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WEEKEND EDITION
05.13.23 - 05.14.23

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New report shows significant rise in mortality rates among the homelessness

SCOTT SNOWDEN
SMDP Staff Writer

A new report from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health suggests that the mortality rate among people experiencing homelessness has increased by 55 percent, from 2,056 per 100,000 in 2019 to 3,183 per 100,000 in 2021, the most recent years of data analyzed in this report.

This is the fourth annual report produced by the Department of Public Health on mortality among people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles County. It utilizes data from the 2022 homeless count, which was suspended in 2021 due to the pandemic, to resume the estimation of trends in mortality rates.

Drug overdose was once again the leading cause of death for people experiencing homelessness, accounting for 37 percent of all deaths among unhoused individuals in 2020 and 2021 combined, or about two deaths per day on average.

"This report underscores the enormous destruction fentanyl is causing our communities. To know that people experiencing homelessness are 39 times more likely to die of a drug overdose compared to the overall population of LA County is yet another painful reminder of the harm our unhoused neighbors experience, and why we must continue to move with

SEE **MORTALITY** PAGE 4

'Gone in a Snap,' parents protest the social media company they view as complicit in their children's deaths







Grace Adams

PROTEST: Parents continue to protest Snapchat for the company's involvement in the sale of illegal drugs.

GRACE INEZ ADAMS
SMDP Staff Writer

This Friday marked the fourth time that Amy Neville has marched to Snapchat's Santa Monica headquarters since her 14-year-old son, Alexander, died in 2020 after taking a counterfeit pill containing fentanyl he purchased via the social media app.

Other parents who walked alongside Neville this week as part of the 'Gone in a Snap' demonstration share similar stories and a common goal: to hold Snap Inc. accountable for what they view as complicity in their children's deaths and to advocate for more safety measures and controls on the platform.

Glen Draper, an attorney for the Social Media Victims Law Center

SEE **SNAP** PAGE 7

CCSM plans to build 60 units on Venice Baptist Church property

BARRY CASSILY
Special to the Daily Press

Community Corporation of Santa Monica (CCSM) held its first public outreach meeting this past Sunday in the parking lot of Oakwood's First Baptist Church, which they recently purchased in partnership with Century Affordable Development, Inc. for $11.8 million.

Despite modest attendance, CCSM Executive Director Tara Barausklas stated that an attempt had been made to distribute fliers to notify residents in the immediate area and assured attendees that more meetings would follow as the plans for developing the site were still evolving.

The small crowd included Oakwood community leader Naomi Nightingale and other original members of the Save Venice organization who had lobbied for the site's historic designation after it was sold to the Penske family in 2017.

That petition was unanimously denied by the city's cultural Heritage Commission, a denial subsequently reaffirmed, again unanimously, by the city's Planning, Land Mse and Management committee. Then Councilmember Mike Bonin, who sat on the committee, argued that the designation was not necessary as the Penske's plans would "preserve the facade and aesthetic, achieving many of the goals of designation."

Later that same year, a second petition was submitted again calling

SEE **DEVELOPMENT** PAGE 6



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City of Santa Monica

Governor Newsom says state's budget deficit has grown to nearly $32 billion

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

California's budget deficit has grown to nearly $32 billion, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced Friday, saying the state's challenges are partly due to high inflation and a decision to let most people delay filing their taxes because of a series of winter storms.

That's about $10 billion more than Newsom predicted in January, when he offered his first budget proposal. The deficit is part of Newsom's overall proposal for a $306 billion budget, by far the largest state budget in the nation.

California is one of the only states to have a shortfall this year. That's mostly because its progressive tax code relies on wealthy taxpayers whose income is closely tied to the performance of the stock market.

In January, Newsom proposed a number of ideas to cover the deficit, including about $9.6 billion in spending cuts that hit some of the state's ambitious climate programs and other policy areas. His latest proposal includes roughly another $1 billion in spending reductions. Some of that comes from clawing back unspent money in various programs, including those designed to provide tax refunds and help people with their utility bills.

He's making up the rest of the deficit by shifting expenses, taking some money from the state's safety next reserve and borrowing.

"This was not an easy budget, but I hope you see we will try to do our best to hold the line and take care of the most vulnerable and most needy, but still maintain prudence," Newsom said.

Republican legislative leaders blasted Newsom's proposal as another marker of irresponsible spending by the Democrats who control Sacramento.

"His cuts to drought programs are dangerous, his "fiscal gimmicks" are shortsighted, and his words about good government and efficiency are yet another empty promise. Californians deserve better," Republican Assembly Leader James Gallagher said in a statement.

The deficit is small compared to the cash crunch that the state faced during the last recession.

Since taking office in 2019, Newsom's biggest budget fights with the Democratic-controlled state Legislature is how to spend California's record-breaking surpluses. Agreeing on what to cut could be much more difficult.

Newsom's plan in January was to cut money for flood protection projects, delaying an expansion of a subsidized child care program and canceling a $500 million plan to help small businesses pay higher tax rates associated with some state debt.

Newsom now plans to restore money for flood protection projects and spend another $250 million on other flood projects, which includes raising a levee to protect the Central Valley community of Corcoran.

It's not yet clear if he can or will relent on his other proposed cuts. Newsom signed off on an expansion of a subsidized child care program last year that would pay to help an extra 20,000 families. But because of the deficit, Newsom proposed delaying that funding for one year. He argued that the state was having trouble filling the child care slots it already had.

That angered some Democratic lawmakers, who said the reason the state was having trouble filling its child care slots is because there aren't enough child care workers. On Monday, Democrats in the Assembly proposed $1 billion in new spending to increase the pay of child care workers.

"Now, we just need to put a little pressure on the governor to make sure he's on board," Assembly Majority Leader Eloise Gomez-Reyes said on Wednesday while speaking to a rally of parents and child care workers at the state Capitol.

It's not just child care though. Democrats in the state Senate want to raise taxes on 2,500 of the largest companies so they can cut taxes by about 25% for most other businesses — a plan that Newsom has already said he opposes. And environmental groups want Newsom to reverse his planned $6 billion cut to some of his climate proposals.

Newsom has maintained most of those cuts in his revised proposal.

But he's also protected spending in other key priority areas, such as expanding Medicaid to everyone who is eligible regardless of their immigration status and allowing people to use Medicaid money to pay for rent. Likewise Newsom said he planned to maintain spending to address the state's housing and homelessness crisis and K-12 education spending.

There's also some new spending. Newsom wants to add 14 positions at the California Energy Commission to track and oversee oil prices as part of an effort to crack down on high gas prices. He also wants to redirect 10 existing positions to that project, creating the Division of Petroleum Market Oversight.

California's budget challenges are due in large part to lower tax collections due to a sagging stock market. About half of the state's money comes from just 1% of earners. That means that the state is vulnerable to big swings in the stock market, which is the source of wealth for most rich people.

The downward turn has had the biggest impact on California's massive technology industry as companies like Google, Facebook and PayPal have laid off thousands of workers. Earlier this year, Silicon Valley Bank — one of the nation's largest financial institutions, whose clients were mostly in the tech industry — failed and was bought by North Carolina-based First Citizens Bank.

A series of intense winter storms that brought widespread damage also prompted state officials to give people until October, not April, to file their taxes.

Delayed tax collection mean Newsom and lawmakers will have to make a plan without knowing how much money they have to spend.

City of Santa Monica

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MORTALITY

FROM PAGE 1

urgency to address the crisis on our streets," Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath said in a statement.

"We need to get people inside, in treatment, and supported with wraparound services. We also need to expand the availability of Narcan for all who serve the public to use as a vital, life-saving tool," Horvath said.

Fentanyl has been driving overdose deaths since the start of the pandemic, with the percentage of overdose deaths involving the synthetic drug almost tripling from just 20 percent in 2019 to 58 percent in 2021. Fentanyl deaths almost always involve combinations of drugs. For instance, 71 percent of all fentanyl deaths in 2021 among people experiencing homelessness also involved methamphetamine.

Overdose mortality rates are higher among white males experiencing homelessness. From 2019 to 2020 overdose rates increased substantially across all racial and ethnic groups and among both men and women, but 2021 saw a continued sharp rise only among the white, male demographic.

The second leading cause of death continues to be coronary heart disease, although the coronary heart disease mortality rate decreased in 2021 after increasing from 2017 to 2020. Coronary heart disease deaths accounted for 14 percent of all deaths among persons experiencing homelessness in 2020 and 2021 combined or about five deaths per week on average.

The third leading cause of death was traffic injuries, which increased by 47 percent from 2019 to 2021, accounting for 8 percent of all deaths of people experiencing homelessness in 2020 and 2021 combined, which equates to about three deaths per week on average.

The homicide rate, which has also risen among people experiencing homelessness since 2017, increased by 49 percent in 2021 compared to the previous year. Homicides were the fourth leading cause of death in 2020 and 2021.

Data from 2022 will be presented in January 2024.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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As lawmakers struggle to act, California schools turn to the courts to combat social media

A California teenager committed suicide in her bedroom after watching disturbing videos of a simulated hanging. Another teen in the Bay Area refused to eat and was hospitalized due to an eating disorder. An 8-year-old girl in Temple, Texas, died of self-strangulation.

The reason parents gave for these unspeakable tragedies: social media use.

Silicon Valley may be a place where success sprouts from the seeds of innovation, but a growing list of California schools believe the same forces behind the economic engine of Big Tech have fomented a youth mental health crisis and behavioral issues unlike anything they've ever seen.

California educators have assessed the damage and concluded that they can no longer wait for lawmakers in Sacramento and Washington D.C. to take bold action against social media giants. They have instead turned to the courts in a desperate attempt to hold these companies accountable.

The San Mateo County School Board, representing 23 school districts just a few miles from Big Tech's global hub, was the first in California to file a federal lawsuit against YouTube, TikTok and Snap, alleging these platforms – and the algorithms designed to keep kids hooked – have caused unprecedented levels of anxiety, depression, bullying, eating disorders and suicidal ideation.

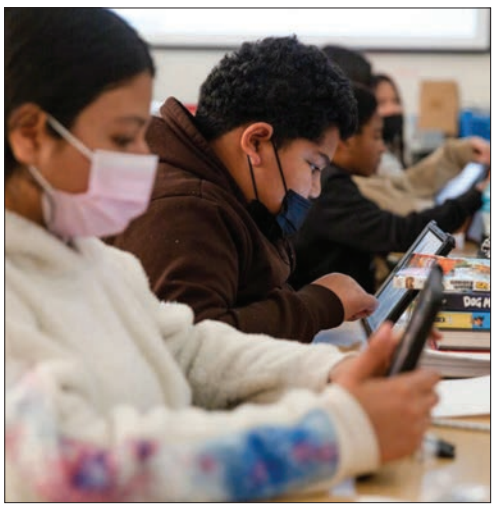
The crisis is so severe that schools don't have enough counselors or administrators to manage it all, and lack resources to reach kids early enough to explain the appropriate uses and most harmful impacts of social media.

"You can't really move through the world without hearing from parents about the high level of anxiety and stress that kids are exhibiting," said San Mateo County Schools Superintendent Nancy Magee. "This is a social issue; not a single, family issue."

At least 60 school districts across the nation have filed lawsuits against social media companies, following the lead of Seattle Public Schools, which in January became the first in the country to do so. Anne Marie Murphy, an attorney representing the San Mateo school board, said she expects hundreds more school districts to join.

The lawsuit is essentially a public nuisance case, Murphy said, but it's also bolstered by a racketeering claim, alleging that social media companies intentionally misled the public and covered up knowledge of the harm their products cause for financial gain. The recent $462 million settlement with e-cigarette maker Juul is centered on anti-corruption law, she added. Years ago, the Justice Department also used the RICO Act in its successful case against the tobacco industry.

The disappointing fact remains that California lawmakers are trailing other states when it comes to tougher restrictions. Ed Howard, chief counsel for the Children's Advocacy Institute at the University of San Diego, pointed to other states – some under Republican leadership – that have done more to shield kids from the dangers of social media.



Courtesy Photo

PHONES: Students in Theresa Griffin's sixth-grade class complete classwork at Stege Elementary School in Richmond, Calif., on Feb. 6, 2023.

Utah Gov. Spencer Cox recently signed a bill that allows parents or legal guardians to set time limits on social media use and institutes a strict age verification process. The Arkansas House of Representatives passed similar legislation that would require social media companies to verify user ages and confirm minors have a guardian's consent to open an account. Last month, Montana lawmakers sent a bill to the governor that would ban TikTok on all personal devices.

"They are acting and acting ambitiously," Howard said. "California could lead again, but right now, California's parents and children have far fewer rights than parents and children in other states."

Powerful lobbies and dizzying amounts of wealth make tech companies notoriously difficult to rein in. The result is a grindingly slow legislative progress, especially in California where there's much hand-wringing about the outsize influence tech lobbyists have on legislators, particularly those whose constituents include tech leaders with deep pockets.

Last year, then-Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham, a Central Coast Republican, co-authored a first-of-its kind bipartisan bill with Oakland Democratic Assemblymember Buffy Wicks that would have made social media companies liable for the damage caused by their addictive platforms. But that bill was quietly killed in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Wicks and others are trying again this

SEE **SOCIAL MEDIA** PAGE 8

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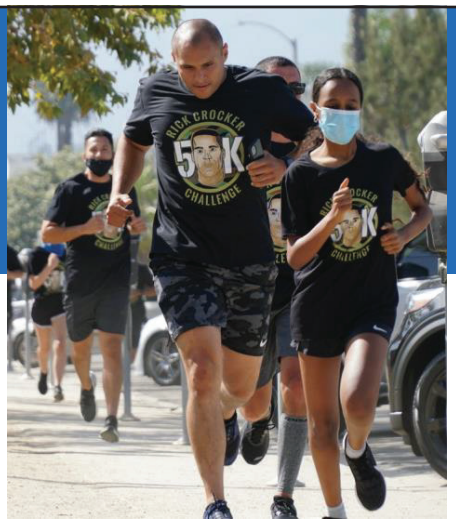


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PAL SANTA MONICA

Police: 3 men arrested in deadly Los Angeles shootings linked to Chicago violence

JOHN ANTCZAK
Associated Press

Three men associated with a gang have been arrested in connection with two deadly Los Angeles shootings in a case in which all suspects and victims were from the Chicago area, police said Friday.

Investigators, however, would not specify the motive for the shootings that killed three women and wounded four other people in January and a man in December.

"We can't discuss the motive but we can say that it's associated with Chicago," Capt. Jonathan L. Tippet, commanding officer of the Los Angeles Police Department's Robbery-Homicide Division, told a headquarters press conference.

"One thing that can be said is that the violence that occurs in Chicago today is having an effect on all of us," he said.

Tippet said the three suspects are "involved in" and "connected to" a gang but he could not go into further detail about their relationship with the group.

The arrests followed a nation-spanning investigation involving numerous law enforcement agencies including FBI violent crime task forces, Tippet said.

Dejean Thompkins, 28, was arrested last month in the Chicago area. Dontae Williams, 22, was also arrested in April in Gary, Indiana, and was transferred to Chicago. Daries Stanford, 28, was arrested May 10 in the Manhattan area of New York. All three are awaiting extradition to LA. It was not immediately known if they had attorneys.

Around 2:30 a.m. on Jan. 28, Iyana Hutton, 33, Nenah Davis, 29, and Destiny Sims, 26, were fatally shot in a car as they returned to a vacation rental house in LA's Beverly Crest area after a night out.

The women grew up together and had come out to LA in support of a Chicago rapper, Tippet said. He added that they were not the intended targets of the attack.

Four others were wounded and two others escaped injury in the attack, in which more than 30 rounds were fired. Their identities were being withheld, Tippet said.

Investigators connected that shooting to the Dec. 16 killing of Julian Bynum, 30, on a North Hollywood sidewalk outside an apartment complex.

"In both of these cases the suspects used ambush-style tactics on their unsuspecting victims," Tippet said. "Planning and coordination was utilized."

The slain women were not connected to Bynum, who is believed to have been targeted, Tippet said.

Public tips about the getaway car used in the Beverly Crest shooting were important in the investigation, he said.

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office filed four counts of murder and six counts of attempted murder against Thompkins. Williams and Stanford were each charged with three counts of murder and six counts of attempted murder. All three were also charged with six counts of assault with a semiautomatic firearm.

The complaint also alleges special circumstances of lying in wait and multiple murders.

DEVELOPMENT

FROM PAGE 1

for the property to be designated as historic, and this time the city reversed its initial decision and voted to approve the petition - thus designating the church as historic and separately designating the parking lots historic as well.

The Penskes subsequently put the property back on the market.

According to Barausklas, CCSM plans to build a 60 unit low income development on the parking lots, and the church itself would be converted to a community center. CCSM is also considering converting the church's existing classrooms to housing units. Ms. Nightingale expressed a desire to have the church structure serve as a large community meeting space that could accommodate 200-300 people, a suggestion that was met with enthusiasm by the crowd.

During the meeting, some attendees were concerned over the size of the project, given the neighborhood's current height limit of 30 feet for a flat roof — roughly three stories — making the inclusion of 60 units on just 5 buildable lots seem challenging. CCSM representatives said that land use consultants they had hired would be better able to address the issue.

Some attendees raised questions over how development on the historically designated parking lots would even be possible and whether CCSM would use an environmental impact report to override that designation. Barausklas replied that CCSM's consultants believed there was a "less cumbersome" way around the designation, but did not provide further details.

Attendees also voiced concerns that the church would be Community Corporation of Santa Monica's first project in Venice, to which Barausklas replied that CCSM, in collaboration with Safe Place for Youth [SPY], is also one of the 5 shortlisted developers being considered for the Metro Yard Development (the current site of Venice's Bridge Home which SPY co-manages).

"We had almost forgotten about that project," she said, explaining that it had been almost 3 years since there had been communications between Metro and applicants.

If CCSM were awarded the Metro development in addition to building the First Baptist Church project, CCSM by reasonable estimates could be the largest developer operating in Venice.

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SNAP

FROM PAGE 1

representing over 80 families who lost children to pills containing fentanyl purchased on Snapchat in claims against the company, said that the platform's unique features make it especially attractive to drug dealers.

"The feature that everybody's most familiar with, of course, is the disappearing messages, but there are other features besides that, that drug dealers use on Snapchat to contact kids and offer them drugs," he said, "They have a connection feature that lets dealers contact kids that they don't know…they have a feature called Snap Map that allows drug dealers to locate kids to confirm their identity, that they're not police, and offer drug menus to people who are in a specific area."

Local Santa Monica parents Sam Chapman and Laura Berman lost their 16-year-old son, Sammy, in 2020 to a fentanyl-laced pill he thought was Xanax which he obtained through Snapchat and had delivered to their house "like a pizza" while they were asleep.

"If fentanyl is the bullet, Snapchat is the gun that is delivering the bullet to our children," Chapman said.

Snap Inc. declined to answer specific questions from the Daily Press, but in a statement a spokesperson for the company said: "At Snap, we are working hard to stop dealers from abusing our platform. We do this by employing certain technologies, working closely with law enforcement, collaborating with other technology companies, and by having a zero-tolerance policy where we shut off the infringer's account."

Chapman, Berman, Neville and other parents say that it is not enough.

"They're little tiny bandaids for something that needs major surgery," Neville said. "So while kids continue to die we will continue to be a voice for that."



Grace Adams

SNAP: Families want new laws targeting the company.

She and other parents would like to see major changes to the app and support proposed legislation to enact stricter regulations for social media companies like Snapchat and allow more parental controls, including the Kids Online Safety Act and Sammy's Law, named after Chapman and Berman's son.

Beyond serving as a way for dealers to traffic fentanyl, parents at this week's protest said Snapchat results in harm to young people in other ways as well.

Rose Bronstein, who came from Chicago to join the demonstration, said her 15-year old son, Nate, died by suicide after being bullied over Snapchat in January of 2022. She said the lack of regulation on social media platforms like the app and the demonstrated harm to children reveal a clear double standard when compared to safety requirements for other industries.

"When one child is injured by a different type of a product like an infant car seat, or a baby crib, the product is recalled immediately or the company that manufactures it is held accountable," she said. "They have to go through the highest standardization of making sure their products are safe for our children. Why should the same thing not apply to social media platforms?"

Both Neville and Bronstein think it comes down to one thing: money. Many of the features they feel make the platform dangerous, such as the disappearing messages and location sharing, are also what make it popular and profitable.

"They have got to start putting people ahead of their profits," Neville said. "I get it, they're there to make money, but as long as people continue to die, how is it worth it?"

She said that the rapidly evolving nature of social media makes it hard for parents to stay on top of and patrol and that it should be the responsibility of companies like Snapchat and the government to ensure they are not putting young people in harm's way.

Bronstein added that the integration of technology into society and daily life means simply taking phones away from kids is not a realistic solution.

"Social media platforms are here, phones are here, so now it's like, how do we move forward, making sure that everybody is safe on it" she said. "We need to empower parents with the knowledge and the tools to protect our children, but really most importantly, it's time to put the accountability on the CEOs of these platforms."

Trying to prevent what happened to her kid from happening to anyone else is what Bronstein said compels her and other parents to make their voices heard and participate in demonstrations like this one.

"The only way that I know how to cope with this – because it really has derailed my soul and my family's soul and the way we exist now – is that I have to be able to get up every morning and find a way to be able to get through the day and the only way that I know how is to do this work," she said.

grace@smdp.com



SOCIAL MEDIA

FROM PAGE 5

year.

She introduced Assembly Bill 1394 with Stockton Republican Assemblymember Heath Flora to address child sexual abuse and child sex trafficking online. The legislation would impose civil penalties on social media companies for "each act of commercial sexual exploitation facilitated, aided, or abetted by their platform," according to the Children's Advocacy Institute.

The bill still includes the contentious private right to action, giving parents the right to sue, but Wicks remains optimistic that it will receive enough support to pass. She's already had bipartisan success with a bill signed last year that requires social media platforms to consider what's in a child's best interest. In addition, it defaults to privacy and safety settings, further protecting the mental and physical health and well-being of children.

The California Age-Appropriate Design Code Act was not about content but rather the product design choices companies make, Wicks said. Over the course of last year, she met with tech industry officials, including from Meta.

"They said, 'we want the internet to be safer for kids, too,'" Wicks recalled. "They do, but are they putting in the engineering time and capacity to make sure this is in fact happening? Is this issue one, two, three or down lower on their list? If you have government regulation, it forces issues to be one, two and three."

Another pending bill, Senate Bill 287, authored by state Sen. Nancy Skinner, would hold the platforms accountable for promoting the illegal sale of fentanyl and for the sale of unlawful firearms to California's youth. Social media companies would also be liable for targeting content to youth that could result in eating disorders, suicide or inflicting harm on themselves or others.

There are "cracks in the wall" as the public becomes more knowledgeable about the dangers of social media on kids' mental health, said Cunningham. This added pressure will build as more states pick up the mantle.

"It's all moving in the right direction," he said. "I think that the era where tech lobbyists can say I want you to vote or not vote for a bill that will hurt our company, that era is over with."

Until then, the school lawsuits alone won't be enough to break the social media companies' grip on California's youth. It will take the combined efforts of schools, teachers, parents, and state policymakers to force them to reject their core business model, Howard said, which is to make money by keeping kids engaged as long as possible. With this strategy, one that helped win the fight against Big Tobacco, social media companies will find that it's no longer profitable to do business as usual, either because the conduct is unlawful, or it will tarnish their brand.

Representatives for Tik Tok, YouTube and Snap declined to comment on the school lawsuits. However, the companies said they are committed to keeping children safe and establishing parental controls.

A spokesperson for Google, which owns YouTube, said "protecting kids across our platforms has always been core to our work. In collaborating with child development specialists, we have built age-appropriate experiences for kids and families on YouTube and provide parents with robust controls. The allegations in these complaints are simply not true."

Snap said that "nothing is more important to us than the well-being of our community. At Snapchat, we curate content from known creators and publishers and use human moderation to review user generated content before it can reach a large audience, which greatly reduces the spread and discovery of harmful content."

TikTok replied that it has age-restricted features – limiting direct messages and livestreams – and private accounts by default for younger teens, as well as restricted nighttime notifications, screen-time management tools and parental controls.

It's not lost on Magee, the county superintendent, that the people who work at these companies – responsible for bringing vast amounts of money into the local and state economy – are neighbors and parents of students who attend San Mateo County schools.

"I understand that these tech companies are business partners and members of our community," she said. "It's not personal. It's about the bigger picture and the impact on society, and not being afraid to explore ways to build in additional protections for kids."

Forcing social media companies to see that big picture will be easier said than done. Change is unlikely to come quickly, and politicians – often more beholden to special interests than the public – will struggle to deliver.

As with Big Tobacco, it took decades to force a recalcitrant industry to admit the harm it caused, and social media behemoths are no different. They won't relent without a protracted fight.

Absent significant legislative victories, the school districts' mounting lawsuits send a strong signal that social media companies must stop hurting our kids. But schools can't do it alone, and they shouldn't have to.

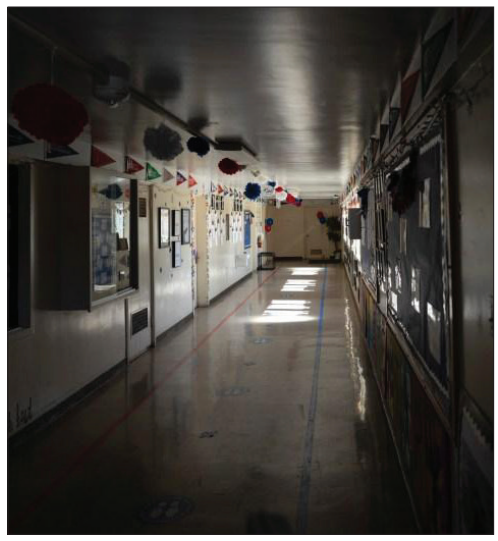


Photo by Miguel Gutierrez Jr., CalMatters

SCHOOL: An empty hallway at St. HOPE's Public School 7 Elementary in Sacramento on May 11, 2022.

Julie Lynem is a journalism lecturer at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and co-founder of R.A.C.E. Matters SLO County and RaiseUp SLO. Lynem is a veteran journalist who has been a reporter, columnist or editor at the Indianapolis Star, San Francisco Chronicle and San Luis Obispo Tribune. This article was originally published by CalMatters.



TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 13)

You will experience idyllic moments and glimpse the utopia of your ideals. Because you're so excellent at choosing people, you often witness kindness, feel protected and understand how interconnected you are with others. More highlights: a brilliant re-organization, family growth and the thrill of a win that's important to many. Aries and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 7, 16, 22 and 38.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll use your time differently than the people around you. Your current focus comes with a higher intensity level and a sense of urgency. You notice when you could be doing something more in line with your goals.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Even though everyone knows that social media projects false images, the sense that everyone is having fun without you is still the lie everyone believes. For the truth, leave screenland and see people in person.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Confidence is simply trust. What can you trust yourself to do? No outcome is completely within your influence. If you trust yourself to do your best, roll with what happens and love yourself no matter what, this is confidence.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). There's someone you find hard to understand, but you'll still ask clarifying questions, listen and acknowledge their feelings. You can't see the world as they do, but your imagination will get you as close as possible.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You've seen people become successful then fall out of touch. You find hubris so embarrassing to watch that every time you win, you temper the gain with an act of service to keep yourself humble and connected.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). One of your favorite and most effective ways to demonstrate leadership is to lead yourself. Today's discipline will include tidying up and streamlining your environment with an eye to logic and efficiency.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're a critical thinker, but you're careful to communicate in an unfailingly constructive and supportive way, and even then, only when asked. People rarely follow the advice they asked for, and unsolicited advice goes straight to the mental trash bin.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You'll start with a lofty aim and work backward to figure out what you need to do to get there. These high targets have a way of stimulating your creativity and encouraging you to think beyond your current limitations.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It's not always easy to stay cheerfully even-tempered with difficult people, but you consistently do it. If you slip, practice self-compassion. Take a break. Seek support. Get back on your own side.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're gracious when admired, but don't always want to stand out. Today you'll press the mute button on your self-expression so others can shine. In whatever way you fit into the group, the vibe is better because you're there.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You won't have to come up with solutions for the problems you avoid completely. Create your own safety zone. Keep a certain distance from those who seem rushed, agitated or more needy than you are prepared to handle.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Not every dance must be learned. Often the moves are a natural extension of breathing. Don't get too into your head. Trust that part of yourself that doesn't think in words or numbers but moves with the pulse of life.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

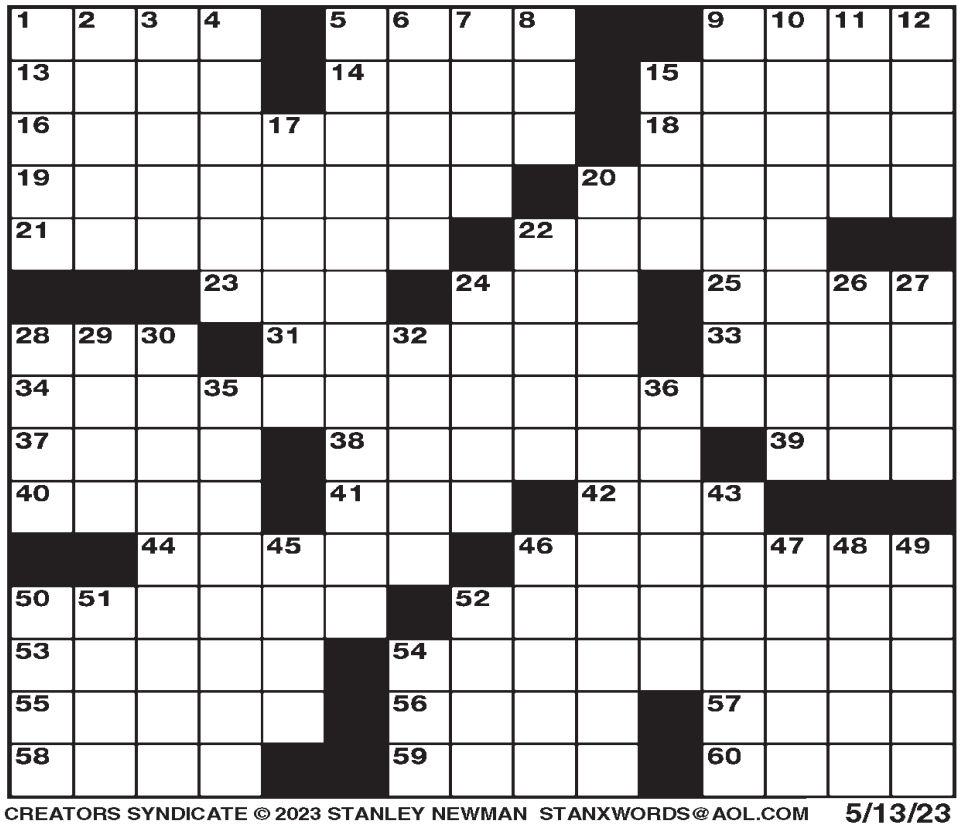
8			3		1			7
7	5			8				9
		2	7			1	4	
	1			3		9		
6								5
		9		2			8	
	6	7			3	8		
1				6			5	3
2			5		9			4

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Matthew Sewell
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Sheet used by Greek bakers
5 Good fighter
9 Keyboard cleaner
13 Typical Cairene
14 Scoop support
15 Without substance
16 Significant change
18 Scientist honored by Napoleon
19 Many people call on them
20 Boosted for bucks
21 Forswears
22 Informal inclination indication
23 11, alternatively
24 PD data
25 ". . . hatched in __ of corruption": Madison
28 Got behind
31 Account
33 Pigeon cousin
34 Weighs carefully
37 Unsavory
38 Comment while being tickled
39 What caddies hold
40 Smaller size treats
41 Country code on some EU plates
42 Where to buy Gold to Go
44 Overly adulates, these days
46 Bonus numbers
50 Squeaky clean
52 Declaration of frustration
53 Disembodied voice
54 Dispreferred
55 Divisive device in the theater
56 Find a place for
57 Prefix meaning "song"
58 Soft hail
59 End __
60 Rise and shine

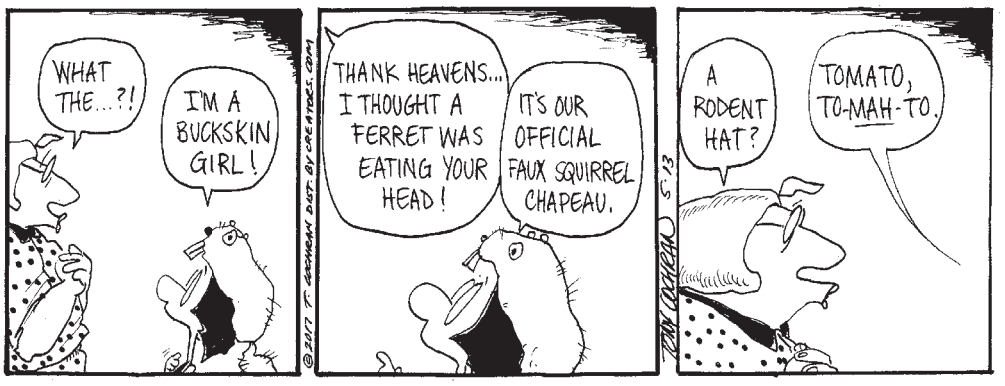
DOWN
1 Measure named for an Einstein idol
2 Gig for an *Argo* extra
3 Enriches for ornamentation
4 Uranian moon discovered after Titania
5 Strategy for greens in the market
6 Plenty of nothing
7 They're there to stay
8 *Tomber dans __ pommes* (faint, in France)
9 Weather Channel's "Strangest Weather on Earth"
10 Aboriginal rite of passage
11 Round tab
12 Bubble in the wine
15 *Night at the Museum 2* baddie alongside Napoleon and Capone
17 Share startup space, say
20 Concludes deliberations
22 Distinction
24 It's there to stay
26 Caustic quality
27 Pei designed its Museum of Islamic Art
28 Places to put up stakes
29 Common Pakistani surname
30 *World Almanac* section after Meteorology
32 Berth places
35 Green sign often seen with a distance
36 Literary adjustment from past narratives
43 Devices within cellphones
45 Koran's First Prophet
46 Act poorly
47 State sport of Wyoming
48 Sister of Sherlock
49 Etymology sharer with "sire"
50 Hoof care tool
51 An Astro has won its MVP in four of the last six years
52 Divine messenger much mentioned in *The Iliad*
54 Campus with a Chieftain Way and St. Augustine St.



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2023 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 5/13/23

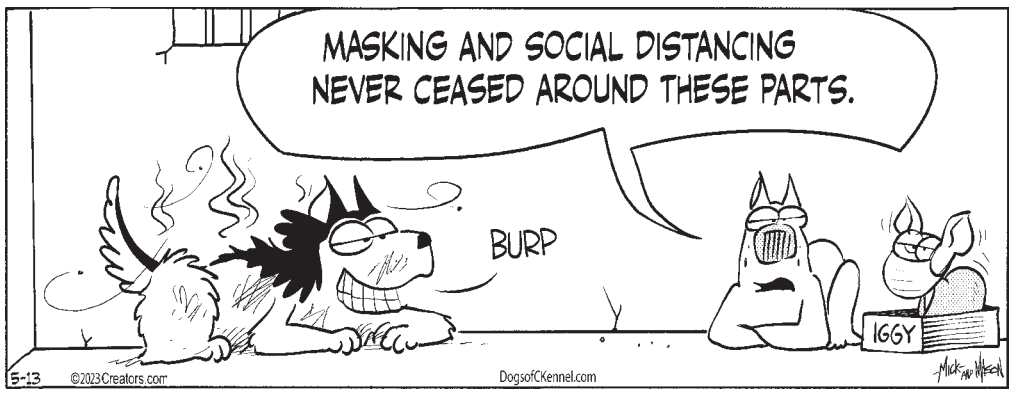
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

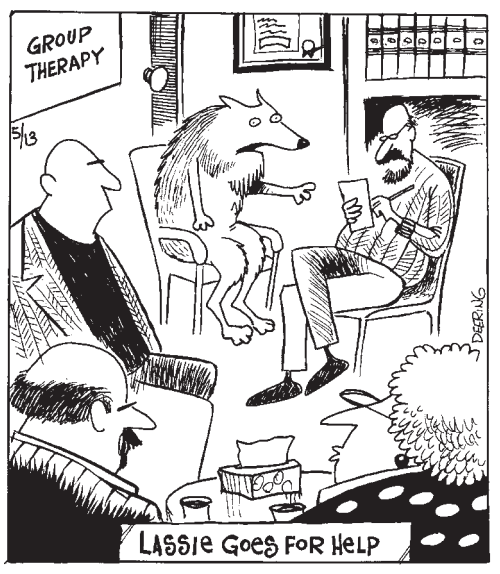
By PETER GALLAGHER



"I'LL GET YOU FOR THIS, KEVIN."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



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 23 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5843

Law and order

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

Acts	Decree	Oath	Suit
Attack	Drama	Onus	Topic
Ballot	Elect	Order	Tragedy
Bench	Fees	Pleas	Trials
Bond	Filed	Process	Truth
Break	Help	Report	Unlawful
Cabinet	Inform	Result	Upper
Case	Judge	Revoke	Veto
Change	Jury	Robe	Victim
Crime	Manslaughter	Seat	Writs
Debate	Member	Sign	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
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What's Up Westside
out and about in Santa Monica

SATURDAY | MAY 13

BEACH WALK & SKETCH
Guided by a naturalist, join others in this peaceful pursuit to sketch our beautiful coastline. We'll provide the binoculars, drawing boards, pencils, and newsprint, or bring your own easy-to-carry sketching tools. Annenberg Community Beach House 415 Pacific Coast Highway. Santa Monica, CA 90402 https://www.eventbrite.com/e/beach-walk-sketch-tickets-586017583367

ART AT THE AIRPORT
Art At The Airport is a monthly series of open studios that provides a rare glimpse into over 20 professional artist studios as well as the opportunity to buy art directly from the artists. 18th Street Arts Center Airport Center 3026 Airport Ave. Santa Monica, 90405

SUNDAY | MAY 14

BREATH OF THE DIVINE MOTHER
Join us in celebration and healing of divine motherhood through the breath. There are many ways to relate to the Divine Mother, be she your actual physical mother, your chosen mother, the mother who chose you, the internal mother or someone beyond the confines of traditional motherhood. They are all accessible at this level of consciousness reached in our breath practice. IntoMeSea, 1812 Lincoln Blvd. Santa Monica, 90404

KIKI YEUNG PRESENTS CRAZY WOKE ASIANS KUNG POW FESTIVAL IN SANTA MONICA!
Kiki Yeung & Santa Monica Playhouse Present 2nd Annual Crazy Woke Asians Kung Pow Festival! One Night! 3 Stages! Celebrate Asian Heritage Month! 30+ Asian American comedians! Fundraiser for Seniors Fight Back and Chinatown Service Center. Event Partner Rising Filipinas. Comedians, as seen on Netflix, Hulu, ABC, HBO/Max, Comedy Central, Netflix is a Joke Festival, Laugh Factory, and more! Santa Monica Playhouse: 1211 Fourth St, Santa Monica, CA 90401 https://www.eventbrite.com/e/kiki-yeung-presents-crazy-woke-asians-kung-pow-festival-in-santa-monica-tickets-582545167277

MONDAY | MAY 15

LIGHTING OF HISTORIC CITY HALL
City Hall will be illuminated in red, gold, blue, and green lights representing colors common in themes across Asian and Pacific Islander cultures to celebrate AAPI Heritage Month. 12:00 am Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street Santa Monica, CA, California 90401

TUESDAY | MAY 16

HOLLYWOOD TO FINE ART: SCREENING & PANEL DISCUSSION WITH 5 ARTISTS
Santa Monica Art Museum (SMAM) hosts a one-night-only screening and panel discussion on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, with five exhibiting artists about their backgrounds working in film, television, music, advertising, and their current photographic work on view at the museum. Santa Monica Art Museum _SMAM_ 1219 3rd Street Promenade Santa Monica, CA 90401 https://www.eventbrite.com/e/hollywood-to-fine-art-screening-panel-discussion-with-5-artists-tickets-627443980837

WEDNESDAY | MAY 17

FUTURE OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
We all have ideas, so the city is holding three Ideas Exchange events in May. They're part of an initiative called Future of Behavioral Health to address the causes and consequences of mental health and substance use disorder-related issues. Denver-based Initium Health is organizing the sessions and helping the city envision future steps to serve those in crisis and impacted community members. Hear best practices from national leaders and share the solutions you'd like to see. Annenberg Community Beach House

THURSDAY | MAY 18

WESTSIDE LAUGH PARTY STAND-UP COMEDY
Westside's Laugh Party is a monthly standup show produced by Dennis Gubbins featuring the best comics from around the country with surprise drop-ins by the likes of Tig Notaro, Zach Galifianakis, Ali Wong, Demetri Martin, Damons Wayans and many others! The proceeds for each show are donated to a local charity... so there is that too! Come on out and laugh! Who knows who will show up this month.... party! Purchase tickets at westsidecomedy.com 1323-A 3rd St Promenade. A stands for Alley. Santa Monica, CA

FRIDAY | MAY 19

JAZZ VOCAL ENSEMBLE RECITAL
Andreas Preponis, Director. SMC's award-winning jazz vocal ensemble blends its voices in a program of jazz repertoire specifically arranged for four-part harmony. Free with any Student I.D. The Broad Stage Performing Arts Center

SATURDAY | MAY 20

HOT BUTTERED RUM
Hot Buttered Rum, a souped-up, left-coaststring band, is the brainchild of uniquely giftedmusicians who weave their love of bluegrass, folk, jazz and soul into a riveting strain ofAmericana. String bass and five-alarm fiddle merge with guitar, banjo, mandolin,drumsandkeyboardsto frame thevoices of its two contrasting writers, fueling a dance party with roots inAppalachia and its branches in California.It's a sound that's as tough to describe as it is easy to love. The Venice West. 1717 Lincoln Blvd Venice, CA 90291 https://www.ticketweb.com/event/hot-buttered-rum-the-venice-west-tickets/12887125

For help submitting an event, contact us at
310-458-7737 or submit to events@smdp.com



SURF REPORT
WATER TEMP: **60.8**

SATURDAY *FAIR TO GOOD*	**SURF:**	4-6ft Chest to overhead	Potential for another fun day with surf easing some from Thu/Fri but still good size as SSW swell continues. Wind looks ok at this time. Stay tuned.
SUNDAY *FAIR*	**SURF:**	3-5ft Waist to head	Looks like it could be another fun day as SSW swell continues and a bit more NW swell joins in. AM wind looks light and even PM onshores could be pretty mellow. Stay tuned.

WEATHER

Saturday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 58.
Sunday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning.
Sunday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 59.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2023/05/13	Sat	04:27 AM	4.42	H
2023/05/13	Sat	11:37 AM	-0.26	L
2023/05/13	Sat	6:28 PM	4.43	H
2023/05/14	Sun	12:15 AM	1.83	L
2023/05/14	Sun	05:48 AM	4.30	H
2023/05/14	Sun	12:23 PM	-0.05	L
2023/05/14	Sun	7:01 PM	4.95	H
2023/05/15	Mon	01:14 AM	1.03	L
2023/05/15	Mon	06:58 AM	4.22	H
2023/05/15	Mon	1:04 PM	0.24	L
2023/05/15	Mon	7:33 PM	5.44	H
2023/05/16	Tue	02:03 AM	0.28	L
2023/05/16	Tue	07:59 AM	4.13	H
2023/05/16	Tue	1:40 PM	0.60	L
2023/05/16	Tue	8:04 PM	5.85	H
2023/05/17	Wed	02:48 AM	-0.33	L
2023/05/17	Wed	08:52 AM	4.01	H
2023/05/17	Wed	2:14 PM	0.99	L

DAILY LOTTERY

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 5/10
21 24 33 55 69
Power#: 3
Jackpot: 125 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 5/9
4 37 46 48 51
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 99 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 5/10
12 13 33 40 43
Mega#: 26
Jackpot: 58 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 5/11
10 15 18 24 26

Daily 3
Draw Date: 5/11
EVENING: 9 8 5
Draw Date: 5/11
MIDDAY: 3 7 7

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 5/11
1st: 02 - Lucky Star
2nd: 12 - Lucky Charms
3rd: 04 - Big Ben
Race Time: 1:43.90

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