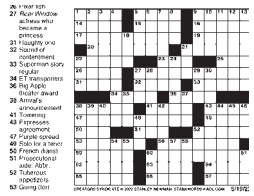


3
Crime Watch
Blade attack.



5
Noteworthy
Odes to joy.



9
Crossword
Plus horoscope.

THURSDAY
05.19.22

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Volume 21 Issue 157

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New universal pre kindergarten offers extra year of school for California youngsters

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

One year after Governor Gavin Newsom first proposed universal pre kindergarten for all California four-year-olds, Santa Monica's school district leaders are preparing to phase in the free program, which will gradually expand the current transitional kindergarten, or TK, programs for students just a little too young to start kindergarten.

All kids in the State of California must be enrolled in some kind of school program by age six, but before the first day of kindergarten, there are a whole range of options for parents, each with pros and cons: preschool, nursery school, Montessori, daycare, even hanging out at home with mom and dad.

The biggest con to many of the more structured programs is financial, with private preschools and even public school early learning programs featuring price tags over $1,500 or more per school year for those who don't qualify for financial subsidies. Santa Monica's new Early Childhood Lab School for kids ages three months through five years old costs $25,500 per academic year for those who don't qualify for tuition breaks.

The heavy financial burden of early childhood education — which provides not only enrichment but

SEE **KINDERGARTEN** PAGE 2

Council backtracks on proposal to temporarily suspend Housing Commission

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

An ongoing leadership dispute within the Housing Commission has scuttled months of meetings just as the city is scrambling to address a deficient housing element that jeopardizes access to state funding but at tonight's meeting, the Commission has another opportunity to right its ship.

The fiasco prompted City Council to suggest temporarily suspending the Commission last week, but following strong pushback from commissioners, Council backed down from this proposal and has allowed the group to agendize a new election to select a Commission Chair to serve a term ending July 1, 2022.

The issues within the Commission stem from a disagreement over who is the current Chair.

Six-term Housing Commissioner Richard Hilton was serving as the Chair until a March 17 meeting. On March 16, Hilton, who is blind, faxed a letter to the Housing Commission Staff Liaison Jim Kemper stating, "I am resigning as Chair of the City of Santa Monica Housing Commission," and requesting that Vice Chair Theresa Marasco run the March 17 meeting.

Hilton believed that he was only resigning for this one meeting, while other commission members interpreted the resignation to be permanent. Hilton said he had decided to not preside over the

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 7

Olympic principal resigns in protest over alleged district 'hypocrisy' at school site



Emily Sawicki

CAMPUS: The Olympic High School campus also houses the District's project based learning program.

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

Olympic High School Principal Anthony Fuller announced his resignation in a scathing 1,200-word letter this week describing what he felt was "hypocrisy" amid school district leadership, alleging they deprived Olympic students from advantages afforded to other Santa Monica students; in response, Superintendent Ben Drati wrote his own letter calling Fuller's accusations misinformation.

"I find myself complicit in a hypocrisy that harms the very students and families I have tried to serve for the last 20 years," Fuller wrote in his criticism of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) published Tuesday in the Daily Press. The submitted letter was also an announcement that the principal of seven years was resigning in protest over serious concerns he had with the way the District and School Board have handled education at Olympic, which has seen enrollment shrink every year since Fuller came aboard in 2015.

"...it is evident that this Board and this Leadership team specifically

SEE **OLYMPIC** PAGE 6

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KINDERGARTEN

FROM PAGE 1

daycare — was why, amid the state's budget surplus of 2021, Newsom presented the idea of offering what amounts to one additional free year of quality care for their little ones prior to kindergarten.

At the regular Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) meeting on Thursday, May 19, Director of Early Learning Susan Samarge-Powell will present information on how the local pre kindergarten program will function.

In an interview on Tuesday, Samarge-Powell said the transition into universal pre kindergarten will function like a gradual expansion of the current TK program, a move she said was likely to be popular among parents of kids otherwise too old to qualify for the extra year of school under the current TK model.

She said the current TK program is just for kids turning five between September 2 and December 2 of each year — "a very limited window," according to Samarge-Powell — and it began eight years ago when the state had shifted the start age of kindergarten back by a few months. But the program was so popular, districts kept it.

"So now, we were having the kids who were going to get this additional year's worth of experience, and now be the oldest kids walking into kindergarten with the most amount of experience," Samarge-Powell described. "And so, people were kind of like, 'Hey, that's not cool.' So the District, actually, is fully in favor of doing this.

"We love the idea that the State has really recognized that early learning is vital to children's future success, because that's what we've believed and you would know from our District," she continued. "The District has already provided funding for early learning in our programs, you know, independent of the state, so it's a great thing to have."

Students within the District's boundaries turning five between Sept. 2, 2022, and Feb. 2, 2023, will qualify for the expanded TK program in the 2022-23 school year. The following school year, that will expand by two months, to children turning five between Sept. 2, 2023, and April 2, 2024. The next school year, TK will be open to children turning five between Sept. 2, 2024, and June 2, 2025. Finally, by fall 2025, all children who turned four before Sept. 1 are eligible for TK.

Samarge-Powell said the universal pre kindergarten program "is not supposed to be designed to be 'first grade lite'"; rather, it is designed to "foster the enthusiasm about learning and being creative."

> So now, we were having the kids who were going to get this additional year's worth of experience, and now be the oldest kids walking into kindergarten with the most amount of experience - Samarge-Powell

Currently, with the very small window of eligible TK students, the program is not available at every school site in the district. Samarge-Powell said it was too soon to know for sure what enrollment in the program might look like by its final expansion in 2025, but that capacity would expand into more sites as needs require.

The full presentation on the new program is set to take place during the Thursday, May 19, SMMUSD Board of Education meeting, which begins at 5:30 p.m. The meeting can be viewed on the SMMUSD YouTube channel or via Zoom (webinar ID: 814 9385 8023; passcode: 477106 ; call-in number: 669.900.6833).

emily@smdp.com

Biden invokes Defense Production Act for formula shortage

ZEKE MILLER AND KEVIN FREKING
Associated Press

President Joe Biden on Wednesday invoked the Defense Production Act to speed production of infant formula and authorized flights to import supply from overseas, as he faces mounting political pressure over a domestic shortage caused by the safety-related closure of the country's largest formula manufacturing plant.

The Defense Production Act order requires suppliers of formula manufacturers to fulfill orders from those companies before other customers, in an effort to eliminate production bottlenecks. Biden is also authorizing the Defense Department to use commercial aircraft to fly formula supplies that meet federal standards from overseas to the U.S., in what the White House is calling "Operation Fly Formula."

Supplies of baby formula across the country have been severely curtailed in recent weeks after a February recall by Abbott Nutrition exacerbated ongoing supply chain disruptions among formula makers, leaving fewer options on store shelves and increasingly anxious parents struggling to find nutrition for their children.

"I know parents across the country are worried about finding enough formula to feed their babies," Biden said in a video statement released by the White House. "As a parent and as a grandparent, I know just how stressful that is."

The announcement comes two days after the Food and Drug Administration said it was streamlining its review process to make it easier for foreign manufacturers to begin shipping more formula into the U.S.

In a letter Wednesday to the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Agriculture, Biden directed the agencies to work with the Pentagon to identify overseas supply of formula that meets U.S. standards over the next week, so that chartered Defense Department flights can swiftly fly it to the U.S.

"Imports of baby formula will serve as a bridge to this ramped-up production," Biden wrote.

Regulators said Monday that they'd reached a deal to allow Abbott Nutrition to restart its Sturgis, Michigan, plant, the nation's largest formula plant, which has been closed since February due to contamination issues. The company must overhaul its safety protocols and procedures before resuming production.

After getting the FDA's OK, Abbott said it will take eight to ten weeks before new products begin arriving in stores. The company didn't set a timeline to restart manufacturing.

"I've directed my team to do everything possible to ensure there's enough safe baby formula and that it is quickly reaching families that need it the most," Biden said in the statement, calling it "one of my top priorities."

The White House actions come as the Democratic-led House is expected to approve two bills Wednesday addressing the baby formula shortage as lawmakers look to show progress on what has become a frightening development for many families.

One bill expected to have wide bipartisan support would give the secretary of the Department of Agriculture the ability to issue a narrow set of waivers in the event of a supply disruption. The goal is to give participants in an assistance program commonly known as WIC the ability to use vouchers to purchase formula from any producer rather than be limited to one brand that may be unavailable. The WIC program accounts for about half of infant formula sales in the U.S.

The other measure, a $28 million emergency spending bill to boost resources at the Food and Drug Administration, is expected to have less bipartisan support and it's unclear whether the Senate will take it up.

"This is throwing more FDA staff at a problem that needs more production, not more FDA staff," said Rep. Bill Huizenga, R-Mich.

Rep. Rosa DeLauro, the Democratic chair of the House Appropriations Committee, said the money would increase FDA staffing to boost inspections of domestic and international suppliers, prevent fraudulent products from getting onto store shelves and acquire better data on the marketplace.

Abbott's voluntary recall was triggered by four illnesses reported in babies who had consumed powdered formula from its plant. All four infants were hospitalized with a rare type of bacterial infection and two died.

After a six-week inspection, FDA investigators published a list of problems in March, including

SEE BABY PAGE 8

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DAILY POLICE LOGS

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 271 CALLS ON MAY 17

Assault Report 2500Blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:05 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 200Blk Beach St 12:10 a.m.
Person Down 1100Blk Pico Blvd 2:25 a.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1300Blk 2nd St 5:01 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 3100Blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:07 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1200Blk 21st St 6:33 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 900Blk Lincoln Blvd 7:25 a.m.
Citizen Flag 1600Blk Main St 7:44 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 300Blk Olympic Dr 7:45 a.m.
Burglary Report 2000Blk Hill St 8:04 a.m.
Rape Report 300Blk Olympic Dr 8:15 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 2000Blk 14th St 8:24 a.m.
Transport Prisoner 300Blk Olympic Dr 8:48 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2300Blk 6th St 9:04 a.m.
Assault Just Occurred 400Blk Wilshire Blvd 9:04 a.m.
Civil Dispute 2300Blk 6th St 9:09 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 2400Blk Lincoln Blvd 9:29 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1800Blk 20th St 9:39 a.m.
Attempt Burglary Report 100Blk Ocean Park Blvd 9:42 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1300Blk 11th St 9:49 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 300Blk Olympic Dr 10:18 a.m.
Civil Dispute 2500Blk Main St 10:22 a.m.
Transport Prisoner 300Blk Olympic Dr 10:25 a.m.
Identity Theft 200Blk 7th St 10:27 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 1900Blk 12th St 10:36 a.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 1200Blk Marine St 10:42 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1600Blk The Beach 10:57 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 18th St / Oak St 11:02 a.m.
Self Initiated Pub 11:02 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 800Blk The Beach 11:30 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 2000Blk 14th St 11:37 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now Lincoln Blvd / Ocean Park Blvd 11:39 a.m.
Drinking In Public 1600Blk Wilshire Blvd 11:59 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 2200Blk Virginia Ave 12:20 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 500Blk California Ave 12:23 p.m.
Traffic Control Request - Level 1 1800Blk 14th St 12:27 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1800Blk Stewart St 12:28 p.m.
Prowler Just Left 3300Blk Virginia Ave 12:29 p.m.
Civil Dispute 1900Blk Michigan Ave 12:47 p.m.
Inmate Requiring Medical Attention 300Blk Olympic Dr 12:49 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 800Blk 6th St 12:59 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 5th St / Bay St 1:00 p.m.
Citizen Flag 3rd Street Prom / Arizona Ave 1:04 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 14th St / Pearl St 1:08 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 2nd St / Colorado Ave 1:23 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 800Blk Montana Ave 1:23 p.m.
Encampment 1200Blk 9th St 1:48 p.m.
Public Intoxication 1500Blk Palisades Park 1:49 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 1300Blk Ocean Ave 2:15 p.m.
Person With A Gun 1500Blk Palisades Park 2:19 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 1600Blk Ocean Ave 2:45 p.m.
Smoking Violation 1700Blk Maple St 3:17 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 1500Blk Ocean Ave 3:27 p.m.
Burglary Report 2000Blk Olympic Blvd 3:28 p.m.
Scar Investigation 1300Blk 18th St 3:29 p.m.
Fire Request Police 2000Blk Ocean Ave 3:41 p.m.
Health & Safety Code Violation 1200Blk 6th St 3:46 p.m.
Transport 1100Blk 2nd St 4:06 p.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 1000Blk Hill St 4:12 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1500Blk 20th St 4:29 p.m.
Lost Property 600Blk Pico Blvd 4:31 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 4th St / Pico Blvd 4:39 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2nd St / Santa Monica Blvd 4:42 p.m.
Encampment 2000Blk Ocean Ave 4:49 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2800Blk Main St 4:50 p.m.
Out Of Order Traffic Signals 4th St / Colorado Ave 4:59 p.m.
Theft Suspect In Custody 200Blk Broadway 5:02 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1200Blk Hill St 5:17 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1200Blk Hill St 5:17 p.m.
Party Complaint 600Blk 7th St 5:19 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 2200Blk Virginia Ave 5:38 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 4th St / Santa Monica Blvd 5:48 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 1200Blk 4th St 5:54 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 2000Blk Ocean Ave 6:47 p.m.
Family Disturbance 1300Blk 2nd St 7:08 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1300Blk 3rd Street Prom 7:13 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 2400Blk Washington Ave 7:30 p.m.
Fight 700Blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:38 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2900Blk 31st St 8:05 p.m.
Attempt Auto Theft Just Occurred 18th St / Broadway 8:07 p.m.
Battery Now 1700Blk Cloverfield Blvd 8:21 p.m.
Assault Just Occurred 1400Blk Montana Ave 8:32 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 2nd St / Santa Monica Blvd 8:40 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 8:50 p.m.
Burglary Report 1100Blk 14th St 9:47 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop Ocean Ave / Broadway 9:58 p.m.
Forensics Request - Fingerprint 1100Blk 14th St 10:03 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 2000Blk Lincoln Blvd 10:11 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Lincoln Blvd / Grant St 10:11 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 10:12 p.m.
Person Down 20th St / Delaware Ave 10:12 p.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 1300Blk 26th St 10:15 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 4th St / Civic Center Dr 10:37 p.m.
Battery Report 2200Blk 29th St 10:39 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Just Occurred 1600Blk Ocean Ave 10:44 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 4th St / Pico Blvd 10:51 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop Ocean Ave / Seaside Ter 11:33 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOGS

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 41 CALLS ON MAY 17

Automatic Alarm 200Blk Wilshire Blvd 7:28 a.m.
EMS 400Blk Colorado Ave 1:07 a.m.
EMS 1100Blk Pico Blvd 2:24 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300Blk 7th St 3:53 a.m.
EMS 1000Blk 2nd St 5:26 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1700Blk 4th St 6:51 a.m.
EMS 2500Blk Georgina Ave 7:51 a.m.
EMS 1600Blk Franklin St 8:57 a.m.
EMS 2000Blk Main St 10:30 a.m.
EMS 2800Blk Pico Blvd 10:55 a.m.
EMS 2000Blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:03 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk 20th St 11:22 a.m.
EMS 18th St / Oak St 11:23 a.m.
Smoke Investigation 800Blk 2nd St 11:38 a.m.
EMS 2100Blk Ocean Ave 11:50 a.m.
EMS 2000Blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:06 p.m.
Odor Investigation 800Blk 2nd St 12:10 p.m.
Structure Fire 1800Blk 14th St 12:26 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 20th St 12:28 p.m.
EMS 1900Blk Pico Blvd 12:29 p.m.
EMS 1700Blk Cloverfield Blvd 12:35 p.m.
EMS 500Blk Olympic Blvd W 1:04 p.m.
EMS 800Blk Ocean Ave 1:33 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 2:17 p.m.
EMS 900Blk Wilshire Blvd 2:41 p.m.
EMS 1700Blk Maple St 2:52 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 20th St 2:52 p.m.
EMS Lincoln Blvd / Wilshire Blvd 3:37 p.m.
EMS 500Blk Olympic Blvd W 5:06 p.m.
EMS 2600Blk Expo Line 5:40 p.m.
EMS 300Blk Pico Blvd 5:43 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 600Blk Pico Blvd 5:43 p.m.
EMS 400Blk Colorado Ave 6:07 p.m.
EMS 2800Blk Colorado Ave 6:17 p.m.
EMS 400Blk San Vicente Blvd 7:00 p.m.
EMS 2200Blk Colorado Ave 7:10 p.m.
EMS 00Blk Village Pkwy 7:12 p.m.
Carbon Monoxide Alarm 900Blk 21st St 8:03 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200Blk 6th St 9:05 p.m.
EMS 20th St / Delaware Ave 10:12 p.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 1500Blk 6th St 11:12 p.m.

CRIME WATCH

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

ON SUNDAY MAY 8 AT ABOUT 1 A.M.

Officers responded to Ye Ole Kings Head near the 100 block of Santa Monica Blvd, regarding a battery that had just occurred. Dispatch relayed that an individual attacked patrons and was being held by security. Witnesses stated the suspect, Carrington Blade, hit the security guard in the head with a closed fist multiple times after being refused entry. Blade was arrested and transported to the Santa Monica Jail. He was released with a citation.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

We appreciate Mr. Anthony Fuller's service to the families and staff of Olympic and Off Campus Learning Center (OCLC) and thank him for inspiring students to reach their full potential.

We are disappointed that Mr. Fuller has chosen to promote misinformation about Olympic High Continuation School where he has served as Principal for the past seven years.

Currently, there are 37 students at Olympic and enrollment has declined since a high of 91 in 2015. This is a result of the success of Samohi and Malibu High in supporting students academically and behaviorally.

We continue to support our students and staff at Olympic with personal attention, opportunities, and guidance while meeting their unique needs. Our at-promise students at Olympic and OCLC are supported with all needed and necessary tools and materials to help them succeed academically and personally, navigate educational and personal challenges, and be fully prepared for college and career.

While we had high hopes for Mr. Fuller to embrace and engage in the development of 21st-century learning models, there were some missed opportunities in doing so. With enrollment hovering around 40 students the last few years, creativity and innovation are required to provide students with a full range of programs and classes in an integrative manner.

Unfortunately, the vision was lacking to make this work, even though the following opportunities were offered to or facilitated for the site:

- Project-based learning training and consultation
- Music production and DJ music design
- Districtwide learning and innovation workshops for teachers advertised in principals' updates
- Visitations to other model continuation schools that have implemented this type of programming
- Consultation to create a content creation space and an elective course
- Continued offer to share the iStudio space at the Obama Center

Olympic students do currently receive a full array of mental health services and counseling that has been supported by Mr. Fuller, including:

- A mental health coordinator funded by the City of Santa Monica for 10 hours a week, working closely with the district mental health coordinator
- Individual counseling through Providence St. John's, also funded by the City of Santa Monica, along with counseling groups.
- The Social & Emotional Wellness Initiative provides a social work intern for 15 hours a week for individual and group support, in coordination with our district mental health coordinator
- An additional intern provided by SMMUSD for 11 hours per week, including a grief and loss group, attendance awareness and support, and in-class presentations
- Individual therapy support from Insight Psychotherapy group

Our team continues to focus on the success of Olympic and OCLC students and we look forward to celebrating another graduating class next month.

The new Principal of Olympic High and OCLC will have an opportunity and full support in developing a program that will be progressive and more in line with the district's vision for 21st-century learning that will incorporate the arts, technological skills, academic skills, as well as 21st-century skills.

DR. BEN DRATI, SUPERINTENDENT, SMMUSD

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A third of US should be considering masks, officials say

ZEKE MILLER AND MIKE STOBBE
Associated Press

COVID-19 cases are increasing in the United States — and could get even worse over the coming months, federal health officials warned Wednesday in urging areas hardest hit to consider reissuing calls for indoor masking.

Increasing numbers of COVID-19 infections and hospitalizations are putting more of the country under guidelines issued by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that call for masking and other infection precautions.

Right now, about a third of the U.S. population lives in areas that are considered at higher risk — mostly in the Northeast and Midwest. Those are areas where people should already be considering wearing masks indoors — but Americans elsewhere should also take notice, officials said.

"Prior increases of infections, in different waves of infection, have demonstrated that this travels across the country," said Dr. Rochelle Walensky, the CDC director, said at a White House briefing with reporters.

> "Prior increases of infections, in different waves of infection, have demonstrated that this travels across the country - Dr. Rochelle Walensky"

For an increasing number of areas, "we urge local leaders to encourage use of prevention strategies like masks in public indoor settings and increasing access to testing and treatment," she said.

However, officials were cautious about making concrete predictions, saying how much worse the pandemic gets will depend on several factors, including to what degree previous infections will protect against new variants.

Last week, White House COVID-19 coordinator Dr. Ashish Jha warned in an interview with The Associated Press the U.S. will be increasingly vulnerable to the coronavirus this fall and winter if Congress doesn't swiftly approve new funding for more vaccines and treatments.

Jha warned that without additional funding from Congress for the virus would cause "unnecessary loss of life" in the fall and winter, when the U.S. runs out of treatments.

He added the U.S. was already falling behind other nations in securing supplies of the next generation of COVID-19 vaccines and said that the domestic manufacturing base of at-home tests is already drying up as demand drops off.

Jha said domestic test manufactures have started shuttering lines and laying off workers, and in the coming weeks will begin to sell off equipment and prepare to exit the business of producing tests entirely unless the U.S. government has money to purchase more tests, like the hundreds of millions it has sent out for free to requesting households this year.

That would leave the U.S. reliant on other countries for testing supplies, risking shortages during a surge, Jha warned. About 8.5 million households placed orders for the latest tranche of 8 free tests since ordering opened on Monday, Jha added.

The pandemic is now 2 1/2 years old. And the U.S. has seen — depending how you count them — five waves of COVID-19 during that time, with the later surges driven by mutated versions of the coronavirus. A fifth wave occurred mainly in December and January, caused by the omicron variant.

The omicron variant spread much more easily than earlier versions.

Some experts are worried the country now is seeing signs of a sixth wave, driven by an omicron subvariant. On Wednesday, Walensky noted a steady increase in COVID-19 cases in the past five weeks, including a 26% increase nationally in the last week.

Hospitalizations also are rising, up 19% in the past week, though they remain much lower than during the omicron wave, she said.

In late February, as that wave was ebbing, the CDC released a new set of measures for communities where COVID-19 was easing its grip, with less of a focus on positive test results and more on what's happening at hospitals.

Walensky said more than 32% of the country currently live in an area with medium or high COVID-19 community levels, including more than 9% in the highest level, where CDC recommends that masks and other mitigation efforts be used.

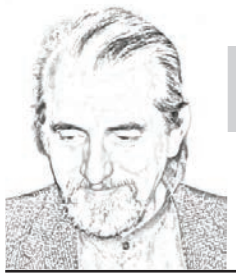
In the last week, an additional 8% of Americans were living in a county in medium or high COVID-19 community levels.

Officials said they are concerned that waning immunity and relaxed mitigation measures across the country may contribute to a continued rise in infections and illnesses across the country. They encouraged people — particularly older adults — to get boosters.

Some health experts say the government should be taking clearer and bolder steps.

The CDC community level guidelines are confusing to the public, and don't give a clear

SEE MASK PAGE 7



OPINION | NOTEWORTHY

Charles Andrews | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

BAD ROCKER, SEVERAL ODES TO JOY



Courtesy photo

TOUR: ZZ Top is on tour despite the death of a founding member.

I'M APPALLED

Somehow I missed the news that ZZ Top is continuing to tour without their bassist of 50 years, Dusty Hill, who died suddenly last summer. "The Band" announced – the day after announcing his death – that the best way to honor his memory was to continue to tour. Right. It is the best way to honor their bank accounts.

I suppose reasonable people can disagree on this issue. But really, how much more money do you need after a very successful career of more than half a century? Guitarist Billy Gibbons, still a force of nature, could tour under his own name and likely draw the same big crowds. But don't call this band ZZ Top.

For all their faults as ethical humans, Led Zeppelin declared Zep finished when their drummer John Bonham, maybe the best ever, died, and they stuck to it. Founding Rolling Stones bassist Bill Wyman quit rolling after 30 years and seems to be happy, at 85 enjoying his country estate, gathering moss.

I have always been a big fan of Billy Gibbons, for so many reasons, but now I see him as no better than greedy, ice-hearted, pathetically insecure egomaniac Pete Townshend of The Who, also touring right now, as The Who, should be billed as Half The Who, having not missed a beat after the loss of their two brilliant, irreplaceable co-founders, John Entwhistle and Keith Moon.

Writer Hunter S. Thompson had the best quote ever about the business side of music: "The music business is a cruel and shallow money trench, a long plastic hallway where thieves and pimps run free, and good men die like dogs. There's also a negative side."

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! LA PHIL, DUDAMEL, "BEETHOVEN'S NINTH" – There is only one excuse for missing a cosmic event like this, and that is if every ticket is sold and you can't get a returned ticket and you can't beg one from someone going in and you just don't have the cajones or the proper equipment to mug someone in the parking structure for their ticket. Actually, you would have to finish them off, wouldn't you, because a survivor could send the gendarmes straight to your seat, and how embarrassing would that be? Some might call this work the supreme achievement of all compositions, many would agree it was the master Beethoven's greatest masterpiece, exploding with creativity and humanity, building to a joyous climax in the final movement that can only be expressed by 1000 voices on stage, or is it 100? (LA Master Chorale). This one could take you to heaven. Thurs 8 p.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, $120-180.

LA OPERA, VERDI'S "AIDA" – Been

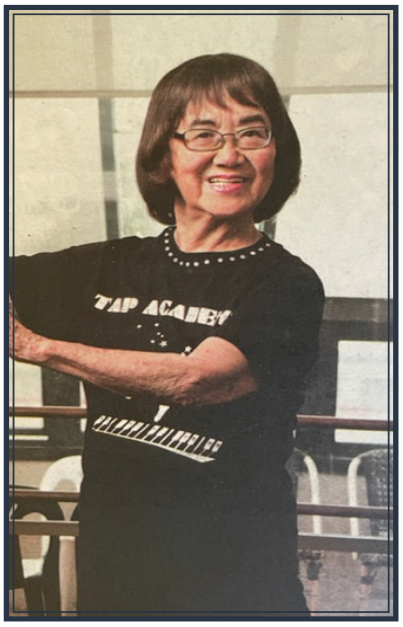
SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 7

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If you don't like what we have to say we will give you a copy of your x-rays at no charge
DENTAL CARE WITHOUT JUDGEMENT!
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Bertha W. Chan

February 8th, 1924-May 4th, 2022



Bertha (Bert) Chan died peacefully at home at 10:49pm on Wednesday May 4, 2022. She was 98 years old. A fifth generation Californian, Bert was an entrepreneur from the start.

She always had a project going. Bert was an expert seamstress (Dance Originals) creating recital costumes in the 1950's for $6 each.

She was one of the first female plumbers in California in the mid-60's, when women weren't eligible for plumbing licenses: "I hated the work, I just did it because they said I couldn't."

Bert was born in Marysville, California and married George B. Chan at 18 years old. They moved to LA/Santa Monica where Bert lived for 80 years. Bert's great passion was tap dancing.

She started dancing over 9 decades ago and taught seniors at the Tap Academy. She loved performing and held annual recitals in the garage of her office building on Lincoln Blvd. For many years.

Bert was predeceased by her husband George B. Chan and her son Christopher Chan. She is survived by her daughter Cynthia Hull, her three grandsons Brenton Chan and fiancé Margot Major, Riley Chan, Colin Chan and her great-grandson Reece Chan.

Bert loved the Westside (*she only drove on the freeway once in her life*) but also loved her condo on Maui. Napili Bay Will be her final resting place. No other funeral arrangements.

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Lifelong Learning

For adults age 50+ interested in staying active and healthy. Virtual and in-person courses and travel opportunities. Make new friends and learn something new!

A weekday lunch program for Santa Monica residents age 60+. Nutritious, healthy hot meal at three locations.

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In conjunction with City of Santa Monica's Big Blue Bus Division, MODE (Mobility On-Demand Every Day) offers transportation options to Santa Monica residents age 65+ and disabled persons age18+.

Call (310) 394-9871 or visit www.wiseandhealthyaging.org

WISE & Healthy Aging is a nonprofit social services organization serving seniors and caregivers.

WISE & Healthy Aging • 1527 4th Street, 2nd Floor • Santa Monica

OLYMPIC

FROM PAGE 1

chose to abandon their responsibility to our more vulnerable students while investing in those that are born with greater advantages," Fuller wrote.

Olympic is a continuation high school of about 37 students, according to California Department of Education (CDE) data. The student population has plummeted since Fuller came into the role of principal in 2015, when total school enrollment was 91, according to CDE numbers.

Beginning in 2019, the school campus also became home to the Samohi project based learning pathway, or PBL, designed for an enrollment of up to 100 students per grade level in grades nine-12.

The letter did not appear to come as a surprise to SMMUSD administrators; by the time it was published, Superintendent Ben Drati had already penned a letter to the Olympic school community the previous Friday, May 13, announcing Fuller's departure.

In his letter to the Olympic community, Drati did not address any of Fuller's complaints, writing simply: "I would like to inform you that Principal Anthony Fuller will be leaving his position as Principal of Olympic High School, Independent Study Programs, OCLC, and Adult School Programs at the end of June. I'm sure you agree when I say that Mr. Fuller has served the district with his heart and knowledge, and we thank him for his care of students and all the work he has done to inspire students to success."

Drati declined to speak to the Daily Press for this story, but in a later letter to the editor, the Superintendent implied many of Fuller's complaints were either false or a result of his own unwillingness to rise to the occasion.

Many of Fuller's complaints over Olympic compare the experience of his students to that of the PBL students with whom they share their facility.

"I now run the only secondary school in the Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District that has no Counselor on campus and no District funded Electives taught by a credentialed human being," Fuller wrote. "If you know anything about my district, you would well be aware of the strengths of our visual and performing arts programs (VAPA). Unfortunately, the Board and Leadership have decided that Olympic students are not worth the expenditure.

"Worse, our students are forced to share a campus with a program the District obviously does support," Fuller continued. "While our now unused music rooms sit idle and student art from years past sadly adorn my office walls, the new program has a room with all kinds of high end expensive technology that is there solely to support their academic classes! And that is just an extra! Because midway through their school day, PPBL [sic] students walk over to SAMO High and enjoy the most amazing electives our District has to offer! And it's not just the Visual and Performing Arts that our District denies to Olympic students: Career Technical Education classes are also for others. You won't find any Olympic students in SAMO's state-of-the-art Auto shop."

Drati's letter to the editor stated that Olympic students "do currently receive a full array of mental health services and counseling that has been supported by Mr. Fuller." In addition, he said other complaints were due to shortcomings with the way Fuller ran the school.

"While we had high hopes for Mr. Fuller to embrace and engage in the development of 21st-century learning models, there were some missed opportunities in doing so," Drati wrote. "With enrollment hovering around 40 students the last few years, creativity and innovation are required to provide students with a full range of programs and classes in an integrative manner. Unfortunately, the vision was lacking to make this work..." The Superintendent then listed six bullet points that he said were missed opportunities for Olympic students, including declining an offer to have Olympic students share the PBL "iStudio" space and "Districtwide learning and innovation workshops for teachers advertised in principals' updates."

Franklin Elementary Principal Cynthia McGregory will take over leadership of the small continuation high school beginning in the fall.

The full text of Drati's letter can be found on page 4.

Fuller's successor, current Franklin Elementary Principal Cynthia McGregory, has already been tapped.

"My recommendation will go before the school board for consideration soon," Drati wrote in his May 13 email to the Olympic community. "Ms. McGregory is no stranger to Olympic as she served the students of Olympic and OCLC for 10 years before she was asked to serve as an assistant principal and now principal of Franklin Elementary School. Her leadership at Franklin was stellar and she is well respected and loved by the staff and community of Franklin."

Fuller also had kind words for McGregory, though he did not refer to her by name.

"The new Principal for Olympic High School is one of the most talented and authentic leaders in our District, and the staff here, though diminished, is strong," Fuller wrote of McGregory. "I wept with gratitude when I learned of her selection. Our children will be in good hands, but you as a community must support Olympic High school students! Do not allow this inequitable disparity to continue!"

emily@smdp.com

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

meeting as there were several items added to the agenda without his prior approval.

During the March 17 meeting, Michelle Gray was sworn in as Commissioner and then immediately appointed to preside over the meeting in a five to one vote, with Hilton being the only dissenting vote. On March 18, Hilton sent a letter to Kemper and City Manager David White, clarifying that he did not intend to permanently resign.

"You have to have good cause to remove someone. There has to be some kind of violation, it can't just be a confusion or a miscommunication, especially if there is a disability factor," said Hilton.

The confusion over who is the acting Chair then impeded the further functioning of the Commission as the Chair is responsible for setting the agenda and running meetings. An April 21 meeting was canceled due to the dispute and no meeting has taken place since. The City Manager scheduled a call between Commissioner Marasco, Commissioner Hilton, Council Member Brock and himself to try and settle the dispute. Commissioner Marasco did not participate in the call.

As the dispute dragged on and inhibited the Commission from carrying out its work, Mayor Sue Himmelrich, Councilmember Phil Brock and Councilmember Gleam Davis suggested suspending the Commission's meetings until Council considers new appointments at the end of June. The Councilmembers' plan was to have the Commission resume meeting and hold elections for Chair and Vice Chair after these appointments.

"This is not an attempt to disband the Housing Commission; this not an attempt to take it over in any way, shape, or form, but what we do have is a problem where there seems to be a fairly serious dispute about the leadership of the commission that has interfered with the Commission's ability to do its job," said Davis. "There's a person who believes he was elected chair. There are also people on the commission who believe he resigned from that chairperson position."

Two Housing Commissioners spoke during the public comment section of the Council meeting and expressed frustration at the proposal to temporarily pause their meetings.

"At our last meeting, we voted seven to nothing to urge the Council to permit us to resume our normal operations. Affordable housing is one of the key issues in the city right now. We're faced with the idea of coming up with 6,158 additional new housing units," said Vice Chair Theresa Marasco, later adding, "we strongly urge that you authorize us to resume our normal operations."

Housing Commissioner Michelle Gray said she felt that City Council was overstepping its boundaries by attempting to freeze the Commission.

Commission to meet and discuss leadership on May 19

"This is not about conflict among commissioners. It is not about budget cuts or staffing shortages or the drama created by an unprofessional and inconsistent former chair. This is about control," said Gray. "Suspending these meetings will prevent HCD and HUD speakers from addressing city fair housing violations, the Commission from advising the Council on the budget in May, and residents from influencing the use of vast forthcoming federal funds."

After hearing the strong push back during public comment, Councilmembers Brock and Davis agreed to let the commission continue meeting and work the conflict out themselves. However, Davis expressed doubt over whether this course of action will actually lead to the effective functioning of the Commission.

"I do think what we need to effectively tell the Commission is that they can no longer rely on staff to sort of negotiate these treacherous waters, that if they take a vote and they duly elect a chair and a vice chair and everyone on the commission agrees with that, that staff cannot act as the go between or the mediator; there cannot be complaints from anyone about that," said Davis. "And my concern is I don't think anyone can guarantee that, because that's how we ended up in this position initially."

Hilton also expressed concern over whether the Commission would be able to settle affairs in the upcoming meeting.

"If there's going to be disruptions and there is a lack of training and civility we probably should wait; since we've had a January, February and March meeting, we can wait until July," said Hilton.

Clara@smdp.com

NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 5

waiting for this since the beginning of the season last October, when Verdi's "Il Trovatore " mesmerized me and left me wanting more of the master. Full orchestra and chorus, a bit of ballet thrown in, all taking place in ancient Egypt. Eat your heart out, Paramount Plus. With even a seat in the rafters, you get a helluva lot of spectacle, stunning sets and music and transcendent human voices by world class stars, for 34 bucks. Sat 7:30 p.m., The Music Center, LA, $34-399.

EM the MASTER – She's still amazing, she's still here. Nothing good lasts forever, you know. Every Tues 9:30 p.m., Harvelle's, Santa Monica, $10.

RECOMMENDED:

TOLEDO DIAMOND — Every time the thought pops up, what shall I do with my weekend, you should remember you can blow the top off it by ending it in front of Toledo Diamond and his superb and unquestionably unique show at Harvelle's. Every Sun 9:30 p.m., Harvelle's, Santa Monica, $12.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: LA PHIL, DUDAMEL, "BEETHOVEN'S NINTH," Disney Hall, 5/27, 28, 29; DAVID BINNEY QUARTETS feat.. GERALD CLAYTON, Sam First, 5/27. 28; LA OPERA performs VERDI'S "AIDA," Music Center, 5/29, 6/2, 4 (also live simulcast at SM Pier), 9, 12; LAURENCE JUBER, McCabe's, 5/28; "GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER," Ruskin Group Theatre, 6/3-7/17; , SONNY GREEN, LA JUKE JOINT BLUES FESTIVAL, Maui Sugar Mill Saloon, 6/4; DR. ANGELA DAVIS, Disney Hall, 6/5; "THE POINT," Theatricum Botanicum, 6/5; EMMYLOU HARRIS, Disney Hall, 6/11; "THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR," 6/11-10/2, "A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM," Theatricum Botanicum, 6/12-10/1; JON MAYER TRIO, Sam First, 6/15; 33rd Annual MARIACHI USA FESTIVAL, Hollywood Bowl, 6/18; MARY GAUTHIER, McCabe's, 6/18; TOM PAXTON, McCabe's, 6/24.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 3,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 36 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

MASK

FROM PAGE 4

picture of how much virus transmission is occurring in a community, said Dr. Lakshmi Ganapathi, an infectious diseases specialist at Harvard University.

When the government officials make recommendations but do not set rules, "it ultimately rests on every single individual picking and choosing the public health that works for them. But that's not what is effective. If you're talking about stemming hospitalizations and even deaths, all of these interventions work better when people do it collectively," she said.

Stobbe reported from New York.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Citywide

Statement About COVID-19 Exposure at City Council Meeting

The City of Santa Monica has determined that an individual who subsequently tested positive for COVID-19 was in attendance at the Santa Monica City Council meeting on Wednesday, May 11 in the Council Chambers at Santa Monica City Hall.

Based on the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health's Health Officer Order, a "close contact" is now defined as anyone who shared the same indoor airspace with someone with COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period while they were infectious.

In light of this County guidance, anyone who was in attendance at Wednesday night's Council meeting for more than 15 minutes may have been exposed to COVID-19. The Health Officer Order also states that you are not required to quarantine away from others if you have no symptoms. Please refer to LA County guidance, however, which requires you to wear a high-quality mask when indoors and when around others for a total of 10 days after your last exposure, that you get tested 3-5 days after your last exposure, and that you monitor yourself for symptoms through Day 10. Should you develop symptoms, please refer to the County's isolation requirements outlined here: ph.lacounty.gov/covidisolation.

SUBMITTED BY MIRANDA IGLESIAS



BABY

FROM PAGE 2

lax safety and sanitary standards and a history of bacterial contamination in several parts of the plant. Under Monday's agreement, Abbott must regularly consult with an outside safety expert to restart and maintain production.

Chicago-based Abbott has emphasized that its products have not been directly linked to the bacterial infections in children. Samples of the bacteria found at its plant did not match the strains collected from two babies by federal investigators.

But FDA officials pushed back on that reasoning Monday on a call with reporters — their first time publicly addressing the company's argument. FDA staffers noted they were unable to collect bacterial strains from two of the four patients, limiting their chances of finding a match.

"Right from the get-go we were limited in our ability to determine with a causal link whether the product was linked to these four cases because we only had sequences on two," FDA's food director Susan Mayne said.

Fixing the violations uncovered at Abbott's plant will take time, according to former FDA officials. Companies need to exhaustively clean the facility and equipment, retrain staff, repeatedly test and document there is no contamination.

As part of the FDA's new import policy, regulators said companies would need to provide documentation of their factory's inspections.

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION
VIA TELECONFERENCE
Pursuant to AB361

SUBJECT: 22ENT-0071 (Appeal)
1707 4th Street
APPLICANT/APPELLANT: Santa Monica Hotel Owner, LLC
PROPERTY OWNER: Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District

A Notice of a Public Hearing was sent out for this project. There was an error on the notice regarding the day of the meeting. ***Please note the correct day is Wednesday.***

A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission to consider the following request:

Appeal of the Architectural Review Board denial of a sign adjustment request (21ARB-0289) to allow a prohibited sign type (upper-level sign) approximately 80' above the ground level at an existing hotel.

DATE/TIME: **WEDNESDAY, ~~THURSDAY~~, JUNE 1, 2022, AT 5:30 PM**

LOCATION: In an effort to reduce the risk of spreading Coronavirus (COVID-19), members of the Planning Commission and City Staff will participate via teleconference. The meeting will be broadcast on CityTV Channel 16 and streamed on the City's website as normal but participants may also join the teleconference via https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/hrggcvpq or by dialing in at 1-415-466-7000 (PIN: 5788364)

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Those wishing to give written public comment shall email comments to planningcomment@smgov.net. Comments received prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Planning Commission prior to the meeting and posted online. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

Additionally, public comment can be made by telephone by calling (408) 740-7256, (Meeting ID: 234044077 and Passcode: 3343 followed by #) when the caller queue opens for the item on which you wish to comment. Remarks from the public made by telephone will be limited to up to 3 minutes per item. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment.

Address your comments to: James Combs, Associate Planner
Re: 22ENT-0071

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact James Combs at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at james.combs@santamonica.gov. The Zoning Ordinance is available on the City's website at www.smgov.net. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will be made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-2275.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

FOR QUOTES PLEASE CALL 310-573-8074

or email **cindy@smdp.com**

CLASSIFICATIONS					
Announcements	Pets	Rent	Storage Space	Business Opportunities	Lost and Found
Creative	Boats	Houses for Rent	Vehicles for Sale	Yard Sales	Personals
Employment	Jewelry	Roommates	Massage	Health and Beauty	Psychic
For Sale	WantedvvTravel	Commercial Lease	Services	Fitness	Obituaries
Furniture	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Wealth and Success	Tutoring
	Apartments/Condos	Real Estate Loans	Attorney Services		

Help Wanted

Engineering Program Manager sought by SnapInc. in Venice, CA (Hybridwork permitted - may workremotely when not reportinginto Snap Venice, CA office.)Review eng. dsgns, tech.validation doc, reliabilitydata rel. to Electrical/Mech.Eng. B.S. or for. eq. + 5 yrsexp. OR M.S. or for. eq. +3 yrs exp. req. Resumes:apply2snap@snap.com. Ref.Job Code #EPM-0322-BL.EOE.

Manager, Software Engineering sought by Snap Inc. in Santa Monica, CA (Hybrid work permitted - may work remotely when not reporting into Snap Santa Monica, CA office.) Lead and mentor a team of S/ware Engrs. End to end project dvlpmt. B.S. or for. eq. + 5 yrs exp. OR M.S. or for. eq. + 3 yrs exp. req. Resumes: apply2snap@snap.com. Ref. Job Code #MSWE-0322-TK. EOE.

Medical Technologist at Providence St. John's Health Center, FT, Santa Monica, CA. Multiple Openings. Analyze lab specimens; perform specimen analyses related to Hematology, Blood Bank, Chem, Immunochem, &/or Microbio. REQS: BS in Chem, Med Tech, Microbio, Physics, Bio or related life sci field; 5 yrs post-deg exp as Med Technologist, Clinical Lab Scientist, or related. To apply & for full job duties & reqs see https://www.providenceiscalling.jobs/

Help Wanted

Research Scientist Sr. FT at Providence St. John's Cancer Institute, Santa Monica, CA. Research mechanisms of drug resistance, construction & validation of molecular biomarker panels, identification of potential novel targeted therapy to aid in clinical decision-making for breast cancer patients. REQS: PhD or MD in molecular bio or medicine; 3 yrs of postdoc research or clinical care in breast cancer w/ publication record; 3 yrs exp in molecular biomarkers; 3 yrs exp in epigenetics of gene regulation; 3 yrs exp in cancer drug resistance mechanisms; & exp in human translational research relating to breast cancer. Apply at https://www.providenceiscalling.jobs/

Help Wanted

Research Scientist Sr. FT at Providence St. John's Cancer Institute, Santa Monica, CA. Research molecular tumor biology related to mechanisms of drug resistance, molecular biomarkers, targeted therapy, &/or new approaches to epigenetic mechanisms in tumor progression. REQS: PhD in Bio, Medicine; 3 yrs exp as postdoc fellow in molecular bio, w/publication record. Exp in cancer molecular biomarkers, epigenetics of gene regulation, & cancer drug resistance mechanisms. Exp must include human translational research pertaining to cancer. Apply at https://www.providenceiscalling.jobs/

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE

HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
LOCATION 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401

Santa Monica Daily Press office **(310) 458-7737**

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (May 19)

Love brings out the best in you this year, amping up your creativity and talent. Furthermore, when you have to be strong for someone else, you'll realize (and enjoy) your own strength! Intelligent choices lead to unlikely scenarios and strange wins; at points it will be downright cinematic, and you'll tell the story for years. Aquarius and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 11, 3, 38, 20 and 16.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Working harder than is necessary is the very definition of inefficiency. In a good system, momentum will carry some of the load. Reduce friction. Get all the elements aligned in the same direction.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your bright mind only gets brighter as you learn something from each and every interaction. Exactly what you're learning isn't always clear in the moment and will, in some cases, become more obvious in retrospect.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Ambitious people are less afraid of the word "no" and if it's coming, they want to get it out of the way as fast as possible. A wishy-washy "yes" is essentially worthless and wastes everyone's time.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Sins fall in and out of style, get recategorized, and can seem absurd when viewed in the light of a different place and time. What was once considered wicked is now merely uncommon.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). If your schedule is filled but your time feels oddly unfulfilling perhaps your activities are rich in quantity and poor in soul nutrients. It is also possible that better company can make the minutes sparkle.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It's important to you that someone understands where you're coming from. Knowing that each communication is unique to the particularities of the moment, you adjust to ensure you will be heard.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's tempting to volunteer for the hard tasks and there's a reason this appeals to you. You have an inkling about what you can do, and when you actually do it, you will be amazed.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When you talk about the change you want, frame it in kind and constructive terms. This is especially true when you're talking to yourself. It's not helpful to make things more intense or challenging than they need to be.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Where there's a lack of structure, there is opportunity. Your skills are needed in an unruly environment. You may eventually be beloved for the order you bring, though not at first. Give it time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your creative whims may seem frivolous, and this is only because they are. Don't discount the importance of frivolity. Often what buoys the spirit and provides motivation is wholly unnecessary.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Someone wants you to do things differently. You will respect their need to offer an opinion whilst respecting your own need to make choices independently.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). With grocery story lines, Band-Aid rips and intergalactic travel, faster is better. For many other things, speed is a thief of experience. If you're doing fast what should be accomplished slowly, you'll miss the prize.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

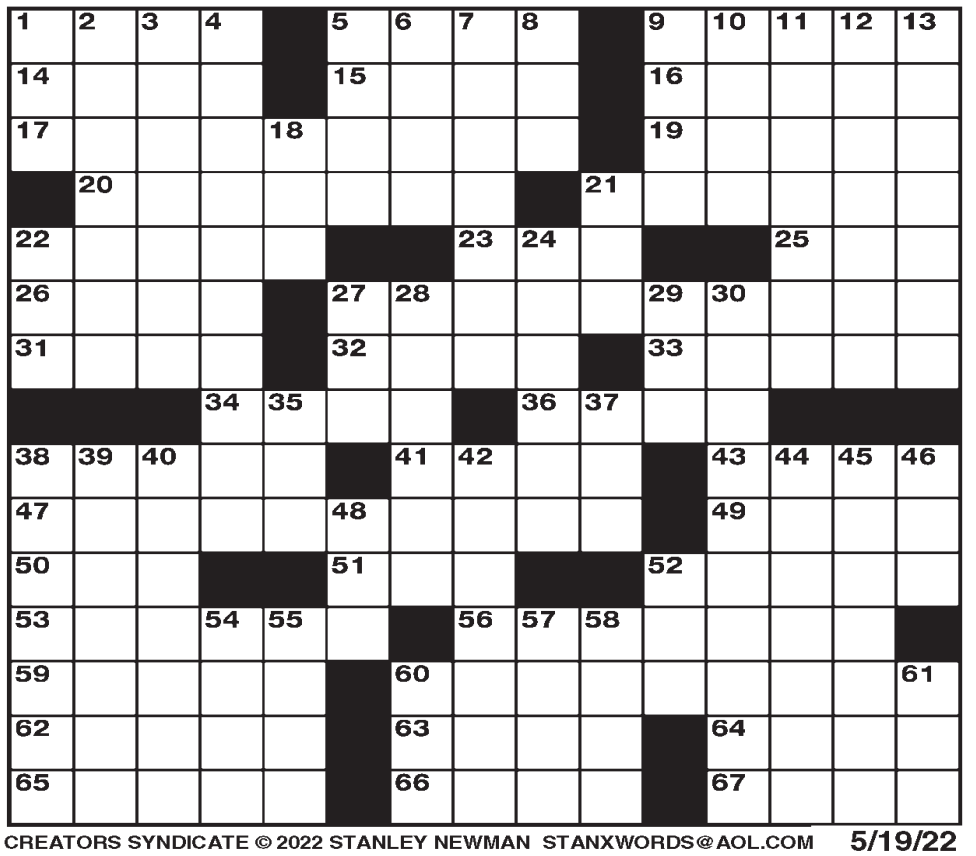
	5	1	6				8	
7					8	5		1
9	8			5			3	
1					6			8
		8	9	4	3	6		
4			1					5
	4			6			9	7
8		5	7					4
	9				4	8	5	

Newsday Crossword

MINOR ALTERATIONS by S.N.
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Takes the plunge
5 Lavish party
9 Show skepticism
14 Surroundings
15 Penne __ vodka
16 __ Castle (Havana landmark)
17 Center for cinema
19 Conclude with
20 Certain 17 Across hopeful
21 Conquer
22 Some designer dresses
23 CBS dramatic franchise
25 Bart and Lisa's grandpa
26 Pixar fish
27 *Rear Window* actress who became a princess
31 Haughty one
32 Sound of contentment
33 Superman story regular
34 ET transporters
36 Big Apple theater award
38 Arrival's announcement
41 Towering
43 Expresses agreement
47 Purple spread
49 Solo for a tenor
50 French diarist
51 Prosecutorial aide: Abbr.
52 Tuberous appetizers
53 Going (for)
56 Small hardy horse
59 Leaf of a lawn
60 "Cool!" in Coventry
62 Mikasa competitor
63 Mystery novelist Buchanan
64 Excelled on
65 Ennoble
66 Work crew
67 Wine's bouquet

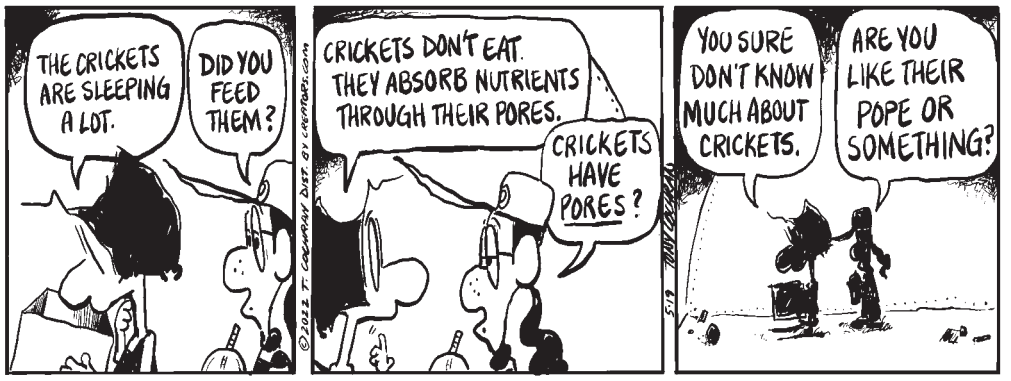
DOWN
1 Sound of a 5 Down
2 Beach resort's concern
3 Director Guillermo
4 Something extra each week
5 Loud cry
6 Yucca cousin
7 Toy on a track
8 Dined on
9 *Peter Pan* pirate
10 Office phone button
11 Trying times
12 Easily crumbled
13 Ballerina with a damehood
18 Hundreds of wks.
21 Board game piece
22 Canine care deg.
24 Parchment manuscript
27 Mailing ctr.
28 Underwent corrosion
29 Pond carp
30 John Paul Stevens' successor
35 Cost for service
37 Fogg emulator
38 Of low character
39 Three-screen theater
40 Carlos of guitar fame
42 Apple pie order
44 Long South American river
45 Outback canines
46 Airline to Oslo
48 Brit's sporty auto
52 Sloppy place
54 Pop hero
55 Coming right up
57 Bird's wing bone
58 Poem-reading competition
60 Jacuzzi spray
61 '50s POTUS



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2022 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 5/19/22

Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



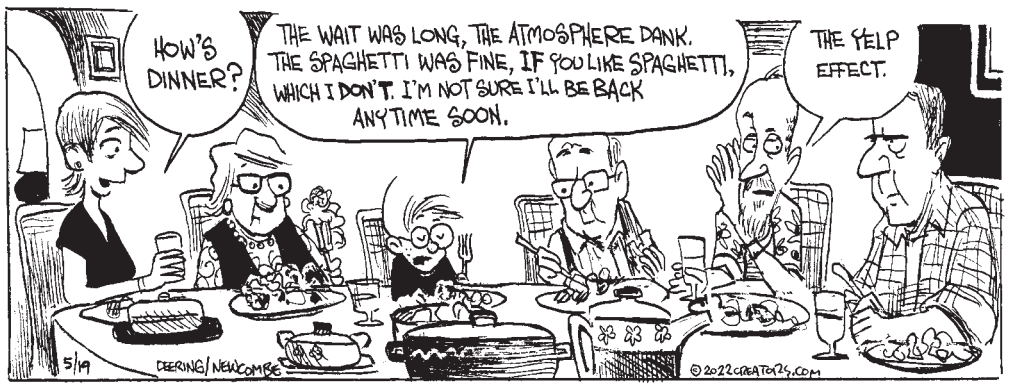
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



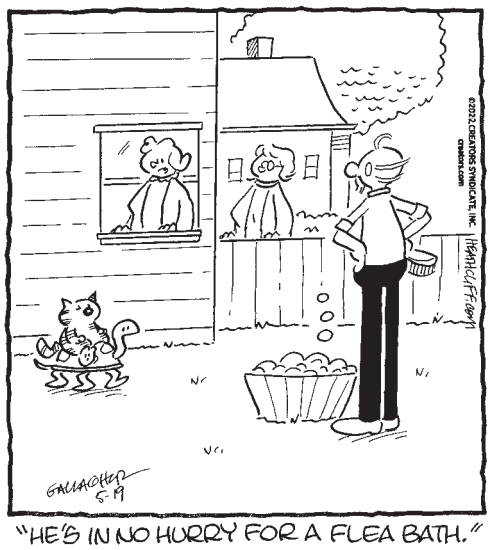
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE'S IN NO HURRY FOR A FLEA BATH."

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

© australianwordgames.com.au 5484

Hey sport!

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

Aced
Arena
Avid
Ball
Break
Canoe
Clubs
Crew
Cricket
Daily
Dive
Fast
Field
Fish
Gear
Glide
Golf
Grit
Group
Heats
Hits
Improve
Indoor
Kart
Legs
Loser
Olympics
Orienteering
Oval
Pairs
Park
Pass
Peel
Pool
Push
Road
Shoes
Skip
Snowboard
Spikes
Stretch
Team
Tennis
Tice
Toss
Trainers
Triathlon
Union
Vault
Walk
Weights

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Wonders and horrors

WISE & Healthy Aging
(310) 394-9871

Adult Day Service Center
Your trusted source for adult day care for your loved one. Let us give you the break you need.

Somos Amigos
"Somos Amigos" (we are friends) is our Spanish Language Program offering mental stimulation, exercise-strength training and recreation.

Let Us Help You Address Early Memory Loss
A Program of WISE & Healthy Aging
WISE Minds

A Veterans Benefit!

What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

THURSDAY | MAY 19

LOCALS NIGHT AT SANTA MONICA PIER

Gather your friends and family and head down to the Pier for amazing entertainment including live music from the Santa Monica Music Center, DJ grooves from KCRW and Pico Youth and Family Center, Pier business local discounts, local artist installations, and so much more! You really won't want to miss out on this incredible and unique outdoor setting. 3 - 10 p.m.

SUPERVISOR 3 CANDIDATE VIRTUAL FORUM

The Acorn, Circling the News, Santa Monica Daily Press and Westside Current are inviting you to attend our 2022 candidates for Supervisor 3 virtual forum on Thursday, May 19 at 7 p.m. Register at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/supervisor-3-candidate-virtual-forum-tickets-337496189187.

YOGA

$20/class. All levels welcome. Calm your nervous system and soothe your mind as you experience the benefits of classical yoga with postures for flexibility, strength, and balance. Classes may be held in different locations at the Beach House, check-in at Guest Services prior to class. Drop in or pre-register online through Reserve Santa Monica. Parking included. Yoga mats and equipment are not provided. Please bring a mat and any props you like to use. 10:30-11:30 a.m. $20. Annenberg Community Beach House. Register online at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation.

FRIDAY | MAY 20

UNFILTERED: CYBERYOUTH MANIFESTO

Hosted by The Revolution School and Feminist Center for Creative Work. Login to co-craft tools that liberate our relationships with digital landscapes, algorithms and surveillance, meet an influencer and co-write a manifesto of your dream social media platform! This virtual workshop is for youth ages 14-18 years old to share, explore, co-process, alchemize, and transform past and ongoing experiences with digital social media landscapes and the social and algorithmic powers that define, censor, and/or limit representation. 2 - 4 p.m. Register online at https://18thstreet.org/event/unfiltered-cyberyouth-manifesto/.

SATURDAY | MAY 21

NOTABLE BOOKS DISCUSSION GROUP

A community-led book club, focusing on books which have won major prizes or are otherwise notable. This month's selection is Zorrie by Laird Hunt. Contact jeff.schwartz@santamonica.gov for the Zoom link. 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

ARTISTS AND HEALERS AS ESSENTIAL TO RECOVERY FROM CRISIS

What is the role of artists, healers, and artists as healers during a crisis such as COVID-19? A People's WPA is a cultural organizing and storytelling project by the US Department of Arts and Culture that seeks to uplift essential forms of labor in an effort to build an inspiring vision of our shared future. 3 - 4 p.m. Register online at https://18thstreet.org/event/a-peoples-wpa-healing/.

NAMI MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS EVENT

The National Alliance on Mental Illness Westside LA (NAMI) is hosting a series of events to celebrate Mental Health Awareness month in Santa Monica. Join NAMI as they host musical performances by local students, a workshop to uplift youth voices, a celebration of service awards, and resource booths with giveaways on Third Street Promenade between 12 - 3 p.m. Visit https://mham.namila.org/full-schedule/ for more information.

LOOK UP! - MONTANA AVE. ILLUMINATED OPENING NIGHT

Join organizers at LOOK UP! Discover the illuminated tree art on Montana Ave. by attending our opening night party with fun for the whole family. Dessert specials, glow sticks and more! Visit https://www.santamonica.gov/press/2022/04/05/montana-avenue-illuminated-by-art-and-light-installation for more information.

SPRING OPEN HOUSE & STUDIOS

18th Street Arts Center (Airport Campus)
3026 Airport Ave, Santa Monica CA 90405
Join artists in residence at our Airport Campus for an in-person Open House. Get a peek inside the studios of mixed media artist Rebecca Youssef, painter Crystal Michaelson, jewelry designer Paula Rosen, painter Claudia Concha, painter Alexandra Dillon, and many more. Plus, there will be a reception for the exhibition Collective Acts of Peace, on view in the Slipstream Galleries. Parking is limited, rideshare is encouraged. This is an in-person event and masks are required inside the galleries. https://18thstreet.org/event/spring-open-studios-2022

FLOATING FITNESS WORKOUT

$20/class, 8 - 9 a.m.. Floating Fitness Workouts with BOGAFiT builds strength, deepens flexibility, and improves balance and coordination. Wear a bathing suit or workout clothes. Be ready to get wet — you may fall into the pool. Annenberg Community Beach House. Register online at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation

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



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **60.4**

THURSDAY *FAIR*	**SURF:** 2-3ft Thigh to waist	Most spots should be clean in the morning and rideable/fun SSW swell continues. Still some NW swell mix too, but easing.
FRIDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:** 2-3ft Thigh to waist	Most spots should be fairly clean in the early morning and rideable/fun SSW swell continues. Potential NW swell mix rebounds. Stay tuned.

WEATHER

Thursday: Patchy fog. Otherwise, cloudy, with a high near 69.
Thursday Night: Patchy fog before 11pm. Otherwise, cloudy, with a low around 58.
Friday: Patchy fog after 11am. Otherwise, cloudy, with a high near 67.
Friday Night: Patchy fog. Otherwise, cloudy, with a low around 58.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2022/05/19	Thu	07:03 AM	-1.30	L
2022/05/19	Thu	1:59 PM	3.38	H
2022/05/19	Thu	5:52 PM	2.56	L
2022/05/20	Fri	12:19 AM	5.84	H
2022/05/20	Fri	08:06 AM	-0.98	L
2022/05/20	Fri	3:21 PM	3.46	H
2022/05/20	Fri	7:07 PM	2.82	L
2022/05/21	Sat	01:25 AM	5.27	H
2022/05/21	Sat	09:15 AM	-0.65	L
2022/05/21	Sat	4:35 PM	3.74	H
2022/05/21	Sat	8:58 PM	2.88	L
2022/05/22	Sun	02:47 AM	4.71	H
2022/05/22	Sun	10:23 AM	-0.35	L
2022/05/22	Sun	5:31 PM	4.13	H
2022/05/22	Sun	10:54 PM	2.49	L
2022/05/23	Mon	04:18 AM	4.29	H
2022/05/23	Mon	11:21 AM	-0.07	L
2022/05/23	Mon	6:14 PM	4.55	H

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: 5/16
7 15 22 36 64
Power#: 13
Jackpot: 101 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 5/17
7 21 24 41 65
Mega#: 24
Jackpot: 131 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 5/14
6 25 30 34 36
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 11 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 5/17
5 22 24 32 35

Daily 3
Draw Date: 5/17
EVENING: 5 6 0
Draw Date: 5/17
MIDDAY: 7 0 3

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 5/17
1st: 12 - Lucky Charms
2nd: 05 - California Classic
3rd: 04 - Big Ben
Race Time: 1:41.87

ADVERTISE WITH US TODAY!
Santa Monica Daily Press

VIRTUAL FORUM

THURSDAY, MAY 19 | 7:00 P.M.

REGISTER

LA COUNTY SUPERVISOR DISTRICT 3 CANDIDATE FORUM

Will be broadcasting in live stream

PRESENTED BY:

WESTSIDE CURRENT In the know. In the now.

smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

CIRCLING THE News

THE Acorn



2nd Annual

Rick Crocker 5K Challenge

Thursday May 26 at 4:00pm

When:
Thursday, May 26 at 4:00pm

Where:
Santa Monica Pier

What:

- A family-friendly 5K walk/run to benefit PAL
- Fun, free after-party on the Pier
- Performances by the US Marine Corps Band

Why:
Officer Rick Crocker was a 10-year veteran of the Santa Monica Police Department and a Marine Corps Reserve Officer who was killed while serving his country in Iraq on May 26, 2005. Officer Crocker's last assignment with the SMPD was serving the Police Activities League, where he mentored the most vulnerable youth in our community. We run to remember Rick's dedication and honor his commitment to PAL.

Register at
https://rickcrocker5k.eventbrite.com

Sponsorships still available!

For questions or sponsorships contact santamonicaevents@gmail.com.