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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

MONDAY
05.25.20
Volume 19 Issue 157

Santa Monica Star
Today's paper includes the final pages for the May edition of the Santa Monica Star.

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Covid crisis claims July 4 parade

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Santa Monica's annual July 4 parade has been canceled this year due to a combination of factors that all trace their roots to the Coronavirus crisis.

The health scare has left Santa Monica without a local Independence Day celebration as the Santa Monica College fireworks show has also been canceled but parade organizers are considering alternate ideas for a different kind of celebration later in the year.

Parade organizer Jeff Jarow said planning for the parade starts months in advance of the event with discussions over permits, solicitation of donations and notifications to the community. However, he said the Covid-related shutdowns made almost every step of the process impossible.



Matthew Hall

NOT THIS YEAR: A combination of factors, including a county prohibition on large gatherings, have scuttled the parade for this year.

The parade must secure road closure permits for the route and discussions with City Hall and the Police Department are necessary to determine the precise route and associated costs. Jarow said with City Hall shutdown, he has been unable to begin that planning process and before he could, the City entered into an unprecedented budget crisis that pulled all City support for events like the parade.

Santa Monica must make more than $80 million dollars in cuts to its ongoing budget and the current proposal terminates all city sponsored special events including the Twilight Concert Series, Coast open streets event, National Night Out, Coffee with a Cop, Marathon Planning and the 4th of July Parade.

While the city did make a financial contribution, the event has

SEE **PARADE** PAGE 5

Local helpers come together to assist seniors

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

Founded at the start of the pandemic in an effort to provide Westside seniors with deliveries of medication, food and other essential supplies, the organization Santa Monica Helpers has grown immensely in the last two months and is preparing to soon service all of Los Angeles County.

Beginning with only herself and a call to other "techies" who live in and around Santa Monica to step up and help others in the community where they reside, founder Lorena Camarena said this week she would've laughed nine weeks ago if somebody were to tell her that her organization would soon dispatch hundreds of volunteers to seniors in Santa Monica and communities beyond.

Many things have changed since Camarena began assisting others back in mid-March, including the nonprofit's branding.

SEE **HELPERS** PAGE 5

Planning Commission supports eliminating downtown development agreements

MADELEINE PAUKER
SMDP Staff Writer

Development agreements for housing projects in downtown Santa Monica could soon be a thing of the past.

The Planning Commission voted 5-2 Wednesday to recommend that City Council eliminate development agreements for downtown housing projects larger than 90,000 square feet and process such projects through a simpler development review permit.

Principal planner Steve Mizokami said development agreements inflate the cost of large housing developments because developers have to negotiate projects with the city over a prolonged period of time.

Making downtown Tier 3 housing projects larger than 90,000 square feet subject to the same approval process as smaller projects would incentivize more housing development, Mizokami said.

City Council already voted in March to streamline the approval process for many housing projects as a first step toward meeting a state mandate that will require Santa Monica to accommodate 9,000 new housing units by 2029.

The procedural changes the Planning Commission voted to recommend to City Council would apply to 16 sites near the Metro E Line terminus and the 10 Freeway. Zoning and building standards for the sites would remain unchanged.

Five sites contain apartment buildings or hotels completed in the last 20 years. Housing projects are planned or under construction on four sites.

Santa Monica Place, the downtown

SEE **AGREEMENTS** PAGE 5

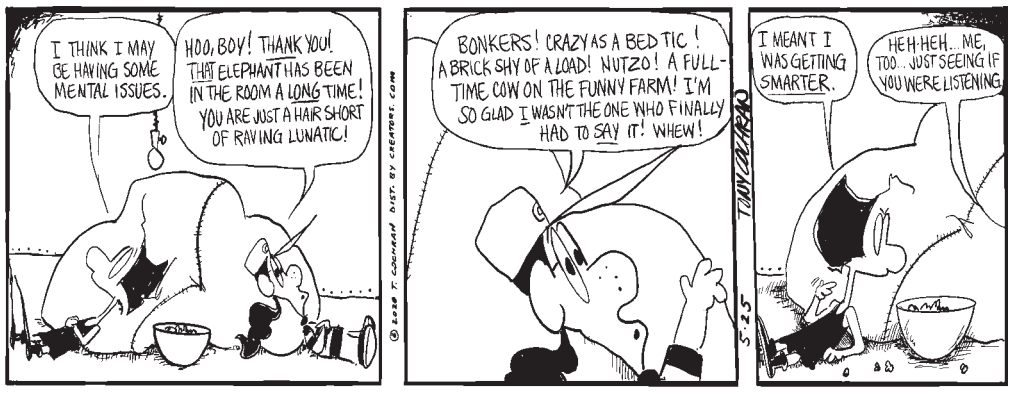

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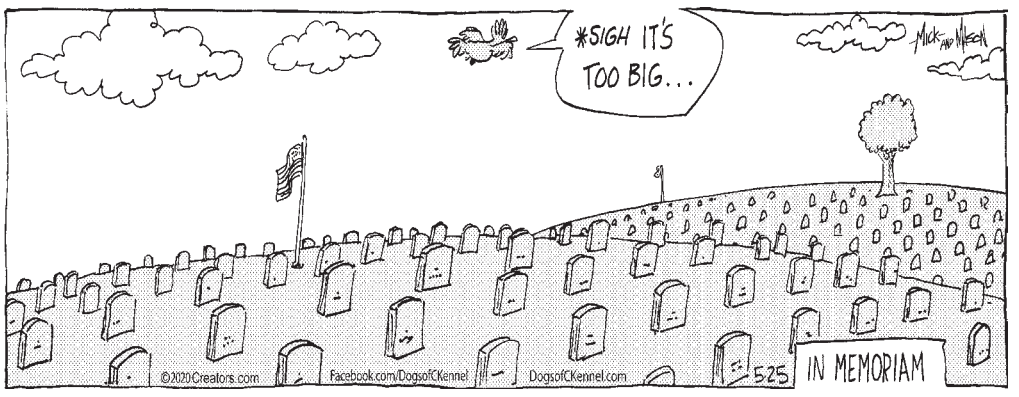
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



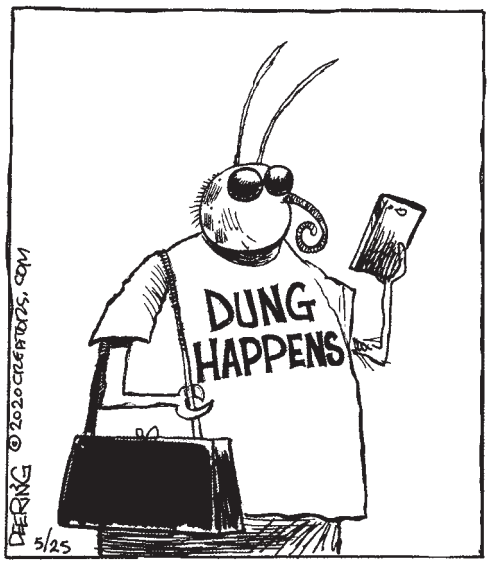
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 66.5°

MONDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high occ. 3 ft
Small blend of old/new SSW swell energy. Steep NW swell in the mix.

TUESDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft Thigh to waist high
Long period, partially shadowed SW/SSW swell slowly builds. Minor NW swell.

WEATHER

Memorial Day: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 75.
Monday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 61.
Tuesday: Patchy fog. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 74.
Tuesday Night: Patchy fog. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 61.
Wednesday: Patchy fog. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 73.

Date	Day of the Week	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2020/05/25	Mon	06:09 AM	-0.61	L
2020/05/25	Mon	12:57 PM	3.24	H
2020/05/25	Mon	4:50 PM	2.50	L
2020/05/25	Mon	11:14 PM	5.58	H
2020/05/26	Tue	06:56 AM	-0.51	L
2020/05/26	Tue	2:02 PM	3.20	H
2020/05/26	Tue	5:34 PM	2.73	L
2020/05/26	Tue	11:59 PM	5.32	H
2020/05/27	Wed	07:49 AM	-0.36	L
2020/05/27	Wed	3:16 PM	3.31	H
2020/05/27	Wed	6:39 PM	2.94	L
2020/05/28	Thu	12:55 AM	4.97	H
2020/05/28	Thu	08:48 AM	-0.19	L
2020/05/28	Thu	4:23 PM	3.57	H
2020/05/28	Thu	8:18 PM	3.01	L
2020/05/29	Fri	02:08 AM	4.58	H
2020/05/29	Fri	09:51 AM	-0.04	L
2020/05/29	Fri	5:10 PM	3.97	H
2020/05/29	Fri	10:18 PM	2.69	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date:05/20
18 34 40 42 50
Power#: 9
Jackpot:104 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 05/19
8 19 25 36 66
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: 298 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 05/20
2 24 29 30 37
Mega#: 8
Jackpot: 8 M

Fantasy5
Draw Date: 05/20
14 19 24 27 28

Daily 3
Draw Date: 05/20
Evening: 7 1 3

Draw Date: 05/20
Midday: 8 5 0

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 05/20
1st: 12 - LUCKY CHARMS
2nd: 11 - MONEY BAGS
3rd: 06 - WHIRL WIN
RACE TIME: 1:40.22

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

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (MAY 25)

You'll be generous with your heart, as well as your time, money and talents. You'll get to know a new area and become very specialized, developing to an elite level of expertise. On the financial front, a business venture will pay off, little by little, and a daring investment will quadruple in three years. Leo and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 2, 37, 1 and 17.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Create or find a sense of place that feels at once like nowhere, anywhere and everywhere. That will be a worthy quest, as your environment, mood and pursuits are intrinsically linked.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It's time to let go, sell, give or toss away. The quest for less brings gorgeous, peaceful moments. The best you own and experience will have the characteristics of being compact, quiet and inward-oriented.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You really want the wholesome thing that's best for you. This is a rarified dynamic, as so much of what's good for us is not enormously appealing, but your wise heart is brilliantly navigating now.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). There's no sizzle on the steak. The relationship has become predictable. The job has evolved as a means to a paycheck. What now? Either willfully reinvigorate or exit.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You have met some heavy emotional demands, and it's now time to rest. Only you know what recharges you. It's different for each person. Do what you need to do so you'll be ready to reboot tomorrow.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). If it's wrong, odd, misshapen, awkward, worn and overlooked, you'll grab it up, subtly highlight its loveliness and frame it in just the way that makes people envious. There's money in this!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). When you want something badly, you want the struggle just as much. You're willing to get uncomfortable, be out of your element, feel rejected and more. This willingness is your success key.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You don't hard sell, force the issue or use pressure to get your way. You're creative. So, you build the funnel that naturally leads to the end you desire. Better to seduce than to convince.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Variety may be the spice of life, but with life and spices choice is everything. Choosing everything at once brings a bad taste. Figure out what goes together and what you like. Less is more.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The day will bring an array of sensations, attitudes, feelings, hopes, pangs and more. You'll be vividly aware that living is perceiving, and you won't have to go deep to get benefits.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll be championing the underdog and if you can manage not to insult the over-dog at the same time, you'll essentially be the anomaly -- an uneaten agent in a dog-eat-dog world.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Knowing you have options is all well and good, but when it comes down to it, you don't want the feeling of freedom, you want the actual freedom.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

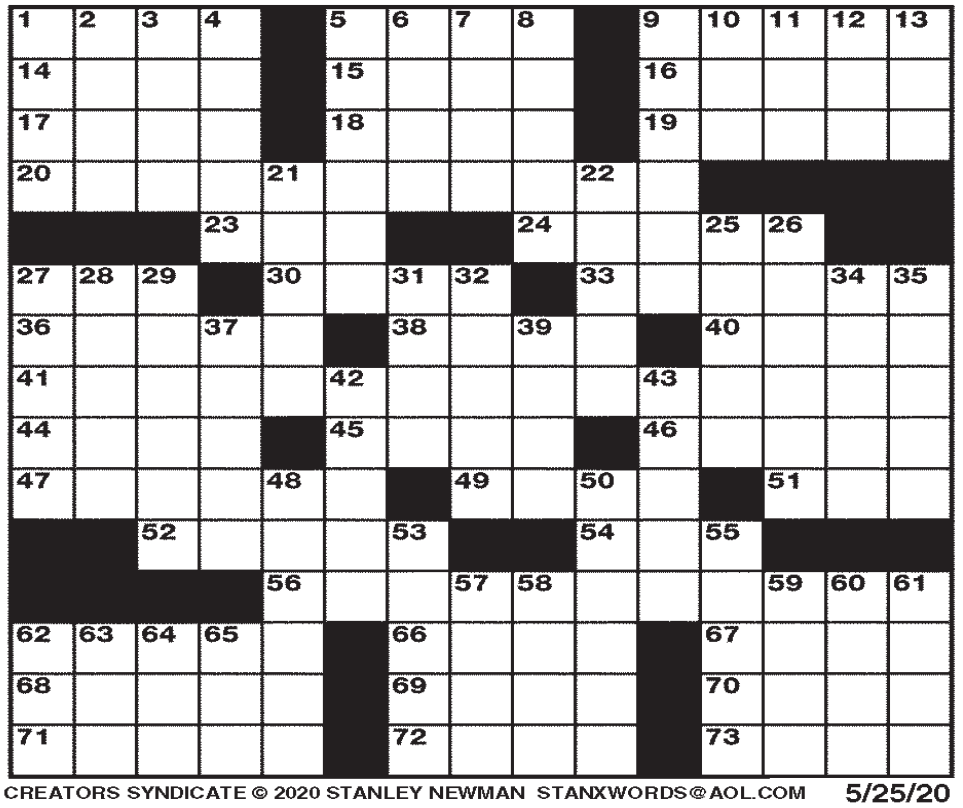
	6		9			7		
		3		6				2
2	8			7	3	4	6	
9		2		8				5
		1	2		4	9		
3				9		6		4
	3	4	6	2			5	9
5				4		1		
		6			1		4	

Newsday Crossword

PLANTING TIME by Brad Wilber
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Bratty backtalk
5 Attire
9 Pointy missiles thrown in pubs
14 Hawaiian dance
15 Wicked
16 "Famous Potatoes" state
17 By-mouth
18 Prefix meaning "one"
19 Short memos
20 Container used for moistening seeds
23 Wicked deed
24 Vehicles coasting on snow
27 By way of, on an itinerary
30 Minor lies
33 Ultimatum ending
36 Info obtained by a 62 Down, for short
38 Lake bird
40 Twist-off bottle tops
41 Hand protectors while planting
44 Was obligated
45 Whitish gemstone
46 Boxing match locale
47 Fight against, as temptation
49 Auto's __ view mirror
51 Pigpen
52 Instruct a class
54 Award for a top team athlete: Abbr.
56 Cart for transporting topsoil
62 Futuristic story genre
66 *Words like this*: Abbr.
67 Sulk
68 Nut in Southern pies
69 Identical
70 Mail routing abbr.
71 __ lady (girl)
72 Sugar amts.
73 Hatchlings' home

DOWN
1 Demonstrate
2 Subtle glow
3 Venetian blind piece
4 Reduced-price events
5 Zodiac sign of the Twins
6 River associated with Shakespeare
7 Jewelry on a finger
8 Voting coalitions
9 Formal supper
10 "Without further __ . . ."
11 Mouse's larger cousin
12 Winnie-__-Pooh
13 Ship's distress call
21 Long firearm
22 "Moving right __ . . ."
25 Home's interior design
26 Works much too hard
27 Good physical strength
28 Extremely impressed
29 No longer moving
31 Radar screen flash
32 Underwater tracking device
34 Used up, as cash
35 Short opinion piece
37 __ Bauer (clothing store chain)
39 Stare at
42 V-shaped cut in wood
43 Moth as an infant
48 Cutting wood
50 Moseys along
53 Bank robbery, informally
55 Guy writing press releases, for short
57 When planes are due in: Abbr.
58 Light on a table
59 Repetitive learning method
60 __ for (chooses)
61 Left the house
62 Secret agent
63 Head of a corporation: Abbr.
64 Closely monitored hosp. ward
65 Room cooler with blades



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2020 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 5/25/20

CITY OF SANTA MONICA

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL VIA TELECONFERENCE Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20 Issued by Governor Gavin Newsom

SUBJECT: Adoption of New Transportation Impact Thresholds for Projects Subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Senate Bill 743 (SB 743) and Revision to the City's Transportation Impact Fee

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the adoption of new transportation impact thresholds for projects subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The new thresholds, which will be based on vehicles miles traveled (VMT) rather than level of service (LOS), are required for consistency with Senate Bill 743 and state CEQA Guidelines. In addition, the City Council will consider proposed revisions to the City's Transportation Impact Fee to complement the new VMT metric and goals. Information on the proposed increase and backup materials will be available no later than May 30, 2020 at:
https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Transportation/Developers/Transportation-Impact-Fee/

DATE/TIME: TUESDAY, June 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting can be viewed at: CITY TV: Cable Channel 16 or Streaming at
https://www.smgov.net/content.aspx?id=4292
LIVE STREAM (Chrome Browser Recommended):
https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/qabdpbgt
AND DIAL-IN NUMBER: 1 (415) 466-7000 (US), PIN 4841191 #

LIVE STREAM
https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/qabdpbgt
AND DIAL-IN NUMBER
1 (415) 466-7000 (US), PIN 4841191 #
TO PROVIDE REMOTE PUBLIC COMMENT: Call (310) 458-8423

LOCATION:
In an effort to reduce the risk of spreading Coronavirus (COVID-19), members of the City Council and City Staff will participate via teleconference. The meeting will be broadcast on CityTV Channel 16 and stream on the City's website as normal, but members of the public may also listen to the teleconference and provide remote public comment via the methods listed above.

HOW TO COMMENT
In lieu of attending the meeting, the public is strongly encouraged to participate by submitting their written correspondence and written public comment on agenda items via email to councilmtgitems@smgov.net, or by calling in at the number listed above. Please note the agenda item number in your comments. Written public comment submitted before 2:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be available for online viewing.

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project, please contact Rachel Kwok at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at Rachel.kwok@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 made to provide the requested accommodation.

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) 458-8341.

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CALIFORNIA ALL Your Actions Save Lives
CDPH

FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 15 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 4759

Somewhere in Victoria

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

Anglesea
Ararat
Ascot
Avoca
Bank
Bass
Bays
Beechworth
Bena
Boom
Bush
City
Cliffs
Coast
Cobram
Dargo
Docks
Eltham
Epsom
Fitzroy
Genoa
Gold
Highett
Huon
Illowa
Iona
Ivanhoe
Lima
Lurg
Maze
Moyhu
Nilma
Nyah
Omeo
Ouyen
Ovens
Pira
Prahran
Rural
Sale
Scuba
Seymour
Shepparton
St Kilda
Sunbury
Toorak
Wodonga
Yanac

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
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AGREEMENTS

FROM PAGE 1

E Line station, the Big Blue Bus Yards, the Wyndham Hotel, the Ken Edwards Center, the Salvation Army and a post office occupy the remaining sites.

Planning Commission Chair Leslie Lambert said development agreements are only appropriate for large commercial projects that have the money and space to provide the required community benefits, such as affordable housing or public amenities.

Development review permits already require developers to make 25% of the apartments in a project affordable, pay impact fees related to transportation and open space, and reduce traffic generated by building residents.

On average, it takes the city more than two years to approve development agreements — more than twice the amount of time it takes to process development review permits, Lambert said.

"There are incredible time savings with DRPs," she said. "That means cost savings, which means more housing."

Large housing projects would still go through public planning and design review hearings, Lambert added. Although the future of the Architectural Review Board is up in the air because of the city's budget crisis, the Planning Commission will recommend that City Council maintain a public design review process for major projects.

Commissioner Elisa Paster said eliminating development agreements for downtown housing projects will make building standards more predictable for developers and residents.

"DAs are ripe for abuse, they're ripe for political negotiation," Paster said. "Santa Monica is one of the most expensive places to develop … (in part) because of the process and things like DAs. Why not, in this period, try to encourage more housing when we can?"

Commissioner Nina Fresco, who voted against the proposal, said she still believes that larger projects with more impact on the city need special review and should provide additional community benefits.

Fresco and Commissioner Mario Fonda-Bonardi, who also voted no, said they were concerned about another provision of the proposal that changes Santa Monica's definition of a housing project to align with state law.

The proposal, which the commission approved 5-2, would increase the maximum amount of nonresidential space included in a housing project from 25% to 33% of the project's total square footage. In alignment with state law, the nonresidential space would no longer have to be used for commercial purposes.

"I'm very uncomfortable with increasing something in an area that's going to be weakened," Fonda-Bonardi said. "Demand for retail and office space is going to be way, way down for the next five years, so we're opening something up we don't need to open up because we're trying to get housing."

Community support for the proposal was split along slow-growth and pro-housing lines, with neighborhood organizations in opposition and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. in support.

"Applying the DRP process to Tier 3 projects will simplify and improve the predictability of our community's onerous entitlement process. It will also significantly reduce the resources required of both the applicant and the city," DTSM CEO Kathleen Rawson wrote in a letter to the commission. "As it is currently structured, the DRP process provides ample public process and opportunity for organizations like DTSM and other community stakeholders to provide feedback on a project's merits."

madeleine@smdp.com

PARADE

FROM PAGE 1

to fundraise for most of its costs.

He said the event was traditionally funded with small donations and sponsorships, typically under $1,500 and fundraising for the event was always a challenge without a top-line sponsorship that was avoided to maintain the small-town feel of the parade. Jarow said the current economic climate made securing those donations borderline impossible.

In addition to cost, the City report states social distancing requirements also make it difficult to plan special events.

"Consistent with LA County Department of Public Health's order prohibiting all large gatherings, the beloved 4th of July parade would not be a permitted at this time," said Public Information Officer Constance Farrell. "The City is working closely with LA County as they slowly relax Safer At Home orders, and will share more information about gatherings when the County provides guidance."

Jarow said he understood the distancing problems.

"It's normally a packed event with people sitting next to each other all along the route and we don't know if people can do that this year," he said. "When will we have a normal enough situation to do a parade?"

A third challenge this year is construction of an athletic field at the Civic Center.

"Even if we decided to have it we'd have to change everything because our staging area has been taken over by a soccer field and that's an element we haven't been able to address at all," he said. "Staging at beach lots has been impossible so far due to a city ordinance that limits the direction and route."

Jarow said in normal times, there might have been an opportunity to alter the route rules or find a solution but these are not normal times and the city's priorities have shifted to addressing the health/budget problems.

The City's current rules limit marches, processions, walks or parades to one way along a designated number of streets on the western edge of the city. Main Street options are required to begin at the Civic Center and can only travel south. Under current rules, the parade can't begin in the beach lots or move north through the city.

While the July 4 parade is canceled, Jarow said he has hopes for a replacement event later in the summer when the current restrictions have been lifted. He said he'd like to organize a combined graduation/caregiver/first responder event that traveled throughout the city and allowed residents to experience the community of a parade without having to necessarily gather in a large group along the old route.

"We could get trucks out there, we could get music out there, we could have a moving hoedown," he said.

Jarow said the event probably wouldn't include any significant number of walking entries but an all vehicle parade could be created with minimal impact to the city.

"I haven't heard back from anyone at the city about it yet," he said. "But once this craziness is over, it's a good idea that we could try."

editor@smdp.com

HELPERS

FROM PAGE 1

"We started thinking about how we could really make this a legitimate nonprofit," Camarena said, sharing how she received pro bono legal support from a firm in New York to achieve 501(c)(3) status.

"And as we started getting to know a lot of the seniors who we were helping, we realized that safety is their number one concern. So, we implemented background checks for all of our volunteers," and, of course, still provide them with the masks, gloves and hand sanitizer to protect themselves and the seniors, Camarena said.

Typically, a volunteer is paired to one or two seniors in an area where they live, "and they're paired up for the foreseeable future — at least through the crisis for COVID," Camarena said. "But I've come to find there's a lot of seniors who have needed help for a really long time, but they didn't really know where to find the help. So, we've tried to take that into consideration and pair these people with neighbors who may live on the same block; and it's cool because they likely never would've met otherwise but this has given them an opportunity to not just deliver groceries but to really get to know each other as people."

Camarena added the connection has been beneficial for all parties involved.

"It's really become a community within a community," she said, detailing how seniors have crafted presents and notes to share their gratitude and other organizations have reached out to discuss how they can help each other help others.

"We've been talking to a number of organizations, sharing best practices and we found we all experienced a lot of the same challenges," Camarena said. "I ended up walking one of the groups through our process and the way we onboard volunteers and match them with seniors."

She said it now feels like it makes sense to merge since they all have the same mission and aim to help the senior population. So, the former Santa Monica Helpers are now known as AllTogetherLA volunteers as of Wednesday, but they will still be seen out in the community same as before.

"Only now, we will be serving all of Los Angeles County," Camarena said, which is a task she's very excited to begin. "As soon as we started considering expanding beyond the Westside to all of L.A. County, I thought of the need for help in our communities of color, because many of them are being disproportionately affected by everything that's happening."

Camarena acknowledged that many of the communities AllTogetherLA will be serving house seniors who might not have had the ability to stay at home in recent weeks, "so I think we'll start to see a little more seniors who are in need this week once we start getting out there to help," she said.

"Now that we feel like the west side of that was pretty taken care of, and there's a lot of organizations here to help, we're excited to get out into these areas that have a lot more low income seniors who are in need," Camarena said.

"I was recently thinking about why I started this in the first place; it started because I wanted to help my neighbor — literally — because I ran into her in the hall and wanted to help," Camarena said. "That one interaction made me question how many other people out there were like her, so I created the helpers to go and find out who in the community of Santa Monica needed help. And that quickly became us helping all of the Westside to now L.A. County. So, it's amazing to be able to see the growth of all of our volunteers coming together, all of our organizations coming together. There's no ego in the work. It's really all about what we can do to connect people who need help with people that are out there looking to help."

Residents who are looking to volunteer or find assistance from AllTogetherLA can do so by contacting the hotline 323-310-0411 or visiting the website alltogether.la/.

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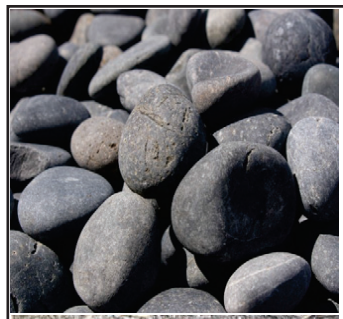
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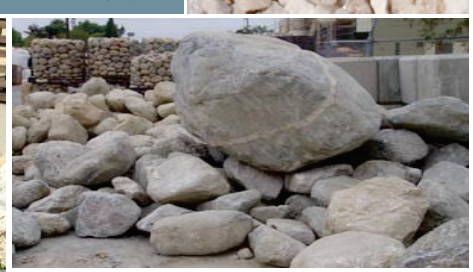
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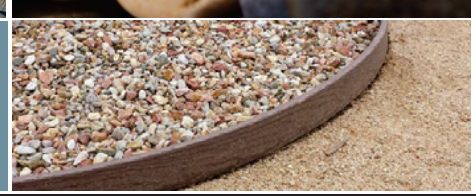












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Community Service in Santa Monica

Rotary's Worldwide Service Projects



By Sharon Gavin, President

This spring has brought unexpected and unfortunate change with the COVID-19 crisis. But, the Rotary Club of Santa Monica continues to thrive.

As people of action, we have been following our motto "Service Above Self" to help our community. Our Community & Youth Grants committee as well as our Board of Directors have been busy approving grants to our local non-profits who are on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic. We have provided grants to the Westside Food Bank, Meals on Wheels West, WISE & Healthy Aging, Step Up on Second, A Safe Place for Youth, St. Anne's, St. Joseph's Center, the SMC Foundation, the Salvation Army, and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica, among others.

We continue to engage in hands-on community service as well. For example, our Rotarians are continuing to deliver meals to seniors in need with Meals on Wheels West. We are also participating in their Phone Assurance program, where we call seniors to check on their health and wellness.

Our weekly meetings have been converted to virtual experiences with Zoom, and our speakers have been doing a fantastic job delivering their presentations virtually. We have heard from City Councilman Greg Morena about Santa Monica's response to the COVID-19 crisis, Dr. Raphael Sonenshein about politics, Dr. Rick Kennedy about COVID-19 issues on the Westside, and Dr. Hal Slavkin about High Definition Health Care.

Our club has also been offering many opportunities for our Rotarians to virtually socialize with each other beyond our weekly meetings. Each Tuesday, we host a virtual Happy Hour. In addition, we have introduced a Wellness Class, Cooking Class, Book Club, Game Night, and a virtual Talent show!

If you are interested in learning more about the Rotary Club of Santa Monica, please contact Savi at rotaryclubofsantamonica @verizon.net or visit our website at https://rotaryclubofsanta monica.org.

Santa Monica Lions Club Awards Grants to Community Agencies



By Marilynn Schalit

Santa Monica Lions Club Board members met via conference call in April to review grant applications from various community agencies listed by Lion Susan DeRemer.

Funds for these donations are raised by our annual Pancake Breakfast, which will tentatively be held on October 3 this year. Other sources of funds include our membership dues and monies from our lunch and dinner meetings. These meetings at the Elks Lodge have been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The following community agencies will receive grants: The Santa Monica YMCA, Step Up (On Second), The Santa Monica Breakfast Club, which provides dental exams and products to low-income school children; Meals on Wheels West, which was awarded extra funding due to unprecidented requests for food delivery and wellness checks; Clare/Matrix, which needs larger kitchen equipment to serve additional food recipients; the McKinley School PTA backpack program which provides food for children to take home; Westside Family Clinic, the Dot Gelvin Memorial Scholarship, which goes to a Santa Monica College student; and two scholarships to Santa Monica High School students, one of which is from the Jerry Bruver Memorial Scholarship fund at Santa Monica Lions Club.

Also, donations were made to Lions Club International and the Student Speaker Contest. Julia Abbott, last year's winner of our local contest, also won this year. Thanks to our treasurer, Pam Andrews, for distributing these donations from our benevolent account.

Please refer to our Facebook page to learn more about our club at smlions. Our website address is e-clubhouse.org/sites/santamon ica. Please stay safe by staying at home, washing your hands often, and social distancing.

Remembering My Mother

By Evelyn Lauchenauer

We are separated, yet her presence is all around me. She is up in heaven, and I am planted here on our earth.

My mom, Shirley, who was proud to be a South African and an American, showed courage and a sense of adventure when she left her family and friends behind to start a new life in California. She met my Swiss father in East London, South Africa while studying cosmetology and completing her license to be a hair stylist. She loved hairstyling and carried this passion throughout her life.

Mom had a youthful quality that you don't always see in many adults. She was most comfortable in her home where she enjoyed gardening, cooking, and displaying her collections of South African seashells and African Violets. If it was emerald green, Shirley owned it, whether it was dresses, shirts, gloves, frying pans or the trim on the house.



Evelyn Lauchenauer with her mom, Shirley.

(Continued on Page 10)

Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club Memory



By Karen Miller

The closure of our building, which was once used to film a scene starring Nicole Kidman and Meryl Streep in major motion picture *The Prom*, hasn't stopped members from being active and productive.

Members have been participating in a recipe exchange which has inspired creative cooking and will become a valuable asset to many Santa Monica kitchens. Our many avid bridge players have been playing online at *Bridge Base Online,* which allows both casual and competitive games for only $1.25 each.

While you were all safe in Santa Monica, I had a harrowing experience being stuck on a cruise very far away with no sure end in sight. Two years ago, I planned a cruise with two friends, and on February 20 it began like a normal trip. We started in South Africa and went into three ports enjoying beautiful cities and wild animals.

The next adventure was to be an exciting trip to Madagascar to visit the native lemurs. Two days on the Indian Ocean, and we were expected to land – only we never did. Madagascar was closed to all ships, so we set out for two small island nations. The first was Réunion, and while there, we enjoyed a tour of a sea turtle rescue center.

Little did we know that the cruise ship parked next to us was getting pelted with rocks from locals terrified of cruise ships. Next stop, Mauritius, in the middle of the Indian Ocean, where I got an intestinal infection and had to be rushed to a local hospital. I spent two days in an ICU staffed by locals who spoke little English. A doctor flown in from India did a miracle, and I immediately got well.

The real danger was getting back to the ship before it left, as that was my only way out. After three hours of non-computerized paperwork delay, I got on board just as the ship was leaving, looking forward to ten more exciting cruise port stops. Needless to say, that

(Continued on Page 11)

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Paws and Claws

When Do I Sterilize My Female Golden Retriever?



By Dr. Frank Lavac MS, DVM,VCA

Q: What is the best age to sterilize my female Golden Retriever?

A: This is a complicated question, but thanks for asking it. For many decades, the primary recommendation was to spay (ovariohysterectomy) dogs at about six months of age. Spaying prior to their first heat cycle (approximately seven to nine months) reduces the chances of mammary cancer twenty-fold. Some shelters and rescue groups have advocated neutering much younger, prior to adopting, to guarantee that the dog will not become pregnant. This philosophy has become very common among the pet adoption agencies.

More recently, there has been some studies to suggest that waiting until dogs are fully mature, i.e. greater than one year old, reduces orthopedic problems and potentially reduces the risk for other health issues.

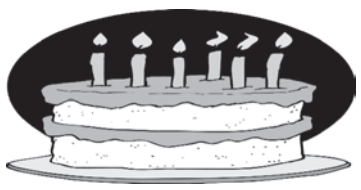
The problem is that there is no definitive data for the best time, and we are advising individuals on a case by case situation. For large breed dogs, I am recommending that they are spayed or neutered at 1-1.5 yrs of age unless there are behavioral or medical problems that would dictate earlier intervention.

Dr. Frank Lavac can be reached by calling 310-828-4587.

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Hello! My name is Scarlet. I am a female, two-year-old terrier mix. Please contact WagsandWalks.org to adopt me.



Happy May Birthdays to:

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Remembering My Mother

(Continued from Page 9)

She always looked good in emerald green against her fiery red hair. Shirley was a member of two local clubs. One was La Ballona Valley Bromeliad Society. She had a huge collection of cymbidium orchids in her back yard. With her green thumb, she could bring a sick plant back to life in no time.

The other club was the Woman's Club of Playa del Rey. Shirley was a contributing member for 16 years. Comments from fellow members include:

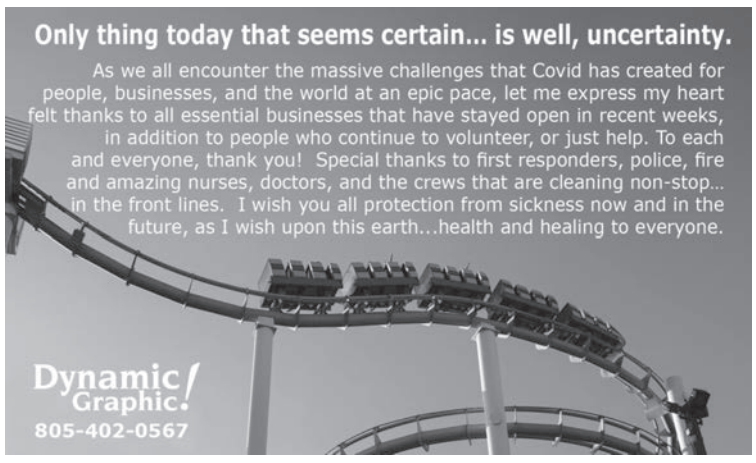
"Shirley was like a sister I never had. We would gab on the phone, neither one of us having much of anything ambitious to do. I sure miss her very much."

--Delight Poske

"I loved Shirley. Meeting her was the nicest thing that happened to me. We had a long time to be together. She was a great, great friend, and I will never forget her."

--Mary Moore Whitley

My mom passed away peacefully in her home with her family around her, but her memory is always with us.





Mar Vista: Neighbor to Neighbor

Being Kept Apart Has Brought Us Together

By Tesi Treuenfels

Hello Neighbors!

I hear us all cheering at eight o' clock every night in a big thank-you to our nurses, doctors, and essential workers. It does much for our spirits as well. It is an affirmation knowing we are each out there in this corona madness together. Such a strange time.

It's odd how with the Covid-19 keeping us apart from each other, "shelter in place" has actually brought us together. I've met so many neighbors on their daily walks around the block. I love to see our families walking together. It's a slower pace. I've lived in the country, and I feel like I'm back in the northeast corner of Washington state where I lived for a couple of years, way back when.

There's an app called "Next Door." It posts local news from your immediate neighbors. This has been a valuable source of information. I've also become accustomed to checking Instagram several times a day. There are so many generous musicians singing to us from their homes.

One singer-songwriter that has become dear to me is Mary Chapin Carpenter. She sings *Songs from Home* with her dog Angus at her feet and her white kitty taking a nap. She is so calming and reassuring in her manner. I urge you to check her out.

Several of the Mar Vista businesses are still open. The Mar Vista Market and Mitsuwa are both open. Dick's True Value Hardware is open. Atmosphere Cafe, My Lai, and MV Grab and Go all have take out. Alana's Coffee is open for take out only.

We're springing into May. Our Jacaranda trees are in bloom. Here in Mar Vista, we are proud of the brilliant display of bluish-purple flowers that cover these gorgeous trees.

These trees came to California from Brazil. It is estimated that the Jacaranda arrived in Southern California in the mid-1800s with travelers from southern Brazil.

I've been tucked in, getting lots of cleaning done. Stay safe everyone. Let's keep saving lives.

Byte by Byte

Navigating the Pandemic: Technological Tools



By Miceala Shocklee

COVID-19 has changed how the world functions. Where to go, how to act, what to do – the daily routine of the entire world has been completely upended. Finding information and entertainment can be a struggle.

When it comes to the facts, verified sources are the best. While the news, whether online or on television, can be a quick source of surface-level updates, journalism is not without flaw, and the information presented isn't necessarily expert-verified. To find out the most up-to-date information about how to navigate health and home during the pandemic, check out science-based websites like the following:

• World Health Organization: www.who.int

• Center for Disease Control and Prevention: cdc.gov

• World Organisation for Animal Health: oie.int

For the latest on local regulations, visit www.smgov.net.

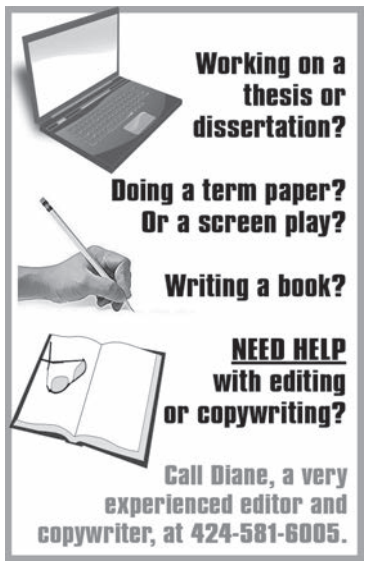
While you're staying safe at home, it's possible to keep up with activities beyond just binge-watching TV from the couch. Youtube has a host of exercise and crafting videos. Many gyms and studios are now hosting online sessions through their own websites, Facebook, or patreon. If you're no longer able to go to your favorite activity, call or email the host to ask if they're now hosting virtual versions.

When it comes to connecting with your circle of family and friends – Zoom, Houseparty, Facebook messenger, Whatsapp, and a whole suit of other apps afford the opportunity to harness the power of screens to talk face-to-face.

Just be sure to check over what messaging systems are encrypted, and which provide transcripts of text conversations to participants afterwards.

Whatever degree your life has been changed, it's still possible to find footholds for normalcy. Open up your laptop, tablet, or smartphone and peruse the resources available to you for rediscovering real life through the virtual world.

Miceala Shocklee, a Caltech graduate, is our editorial assistant and a monthly columnist.



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Teen Scene

Online Learning Across the Grades

By Julia Abbott

Currently, the vast majority of California's students are engaged in online learning. However, this quick switch from classroom to home is a very new style of learning. My siblings and I span grades from kindergarten to tenth.

"E-Learning" is rolling out in various ways across age levels. In elementary school, parents are visiting the school to pick up homework while printing some homework from teacher emails. This has been rocky, but things seem to be working out, as parents or siblings can teach basic math and English. I taught my brother multiplication tables yesterday and helped my sister with her geometry.

However, for middle school and up, entire districts have turned to solely online schooling. In my case, I still have to log into courses at the correct time, so I'm still waking up early. In my sister's case, she can complete the work at any time she pleases. However, this is new territory for almost everyone.

Teachers have been working very creatively with limited resources. Schoology has been shutting down regularly since it has been used as an online learning platform, causing teachers to get creative. One teacher moved a math test to Zoom. Some teachers have created links, word documents, and a vast array of videos. In fact, I believe (in spite of the roadblocks) online learning is going extremely well.

However, it is more independently based learning. I am an independent learner, so this system works very well for me. For those who are better dependent learners, this system is more of a challenge. Kids at my school used to joke about how much better online school would be. However, all the kids I know are beginning to sorely miss school. I, although I'm surprised I'm saying it, would love to go back to school tomorrow. Until then, I'll be happy to utilize online learning, while remembering to be more grateful when I do return.

For now, I hope that everyone is staying inside, staying healthy, and staying safe.

Julia Abbott is a local high school student.

Dining Out and Going to the Cinema Are on Hold for Jessica in England

We asked Jessica Heffernan of Loughton, Essex, England how she is managing at this time.

1. What's your living situation? I rent a two-story house with a large back garden.

2. Do you have pets? Yes, a two-year-old Jack Russell named Finley and two cats, Alfie and Tigi.

3. How are you coping with the lockdown/social distancing? I live alone with my pets. I have a routine each day which involves going out for very long walks (four miles today), and I am eating healthily and sleeping about 12 hours every night.

4. What's changed the most for you since the crisis began? Not being able to see my family and friends. I have two daughters and three grandchildren whom I usually see often. Also, not being able to go to work. Missing my social life of dining out and going to the cinema or the theatre in London.

5. What's stayed the same? Having the love of my pets.

6. How have your food habits changed? Grocery delivery, take-out, cooking? I have been cooking for myself, which is not what I used to do. I used to go out for dinner often with friends three or four nights a week.



A native of Los Angeles, Jessica moved to England in 1985. Finley is quite a talented dog. Check out his facebook page at www.facebook.com/finley.heffernan.3.

7. Have you turned to new hobbies or activities? My extensive walks in the forest are something I have now taken up.

8. How has your work been affected? I work for the local government and have been told to stay home. My job is a Park Warden, but our children's playgrounds are closed.

Escaping from an Apartment in Manhattan to a Country Home in Pennsylvania

David Trachtenberg and Gerry Perlman are staying in their vacation home in Susquehanna, Pennsylvania near the New York state border during this challenging time.

1. What's your living situation? We left our apartment in NYC (3/15/20) for the safety of our vacation home in Pennsylvania where we will stay as long as is necessary.

2. How are you coping with the lockdown/social distancing? Weathering the storm. We have 30 acres and a large house so we occupy ourselves with projects around the house and gardening, winter clean-up, spring cleaning, etc. It is a great tonic and distraction from the moments of anxiety and panic we all feel wash over us from time to time.

3. What's changed the most for you since the crisis began? The daily routine of going to work and interacting with workmates, meeting friends and associates for a drink or dinner.

(Continued on Page 12)

Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club

(Continued from Page 9)

never happened. Next stop was Sri Lanka for three days, and the ship was allowed to stop, but no one was allowed to disembark.

So, we saw the lovely country from tiny stateroom windows. Three of the most exciting cities in India were supposed to be our next stops, but India had closed their whole country just as we arrived. Our captain was getting visibly nervous as he gave us daily briefings, so he decided to go full speed ahead to the final port of Dubai with no more stops. On the way, after more than 10 days at sea, we were told we couldn't stop in Dubai, where everyone on the ship had bought air tickets to go home.

We wondered what life would be like if we had to float around the rest of our lives. So, after several more days, the captain said he found a port, and we all had to get off in Muscat, Oman and get home somehow. What an amazing sight to see 600 passengers all on their cell phones calling airlines and travel agents. We had bought our tickets through the cruise line, so they were helping us.

We got tickets on Air France from Oman to Saudi Arabia to Amsterdam to L.A. We were thrilled until President Trump just then came on TV and said European flights could no longer land in the U.S. Just as we were getting off the ship, we were told we were flying to the UK, but the Oman airport couldn't find our tickets. There was only one man in Oman who knew how to sort this out, so we waited in a line until only minutes before our flight was due to leave, when we got our tickets.

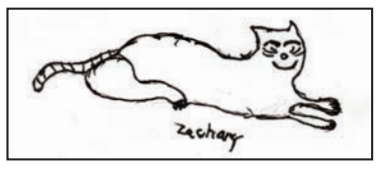
In case you think all of this was nerve-wracking, it was nothing compared to what awaited us at LAX when we arrived. The airport appeared deserted when we landed, but not so in the customs area.

There were hundreds of people arriving from all over the world, jammed into a line like sardines, breathing and coughing on each other. After two and a half hours, the three of us got to the final check. For some inexplicable reason, one of us was sent on her way home, and the other lady and I were taken all the way across the terminal and put into another line.

We assumed we were going to get tested, but no, we were taken to yet another line, with no explanation, where we waited another almost two hours. No one checked us or tested us, so after more than four hours, we were set free away from the worst contaminated place I've ever seen, our own LAX.

I am so lucky to be home even though I can't leave. I wish all of you a safe and healthy wait.

For questions about programs or renting the Santa Monica Bay Woman's Club in the future, please contact us at 310-398-1308.







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I've been guiding clients toward financial independence for over 25 years. I am passionate about providing timely, quality financial advice / planning that can lead to peace of mind for my clients.

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Escaping From an Apartment in Manhattan

(Continued from Page 11)

4. What's stayed the same? Absolutely nothing that I can think of except eating three meals a day.

5. Have your food habits changed? Grocery delivery, take-out, cooking? No, I have been shopping once a week at the grocery and doing a lot of cooking and meal planning.

6. Have you turned to new hobbies or activities? No, we just have more leisure time to catch up on TV series we never got to see before such as Amazon Prime, Netflix, etc.

7. Has your work been affected? Yes, I now have no work. The construction industry is almost completely shut down. I am an expeditor. I work with architects/engineers getting their building plans approved and with general contractors getting permits for their projects all in the context of the NYC Department of Buildings. I also assist people in curing violations and obtaining certificates of occupancy for building owners.

Gerry is a retired clinical psychologist.



David Trachtenberg, right



Gerry Perlman, left

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