smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

WEDNESDAY
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Arson suspect seen starting multiple fires



LAFD

FIRE: A homeless man was arrested for starting the fire.

MATTHEW HALL
SMDP Editor

The homeless man accused of starting the Palisades fire was arrested after police officers in a helicopter saw him starting additional fires in the already burning brushland.

Ramon Rodriguez Flores was identified as the suspect Tuesday and is currently held on $75,000 bail. According to LAFD, Flores was seen actively starting several fires.

"On Saturday morning, LAFD helicopter pilots observed an adult male moving around in the brush along a steep hillside near the fire," said a statement from LAFD. "The Los Angeles Police Department

SEE **ARSON** PAGE 11

Development settlement includes legal fees

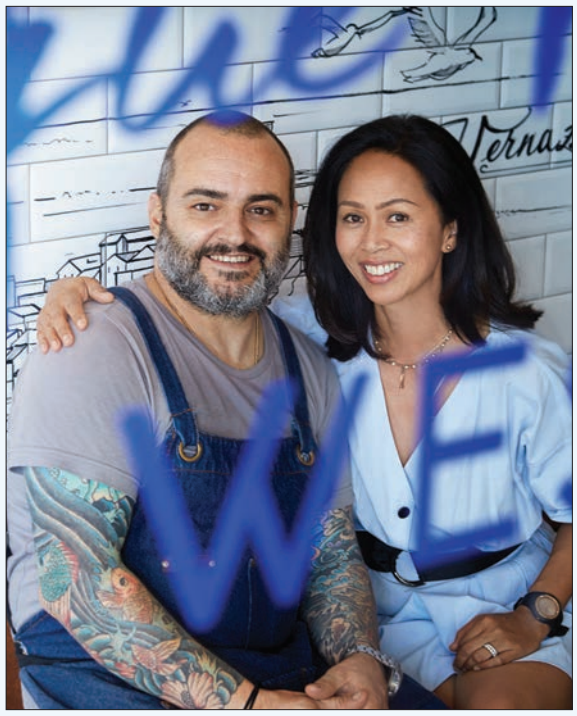
BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

The City of Santa Monica and the Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City have settled a legal battle relating to the formerly proposed Plaza at Santa Monica project.

"This litigation relates to SMCLC's claims that the city's decision in July 2020 to proceed with negotiations with the developers of a proposed project located at Fourth and Fifth and Arizona in Santa Monica violated the surplus Lands Act," Interim City Attorney George Cardona recently said after a closed session on the matter. The city does not admit the allegations and does not agree with the merits of SMCLC's claims, which were rendered moot by the council's December 2020 decision to terminate negotiations with the developers. And while SMCLC has

SEE **LEGAL** PAGE 11

Restaurant Spotlight: Cinque Terre WEST









Courtesy photos

LIGURIAN: The chef hails from the Liguria region of Italy and spent time in the Italian Navy.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

As the economy reopens and local restaurants begin the road to recovery the Daily Press is highlighting one excellent eatery a week sharing its history, pandemic struggles, and signature dishes.

This week the spotlight is on Cinque Terre WEST — a Ligurian restaurant tucked away in the Palisades that offers a farmers market driven menu with plenty of handmade pastas and fresh seafood dishes.

THE STORY BEHIND CINQUE TERRE WEST

It was a winding, adventurous and, at times, perilous road that led Chef Gianbattista Vinzoni to the creation of Cinque Terre WEST, and in a sense back to his roots.

Vinzoni grew up in the Liguria region of North West Italy, where he closely observed his grandmother's traditional cooking methods stomping grapes for wine, pressing olives into olive oil, and preparing pasta from scratch.

"We have mountains and oceans, there is nothing flat in between. Seafood is our staple, but we also use things from the mountains like berries and mushrooms," said Vinzoni, describing the basis of Ligurian cuisine. "We don't have a lot of space to grow produce, so we do the best possible with every ingredient we have. Simplicity is the number one key"

While Vinzoni developed a deep love for fresh food and cooking from an early age, his first job was not in the kitchen but on the sea in the Italian Navy. Later in life he brought the grit and hustle from his military career to the Los Angeles dining scene.

When Vinzoni first arrived in America in 1995, he spoke no English and worked as a dishwasher in an Italian restaurant. Through this job he learned Spanish and then English and progressively worked his way through the restaurant ranks. With a combination of talent and tenacity he rose to prominence and took on managing roles in the immense kitchens of Soho House, the Beverly Hilton Hotel, and Fig and Olive.

Although he reached great

SEE **RESTAURANT** PAGE 7



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Newsom's income went up in 1st year as California governor

KATHLEEN RONAYNE
Associated Press

California Gov. Gavin Newsom and his wife made $1.7 million in 2019 during his first year as governor, about half a million dollars more than they earned the year before, according to tax returns his campaign released Monday.

The Newsoms paid roughly $712,000 in federal and state taxes. Their income gain came primarily from Newsom's winery and restaurant businesses that he put in a blind trust when he became governor. The returns don't name each individual business, making it impossible to know which ones gained and lost money. The returns show the Newsoms gave about $100,000 to charity, four times what they gave the year before, or about 6% of their income.

Newsom, a Democrat facing a likely recall election later this year, pledged to release his tax returns every year when he was elected in 2018. His competitors may be forced to release their returns too under a law Newsom signed in 2019 requiring candidates for governor to publicly disclose their last five years of returns, though it's not clear how the law applies to a recall.

The Newsoms typically get an extension and file their returns in October, campaign spokesman Nathan Click said. That means they have not yet filed their 2020 returns, which would show how the family fared financially during the pandemic, when Newsom's administration set rules that shut down businesses and put significant restrictions on restaurants and wineries.

Newsom made $175,000 as governor, up from his $151,000 salary as lieutenant governor, the job he held for eight years. Jennifer Siebel Newsom, a documentary filmmaker, made about $151,000 through her nonprofit, The Representation Project, which explores gender representation in the media. She also earned roughly $50,000 through her production company, Girls Club Entertainment, and more than $1,000 in residual payments from previous acting jobs.

But most of the couple's income — an additional $1.3 million — came through passive sources, compared to $775,000 in 2018. Newsom owns The PlumpJack Group, which includes a suite of wineries and restaurants now run by his sister and cousin. He put them in a blind trust run by a family friend after he was elected, and the names of the individual holdings are shielded on the tax returns. The couple has several other trusts and businesses.

Newsom additionally made $39,000 after expenses for a children's book he is writing about dyslexia, a condition he's had since childhood that can make it harder to read. The Newsoms made $146 in gross income from other countries through Siebel Newsom's blind trust, though the returns show they did not have financial accounts or trusts in foreign countries.

The couple has four young children, and in 2019 the family moved into a home in a Sacramento suburb. They rented out their prior Marin County home for $140,000, the returns show, but reported a nearly $250,000 loss on the property. The Newsoms put the home up for sale for almost $6 million in 2019 but are still renting it, Click said. Newsom made $79,000 on the sale of a Napa property he co-owned with his sister and father. They earned $3,000 on a property in Hawaii.

They paid $288,000 in wages to employees at their home, but Click did not comment on how many people the family employs. They paid more than $69,000 in "household employment taxes."

Newsom's campaign gave reporters about one hour to look through the tax returns on Monday, and reporters could not take photographs. The 2019 law requiring candidates to release their returns says the secretary of state must post redacted versions of the returns online for the public to see. Candidates must submit their returns at least 98 days prior to a primary.

In a recall election, there is no primary and Newsom is technically not a candidate. The secretary of state's office did not respond to questions Monday about how it planned to apply the law to a recall.

An election date has not yet been set. If the recall moves forward as expected, voters will be asked two questions: Should Newsom be removed from office, and if so, who should replace him? He cannot be a candidate listed on the second question.

Most of his Republican rivals' campaigns immediately answered questions about when they would release returns.

Anthony Ramirez, a spokesman for businessman John Cox, said the campaign has been reviewing the requirements under the new law. Cox ran against Newsom in 2018 and only released partial returns.

Celebrity Caitlyn Jenner's campaign said the campaign will comply with any requirements for the election.

Former San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer's spokesman John Burke said he would "fulfill every legal requirement for his candidacy."

Former Congressman Doug Ose said he would release his returns, according to the Los Angeles Times.

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The blockbuster movie makes a comeback this summer

LINDSEY BAHR
AP Film Writer

After more than a year of benching its biggest spectacles, Hollywood is ready to dazzle again.

From "F9" and "In the Heights" to "The Suicide Squad" and "Black Widow," there will be a steady stream of blockbusters populating multiplexes for the first time since March 2020. For streaming-weary audiences, the promise of air conditioning, popcorn, soda fountains, 60-foot screens and state-of-the-art sound could be a welcome respite from the living room.

For beleaguered movie theaters, it's not a moment too soon.

The modern summer movie season, which runs from May through Labor Day, regularly accounts for over $4 billion in revenue and makes up around 40% of the year's grosses. Last year, summer earnings were $176 million, down 96% from 2019. Theaters have been gearing up for this moment and this summer will be an important gauge on whether habits have changed irrevocably during the pandemic.

In some ways, the calendar looks like a do-over of last summer. Many of the most anticipated releases were supposed to come out a year ago, including John Krasinski's "A Quiet Place Part II" (May 28), Lin-Manuel Miranda's Tony-winning "In the Heights" (June 11), the ninth "Fast & Furious" movie, "F9" (June 25), Marvel's "Black Widow" (July 9) starring Scarlett Johansson, the Emily Blunt and Dwayne Johnson action adventure "Jungle Cruise" (July 30) and the "Candyman" reboot (Aug. 27).

"In the Heights" director Jon M. Chu had to convince Miranda that it was worth it to wait for a theatrical release instead of pushing it out on a streaming platform last summer. The "Crazy Rich Asians" director knows the importance of a global release for a film led by an underrepresented group.

"We had big dreams for this," Chu said.

The "Fast & Furious" series has also been about creating a fun theatrical experience. "F9" not only brings back a fan favorite — Sung Kang's Han — it also sends cars into space.

"Whenever I get together with Vin (Diesel) and everybody to make these movies, we're not even talking about the plot ... but the feeling. I just remember as a kid in the summer saving enough money to go to the movies to share that experience with a bunch of strangers," said director Justin Lin. "When that moment hits and everyone's laughing or cheering together, it is magical."

Before the pandemic, summer moviegoing was a ritual. Now it's a wild card whether the promise of an "event film" will motivate audiences back to theaters, especially if something is also available to watch at home.

"Space Jam: A New Legacy" director Malcom D. Lee called his film "The epitome of a popcorn movie." The sequel to the 1996 Michael Jordan pic has LeBron James sharing the screen with classic Looney Toons characters.

For a more R-rated adventure, "Guardians of the Galaxy" director James Gunn has this "misfit, Z-grade supervillains" of "The Suicide Squad." He had his pick of DC characters and turned down Superman for Harley Quinn, Bloodsport and Peacemaker. Gunn looked to 1960s war capers like "The Dirty Dozen" for inspiration.

There are many other options too, including horror movies, like a third "Conjuring," documentaries about Anthony Bourdain and The Beatles, and family films, like "Peter Rabbit 2" (June 18) and the fourth "Hotel Transylvania" (July 23). Ryan Reynolds is in two action flicks, "The Hitman's Wife's Bodyguard" (June 16) and "Free Guy" (Aug. 13). There's even an epic Dev Patel-led take on a classic Arthurian legend, "The Green Knight" (July 30).

"I really I want audiences to get a chance to see it on the big screen," said "The Green Knight" director David Lowery. "It's a strange movie and I think that the idea of having that experience in a cinema with other people is going to be really, really exciting, especially after a year away from the big screen."

Some studios have been cautiously rolling out bigger films to decent results lately, like "Godzilla vs. Kong." But after seven weeks, even that is still shy of cracking the $100 million mark domestically. In a normal summer, $100 million might be an opening weekend for a tentpole.

Moviegoing has changed and for consumers it's also become hard to keep tabs on ever shifting dates, delays and multi-platform releases. Some summer-ready titles, like "Top Gun: Maverick" and the new James Bond, "No Time To Die," are waiting until later in the year. And some studios are still selling titles to streaming services. Sony sold its Camilla Cabello "Cinderella" to Amazon Prime and its Kevin Hart pic "Fatherhood" to Netflix.

Even the films with theatrical debuts will have either unique hybrid release plans or shortened theatrical windows. All Warner Bros. titles will debut simultaneously in theaters and on HBO Max. Most Disney movies, including "Cruella" (May 28), "Black Widow" and "Jungle Cruise" are opening in theaters and on Disney+ as a premium rental (although "Luca" is going straight to Disney+). And the Sundance breakout "CODA" is getting a simultaneous release in theaters and on Apple TV+.

For theaters and studios, the unknowns are many. But everyone is feeling emotional that moviegoing might finally become normal again.

"I think about it all the time," said Gunn. "I can't wait to sit in a theater with a group of people and watch films again. It is a true joy in life. It's a magical space for me and has been since I was a very little boy."

Follow AP Film Writer Lindsey Bahr on Twitter: www.twitter.com/ldbahr

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 287 CALLS ON MAY 17

Illegal Weapon 300blk Pico Blvd 12:52 a.m.
Construction Noise 2800blk Main St 1:19 a.m.
Vandalism 00blk Ocean Park Blvd 1:44 a.m.
Arson 7th St / Broadway 2:28 a.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 20th St / Santa Monica Blvd 2:42 a.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 400blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:02 a.m.
Overdose 1700blk The Beach 3:18 a.m.
Loud Music 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 3:38 a.m.
Fight 1700blk Ocean Ave 4:38 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1300blk 2nd St 5:12 a.m.
Encampment 1900blk Lincoln Blvd 5:49 a.m.
Vandalism Now 1100blk Pico Blvd 5:54 a.m.
Encampment 700blk Olympic Blvd W 6:42 a.m.
Encampment 2500blk The Beach 7:00 a.m.
Battery 1600blk Ocean Ave 7:04 a.m.
Person With A Gun 1500blk The Beach 7:09 a.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 7:26 a.m.
Domestic Violence Now 200blk California Ave 8:14 a.m.
Grand Theft 700blk Cedar St 8:29 a.m.
Found Property 300blk Olympic Dr 8:31 a.m.
Found Property 300blk Santa Monica Pier 8:42 a.m.
Burglary 1200blk 5th St 8:49 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1500blk Berkeley St 9:01 a.m.
Battery 1900blk Lincoln Blvd 9:07 a.m.
Arson 1000blk Ashland Ave 9:20 a.m.
Loitering Ocean Ave / Olympic Dr 9:37 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Lincoln Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 9:40 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 800blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:40 a.m.
Vandalism 1700blk Ocean Ave 9:41 a.m.
Found Property 200blk 21st Pl 9:45 a.m.
Found Property 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 10:07 a.m.
Found Property 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 10:07 a.m.
Sexual Assault 2000blk 14th St 10:11 a.m.
Vandalism 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:16 a.m.
Encampment 2500blk The Beach 10:28 a.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 100blk Hart Ave 10:32 a.m.
Vandalism 2700blk Ocean Park Blvd 10:35 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1700blk Wilshire Blvd 10:53 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1400blk 25th St 10:53 a.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 11:02 a.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 11:07 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 11:15 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2500blk Lincoln Blvd 11:45 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1400blk 16th St 11:59 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now Cloverfield Blvd / Broadway 12:14 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 23rd St / Arizona Ave 12:16 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1300blk Yale St 12:27 p.m.
Person With A Gun 2400blk Ocean Park Blvd 12:29 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 700blk Marguerita Ave 12:31 p.m.
Petty Theft 1400blk Ocean Ave 12:38 p.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 1100blk 16th St 12:40 p.m.
Assault 5th St / Wilshire Blvd 12:50 p.m.
Child Endangerment 1500blk Wilshire Blvd 12:57 p.m.
Loud Music Main St / Ocean Park Blvd 12:58 p.m.
Out Of Order Traffic Signals Main St / Marine St 1:01 p.m.
Found Property 800blk Ocean Ave 1:04 p.m.
Grand Theft 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 1:27 p.m.
Battery 1900blk Cloverfield Blvd 1:28 p.m.
Found Property 1700blk 16th St 1:37 p.m.
Vandalism 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 1:38 p.m.
Grand Theft 1500blk Yale St 2:02 p.m.
Battery 2nd St / Colorado Ave 2:18 p.m.
Fight Main St / Colorado Ave 2:19 p.m.
Silent Robbery Alarm 1500blk Montana Ave 2:19 p.m.
Petty Theft 300blk Santa Monica Pier 2:29 p.m.
Battery Now 2600blk 28th St 2:33 p.m.
Loud Music 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 2:35 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 10th St / Wilshire Blvd 2:36 p.m.
Attempt Burglary 900blk 16th St 2:53 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1100blk 5th St 3:20 p.m.
Vandalism 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 3:22 p.m.
Petty Theft Now 00blk Bay St 3:25 p.m.
Auto Burglary Now 1200blk Lincoln Blvd 3:31 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 5th St / Wilshire Blvd 3:33 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1700blk 4th St 3:36 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Olympic Blvd / Centinela Ave 3:37 p.m.
Fraud 400blk Broadway 3:42 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper 1600blk 7th St 3:47 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 25th St / Wilshire Blvd 3:54 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper In Progress 1500blk Ocean Ave 4:02 p.m.
Petty Theft 2000blk 20th St 4:33 p.m.
Domestic Violence 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 4:59 p.m.
Encampment 2000blk Pico Blvd 5:58 p.m.
Found Property 300blk Olympic Dr 6:10 p.m.
Found Property 16th St / Bryn Mawr Ave 6:25 p.m.
General Parking Problem 7th St / Georgina Ave 7:12 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 17th St / Pico Blvd 7:18 p.m.
Battery 2nd St / Santa Monica Blvd 7:26 p.m.
Speeding Centinela Ave / Ocean Park Blvd 7:37 p.m.
Loud Music 1400blk Ocean Ave 7:52 p.m.
Vandalism 1400blk Palisades Beach Rd 8:24 p.m.
Petty Theft 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 8:58 p.m.
Found Property 1400blk Palisades Park 9:04 p.m.
Harassing Phone Calls 800blk 7th St 9:15 p.m.
Loitering 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 9:32 p.m.
Loud Music 2000blk Ocean Ave 9:33 p.m.
Loud Music 2000blk Ocean Ave 9:56 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1400blk Yale St 10:01 p.m.
Found Property 800blk 3rd St 10:20 p.m.
Vandalism 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 11:00 p.m.
Shots Fired 1800blk 12th St 11:15 p.m.
Found Person Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 11:48 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 39 CALLS ON MAY 17

EMS 900blk 23rd St 12:21 a.m.
EMS 300blk Olympic Dr 12:55 a.m.
Broken Water Main 300blk 21st Pl 2:57 a.m.
EMS 4th St / Santa Monica Blvd 3:00 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 6th St 3:58 a.m.
EMS 2500blk 20th St 4:41 a.m.
EMS 1000blk 11th St 5:18 a.m.
Haz Mat - Level 1 400blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:58 a.m.
Broken Water Main 300blk 21st St 6:59 a.m.
EMS 1600blk Ocean Ave 7:05 a.m.
EMS 1500blk Yale St 7:54 a.m.
Flooded Condition 400blk 21st Pl 7:58 a.m.
EMS 100blk Fraser Ave 8:17 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 7th St 8:17 a.m.
EMS 1500blk Princeton St 9:16 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Lincoln Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 9:40 a.m.
EMS 3100blk 4th St 10:40 a.m.
EMS 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 11:14 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 16th St 11:21 a.m.
EMS 1000blk Wilshire Blvd 1:16 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 23rd St / Arizona Ave 1:18 p.m.
EMS 2400blk 30th St 1:26 p.m.
EMS 2300blk Hill St 1:32 p.m.
EMS 2nd St / Colorado Ave 2:20 p.m.
EMS 2100blk Arizona Ave 3:12 p.m.
EMS 1600blk 9th St 3:14 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 300blk Ocean Ave 3:20 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Olympic Blvd / Centinela Ave 3:37 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 25th St / Wilshire Blvd 3:54 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 12th St 3:58 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Ocean Ave 4:00 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 200blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:48 p.m.
EMS 1600blk 7th St 5:00 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1800blk California Ave 6:33 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 6:45 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2500blk Broadway 8:00 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 20th St 9:26 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 9:42 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1100blk 11th St

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

San Diego

23 rescued from suspected smuggling boat off California

Twenty-three people were rescued Monday from a suspected smuggling boat off the San Diego coast not far from where another vessel broke up a few weeks ago, killing three people, authorities said.

The small boat, known as a panga, was spotted shortly before 3 a.m. by a U.S. Border Patrol video system as it drifted near rocks off the coast of Point Loma. The Coast Guard responded but the craft refused commands to stop, authorities said.

The boat got stuck in the surf line. San Diego lifeguards and harbor police were called and the Coast Guard pulled the vessel out of the surf and unloaded the people, authorities said.

Twenty men and three women, all from either Mexico or Guatemala, were determined to be in the U.S. illegally, the San Diego Union-Tribune reported.

The area is north of where an overcrowded cabin cruiser suspected of smuggling immigrants broke apart on rocks near Cabrillo National Monument on May 2. Three people died and more than two dozen were injured.

Smuggling off the California coast has ebbed and flowed over the years but has long been a risky alternative for migrants to avoid heavily guarded land borders. Boats enter from Mexico in the dead of night, sometimes charting hundreds of miles north.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

California DMV driver license bribery scheme exposed

California Department of Motor Vehicle employees at two Los Angeles-area offices took thousands of dollars in bribes to approve driver licenses, federal prosecutors said.

The extent of the corruption is not clear because many of the court records are under seal, but a former manager of the DMV's Lincoln Park office is the fifth ex-employee in recent month to admit a role in the scheme, the Los Angeles Times reported Monday.

Jovana Tameka Nettles, 44, pleaded guilty Monday to mail fraud for taking cash bribes and admitted taking part in a conspiracy of DMV employees who approved licenses for unqualified drivers, the Times said.

A DMV investigator helped uncover the conspiracy when she spotted suspicious patterns in application processing at the Torrance office, court records said.

The investigation led to DMV employee Huel Kennedy, who admitted to accepting weekly bribes exceeding $50,000 and died after pleading guilty to bribery last summer, the Times said.

A DMV statement said involved employees will be "appropriately disciplined."

"Fraud prevention is one key component of customer service," it said. "The DMV takes very seriously its responsibility to uphold the law as we serve our customers and we applaud our thousands of employees who work with integrity and pride."

According to a plea agreement, the ringleader was Atanacio Villegas, who was a license registration examiner in Torrance from 2010 to 2016 and then transferred to a commercial driver license processing center for 10 months before he resigned.

The Times said Villegas agreed in March to plead guilty to mail fraud and admitted that a network of "brokers" would contact him on behalf of drivers who could not pass the exam and then forward the drivers' bribes to DMV employees.

The scheme involved sending the drivers to the window of a participating DMV employee who had an "identifier," such as a red hat.

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WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE BECAUSE OF THE CARELESSNESS OR NEGLIGENCE OF OTHERS.



Robert Lemle

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Sustainable Quality Awards
WINNER

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

L.A. County Metrics Continue to Show Progress

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) has confirmed 12 new deaths and 159 new cases of COVID-19. Of the 12 new deaths reported today, six people that passed away were over the age of 80, two people who died were between the ages of 65 and 79, and four people who died were between the ages of 50 and 64.

To date, Public Health identified 1,237,681 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County and a total of 24,106 deaths.

There are 338 people with COVID-19 currently hospitalized and 20% of these people are in the ICU. Testing results are available for more than 6,653,000 individuals with 17% of people testing positive.

The State released updated blueprint tier numbers; L.A. County's adjusted case rate dropped from 1.4 new cases per 100,000 people to 1.2 new cases per 100,000. The overall test positivity rate dropped from 0.7% to 0.6% across the county and in areas with the fewest health affirming resources.

With declining case and test positivity rates, Los Angeles County remains in the least restrictive yellow tier in the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy.

"Our hearts go out to the families and friends who are experiencing the sorrow of losing a loved one to COVID-19," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "We continue to urge everyone eligible to get vaccinated so that our case and test positivity rates, hospitalizations and deaths remain low. With a high vaccination rate, when someone gets infected, there's almost nowhere for the infection to spread to. Join the movement to end the pandemic by finding a place near you where you feel comfortable getting vaccinated."

Young people can transmit COVID-19 just as easily as older people when people are unvaccinated and not masking or keeping their distance. When teens are vaccinated, it helps the entire community because their immunity prevents transmission of COVID-19 to others. While the risk of severe illness from COVID-19 is lower for teens than adults, unvaccinated teens can increase the spread of infection, while those vaccinated help contain the virus.

Anyone 12 and older living or working in L.A. County can get vaccinated. For now, only the Pfizer vaccine is approved for children, so make sure to go to a site that administers the Pfizer vaccine for children and teens. Many sites require that children be accompanied by a parent or guardian or that the child is accompanied by a responsible adult and has a signed consent form. Teens are also required to bring proof of their age at sites where they are not known to the provider.

Public Health is focusing efforts on the 43 school districts located in the hardest hit communities in the county, including LAUSD. The first part of the strategy involves organizing school site pop-up clinics. There are 60 school sites where pop-up clinics are providing vaccines to people in their surrounding communities. LAUSD is hoping to send mobile teams to over 200 school sites starting next week. The second part of this strategy involves onboarding existing school-based clinics as COVID-19 vaccine providers. Eighty-two percent of 62 existing school-based clinics are in low-resource zip codes. About half are on high school campuses and 11% are on middle school campuses. Eighteen of these school-based clinics are currently administering COVID-19 vaccines, and the capacity at these clinics ranges from 100 to 500 shots per day. Additionally, at least 12 school districts have a licensed school nurse who has expressed interest in providing the vaccine. Public Health is actively engaging these school districts and onboarding them to provide Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to students as well as to the communities.

Public Health will host a Vaccine Town Hall for Parents today, Tuesday, May 18, at 6:00 p.m. Join the town hall to get the latest updates on the COVID-19 vaccine, including information for children. The town hall will be streamed live on Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube @lapublichealth. For more information and to submit a question, visit: tinyurl.com/VaxTownHall4Parents.

COVID-19 vaccinations are available at County-run sites and many community sites without an appointment. 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



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Conservatives push big issues to fore at Supreme Court

MARK SHERMAN
Associated Press

Abortion. Guns. Religion. A Trump-fortified conservative majority is making its presence felt at the Supreme Court by quickly wading into high-profile social issues that have been a goal of the right for decades.

For years, frustrated conservatives, including some justices, chided a court with a majority of Republican appointees for not going far enough or passing on issues they thought demanded the court's attention.

Now, with three appointees of former President Donald Trump on the nine-member court, longer-serving conservative Justices Samuel Alito and Clarence Thomas can cobble together five-justice majorities even without the vote of Chief Justice John Roberts.

The Trump-appointed justices represent "not only a shift of ideology but a shift of power. There are five justices to right of Roberts," said Boston College law professor Kent Greenfield. "What that means is that the chief is not in control of the court anymore."

In the seven months since Justice Amy Coney Barrett joined the court, conservative majorities have issued a series of orders in favor of religious worshippers who had challenged restrictions imposed because of COVID-19.

Barrett provided the fifth vote in several cases. Roberts has been unwilling to second guess elected officials in these cases and, prior to her death in September, Ginsburg also had voted to keep the restrictions on religious services in place.

Perhaps even more significant are the culture war issues that the court will, in all likelihood, rule on in the spring of 2022, in the run up to the congressional midterm elections. The justices announced Monday that they will hear an abortion case that could undermine nearly 50 years of abortion rights rulings and agreed last month to decide whether Americans have a constitutional right to carry guns in public for self-defense.

Waiting in the wings is a direct challenge to affirmative action in college admissions, in a case, involving Harvard, that calls on the court to reverse a 2003 ruling upholding race as a permissible factor in admissions. A vote to hear that case next term could come before the court takes its long summer break.

A decision to hear a case takes just four votes and is no guarantee of its outcome. But on guns and abortion in particular, the court with a less-conservative lineup passed up several opportunities to wade in.

Thomas, the longest-serving current justice, has long complained about his colleagues' timidity on these topics. For nearly 30 years, he has called on the court to overturn the landmark Roe v. Wade decision that extended abortion rights across the country. He was one of four justices who would have overturned Roe in 1992, in his first term on the court.

Instead, a five-member majority composed entirely of justices appointed by Republican presidents reaffirmed constitutional protections for women seeking abortions.

On guns, Thomas has lamented that his colleagues treat the Second Amendment "right to keep and bear arms" as a second-class right, a phrase that Barrett herself used when she was an appeals court judge.

The court's shift to the right grows out of two untimely deaths and one crucial retirement.

It began five years ago, when Justice Antonin Scalia died suddenly and Senate Republicans refused to act on President Barack Obama's nomination of Merrick Garland to take Scalia's seat. Had Garland, now the attorney general, been confirmed, it would have given the court a majority appointed by Democratic presidents for the first time in 50 years.

Instead, the seat remained empty, Trump shocked the world by winning the presidency and Justice Neil Gorsuch joined the court in April 2017.

A year later the court's "swing vote," Justice Anthony Kennedy, retired and Trump put Justice Brett Kavanaugh in his seat.

Kennedy's retirement essentially put Roberts at the ideological, though right-leaning, center of the court, and the chief justice has resisted public perceptions of the court as merely a political institution. He has voted with the liberal justices to uphold the Obama era health care law and strike down a Louisiana abortion regulation.

But Ginsburg's death, which led to Barrett's confirmation days before the 2020 election, ended a brief period in which Roberts controlled how far the court would go in either direction.

Trump had pledged to nominate "pro-life justices" and predicted back in 2016 that with three appointments, "Roe would be gone."

Carrie Severino, whose Judicial Crisis Network spent tens of millions of dollars in support of confirming the three Trump appointees, said the justices have not shied away from big issues.

"Having Trump's nominees on the court has made a real impact. It's exciting to see a solid majority of the court committed to interpreting the Constitution as it's written," said Severino, a onetime law clerk for Thomas.

Liberal groups are alarmed at the turn of events generally and the court's intervention in the abortion case in particular.

Take Back the Court, a group pushing for Supreme Court expansion, said in a letter it is sending to President Joe Biden that the recent developments are a predictable result of Republican efforts to keep Scalia's seat open, then fill Ginsburg's quickly.

"None of this is a surprise: The Supreme Court was stolen by Mitch McConnell — and its theft designed by the Federalist Society — explicitly to overturn Roe and restrict women's rights," the letter reads.

Biden's commission on Supreme Court reform is holding its first meeting Wednesday. It's supposed to report back in six months.

Ginsburg herself recognized what might come to pass with Trump's election. In an interview with The Associated Press in July 2016, she was confident that Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton would become president and have several Supreme Court appointments.

But what, Ginsburg was asked, would happen if Trump were to win?

"I don't want to think about that possibility, but if it should be, then everything is up for grabs," she said.

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RFP: #290 SANTA MONICA TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION

- **Submission Deadline is June 11, 2021 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL.** The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is ProcureNow (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for the RFP package.

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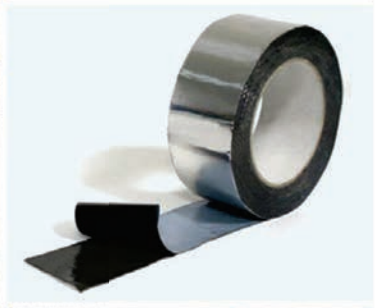


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Curious City

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Goodbye Samohi

ALL OF IT?

Pretty much. Most is already gone. Replaced with shiny new buildings. By the time they bulldoze the History Building — in just a couple of weeks — and other historic structures on the top of what used to be Prospect Hill (soon to be leveled a few feet), none of the 50,000 Santa Monica High School students who spent an important part of their lives there over the last century will be able to recognize it. I see Barnum Hall but where did the rest of my school go? ...where am I?

Is this really necessary, or even needed? No. Who's doing this? Your School District (SMMUSD), its staff and your elected seven-member School Board. Half of whom now face the threat of recall, over this and a long list of other parent and community grievances, including mismanagement of huge amounts of funds, lack of transparency, communication and access, and disrespecting, marginalizing, bullying and retaliating against parents who speak out and disagree.

CAN WE STOP IT?

Many have been trying, since the District's master construction plan and its History Building demolition became much more widely known last year. Can we avoid a messy and expensive recall, and keep those hard-working public servants on their board? Possibly, both.

Go to the School Board site to see how to call in and raise your voices at the Board meeting tomorrow night. You have to put in early to get a turn, prior to the 5:30 public start. But to have any effect with a mostly intransigent Board, the numbers would have to be impressive. Hundreds. When news spread of the destructive master plan last fall, a group put up an online petition to save the History Building and got 6,000 signatures in a matter of days. Pooh. Your School Board and SMMUSD have ignored it.

How many of you are willing to make the effort to save yet another iconic piece of Santa Monica history? Because of the seemingly irrational fervor to build and overdevelop, both by the City and SMMUSD, there are not many of those touchstones left. Sadly, Santa Monicans are usually not willing to make that effort. But that is what it takes. Will you, this time? (A flood of emails would also be good — ALSO — to: brd@smmusd.org, which reaches every Board member.)

A SLIGHTLY BETTER LAST HOPE?

That one or more Board members will use common sense and look at all this and finally have the courage to stand up and say, we must take a pause. At least, a pause. We must meet with parents and community members who are so strongly opposed to this and see if some accommodation is possible. We can save the exterior of the History Building and still accomplish our facilities goals.

The LA Times just published an embarrassing op-ed about how Santa Monica has never been a progressive haven for Latinos. I'll go a step further: the whole we're so liberal-inclusive-green-diverse-compassionate-progressive thing is a myth. A sham. A very successful PR campaign sold to the world. It really is one of the reasons some people run for Council. They know they will eventually wangle the title of Mayor (that will stick for a lifetime), and that ticket will let them walk onto some pretty impressive world stages, waving that banner cut from the emperor's new clothes, that has no basis in reality.

But here, indeed, is a rare chance for a local politico to claim that banner. We're not asking much. It can be a win-win resolution. You will forever be known as the School Board Member Who Saved the History Building. And the big bonus could be... that your papers for recall might wind up in the trash instead of the county clerk's desk.

BUT THE BUILDING HAS BEEN COMPROMISED

— they tell us. It's not the original from 1913, and the WPA post-quake rebuild from 1937 has also had changes. All true. But forget 1913. The WPA rebuild is more than enough history, 83 years worth. No one ever claimed it could go onto the National Registry as an intact landmark. But it is part of a set of buildings that have historic significance, as declared in two studies done in 2008 and 2018, and that makes it worth saving.

But don't take my word. A very highly regarded architecture conservation expert, Daniel Paul, who worked on one of those previous two studies, and extensively to save Chain Reaction, wrote a lengthy argument for preservation, in a letter yesterday to the Board. He praised the reputations of the companies who did the previous studies but disagreed on some conclusions, and presented and supported those disagreements. Qualified experts can differ.

What's clear to Paul is that there was nothing compelling the Board to make the decision they did. And they could still change their mind. But they can't after the bulldozers are sent in. Why not restore the exterior and gut the interior to 21st century standards? Win-win. The greenest building is the one that's already built. Did you know that 80 percent of the material from building demos wind up in landfills? How progressive is that?

Whomever on the Council makes the decision to save the History Building will have plenty of factual support.

And for a kicker: you do know that "Rebel Without A Cause," one of only three films by the legendary actor James Dean, was shot there, standing in for "Dawson High School." (It's on AFI's list of 100 Greatest Films, about halfway down.) Did you know that the City of LA and Griffith Observatory thought it so significant that they commissioned a bust of Dean, which rests there on the Observatory terrace where the famous knife fight took place? We've got the whole high school, those famous steps up to the History Building entrance, everything. And we're going to toss it in a landfill? Instead of repurposing? Why?

Charles Andrews has lived in Santa Monica for 34 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealm-rmusic@gmail.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Santa Monica Travel & Tourism Launches Free Staycation Program To Honor Essential Workers

The Santa Monica hotel community in partnership with the Santa MoniCARES foundation is showing their deep appreciation for emergency workers' selfless efforts by providing mini staycations at one of 18 Santa Monica hotels to these heroes of Santa Monica.

"As we mark over a year of this pandemic, we are especially thankful for our brave local workers who have made a real difference during this difficult time. Words can't describe the appreciation we have for those who have taken care of our community through a myriad of challenges in 2020 and 2021," said Misti Kerns, President/CEO of Santa Monica Travel & Tourism. "We've seen the best of these courageous individuals in the face of unpredictable challenges, especially throughout the COVID-19 crisis."

USTA reports that American workers left an average of 33% of their paid time off on the table in 2020. Moving into this year, staycations for essential workers are a much needed way to use accrued time off for nearly 8 in 10 or 77% of American workers who report that they are extremely or very happy while on vacation. Additionally, 69% say a travel priority in 2021 is to find a change of scenery and 61% say spending more time with family and friends is key; Santa MoniCARES hopes this will encourage all to take a break and reconnect.

To express their gratitude for Santa Monica's essential workers, 18 hotels have donated 444 complimentary staycation room nights to Santa MoniCARES including Bayside Hotel, Courtyard by Marriott, Hilton Santa Monica Hotel & Suites, Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows, Gateway Hotel Santa Monica, Hotel Carmel, Hotel Casa del Mar, Huntley Santa Monica Beach Hotel, JW Marriott Santa Monica Le Merigot, Le Meridien Delfina Santa Monica, Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel, Palm Motel, Sea Shore Motel, Shore Hotel, Shutters on the Beach Hotel, The Ambrose Hotel, The Georgian Hotel and Wyndham Santa Monica. Certificates will be distributed on behalf of the hotels directly to the local emergency representatives for distribution. All essential workers in Santa Monica may also access special offers from local businesses by visiting santamonica.com/essential.

To help visitors safely and respectfully explore the beachside city during this unique moment in time, new resources are available on how to travel responsibly, hotel safety measures, discounts at local businesses, a personalized vacation planning tool, a KCRW playlist and more at www.santamonica.com/shines or #SantaMonicaShines.

Please visit ustravel.org/NTTW to learn more about NationalTravel and TourismWeek.

SUBMITTED BY CAMERON ANDREWS

RESTAURANT

FROM PAGE 1

culinary heights, Vinzoni found himself missing the intimacy, simplicity, and quality of small-scale cooking. In 2019 he and his wife Marlo decided to open Cinque Terre WEST as a cozy family restaurant serving classic Lingurian dishes and refreshing Italian wines.

ON SURVIVING COVID

Cinque Terre WEST was not set up to weather a pandemic. The small restaurant hosts just 35 seats and is hidden from view in the back of a small mall in Palisades Village. It relies on seasonal farmers market ingredients that must be thrown away if not eaten in a few days, and on an Italian model of hospitality where friends socialize over long meals and shared dishes.

Yet, buoyed by support from devoted community members, Vinzoni and his wife were able to find ways to adapt and stay afloat.

They developed a new "comfort menu" based on people's favorite foods and dishes that are easily transported. Vinzoni even found himself doing the unthinkable—cooking an American hamburger—and discovered it was enormously popular. They started a devoted email list for weekly specials and takeaway offers that grew from just 50 emails to over 700.

"The amazing part of the pandemic was the support that we had from the community. It is something that I will never forget for the rest of my life," said Vinzoni. "They saw me and my wife were here day and night non-stop working and really took us under their wings."

The restaurant has been doing so well the couple are now planning to open a wine bar next door called Enoteca 5. The bar is slated to open later this spring and will feature over 100 varieties of Italian and Californian Wine alongside Vinzoni's handmade pastas, charcuterie platters, and antipasti dishes.

WHAT TO ORDER RIGHT NOW

As the Cinque Terre menu is carefully curated to reflect the best seasonal produce, meat, and fish locally available, Vinzoni said diners can't go wrong with any selection. He does recommend people sample some seafood, which is the backbone of Ligurian cuisine and what his family has been living on in the Cinque Terre region since the early 1400s.

Current options include a pan seared halibut with roasted brussel sprouts and salsa verde; sea bass with potatoes, Taggiasche olives and pine nuts; and homemade bigoli spaghetti with a Maine lobster bisque. Cinque Terre also offers a series of freshly baked pizzas and sweet and savory Italian croissants known as cornetti.

For drinks, Vinzoni says most dishes pair well with a Vermentino and recommends true wine lovers check out the selection at Enoteca 5 when it opens. Sweet lovers will enjoy Italian classics such as panna cotta and a flourless chocolate cake.

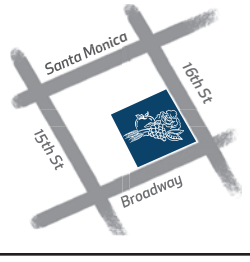
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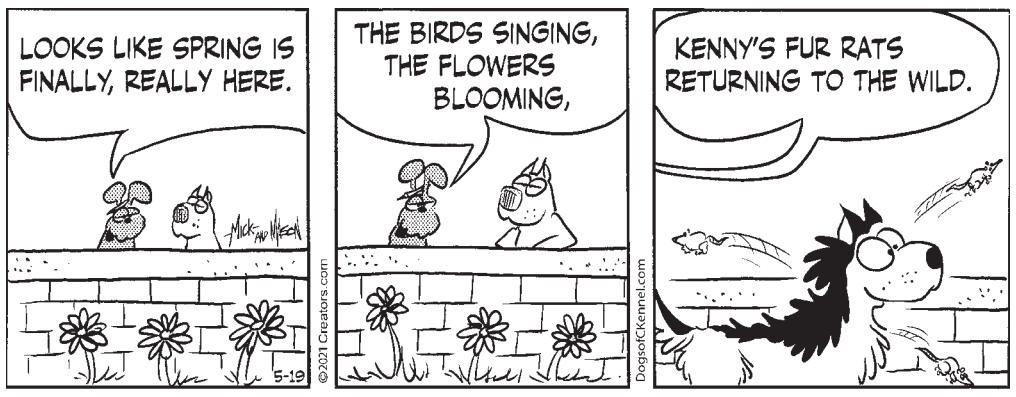
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



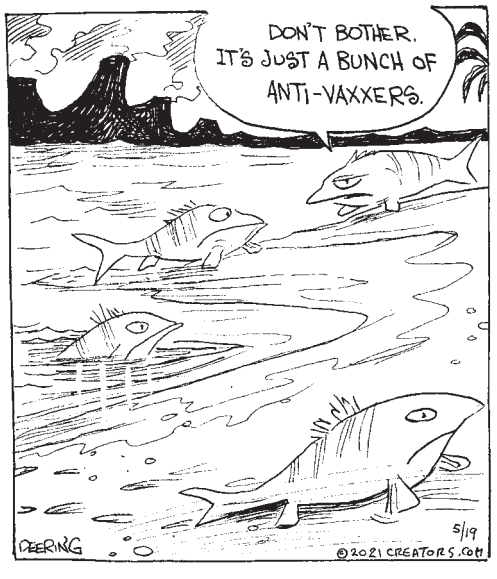
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 57.7°

WEDNESDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 3-5ft Waist to head high
Potential for E trending SE/S eddy wind to return for the morning. Selective, long period SSW/S swell tops out through the day – best at summer magnets west of Pt Dume. Small NW swell mixes in.

THURSDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high occ. 5 ft
Potential for light N/NW wind early to trend WNW and build through the day. Selective, long period SSW/S swell holds through the day – focuses best at summer magnets west of Pt Dume. Small NW swell.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny, with a high near 67.
Wednesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 57.
Thursday: Partly sunny, with a high near 65.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/05/19	Wed	02:36 AM	4.18	H
2021/05/19	Wed	10:34 AM	0.21	L
2021/05/19	Wed	6:00 PM	3.78	H
2021/05/19	Wed	11:00 PM	2.77	L
2021/05/20	Thu	04:11 AM	4.03	H
2021/05/20	Thu	11:24 AM	0.22	L
2021/05/20	Thu	6:24 PM	4.24	H
2021/05/21	Fri	12:07 AM	2.06	L
2021/05/21	Fri	05:31 AM	4.04	H
2021/05/21	Fri	12:07 PM	0.27	L
2021/05/21	Fri	6:51 PM	4.78	H
2021/05/22	Sat	01:00 AM	1.22	L
2021/05/22	Sat	06:41 AM	4.11	H
2021/05/22	Sat	12:46 PM	0.41	L
2021/05/22	Sat	7:20 PM	5.37	H
2021/05/23	Sun	01:49 AM	0.34	L
2021/05/23	Sun	07:43 AM	4.17	H
2021/05/23	Sun	1:25 PM	0.62	L
2021/05/23	Sun	7:52 PM	5.95	H
2021/05/24	Mon	02:35 AM	-0.48	L
2021/05/24	Mon	08:40 AM	4.19	H

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERball
Draw Date: 5/15
4 10 37 39 69
Power#: 24
Jackpot: 201 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 5/14
3 18 41 44 68
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 468 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 5/15
6 18 27 35 36
Mega#: 25
Jackpot: 47 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 5/17
8 18 22 23 31

Daily 3
Draw Date: 5/17
EVENING: 8 2 7

Draw Date: 5/17
MIDDAY: 9 5 9

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 5/17
1st: 03 - Hot Shot
2nd: 07 - Eureka
3rd: 12 - Lucky Charms
Race Time: 1:45.07

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (MAY 19)

You don't realize what a weight you carried until the beautiful lightening that occurs when you let it go. You'll float! Your liberation comes in two significant points of the year. One burden drops as you're working on relationships. This allows love to flow more freely. Another lift happens when a security need becomes irrelevant. Aries and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 10, 15, 2 and 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You can't imagine your way into new circumstances, but you also can't make it happen without imagination. Dream, act, dream more, and then act more. The cycle feeds on itself. Before you know it, you're somewhere else.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're caring and have warmth for all around you. When you get tired, it's easy to forget your No.1 purpose, which is to love and be loved, but some sweetness you've planted will grow to remind you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). With communication as your abiding forte, you're in tune with how much detail people want from a story or explanation — far less than most people think. Your day will clip along, peppered with efficient interactions.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Every world has unique etiquette and a requisite learning curve. Rules get breeched. Take this as your cue to offer or seek the understanding to smooth it over.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You are currently linked to your work in such a way that you couldn't untie it from who you are, if, indeed, you even wanted to. The way you present yourself is part of the package.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The question of whether or not you should address something is the first consideration. Many problems can be solved by neither recognizing their problematic status nor claiming them as your own.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Should you show up in person? These days, matters of attendance are complicated. If you don't want to go, then you have the perfect excuse not to. Figure out another way to show your support though. Opportunities hang in the balance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Lofty goals are good for morale. High stakes and a deadline help, too. People get along better when they are building something that requires cooperation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Sometimes, people are oblivious because they lack the courage it takes to notice what needs fixing and do something about it. You're brave in this regard. Once you see what's right, you have to act.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Before virtual reality and meditation apps existed, Carl Jung had the counterintuitive statement, "Who looks outside dreams; who looks inside awakes." You'll have a moment of living the statement.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You generally have a stock of polite options on the ready for the usual situations. It's when someone insists on your real opinion, as they will today, that you could be thrown for a loop. Levity and brevity are the magic pairing.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Since you always feel more comfortable when you know the names and main details of the people you deal with, it's worth briefing yourself before the interaction. The time you take to bone up on social niceties will be well-spent.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

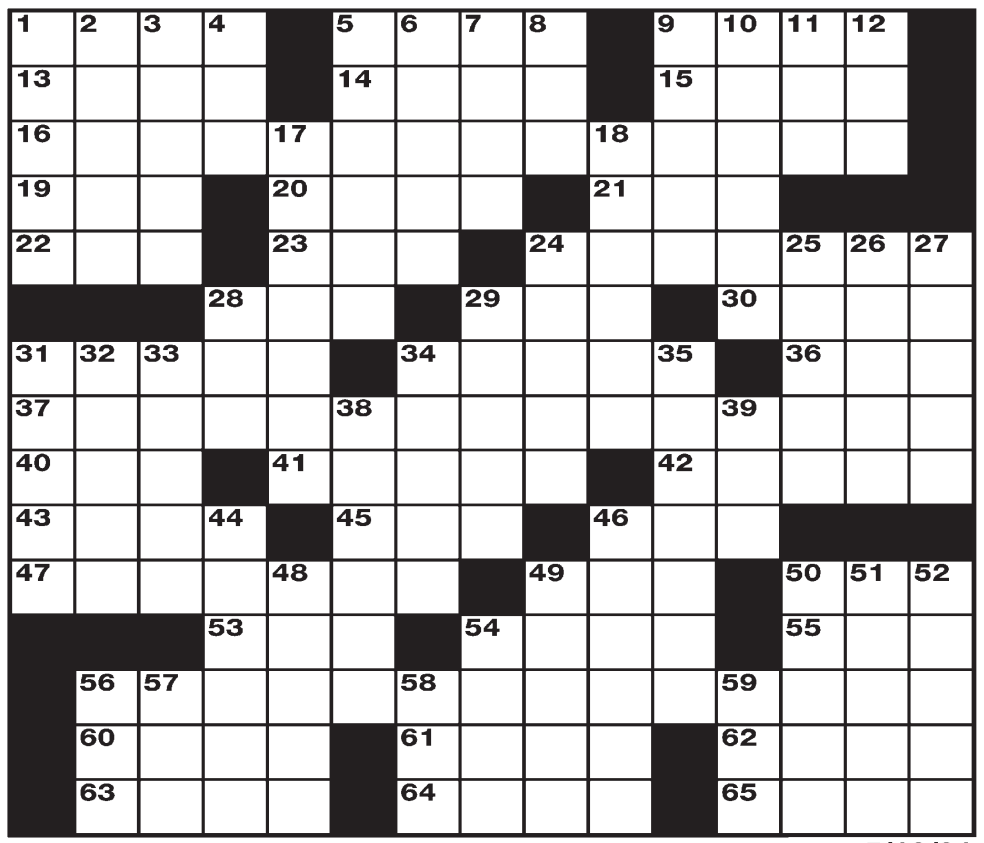
8		5		6	7		2	
		7				8		
				2	8	6		
	1		9				4	
		3				2		
	4				3		1	
		6	7	4				
		8				9		
	7		8	9		1		5

Newsday Crossword

LARGEST CITIES by Jerry Clarkson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Doily fabric
5 Culinary artist
9 Letter after alpha
13 In a competent way
14 Crowd of cattle
15 Metal in barbells
16 Largest city in the Grand Canyon State
19 Like father, like __
20 Small bills in wallets
21 Danson or Turner
22 Before, in poetry
23 Head-moving approval
24 Suitable for most moviegoers
28 Ltr.'s second afterthought
29 Gibson or Brooks of films
30 Single-handedly
31 Yellow traffic light color
34 Four-person tourney rounds
36 Morning moisture on marigolds
37 Largest city in the Great Lakes State
40 Spanish cheer
41 Leave in a rush
42 Helps in wrongdoing
43 Wander widely
45 EMT's destinations
46 "Let me see . . ."
47 As a large group
49 Floor-washing tool
50 Swelled head
53 Luau neckwear
54 Prefix meaning "singular"
55 Noah's vessel
56 Largest city in the Peach State
60 Weight-loss plan
61 Heavy burden
62 Comrade in battle
63 Decides (to)
64 Turn to slush, say
65 Hair-styling stuff

DOWN
1 Memory mishap
2 Detest
3 Biological duplicate
4 Watch carefully
5 Casual slacks
6 Placed under a spell
7 Significant periods
8 WWII president
9 French composer of *Carmen*
10 Wears away
11 Freight measure
12 Santa __, CA
17 Amateurs
18 Slanted typeface
24 Mail away payment
25 Evade, as a responsibility
26 Skirt fold
27 Formal dresses
28 __ capita income
29 Interoffice notes
31 Be very fond of
32 Large fruit for breakfast
33 Second-string squad
34 Mall tenant
35 Hair-washing liquid
38 Freezes over, as a port
39 "Big Blue" tech company
44 Polo implement
46 "No fooling!"
48 Tandem bike twosome
49 Filmdom bigwig
50 National bird
51 Cook on a barbecue
52 Gives approval for
54 Horse's hair
56 Commotion
57 Reward for the waitstaff
58 Sawyer of Twain tales
59 Dustcloth



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Binary Puzzle

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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



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FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 15 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

© australianwordgames.com.au 5118

New skills

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

Applique	Director	Glue	Pens	Throw
Awls	Easel	Image	Photography	Tool
Band	Edge	Inks	Plane	Toys
Basic	Emboss	Leather	Quilt	Turn
Belt	Ends	Light	Ribbon	Vice
Bottom	Excess	Metal	Rope	Weave
Chain	Fabric	Models	Show	Wheel
China	Fashion	Oils	Skill	Yarn
Clay	Fibre	Papier	Soft	
Design	Form	mache	String	
Different	Gift	Pastime	Table	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Unconditional love of a mother

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ARSON

FROM PAGE 1

(LAPD) air patrol was dispatched to monitor the individual. Officers from the West Los Angeles Community Police Station kept watch on the ground while the Air Support Division provided eyes in the sky. During an aerial observation, the Tactical Flight Officer witnessed the individual ignite multiple additional fires."

Arson investigators from LAFD requested the assistance of specialized deputies from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Emergency Services Detail to locate and apprehend the alleged suspect within the rugged terrain. Deputies were lowered into the brush to begin their search but because the fires were growing rapidly, deputies were forced to retreat.

Flores was arrested on Sunday when a private security officer saw him emerge from the brush and recognized him as a suspect. Police officers were called and Flores was taken into custody.

Firefighters have worked to begin containing the fire. Despite burning in trees and heavy brush, its growth was slowed with the aid of cool, moist weather and its size remained at about 2 square miles, authorities said.

Air tankers battled the blaze after being unable to fly in the morning because of cloud cover.

No buildings were damaged and no injuries reported in the blaze that broke out late Friday in the Santa Monica Mountains. It grew rapidly Saturday — forcing about 1,000 Topanga Canyon area residents to flee their homes.

Evacuation orders were lifted Monday evening.

An explosive wildfire so early in the year, especially in cool conditions with almost no wind, portends a difficult fire season ahead in a state that has seen very little rainfall, officials said.

"We really have to think about brush fires as a year-long challenge," said Los Angeles Fire Department Chief Ralph Terrazas said.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

editor@smdp.com

LEGAL

FROM PAGE 1

dismissed its complaint, it has filed a motion seeking attorney's fees.

"The city does not admit the allegations or agree with the merits of SMCLC's motion for attorney's fees.," Cardona added. But to avoid the expense and burden of further litigation, councilmembers agreed to a settlement amount of $115,000 after a 6-1 vote. Oscar de la Torre was the sole no-vote.

The battle between the two was initiated more than a year ago when Coalition members tried to convince city leaders that they had to follow the Surplus Land Act before it could sell public land to a private developer. The future of the controversial downtown development project, billed as The Plaza at Santa Monica, has since been up in the air.

Interim City Manager Lane Dilg recommended temporarily halting negotiations between staff and Clarett West Development, LLC and DLJ Real Estate Capital Partners, LLC, in February 2020 while the city researched if the development would be in violation of any state laws. Later that summer, negotiations on the project at 4th and Arizona resumed after council directed staff to adjust priorities in the negotiations of the 2.57-acre property to better reflect the input that was received from the public.

Not long after listening to dozens of public comments from residents living in and beyond the Westside, Councilmember Sue Himmelrich moved to close negotiations with the developer entirely.

"I think it's illegal. I think that it poses great risk to the city. And I think competition can only make this project better if we go to an RFP," which would ensure more affordable units in the space as well as a hotel and open space, Himmelrich said, shortly before the motion was unable to garner a second.

"It's unfortunate that the City wouldn't listen to us, to our lawyers or to the public, compelling residents to ask a court to step in so the City wouldn't violate the law by continuing to negotiate a development agreement for this wildly unpopular project," a letter from SMCLC states. "As a result, the City will have to pay legal fees over $100,000 to SMCLC's lawyers to settle this important lawsuit in the public interest."

Organization leaders clarified no money was sought by SMCLC and the entire settlement constitutes reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred in the lawsuit.

"We thank Councilmembers Phil Brock, Oscar de la Torre and Christine Parra for their steadfast actions to stop the Plaza and for enabling a fair settlement. And thank you to Mayor Himmelrich, who, in July of last year, was the sole councilmember to vote against continuing negotiations with the Plaza's developer on the basis that it was illegal to proceed without complying with the Surplus Land Act. This current council majority stood with residents — as they told us they would — to do what is right,"SMCLC added. "Lastly, we are very grateful for the strong public support we received from neighborhood associations and the many individuals who enabled us to bring this important lawsuit. Neighborhood associations, largely underfunded, do vital community work for residents and the city as a whole. This settlement will enable us to reach out to these groups, as well as individual donors, to ask whether they want their donation returned, or for those funds to be used by SMCLC for future campaigns as we continue to fight for residents to have a seat at the table when important decisions are made by our City."

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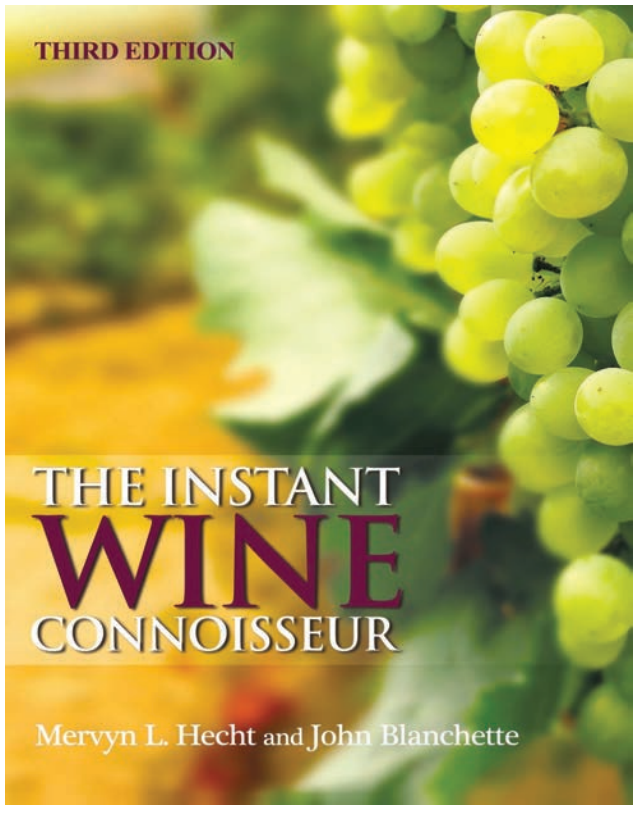
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