebrating our local artists, preserving our small businesses, and bolstering commercial districts that speak with authenticity from and of the passions of our neighborhoods. These goals, while ambitious, remain achievable in Santa Monica."

City Council is set to discuss the Proposed Budget during study sessions on May 25 and 26. Residents are free to scope out the details themselves ahead of the discussion and expected adoption on June 22 by visiting https://finance.smgov.net/Media/Default/annual-reports/FYE2022/FY_2021_2023_Proposed_Biennial_Budget_Digital_Final.pdf.

Brennon@smdp.com

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION
Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

CAPITOL

FROM PAGE 2

enforcement all took time.

Miller, a Green Beret and retired Army colonel, served as a White House counter terrorism adviser under Trump before being tapped as acting defense secretary for the final months of the Trump administration. He replaced Mark Esper, who was fired after the election after being seen by Trump as insufficiently loyal.

The abrupt appointment raised concerns that Miller was in place to be a Trump loyalist. In his opening statement, though, he will say that he believes Trump "encouraged the protesters" but declines to say if he thinks the president bears responsibility. He recounts a conversation on Jan. 5 when Trump, struck by a crowd of supporters at a rally that day, told him that 10,000 troops would be needed the next day.

"The call lasted fewer than thirty seconds and I did not respond substantively, and there was no elaboration. I took his comment to mean that a large force would be required to maintain order the following day," Miller says in his statement.

Associated Press writer Nomaan Merchant in Washington contributed to this report.

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