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smdp
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Movie nights, food trucks and more activities return to the marina

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

The outdoor activities at Marina del Rey became a haven for many locals during the pandemic and as restrictions ease, the harbor is relaunching a host of affordable summer events.

From drive-in movies, to weekly food truck gatherings, to free fitness classes and $1 water taxi rides, the activities returning to Marina Del Rey have something for everyone.

"Marina del Rey is our local marina and we're trying to make it welcoming for everyone, by providing quality community programming for people from all over LA to come and enjoy," said Nicole Mooradian, PIO of L.A. County Beaches and Harbors, the organization that runs these activities in conjunction with the MDR Convention and Visitors Bureau.

A longstanding local favorite is the Beach Eats program, which brings a variety of food trucks to the Marina from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. every Thursday. The event is located in parking lot 11 at 1401 Panay Way and features a rotating range of dishes and sweet treats from different cuisines.

"The inspiration for Beach Eats

SEE **MDR** PAGE 11



Matthew Hall

MARINA: Summer is a chance to get out on the water, or at least look at it, in Marina del Rey.

Suspected serial burglar wreaks havoc on local stores

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer



Laptops taken, wallets gone, a beloved wedding ring lost forever, just as local businesses are getting back on their feet they have fallen prey to a string of burglaries connected to one suspected perpetrator.

Police officials said the suspect is a black male in his 20s with a thin build, short dreadlocks and a thin mustache. He has targeted businesses along Montana Ave, Wilshire Boulevard and Lincoln Boulevard.

The crimes are those of

SEE **CRIME** PAGE 3

Venice Beach U.S. Men's Soccer Player Heads to Costa Rica for National Tournament

DOUG RAPP
Venice Current / SMDP Staff Writer

Soccer has taken Alessandro Canale from the sands of Venice Beach to the sands of Costa Rica.

A Venice native, Canale is a forward on the U.S. Men's Beach Soccer National Team, which is competing in the Concacaf Beach Soccer Championship in Alajuela, Costa Rica, through May 23. The 12-nation tournament will send the two winners to the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup in Russia in August. Games are live streamed through the Concacaf Facebook account.

Playing in Costa Rica is a sort of homecoming for Canale. His mother is from Costa Rica and he's visited the small Central American country often.

"It feels pretty cool, actually," Canale said of playing there, adding that he played in the tournament facility a few years ago while visiting family in Costa Rica.

Canale's international roots also include his Italian father, a general contractor and actor. Briefly following in his father's footsteps, Canale has appeared in commercials and TV shows, such as Malcolm in the Middle. (Although he hasn't acted much since the 2007-08 Writers Guild strike, he said he may get back into it.)

Canale, 31, said he's grateful his parents' global paths crossed in Venice.

"I couldn't have asked for a cooler place to have as my backyard," he said, adding Venice exposed him to many different aspects of life that influenced him.

"It's just a unique experience and I'm thankful my parents landed in Venice and decided to start a family there."

His father took the young Canale to the pull-up bars, gymnastic rings and handball courts along Ocean Front Walk. Canale soon started playing most parts and focused on soccer. He played at Santa Monica High School and club soccer for the Santa Monica United Scorpions. After attending Santa Monica College and graduating from UC-San Diego, he made the men's beach national team in 2013.

Since then, Canale's racked up

SEE **SOCCER** PAGE 7



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Hour-by-hour: Biden's behind-the-scenes push for cease-fire

AAMER MADHANI
Associated Press

The diplomatic flurry was over and Israel's Benjamin Netanyahu was on the phone telling President Joe Biden that it appeared the furious fighting between Israel and Hamas was about to end.

But Biden remained wary even after the afternoon phone call with the prime minister. Things still could go crosswise with hours to go before the cease-fire took effect, Biden's team reasoned.

Nervous White House aides dialed contacts in Tel Aviv and Cairo to suss out whether the truce would hold. Officials in both the U.S. and Israel worried that another barrage of Hamas rockets could sink the Egyptian-brokered agreement, according to an official familiar with the conversations.

Then came another call from Netanyahu — his second to Biden that day — with reassurances for the American president that the 11-day war really was halting.

Biden's first extended foreign policy crisis, one he handled largely by avoiding the cameras and maneuvering instead behind the scenes, had abated.

The president went before cameras in the Cross Hall of the White House to describe "intensive high-level discussions, hour by hour, literally" by the United States that involved Egypt, the Palestinian Authority and other Middle Eastern countries.

All of it, he said, came "with an aim of avoiding the sort of prolonged conflict we've seen in previous years when the hostilities have broken out."

The calls between Biden and Netanyahu were a small sample of the furious diplomacy that the White House conducted. The president and senior aides had over 80 engagements, by phone or in person, in search of an endgame to the fighting, according to the White House.

Biden's speech celebrating the cease-fire lasted just 3½ minutes and was delivered in time for evening news broadcasts. He reiterated his belief that Israel has a right to defend itself, expressed condolences for Palestinian civilians who died in the Israeli bombardment and promised that humanitarian aid to Gaza Strip was on its way.

It was an enigmatic, and perhaps fitting, bookend to the sort of messy Mideast crisis he had hoped to avoid, particularly early in a presidency already oversubscribed with managing the public health and economic tumult caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

The conflict had also exposed a rift between Biden and members of his own party. The president who over nearly 50 years in national politics has burnished a reputation for unwavering support of Israel leads a Democratic Party that has trended toward a far more divided outlook on the proper path to peace between Israel and the Palestinians. Republicans were all too eager to try to make political use of the situation.

Biden had studiously avoided extensive public comment about the Israeli military strikes. But he faced increasing pressure from Democrats to speak out against the Israelis as the death toll climbed in Gaza and as tens of thousands of Palestinians were displaced by the aerial bombardment.

Democratic Sen. Chris Murphy of Connecticut expressed relief at the cease-fire and commended Biden and his team for their

SEE **BIDEN** PAGE 7

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
ORDINANCE NUMBER 2672 (CCS)
(CITY COUNCIL SERIES)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA AMENDING SANTA MONICA MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 3.12.1055 TO ALLOW THE CITYWIDE OPERATION OF REMOTE-CONTROLLED DELIVERY DEVICES BY OPERATORS PARTICIPATING IN THE ZERO EMISSIONS DELIVERY ZONE PILOT PROGRAM

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2672 (CCS) (the "Ordinance") prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

On October 27, 2020, the City Council adopted an emergency ordinance (Ordinance Number 2656 (CCS)) that: (1) effectively immediately and continuing through October 28, 2021, prohibited the operation of autonomous delivery vehicles or devices on City sidewalks or pedestrian paths of travel; and (2) effective January 1, 2021, or at such time as the pilot program being overseen in Santa Monica by Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator ("LACI") commenced, and continuing through October 28, 2021, prohibited the operation of remotely controlled delivery vehicles or devices on City sidewalks or pedestrian paths of travel, except as part of the LACI pilot program within the voluntary zero emissions delivery zone as defined for purposes of the LACI pilot program and subject to specified requirements set out in the emergency ordinance.

The Ordinance amends the earlier emergency ordinance to allow operators participating in the LACI program to operate remotely controlled delivery vehicles or devices on City sidewalks or pedestrian paths as part of the LACI program throughout the City (not just within the LACI pilot program's voluntary zero emissions delivery zone), subject to the same specified requirements set out in the emergency ordinance.

The Ordinance was adopted on May 11, 2021 and will become effective thirty days after adoption.
The full text of the above Ordinance is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica. Phone: (310) 458-8211.

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 270 CALLS ON MAY 20

Living In A Vehicle 3000blk 11th St 12:01 a.m.
Party Complaint 1100blk 11th St 12:07 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Ocean Ave / Arizona Ave 1:09 a.m.
Public Intoxication 800blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:29 a.m.
Burglary Now 1600blk 19th St 3:24 a.m.
Loud Music 5th St / Colorado Ave 3:28 a.m.
Loud Music 1500blk Ocean Ave 4:30 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 400blk Pacific Coast Hwy 6:01 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto In Progress 2800blk Ocean Front Walk 6:15 a.m.
Prowler Just Left 2400blk 26th St 6:26 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 100blk Wadsworth Ave 6:56 a.m.
Prowler Just Left 2500blk 25th St 7:04 a.m.
Prowler 2600blk 24th St 7:04 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 20th St / Interstate 10 7:28 a.m.
Fraud Unknown 7:50 a.m.
Burglary 2000blk California Ave 8:00 a.m.
Fitness Permit Violation 800blk Palisades Park 8:07 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 400blk Pacific Coast Hwy 8:18 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 800blk Pacific Coast Hwy 8:37 a.m.
Battery 1000blk The Beach 8:45 a.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 8:52 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1800blk 7th St 9:15 a.m.
Burglary 2400blk Main St 9:47 a.m.
Fraud Unknown 9:51 a.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 1300blk 16th St 9:56 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1700blk 17th St 10:16 a.m.
Audible Alarm 1100blk Grant St 10:21 a.m.
Lost Property 100blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:22 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1200blk Broadway 10:25 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2000blk San Vicente Blvd 10:25 a.m.
Indecent Exposure 1000blk 2nd St 10:28 a.m.
Panic Alarm 500blk 9th St 10:47 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1000blk 7th St 10:56 a.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 1200blk 16th St 10:58 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 2800blk Lincoln Blvd 11:06 a.m.
Petty Theft 2600blk 2nd St 11:12 a.m.
Petty Theft 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 11:13 a.m.
Malicious Mischief 2700blk 11th St 11:18 a.m.
Indecent Exposure 1400blk 12th St 11:19 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 400blk Expo Line 11:32 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1000blk Ocean Ave 11:34 a.m.
Critical Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 11:48 a.m.
Encampment 500blk Colorado Ave 11:55 a.m.
General Parking Problem 1400blk 4th St 12:14 p.m.
Battery 4th St / Broadway 12:32 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 700blk 4th St 12:34 p.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 12:49 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 700blk Alta Ave 12:57 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1300blk 10th St 1:16 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 300blk Olympic Dr 1:21 p.m.
Petty Theft 1500blk Princeton St 1:26 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1100blk Idaho Ave 1:36 p.m.
Loud Music 1400blk Arizona Ave 1:39 p.m.
Violation Of Temporary No Parking Signs 2000blk Delaware Ave 2:06 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 2:16 p.m.
Illegal Weapon 2300blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:00 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1000blk 17th St 3:07 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 2500blk Washington Ave 3:14 p.m.
Found Property 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 3:16 p.m.
Expired Registration 2600blk Barnard Way 3:38 p.m.
Burglary 2900blk Neilson Way 3:43 p.m.
Family Disturbance 2300blk Wilshire Blvd 3:47 p.m.
Auto Burglary 200blk 21st Pl 3:56 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1400blk 25th St 3:57 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1100blk 21st St 4:03 p.m.
Audible Alarm 1400blk 17th St 4:07 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3300blk Barnard Way 4:21 p.m.
Grand Theft 1700blk Appian Way 4:22 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 2100blk Arizona Ave 4:37 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper 400blk Santa Monica Pier 4:39 p.m.
Illegal Weapon 900blk 11th St 4:56 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1700blk Olympic Blvd 5:19 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1200blk 16th St 5:24 p.m.
Found Property 800blk Arizona Ave 5:45 p.m.
Identity Theft 5100blk Foothill Blvd 5:48 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Cloverfield Blvd / Colorado Ave 5:49 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 3000blk Ocean Park Blvd 6:07 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1500blk 6th St 6:35 p.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 1900blk 19th St 6:38 p.m.
Strongarm Robbery 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 7:01 p.m.
Armed Robbery Ocean Ave / Olympic Dr 7:01 p.m.
Parked In Alley 1800blk 12th St 7:14 p.m.
Petty Theft 1300blk 2nd St 7:17 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 2000blk Ocean Ave 7:46 p.m.
Suicide Now 1700blk Stanford St 8:06 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 800blk 22nd St 8:20 p.m.
Domestic Violence Now 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 8:30 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1100blk Harvard St 8:42 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 400blk Ashland Ave 9:43 p.m.
Loud Music 1300blk 2nd St 11:25 p.m.

CORRECTIONS

A letter to the editor was incorrectly attributed to Ingha Hadi. The author's name is Ingha Chopra.

This weekend's City Council meeting will be held Sunday, May 23.

CRIME

FROM PAGE 1

opportunity. According to SMPD, the suspect often enters through back entrances during business hours and heads to employees-only areas where personal possessions are left unguarded.

The suspect has been connected to burglaries at Dagwoods Pizza, Cha Spa, Coco Lux Nails, Beverly Hills Regenerative Medicine, Great Labels, The Fairmont Hotel, and the Fireside Health Center. Police believe he may be responsible for more incidents.

On May 1, the suspect entered the Dagwoods employee locker room and took an Apple Watch, wallet, digital camera, and wedding ring that belonged to Chef Jaime Hernandez.

"That wedding ring has some serious sentimental value so he was distraught. A place that you think would be a safe place turns out to be not so safe," said General Manager Mark Peters, adding that this is one of four incidents of break-in or burglary that have occurred at Dagwoods in recent weeks.

The serial burglar suspect is not thought to be responsible for the other three incidents, including one when the employee locker room was again targeted and an expensive jacket was stolen.

Despite similarities in the crimes, police officials said they don't believe there is evidence of an organized crime ring. They are seeking to bring the suspect into custody and urge the public to be on the lookout.

Heidi Dedrick is the Street Liason for the Montana Avenue Merchant Association and has been working with the police department to help protect business owners from this individual since November. She said the suspect will often hide a skateboard near the businesses he targets to provide a quick getaway.

"I pretty much see him every week after work," said Dedrick. "Oftentimes I'll come look around and Officer Aaron Alpert and his team will go to the back alleys and parking areas of all the stores just to see if we can catch him in the act."

Officers have received several reports of trespassing after business hours, which they believe may be connected to the suspect. At Dermalogica Spa on Montana Ave, employees have called the police on three occasions when they've spotted a man matching the suspect's description attempting to force entry.

One Dermalogica employee said things got especially bad during the winter when few people were on the street and the sun set early. She would be the only employee in the store at closing time and remembers walking with a set of keys fearfully clutched between her knuckles.

In response to the incidents, police have increased their patrol presence in the alleys adjacent to Montana Ave and Wilshire Blvd. Officers are reaching out to business owners reminding them to lock their rear doors, provide a safe location for employee possessions and report suspicious activity to the police.

The Montana Merchant Association is disseminating similar information to protect their businesses, which are already grappling with an uncertain future of economic recovery.

"What is crazy is say you're doing well and finally things are looking up and now you go back to get your telephone and it's gone; he's come to your back door and your deposit or your laptop is taken," said Dedrick.

The police department is seeking the public's help to locate the suspect and bring him into custody.

"We encourage our residents and business owners to report even small issues or concerns immediately to our dispatch center," said Sergeant Erika Aklufi. "The person you see looking into the rear doors of a closed business may be the same person who broke into another location last month."

Clara@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

A new reason to swipe right? Dating apps adding vax badges

The White House is pushing a new reason to swipe right: vaccination badges and "super swipes" for people who've gotten their coronavirus shots.

The Biden administration said Friday it's teaming up with dating apps to showcase the benefits of getting a shot.

Apps like Hinge, Tinder, Match and Bumble are offering special incentives to people who roll up their sleeves, including badges showing vaccination status and free access to premium content. BLK and Chispa will boost profiles of those who are vaccinated, to make them more visible to potential matches. And OKCupid will even let users filter out potential partners based on whether they've gotten a vaccine.

The White House says the apps will also direct users to learn how to get vaccinated, including connecting them with educational materials and information on how to find the nearest vaccination site. The administration pointed to research from OKCupid that found those who were already or were planning to get vaccinated received 14% more matches on the app.

"We have finally found the one thing that makes us more attractive – a vaccination," said White House COVID-19 adviser Andy Slavitt.

Beware: Like a would-be date's professed height or age, there is no way to verify the vaccination status of the dating app users.

The administration is stepping up its efforts to sustain demand for COVID-19 shots as President Joe Biden looks to meet his goal of delivering at least one dose to 70% of adult Americans by July 4. The nation is now at 60.5%.

Other promotional efforts include free rides to and from vaccination sites from ride-sharing companies Uber and Lyft, corporate giveaways and state lotteries that offer potential cash prizes to lucky vaccinated individuals.

Incentives have helped the rate of first vaccinations tick up from a low of about 551,000 per day to more than 630,000, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

ZEKE MILLER, ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Sustainable Quality Awards
WINNER



A Shore Thing

Matthew King
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Diversity in the surf

Surfing historically has been a closed society. For decades, Santa Monica Bay waves were the near-exclusive domain of white males like me. The game simply wasn't open to all.

Anglo fathers largely handed down the sport to their sons, who had the privilege to live along Southern California's coastal strip. When I grew up in the '70s, no surf camps eased kids into the lineup. There was no AYSO of surfing. You thought twice about paddling out at heavy spots like the Venice Breakwater or Topanga unless a local had bro'ed you out.

As a result, many inland athletes have been cut off from the joyous experience of catching a wave. It's been a particular challenge for communities of color, many of which lack the resources, access and tradition to chase surf. Six out of 10 African American kids do not know how to swim, according to YMCA figures. (One recent aerial survey revealed that Beverly Hills had 2,284 pools while Watts had none.)

But the dynamic in the lineup is shifting rapidly, as in other pockets of white privilege. Paddle out in Santa Monica Bay and you'll see increasing numbers of Asian, Latinx and African American surfers. Men and women alike.

The advent of cheap, mass-produced foamboards has reduced the first barrier to entry. YouTube videos provide tips to beginners. But most important, younger surfers of color have been emboldened by other BIPOC communities reclaiming their spots in white spaces from which they had long been excluded – be it the U.S. Senate floor or Hollywood studio canteens. Groups like the Black Surfers Collective, Black Sand and Color the Water now mobilize a new generation of board-riders and their allies.

But it's not all kumbaya in the water.

Recent footage of white South Bay surfers circling around two African Americans north of the Manhattan Beach Pier has rocked the local surf community. Scenes of entitled jerks splashing water and hurling the N word are as shocking as they are depressing. Most surfers of color have similar stories to tell – either of outright intimidation or silent stink-eye. Many racists hide behind the shield of localism – a territorial instinct to keep kooks and outsiders off their waves. To be clear, the vast majority of surfers are mellow and reluctantly welcoming of newcomers. But Neanderthals still pollute the Bay.

Manhattan Beach is further embroiled in controversy about the future of Bruce's Beach, oceanfront land seized from a Black family a century ago. The City Council voted recently NOT to apologize to descendants of the Bruce family, whose beachside resort catering to African American families was condemned in the 1920s to mollify White residents. The County of Los Angeles is now pursuing state legislation that will return ownership of the property – now a park and County lifeguard headquarters — to the Bruce family.

One would like to think Santa Monica would take a more progressive attitude. After all, Nick Gabaldon, the first documented surfer of color in Los Angeles County, is a native son. An accomplished board rider and lifeguard, Gabaldon smashed stereotypes before being killed in 1951 trying to shoot the Malibu Pier.

We're also home to Bay Street Beach, which served as a rare haven for ocean-loving African Americans during the Jim Crow era. Gabaldon, a Samohi graduate, learned to surf at a spot dubbed The Inkwell. A plaque near the traffic roundabout honors this history.

And our shorelines just north and south of the Santa Monica Pier have long served as recreational playgrounds for communities of color. Millions have journeyed in cramped cars to the terminus of the 10 Freeway to escape inland smog and heat.

But Santa Monica's beachside history and racial legacy are more complex than that, as historian Alison Rose Jefferson reminds me. Santa Monica's City Council allowed white developers to build the Casa del Mar Resort in 1924 — on the very same land they had voted two years earlier to zone exclusively for single-family homes, all in a bid to thwart a planned Black-owned resort.

Our city has only recently begun to reckon with its post-war evisceration of a thriving African-American beachside community. City leaders used eminent domain to demolish the Belmar neighborhood in the 1940s to make way for the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium and other public places.

In a sad irony, the 10 Freeway, which has become a recreational lifeline for inland BIPOC communities, was built on the back of displaced African Americans. The roadway, completed in 1964, took out more than 500 Black-owned homes and businesses in Santa Monica. Thousands of African-Americans – and their descendants — found themselves displaced from local shorelines and the chance to latch onto the growing sport of surfing. You can read about this sad saga at a history walk around the newly constructed Belmar Park near the Civic Center.

It's probably the last thing you'd expect from an increasingly grumpy surfer like me – feeling stoked about seeing more people in already crowded surf. But more surfers of color are taking their rightful place in the lineup at Bay Street. That doesn't serve as full reckoning for our city's bulldozing of its Black beachside communities. But it's a good place to start.

Matthew King grew up on the beaches of Santa Monica, where his father served as a County lifeguard for 30 years. He sneaks away from his communications and marketing consultancy as often as he can to surf Bay Street and other local breaks.

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters to the Editor can be submitted to letters@smdp.com. Receipt of a letter does not guarantee publication and all content is published at the discretion of the paper. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content. All submissions must include the author's name, address and phone number for the purposes of verification.

Snide World of Sports

Jack Neworth
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Was it Luck, Skill or Something Else?

As I write this I just finished watching the Lakers narrowly defeat the Warriors in a "play in" game which gave L.A. the all-important 7th seed in the upcoming playoffs. The contest was so close it had the feel of a 7th game of a championship series. In fact if the Staples Center had been sold out instead of the 6,000 fans that were allowed, the joint would have been rocking. Especially during the unbelievably dramatic ending.

With the shot clock running out and the score tied, LeBron James, with Stephen Curry's hand in his face, made a seemingly impossible buzzer beater 3-pointer. This despite an eye injury shortly before that left LeBron's vision so blurry he admitted, "I saw three rims so I just aimed for the middle one."

Many people objected to the "Play In Tournament" including LeBron who commented, "The guy who came up with this should be fired." And yet all would have to admit it made for riveting TV. (The game was so tense I thought to myself, "I'm getting way too old for this.")

If the Lakers had lost, and they easily could have or maybe even should have, they would have had one more chance to gain the 8th seed. I won't bore you with the downside of that scenario and their hopes to advance in their long shot goal to win their second straight NBA Championship. As it is, on Sunday they will play game #1 of their first round 7-game series with the 2nd seed Phoenix Suns. (Adding to the drama, it will represent the first time in NBA playoff history that a 7th seed will be favored to beat the 2nd seed.)

No matter the victory over the Warriors, realistically LeBron and Anthony Davis did not have great games and neither did the role players, except perhaps for Alex Caruso. So how did the Lakers win? A huge factor was the excellent defense designed by coach Frank Vogel who I admit would not have been my first choice when he was hired for the 2019 season though I changed my mind very soon.

Or was it G.M. Rob Pelinka acquiring talented bench players? Admission #2, I wasn't thrilled with Pelinka's ascension to G.M. when Magic Johnson resigned before the final game of the 2018-2019 season. Kobe's former agent, Pelinka seemed phony to me and also looked too much like Rob Lowe. (But I stand corrected, even though I'm sitting as I write this.)

Or was it Jeanie Buss's solid, no drama ownership? (Except for recently leaving out Jerry West in favor of Phil Jackson in her "Top 5 Most Important Lakers" in their storied history.) Or maybe there's another factor to consider?

Forgive my superstitious notions if I suggest, as I did two weeks ago, we can't overlook the Sports Gods that can help or also turn on your team on a dime. (Which is an expression that goes back to 1880 when a dime, worth $2.60 in today's money, was and still is the smallest coin in our currency and means a reversal of circumstances could happen almost instantly.)

As an example, take the Dodgers. As noted here two weeks ago, I foolishly gloated over the Dodgers' remarkable 13-2 start to the season and possibly offended the Sports Gods. (I know I sound crazy but what else is new.) Then came the "turning on the dime" and the Dodgers lost 15 of their next 19 games. In my last column, I tried to humbly apologize to the Gods and it seemed to be working. That is until just the other day when Dodger shortstop and World Series MVP, Corey Seager, was hit by a pitch, fracturing his wrist leaving him sidelined for at least 30 days. Ouch.

The L.A. Angels might also have received an unwelcome visit from the Sports Gods. Center fielder Mike Trout, 3-time American League MVP and 8-time Silver Slugger winner, suffered a serious calf strain and may be out for 6-8 weeks. How valuable is Trout? In 2019 he signed a 12-year contract extension for $426.5 million. With Trout on the injured list, the Angels chances of making the playoffs might have gone from slim to none. (As the late sportscaster Jim Healy used to say, "And Slim just left town.")

Of course injuries are part of all sports and I'm not insisting there's such a thing as the Sports Gods. But, on the off chance there is, it can't hurt to stay on their good side. You can decide what you think by going to YouTube and typing "Laker-Warrior Play In Game highlights," and focus on the dramatic last few minutes.

Controversial ESPN sports analyst Stephen A. Smith says, "The Lakers were damn lucky to win." (Or, maybe it was the Sports Gods?)

Game #1 of the Lakers-Suns first round playoffs at Phoenix Suns Arena will be televised on Sunday, May 23 at 12:30 pm on ABC. Jack's next Laughing Matters will appear on Friday, May 29th but, sadly, will not be televised. Jack can be reached at: jackdailypress@aol.com.

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California has regained nearly half of jobs lost in pandemic

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

California extended its slow but steady economic recovery in April, adding more than 100,000 jobs for the third consecutive month, officials said Friday.

The state's Employment Development Department says California has now regained 1.3 million jobs, or 48% of the 2.7 million it lost in March and April of 2020.

The new numbers show California has become an engine in the nation's recovery, accounting for 38% of all jobs gained in the U.S. in April. Since February, California has added 390,300 jobs following sharp declines in December and January amid a surge of new coronavirus cases.

More than 60% of the job gains in April came from hotels, restaurants and entertainment venues — businesses impacted the most by Gov. Gavin Newsom's previous statewide stay-at-home order. California has waited longer than other states to ease restrictions on those businesses, with Newsom pledging to lift most of the rules on June 15.

Despite those job gains, California still has the second highest unemployment rate in the country at 8.3%, trailing Hawaii. But that number can be deceiving. The unemployment rate is a percentage of people who are looking for work and do not have a job. As more people start looking for work, that can offset the number of new jobs added.

Data released Friday shows 33,600 people started looking for work again in California. Experts say that is a good sign.

"At this state of the recovery, we shouldn't really focus too much on the jobless rate," said Sung Won Sohn, a professor of finance and economics at Loyola Marymount University. "We want people coming out of the woodwork and rejoining the labor force. That would be a very positive sign. And to some extent that is beginning to happen."

The state's leisure and hospitality industry is still down more than 500,000 jobs since the pandemic began. Experts believe that sector will fuel the state's job growth over the next few months as more businesses reopen.

However, those gains are masking some of the state's other problems, according to Michael Bernick, a lawyer and former director of the state's Employment Development Department. Small business revenue in the state has declined 30% since January 2020, while the number of small businesses that are open is down more than 36% over the same period, according to Opportunity Insights, an economic tracker based at Harvard University.

Bernick said that illustrates an "employment divide" in California, as larger companies prosper and small businesses struggle.

"Our small business economy is decimated and shows no signs of improvement," he said.

Newsom and Democratic leaders in the Legislature are negotiating a new spending package that aims to pump billions of dollars in aid to individuals and small businesses over the next year. Newsom calls it the biggest economic recovery package in the state's history,.

Newsom, who is likely to face a recall election spurred by anger over his handling of the pandemic, gleefully tweeted April's unemployment numbers, writing "the #CAComeback is happening in real time."

Many business owners in California say they can't find enough people willing to work, a sentiment reflected in April's jobless numbers by a small increase in manufacturing jobs coupled with a decrease in construction jobs.

People getting unemployment benefits are now receiving an extra $300 a week from the federal government because of the coronavirus. At least 22 states have said they will end those extra benefits in part to encourage more people to join the workforce.

California is not among them. Newsom's spending proposal includes even more help for individuals, offering $12 billion in direct payments to most adults while paying off outstanding rent and utility bills.

Friday's employment data shows an additional 33,600 people resumed looking for full-time jobs in April, boosting the state's pool of potential workers. Compared to April of last year, California's workforce grew by 363,300, now totaling more than 18.9 million people.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 35 CALLS ON MAY 20

EMS 800blk 21st St 12:47 a.m.
EMS 100blk Colorado Ave 1:17 a.m.
EMS 1400blk Ocean Ave 2:36 a.m.
EMS 900blk Euclid St 3:30 a.m.
Ladder Request 1600blk 19th St 3:40 a.m.
EMS 1600blk 19th St 3:40 a.m.
EMS 600blk Strand St 6:42 a.m.
EMS 2200blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:38 a.m.
Wires Down 600blk Pacific St 9:38 a.m.
Vehicle Fire 1100blk Pico Blvd 10:08 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 2nd St 10:51 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Pico Blvd 11:12 a.m.
EMS 3100blk Main St 11:13 a.m.
EMS 400blk Expo Line 11:31 a.m.
EMS 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 11:56 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 12:25 p.m.
EMS 2200blk Main St 1:21 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 1:38 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 20th St 2:21 p.m.
EMS 700blk Pico Blvd 2:41 p.m.
EMS 900blk 3rd St 2:47 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 4th St 2:49 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 3300blk Barnard Way 3:17 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:31 p.m.
EMS 200blk Montana Ave 4:55 p.m.
EMS Main St / Ashland Ave 5:37 p.m.
Hydrant Shear 31st St / Ocean Park Blvd 6:09 p.m.
Hydrant Leak 25th St / Idaho Ave 6:33 p.m.
EMS 1700blk Stanford St 8:05 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 3100blk Main St 8:09 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1800blk Ocean Ave 9:08 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 5th St 11:13 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 10th St 11:27 p.m.

SOCCER

FROM PAGE 1

impressive achievements: the youngest member of the 2013 FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup team, scoring three goals in the 2019 World Cup and becoming the fourth all-time leading scorer in World Cup Qualifying games with 14 goals.

Canale said beach soccer is a "much more engaging game" with high scoring and more aerial plays. "You get more of a show. It's almost like a performance."

Besides the obvious difficulty of running on the sand, Canale said beach soccer differs in technical ways from turf soccer. The beach field is smaller, with only five players per team instead of the usual 11. Beach soccer games run three 12-minute periods versus two 45-minute halves in outdoor soccer.

Canale said beach soccer is "tactically quite different" as well. Players can pass the ball to the goalkeeper, who can use hands to throw the ball back in play. Players can throw or kick the ball into play from the sidelines as well.

"You need to really be on your toes ready to play," he said. "It's a fun sport."

In addition to playing for the national team, Canale has been playing arena soccer for the Tacoma Stars for the past two years. Although soccer takes up much of his time, Canale also occasionally helps his father with construction and does creative design work, which can be seen on his Instagram account, along with a few murals he painted on the westside.

Still living in Venice, Canale said he's also developing a curriculum to teach kids beach soccer.

"It's important and beneficial for youth development for playing indoor, outdoor or any kind of soccer," Canale said.

Hoping to play soccer as long as he can, Canale wants to stay near the sport and continue working in art and construction.

"If construction, soccer and art are able to merge together, I'd love to be involved in that. I think at some point I can make that happen."

BIDEN

FROM PAGE 2

work. But he also laid out ongoing worries, saying, "I am deeply concerned that without meaningful progress towards a two-state future, the conditions of despair will deepen, further fuel extremism and lead to a tragic renewal of the cycle of violence."

The cease-fire announcement came after Biden on Wednesday stepped up his pressure on Netanyahu, telling the prime minister that he expected "significant de-escalation" of the fighting by day's end, according to the White House. But Netanyahu came right back with a public declaration that he was "determined to continue" the Gaza operation "until its objective is achieved."

Biden's advisers were not overly concerned that Netanyahu's comments seemed to reject the president's public call to ease off, said the official, who was not authorized to publicly discuss private discussions and spoke on condition of anonymity.

In fact, soon after Wednesday's conversation between the leaders, the Israelis signaled to the White House that they were prepared to propose a time for a cease-fire, according to officials.

Netanyahu, who saw daily polling that showed the vast majority of Israelis opposed a cease-fire, was looking for assurances that if such an offer was extended it would, in fact, be accepted. And he wanted the Biden administration's help.

Biden on Thursday morning called Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sissi and asked him if he could guarantee that Hamas and other militant groups in Gaza would abide by a cease-fire if Israel agreed to a deal.

El-Sissi told Biden that he was confident the answer was yes. And the White House quickly relayed that to the Israelis.

Hours later, Netanyahu sat down with his Cabinet. For the roughly 2-½ hour meeting, White House officials — who had been in nearly continuous contact for days from the Israelis — heard nothing from Tel Aviv.

When it ended, Netanyahu called Biden and told the president that the Cabinet had approved the cease-fire. The Israelis wanted it to take effect quickly in hopes of mitigating chances that Hamas would attempt to rain rockets on Tel Aviv in the final moments of the war.

Still, Netanyahu conveyed some trepidation that the deal could fall apart. About 40 minutes later, as Biden was preparing for his remarks, Netanyahu called again and told the president he was confident the cease-fire would stick.

While Biden and aides were deep in the backchannel efforts, domestic pressure was building on the president.

On Tuesday, while in Michigan to visit a Ford facility, Democratic Rep. Rashida Tlaib confronted Biden at the airport and called on him to speak out forcefully against the Israeli strikes. Also this week, Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont and Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York introduced resolutions to block the sale of $735 million in military weaponry to Israel that had already been approved by the Biden administration.

"Let us hope that the ceasefire in Gaza holds," Sanders tweeted Thursday evening. "But that's not enough. Our job now is to support desperately needed humanitarian and reconstruction aid to Gaza's people, and find a way to finally bring peace to the region."

Biden advisers had concluded in the first days of the crisis, as Hamas fired hundreds of rockets on Israel, that a call from the president for Israeli restraint would have fallen flat. At the same time, early in the crisis, there was deep worry inside the White House that the fighting could escalate into something that would take months to tamp down.

As the outside calls for Biden to speak out more forcefully grew, the president and top aides privately made the case to Israeli officials that time wasn't on their side.

Biden and Netanyahu have known each other for more than 30 years and have frequently butted heads. Their conversations throughout the crisis probed one another as they tried to game out a path forward, according to officials.

Netanyahu insisted that his half-dozen conversations with Biden during the fighting were "warm and friendly." Biden in the calls referred to Netanyahu by his nickname, "Bibi," while the prime minster addressed the president as "Joe."

"I told him that any country coming under fire from thousands of rockets on its cities would not sit with folded hands, and I told him that we will halt the fighting once we achieve the objectives of the campaign," Netanyahu said. "The president understood this and this is exactly what we did."

Biden ended his own brief remarks about the cease-fire on a hopeful note: "I believe we have a genuine opportunity to make progress, and I'm committed to working for it."



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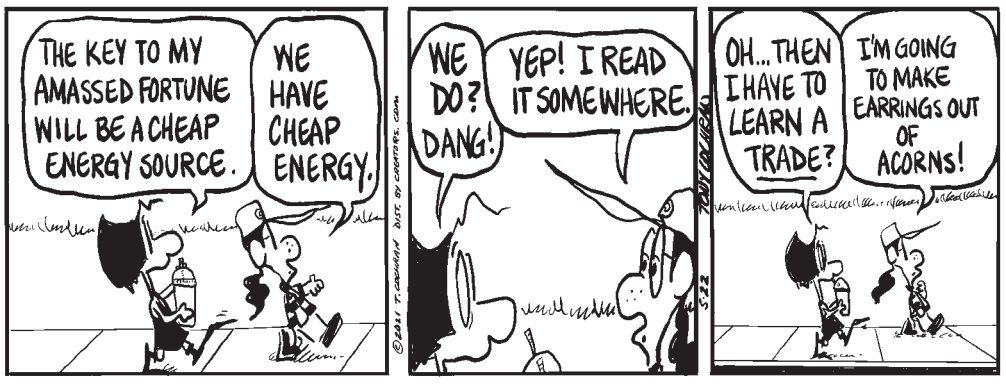
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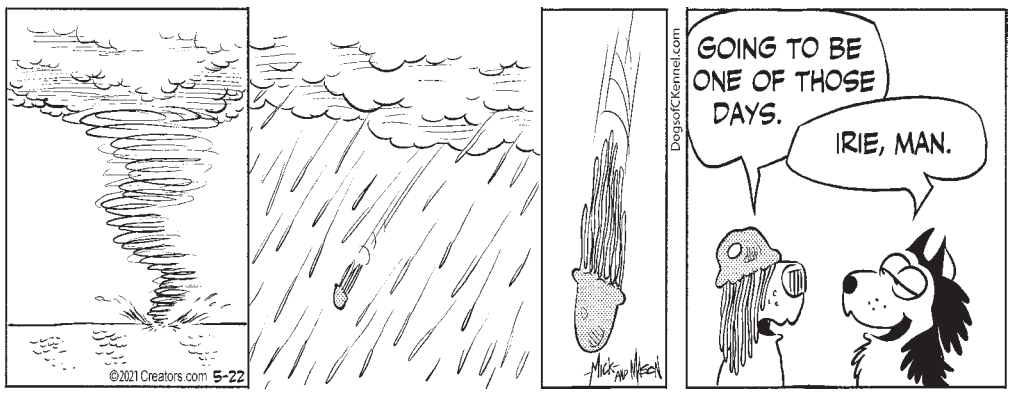
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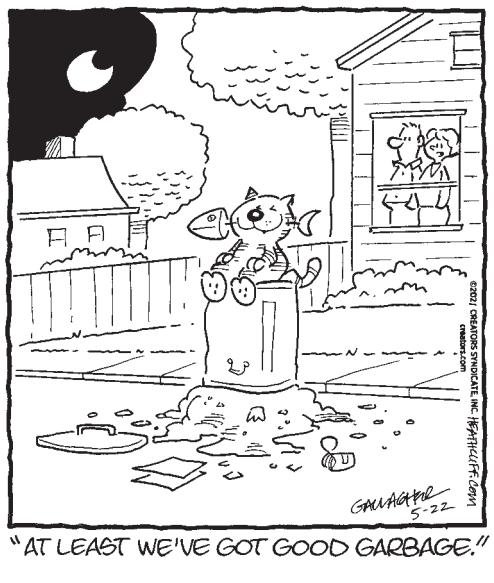
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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 61.3°

SATURDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 4+6ft Shoulder high to 1 ft overhead occ. 7 ft
Looks like the biggest day of the week. E wind may be an issue for some south facing points in the AM.

SUNDAY - **FAIR TO GOOD** - SURF: 4+6ft Shoulder high to 1 ft overhead
Looking like a pretty good day – will need to monitor wind but looks pretty favorable through the morning.

WEATHER

Saturday: Cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 65.
Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 53.
Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 68.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2021/05/24	Mon	2:03 PM	0.89	L
2021/05/24	Mon	8:27 PM	6.45	H
2021/05/25	Tue	03:22 AM	-1.14	L
2021/05/25	Tue	09:35 AM	4.14	H
2021/05/25	Tue	2:42 PM	1.20	L
2021/05/25	Tue	9:04 PM	6.78	H
2021/05/26	Wed	04:10 AM	-1.57	L
2021/05/26	Wed	10:30 AM	4.01	H
2021/05/26	Wed	3:23 PM	1.53	L
2021/05/26	Wed	9:44 PM	6.89	H
2021/05/27	Thu	05:00 AM	-1.74	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 5/19
11 13 55 56 69
Power#: 4
Jackpot: 218 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 5/18
3 5 56 61 66
Mega#: 4
Jackpot: 515 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 5/19
4 16 18 32 44
Mega#: 20
Jackpot: 48 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 5/20
1 2 9 17 35

Daily 3
Draw Date: 5/20
EVENING: 1 3 5
Draw Date: 5/20
MIDDAY: 2 8 6

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 5/20
1st: 01 - Gold Rush
2nd: 09 - Winning Spirit
3rd: 08 - Gorgeous George
Race Time: 1:42.69

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (MAY 22)

A rebellious spirit pervades. The rules you break will liberate you. You'll attract investors. The money helps you get a project off the ground, but there's even more value in the time and lessons you gain. To repeat this success will bring you exponentially more, so take careful notes, pay attention and be methodical. Libra and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 44, 38, 5 and 32.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Success in one area of life won't automatically bring success in other areas, but certain basic principles will apply universally. The work is best chunked down into small steps and mastered in order.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). No one comes into their own doing whatever everyone else does. As long as you are deeply satisfied by the work you are doing, it's OK if you don't fit in. In fact, it's a good sign.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There's a time to keep score, and a time to indulge and share without worrying the least bit about who gave what. Scorekeeping turns giving and receiving into a job or a game instead of a spiritual act or a pure pleasure.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Anything you do to develop and learn about yourself, you do for your relationships. This is why you don't have to be in a relationship to be working on one.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The umbrella of indifference may keep you dry, but it also obscures your view of the sky. The emotional weather is mild today, making it a good time to lower your protections and feel the cool rain of possibility on your cheeks.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It doesn't matter what the "it" is; what matters is how much you're willing to focus on it. Could you focus on it to the exclusion of anything opposing? Could you focus on it to the exclusion of anything at all?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll give and hold out hope that your charity is going to a good place. Don't worry. In today's case, the real benefit happens inside your heart as you hand it over. The rest is gravy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). The real deals happen face to face — that exciting place where all the risk is right there and you never do know what the other person might do or say. Artful conversation will separate the amateurs from the pros.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll reach a turning point in your work. Pause here a while to really consider the options. Once you pick a direction, its reversal, though not impossible, will be awkward and time-consuming.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). While you'd rather go into a game with a strategy, those require time you won't have today. So, the best strategy will be to stay on high alert for clues and trust your instincts.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You possess qualities that seem so indelibly you, yet new styles of being are still a possibility. After all, in the stretch since your first breath, you've already been many people and more incarnations will unfold.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Maybe life is fair; maybe it's not. No single person is objective or omniscient enough to know. But things don't have to be fair to be good. An unjust moment will be, in the end, a glorious gift.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

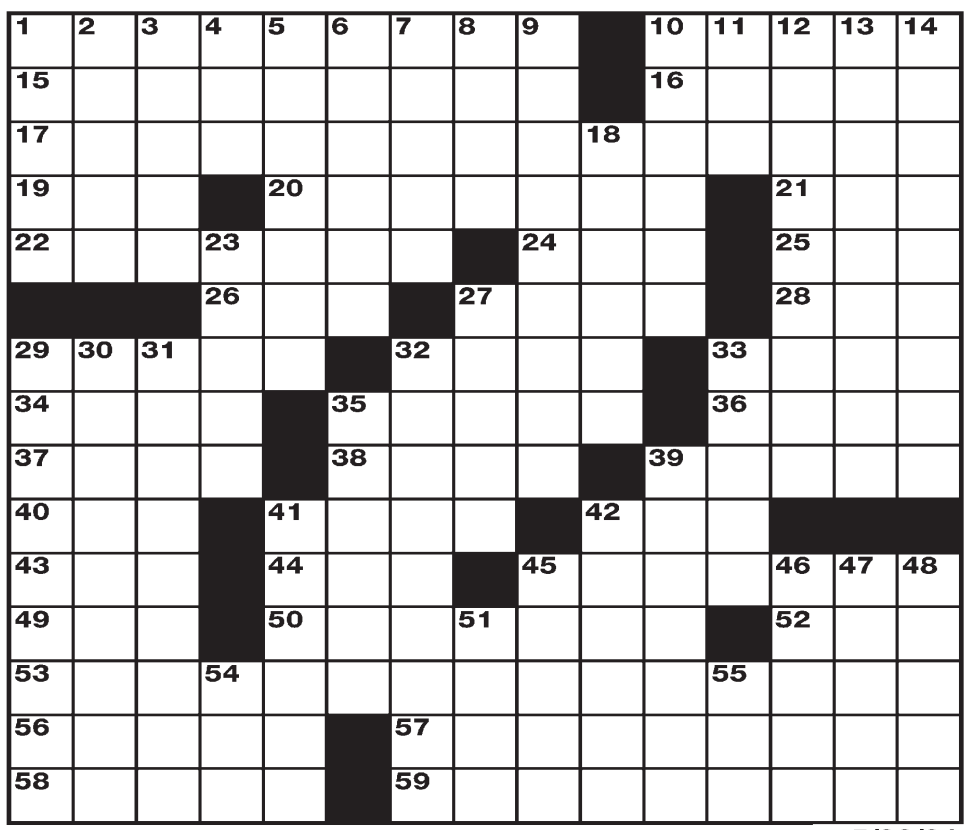
		5	1					
3					5		2	
	2				4		9	
6	3		8					9
		2		7		6		
7					2		3	8
	8		4				6	
	9		2					1
					6	8		

Newsday Crossword

THEMELESS SATURDAY by Greg Johnson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Chesapeake fishery supplies
10 '50s command for Bogart
15 Make something new of
16 Find accidentally
17 SUV stat
19 Pages at a kiosk
20 Protectant for boats and bats
21 Cardinals or Coyotes, in brief
22 Certain face-covering feature
24 Opposite of a "Tell me more" message
25 Opposite indicator
26 Onetime Navajo foe
27 Nickname for José
28 #1 White House nickname, alphabetically
29 Topical relievers
32 Free of foliage
33 Do a lot more than peek
34 Move in ice dancing
35 Broke down
36 Someone like you
37 Major employer
38 What shapes Brie, or covers it
39 Docs with Botox
40 One use for bread
41 Mothers in mud
42 If you believe
43 Fl. oz. fraction
44 Business to stop at
45 What might hold a caster
49 Part of an AFB address
50 What a valet is asked to do
52 Contents of a Shakespearean pot
53 Produce from the Northwest
56 Get a cast credit for
57 What are needed to say "Aye!"
58 Other ways to say "Aye!"
59 Business off center stage

DOWN
1 Puff filler
2 Settle with
3 Wise words
4 Metaphorical obsession
5 Broadcast breaks
6 Do over a walkway, say
7 It's fitted at the hip
8 53 Across category
9 Made a "messy" manicure
10 *Bien-aimée*
11 Altruism accomplished
12 Office upgrade overseer
13 "Easy peasy"
14 See 30 Down
18 Walked on, as wet grass
23 Reminiscent of Saharan transportation
27 They're handled at the beach
29 Care not about the neighbors, perhaps
30 With 14 Down, some defense contractors
31 Park installations
32 Rhode Island Reds' prides
33 Grammy category
35 Informal invitation
39 Sports page stats
41 Occupations that go nowhere
42 Ballerina's tiptoe
45 Wasn't overruled
46 Return from the right
47 Name once a "Liz" alternative
48 V up high
51 Asian marauder in a Norse tale
54 Apt rhyme for "fly"
55 Snap



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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

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

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



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FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5121

Day trip from Darwin

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

Arid	Fire	Maguk	Tennant
Bait	Flat	Monsoon	Creek
Beer can	Flora	Mosquitoes	Top End
regatta	Grit	Pots	Trawlers
Big wet	Guide	Rain	Trip
Cafes	Heat	Rest	Unique
Camp	Holes	Rods	Uranium
Cascade	Huge	Sandstone	Vast
Darwin	Kata Tjuta	Scrub	Warm
Dirty	Koolpin	Swim	Water
Dust	Gorge	Tackle	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Darjeeling with milk

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Police say antisemitic attacks in Los Angeles may be related

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Los Angeles police are investigating a potential link between two antisemitic attacks this week in a heavily Jewish neighborhood of the city, authorities said Thursday.

The violence in the city's Fairfax District both involved vehicles flying Palestinian flags, according to witnesses and video.

Dominic Choi, a deputy chief in the Los Angeles Police Department, said investigators have reached a "critical point" in the cases. The FBI is also involved in the probe.

"We do believe that these two incidents are related, by some evidence that's available," Choi said.

Choi declined to elaborate on the possible connection between the two hate crimes on Thursday during a news conference outside City Hall, where faith and community leaders called for peace and unity in the wake of the violence.

The conference came hours after Israel and Hamas agreed to a cease-fire Thursday in the bruising 11-day war. At least 230 Palestinians have been killed, as well as a dozen people in Israel, amid the heavy fighting.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, who is Jewish, said it's understandable that passions run high as peace is negotiated.

"That's OK, that's human," he said. "What is not OK is to take that out on innocent people, on groups of folks who are dining, because of who they are, to try to target and chase people down because of their religion, or what you think they look like."

On Monday, two motorists chased a Jewish man who was on foot. The man, a Hasidic Jew and a father of six, was forced to "literally run for his life," according to Rabbi Abraham Cooper of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles.

The next night, pro-Palestinians in "a similar caravan of cars" got out and attacked Jewish diners who were seated outside a sushi restaurant in the Beverly Grove area, police said. Witnesses said members of the caravan were flying Palestinian flags.

Both crimes were captured on video.

Cooper called the incidents "attacks by latter-day Nazis."

Hedab Tarifi of the Islamic Center of Southern California, who is a Palestinian and was born in Gaza, decried the violence against the Jewish bystanders in LA.

"Hate and violence of any and all sorts should be condemned," she said. "Whether on the streets of Los Angeles, in Jerusalem or Gaza."

Between Jan. 1 and April 30, hate crimes increased 80% in Los Angeles over the same time period last year, Choi said.

MDR

FROM PAGE 1

is for people to get food at the trucks and then go enjoy a picnic at Mothers Beach," said Mooradian. "We had record breaking sales our first week and are really excited for the rest of the summer."

Mooradian said residents should check out each week's truck line-up and consider pre-ordering food by visiting bestfoodtrucks.com/beacheatstogo.

Starting on June 8, the Marina Drive-In will be returning and running a range of family-friendly and classic movies every Friday and Saturday night. Locals are encouraged to come enjoy a movie by the sea and can choose from 5 p.m. or 8 p.m. film screenings.

Tickets are $20 per vehicle plus service fees and the line-up will be released at mdrmovies.com soon. This fee is necessary to cover the cost of the screens and movies, but there are also several free events also running this summer.

Beaches and Harbors are launching a free drum circle in Chase Park every Sunday from July 11 through September 26. There are also free Zumba classes currently running in the park from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Additionally, while not quite free, locals can enjoy a trip on the Marina Del Rey Water Bus for the humble price of $1 one way. Service will resume on June 18 and run on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays through September 6.

The pontoon boat is perfect for crossing the marina and stops at eight different locations. Residents can also enjoy a roundtrip cruise around the Marina for just $2.

Beaches and Harbors also tries to make waterfront activities affordable and accessible to residents across L.A. County. They run a summer sailing camp, giving youth the opportunity to learn ocean sailing on 14 foot Capri sailboats and Laser sailboats. Sailing camp runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday and costs $355 for the 5-day session. Financial aid is available for qualifying families.

For those looking to charter a boat, rent paddle boards or kayaks, the Marina Convention and Visitors Bureau hosts a compiled list of waterfront companies on its website.

Clara@smdp.com

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