smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

THURSDAY
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With 200 tents and counting locals take lead tackling Boardwalk crisis






Clara Harter

TENTS: The Venice Boardwalk has become the center of the local homelessness crisis.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Fed up by months of finger pointing and excuses Venice locals are leading the charge to address the rapidly deteriorating state of the Boardwalk. These community members are not trained activists or service providers, but they are getting things done.

Organizing under groups called Friends of the Venice Boardwalk, Team Venice, and the Boardwalk Action Committee, fed up residents have successfully pressured government officials to take several concrete actions. Their efforts contributed to the clearing out and reopening of the Boardwalk handball courts in April and the removal of encampments in the artist vendor spaces in May.

The groups vary in membership and specific objectives, but share an ultimate goal of restoring the Boardwalk to a public space that is safe and accessible for all.

Currently, it is in a state of crisis. According to LAPD from 2019 to 2020 robberies have increased by 46 percent, aggravated assaults by 43 percent, and homicides by 100 percent in Venice area 14A11, which encompasses the Boardwalk. Encampment fires have become so frequent that LAFD assigned a new rapid response vehicle to patrol Venice.

Regular tent counts conducted by Friends of the Venice Boardwalk now routinely surpass 200. Members say that while campers come and go, there has been a net increase of at least 80 tents since January.

"It's just evolved into this sort of non-stop party. The crime is ridiculous and there are fights literally every day and night," said Brian Averill, who serves on the Venice Neighborhood Council and heads the Boardwalk Action Committee. "Understandably our community is up in arms."

The Boardwalk's homeless population skyrocketed during the pandemic when no camping ordinances were suspended to allow homeless individuals to shelter in place. As the County approaches the June 15 full reopening date, residents wonder

SEE **HOMELESSNESS** PAGE 7

McKeown announces surprise retirement

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

In the midst of his sixth term, Councilmember Kevin McKeown unexpectedly announced his retirement during a City Council meeting Tuesday evening.

The meeting focused mostly on the City's proposed budget but the night took a turn just before its conclusion when McKeown raised his hand to speak after hours of questions and public comments.

"Before we continue, I have a brief announcement and this is something I wanted to say at the same time, both to the council and to the community. I have decided to retire," McKeown said. "You've all been very kind about me not looking my age but I am well into my seventies. I am profoundly grateful for the many years that I had the privilege and honor of being able to be a service to this city, which I deeply love, but I have decided to retire, effective two weeks from Friday."

McKeown then exited the zoom and left Council in shock.



Courtesy photo

KEVIN MCKEOWN: The Councilman said he would leave in about two weeks with no explanation.

SEE **MCKEOWN** PAGE 4

Third candidate enters County Supervisor race

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The date on the calendar is closer to election day 2020 than election day 2022 but that isn't stopping candidates from perpetuating a never-ending election cycle with multiple individuals now declaring their intent to run for County Supervisor.

Current Los Angeles Controller Ron Galperin announced Wednesday that he is entering the race. Galperin joins Assemblymember Richard Bloom and West Hollywood Mayor Lindsay Horvath in competing for the seat currently held by Shelia Kuehl.

"L.A. is at a turning point," Galperin said in a statement. "Our region has always been the home of creativity, innovation and dreams. As we begin to emerge from more than a year of COVID-19, we face enormous challenges, but also have great opportunities that must be tackled with guts and vision. It takes leadership and a willingness to fight to deliver a more equitable Los Angeles."

The Controller is a financial watchdog position. The position oversees the tax roll, tax and general

SEE **CANDIDATE** PAGE 11



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COMPASS

AP source: Biden picks LA mayor, envoy for ambassador posts

MICHAEL BALSAMO AND MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press

President Joe Biden is expected to announce he is nominating former senior State Department official Nicholas Burns to serve as his ambassador to China and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti to be his ambassador to India, according to a person familiar with the matter.

With the selections, Biden is turning to a seasoned diplomat and a longtime political ally to serve in two of the country's highest-profile diplomatic postings.

It was not clear when either nomination would be announced, according to the person familiar with the matter, who was not authorized to publicly comment on the matter and spoke on condition of anonymity. The White House declined to comment on either Burns or Garcetti and noted that "no one is final until they're announced."

The Associated Press has previously reported that Biden has settled on former Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel to serve as his ambassador to Japan and former deputy secretary of State Tom Nides to be ambassador to Israel. Neither of those selections has been publicly announced.

Prominent Democratic fundraisers Denise Bauer, Jane Hartley and David Cohen have also emerged as leading contenders for postings in France, Italy and Canada, respectively, according to people familiar with the White House deliberations but also not authorized to publicly comment on the matter. During the Obama administration, Bauer served as ambassador to Belgium, and Hartley was ambassador to France and Monaco. Cohen is a top executive at the cable company Comcast.

Burns and Garcetti, if confirmed by the Senate, would come to their postings at high-pressure moments in the U.S. relationships with China and India.

Biden on Wednesday asked U.S. intelligence officials to "redouble" their efforts to investigate the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic, including any possibility the trail might lead to a Chinese lab.

The president has also pressed China's Xi Jinping on his government crackdown of democracy activists in Hong Kong, human rights abuses against Uighur and ethnic minorities in the western Xinjiang province, and what the U.S. sees as unfair and coercive trade practices.

Burns previously served as undersecretary of state under President George W. Bush and as U.S. envoy to Greece and NATO. Burns is now the executive director of the Aspen Strategy Group and Aspen Security Forum. He's also a professor of the practice of diplomacy and international relations at the Harvard Kennedy School.

Garcetti, if confirmed, would be dispatched to India as it has been overwhelmed by a surge in coronavirus infections and deaths. India's death toll is the third highest reported in the world after the U.S. and Brazil, and true numbers are thought to be significantly greater.

Alex Comisar, a spokesperson in Garcetti's mayoral office, declined to comment.

The 50-year-old Democrat would leave behind a city where his tenure has been defined by the coronavirus pandemic and an out-of-control homeless crisis that saw filthy encampments spread into nearly every neighborhood.

Garcetti, who considered a 2020 White House bid and later became part of Biden's inner circle, emerged as a widely discussed possibility to join Biden's Cabinet last year. But he took himself out of the running, saying the raging coronavirus crisis made it impossible for him to step away.

In picking Garcetti, the president would be rewarding a loyalist who was one of his national campaign co-chairs, who served on the committee that vetted his pool of vice presidential contenders and who served as one of several co-chairs for Biden's inaugural committee.

The India post would allow the politically ambitious Garcetti to burnish his foreign policy credentials ahead of a possible future White House run. That's a conspicuous gap on his resume — the Ivy League graduate and Rhodes scholar has spent two decades in city government, either as mayor or a city councilman.

The two-term mayor would leave LA with an uneven record. The mayor has been credited with continuing a transit buildup

SEE **BIDEN** PAGE 4

Amazon to buy MGM, studio behind James Bond and 'Shark Tank'

JOSEPH PISANI
AP Retail Writer

Online shopping giant Amazon is buying MGM, the movie and TV studio behind James Bond, "Legally Blonde" and "Shark Tank," with the hopes of filling its video streaming service with more stuff to watch.

Amazon is paying $8.45 billion for MGM, making it the company's second-largest acquisition after it bought grocer Whole Foods for nearly $14 billion in 2017.

The deal is the latest in the media industry that's aimed at boosting streaming services to compete against Netflix and Disney+. AT&T and Discovery announced last week that they would combine media companies, creating a powerhouse that includes HGTV, CNN, Food Network and HBO.

Amazon doesn't say how many people watch its Prime Video streaming service, but more than 200 million people have access to it because they pay for Prime membership, which gives them faster shipping and other perks.

Amazon said Wednesday that it would use MGM's vast library, which includes famous characters such as Rocky, RoboCop and Pink Panther, to create new movies and shows.

"It's going to be a lot of fun work," said Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, during the company's shareholder meeting on Wednesday. "People who love stories are going to be the big beneficiaries."

Sucharita Kodali, an eCommerce analyst at Forrester Research Inc., said streaming companies need shows people can't watch elsewhere in order to standout and be competitive.

"There is an arms race to get what you can while the window is open," she said. Plus, the price tag is just a tiny fraction of Amazon's valuation, which is nearing $2 trillion.

Known for its roaring lion logo, MGM is one of the oldest studios in Hollywood, founded in 1924 when films were still silent. But its shine has faded considerably over the years. In the mid-1980s, it sold much of its pre-1948 catalog, including "The Wizard of Oz" and "Gone with the Wind," which is now owned by Warner Bros. And its sprawling California lot was bought by Sony.

For much of the past decade, MGM juggled bankruptcy and a revolving door of owners while its new releases dwindled. Long up for sale, MGM's desirability was lessened, not just because of its partially auctioned-off library, but because its prized property — James Bond — isn't owned outright. MGM splits ownership of it with Barbara Broccoli and Michael G. Wilson, who have ultimate control over the franchise. The release of the latest James Bond entry, "No Time to Die," has been on hold through the pandemic, with a fall release now planned.

Its other upcoming movies include Paul Thomas Anderson's next film, "Soggy Bottom," starring Bradley Cooper; Ridley Scott's "House of Gucci," with Lady Gaga and Adam Driver; and the upcoming Aretha Franklin biopic "Respect," with Jennifer Hudson. Its library still includes more than 4,000 movies, including "Silence of the Lambs" and "Thelma & Louise," and 17,000 TV shows, such as reality TV staples "Shark Tank" and "The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills." Amazon will also get cable channel Epix out of the deal.

Amazon already has its own studio, but has had mixed results. Two of its shows, "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" and "Fleabag," won best comedy series Emmys. Although it has won several Oscars, including most recently for "Sound of Metal," many of its films have failed to click with audiences at the box office. Recently, Amazon has been spending on sports and splashy shows. It will stream "Thursday Night Football" next year and is producing a "Lord of the Rings" show, which reportedly cost $450 million for its first season alone.

Seattle-based Amazon.com Inc. declined to say when it expects the deal to be finalized. But when it does, it will make Amazon, already one of the most powerful and valuable companies in the world, even bigger. Regulators around the world are scrutinizing Amazon's business practices, specifically the way it looks at information from businesses that sell goods on its site and uses it to create its own Amazon-branded products.

A report by the House Judiciary Committee in October called for a possible breakup of Amazon and others, making it harder for them to buy other businesses and imposing new rules to safeguard competition.

Amazon, founded in 1995 as an online bookstore, has become a $1.6 trillion behemoth that does a little bit of everything. It has a delivery business network that gets orders to people in two days or sooner; sells inhalers and insulin; has a cloud-computing business that powers the apps of Netflix and McDonald's; and has plans to send more than 3,200 satellites into space to beam internet service to Earth.

AP Film Writer Jake Coyle in New York also contributed to this story.

SMMUSD
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SANTA MONICA MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BID NOTICE

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County will receive sealed proposals on the following: BID# 21.21 – Districtwide Exterior Paint. Fitness and quality being equal, supplies grown, manufactured, or produced in the State of California will be given preference. All bids must be electronically filed via Secure Bids at https://colbisecurebids.com/o/smmusd/district-wide/exterior-paint on or before: **June 11, 2021; 2:00 p.m.** Bids will not be read at the time of opening; however, bid results will be made available within a reasonable time after the bid opening. **JOB WALK:** Friday, June 4, 2021 at 7:00 a.m. All contractors are to RSVP with knguyen@smmusd.org by Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. to receive bid forms and specifications.

Due to COVID-19 On site visits and SITE WALKs must adhere to SMMUSD, LA County and State of California Covid-19 safety regulations within the following link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/18TMXoK8E-JwV3bmXO4FZLVSd7k1bIVBr/view

The right is reserved to reject any and all proposals.



DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 283 CALLS ON MAY 25

Audible Burglar Alarm 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 12:06 a.m.
Loud Music 2100blk Colorado Ave 12:12 a.m.
Loud Music 1500blk Berkeley St 12:36 a.m.
Armed Robbery Just Occurred 1100blk Pico Blvd 3:33 a.m.
Loud Music 1900blk Ocean Ave 4:04 a.m.
Fitness Permit Violation 1100blk 4th St 6:22 a.m.
Encampment 1000blk 7th St 6:47 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 800blk Georgina Ave 7:27 a.m.
Encampment 2600blk The Beach 7:34 a.m.
Fitness Permit Violation 2200blk Virginia Ave 7:48 a.m.
General Parking Problem 1300blk 9th St 8:00 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1900blk 19th St 8:04 a.m.
Encampment 1300blk Montana Ave 8:06 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1900blk 19th St 8:29 a.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 8:31 a.m.
Health & Safety Code Violation 1300blk 4th St 8:39 a.m.
Expired Registration 2400blk 5th St 9:04 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1000blk 2nd St 9:15 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 900blk 3rd St 9:16 a.m.
Petty Theft Now 400blk Broadway 9:18 a.m.
Burglary Report 900blk Wilshire Blvd 9:24 a.m.
Petty Theft Now 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 9:30 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 500blk Olympic Blvd W 9:34 a.m.
Burglary Report 800blk 16th St 9:36 a.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 9:45 a.m.
Expired Registration 1700blk 15th St 9:56 a.m.
Public Intoxication 2100blk Main St 10:18 a.m.
Person With A Gun 2800blk Wilshire Blvd 10:27 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 400blk Raymond Ave 10:43 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 400blk 26th St 10:46 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2100blk Oak St 10:52 a.m.
Expired Registration 1800blk Michigan Ave 10:59 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 600blk Ocean Ave 11:08 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 100blk Wadsworth Ave 11:15 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 400blk Raymond Ave 11:18 a.m.
Expired Registration 1900blk 19th St 11:33 a.m.
Fraud Report 900blk 9th St 11:34 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 300blk Montana Ave 11:45 a.m.
Burglary Report 900blk 11th St 11:57 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1300blk 18th St 12:38 p.m.
Fraud Report 300blk Olympic Dr 12:51 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 14th St / Montana Ave 12:52 p.m.
Fight 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 12:54 p.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 800blk 7th St 1:08 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 700blk Euclid St 1:10 p.m.
Expired Registration 200blk Ashland Ave 1:14 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1000blk Ocean Ave 1:27 p.m.
Silent Robbery Alarm 1500blk Montana Ave 1:29 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper Just Occurred 400blk Pacific Coast Hwy 1:43 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Olympic Blvd / 26th St 1:48 p.m.
Out Of Order Traffic Signals 26th St / Arizona Ave 1:49 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Just Occurred Olympic Blvd / 26th St 1:49 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1100blk Pine St 1:52 p.m.
Burglary Report 800blk 16th St 2:03 p.m.
Lost Property 300blk Olympic Dr 2:04 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1100blk Pearl St 2:12 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Just Occurred 2300blk Cloverfield Blvd 2:13 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1100blk 19th St 2:29 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1100blk Ocean Park Blvd 2:36 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 400blk Pier Ave 2:41 p.m.
Battery Now 1400blk Ocean Ave 2:45 p.m.
Encampment 1500blk 17th St 2:47 p.m.
Lewd Activity 1300blk Ocean Ave 2:49 p.m.
Burglary Report 900blk 11th St 3:10 p.m.
Expired Registration 2400blk 34th St 3:40 p.m.
Lost Property 4th St / Broadway 3:55 p.m.
Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 700blk Colorado Ave 3:56 p.m.
Critical Missing Person 1500blk The Beach 4:01 p.m.
Expired Registration 2500blk Kansas Ave 4:08 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 800blk 2nd St 4:10 p.m.
Found Property 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 4:31 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 2000blk Wilshire Blvd 4:39 p.m.
Fight 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 4:52 p.m.
Person With A Gun 25th St / Wilshire Blvd 4:53 p.m.
Fraud Report 2100blk Montana Ave 4:57 p.m.
Found Property 1200blk The Beach 5:10 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 2100blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:02 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 200blk Palisades Ave 6:47 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Now 800blk Broadway 6:56 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 00blk Bay St 7:04 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1300blk Stanford St 7:12 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 4th St / Broadway 7:22 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 11th St / Colorado Ave 7:23 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Now 1800blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:25 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 4th St / Colorado Ave 7:26 p.m.
Fire Request Police 1300blk 18th St 7:27 p.m.
Petty Theft Now 2800blk Pico Blvd 7:47 p.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 1200blk 9th St 7:55 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 200blk Hill St 8:07 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 2000blk Virginia Ave 8:20 p.m.
Found Property 1900blk 17th St 8:26 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1900blk Ocean Way 8:32 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1200blk Palisades Beach Rd 8:45 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 2900blk Neilson Way 8:52 p.m.
Prowler 1200blk Palisades Beach Rd 8:55 p.m.

SEE **POLICE LOG** PAGE 5

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 33 CALLS ON MAY 25

EMS 1300blk 17th St 3:04 a.m.
EMS 500blk Ocean Ave 8:01 a.m.
EMS 900blk 4th St 8:22 a.m.
EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 9:43 a.m.
EMS 3200blk Wilshire Blvd 10:28 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 10:43 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 16th St 11:05 a.m.
EMS 200blk Broadway 11:25 a.m.
EMS 1700blk Cloverfield Blvd 12:01 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 3200blk Pico Blvd 12:11 p.m.
EMS 300blk Montana Ave 12:20 p.m.
EMS 1100blk Ocean Park Blvd 12:31 p.m.
EMS 2400blk 20th St 12:34 p.m.
Wires Down 2400blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:20 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Montana Ave 1:43 p.m.
EMS 2900blk Ocean Park Blvd 3:01 p.m.
EMS 1200blk Colorado Ave 3:35 p.m.
EMS 1200blk Colorado Ave 3:41 p.m.
EMS 900blk 20th St 3:47 p.m.
EMS 800blk Pico Blvd 3:54 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 6th St 3:56 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 2nd St 5:54 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 20th St 6:47 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 2nd St 7:14 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 18th St 7:24 p.m.
Odor Of Natural Gas 900blk 4th St 7:52 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1500blk 12th St 8:13 p.m.
EMS 2700blk 11th St 8:56 p.m.
EMS 2500blk Broadway 9:12 p.m.
EMS 300blk Ocean Ave 9:19 p.m.
EMS 1000blk Grant St 9:59 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 18th St 10:41 p.m.
EMS 1000blk Maple St 11:34 p.m.

CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

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

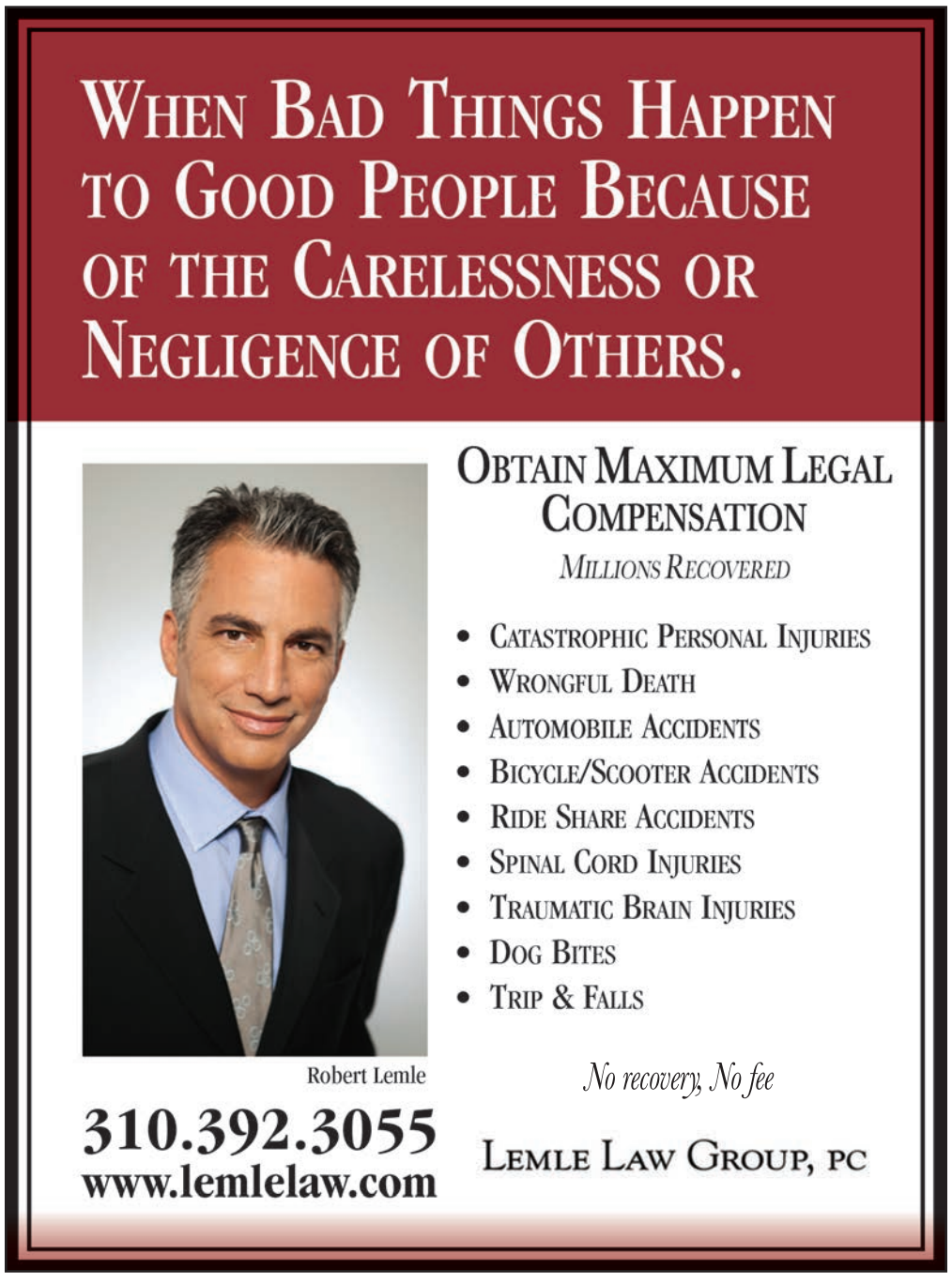
ON FRIDAY, MAY 14 AT 2:10AM

An ADT employee reported seeing a vehicle whose driver appeared to be under the influence. Officers responded to the corner of Ocean Ave. and San Vicente and conducted a traffic stop of the vehicle. The Officers noticed that the driver showed signs of intoxication and identified a bag of pills in her vehicle that appeared to be Xanax. The driver later admitted to taking medication and smoking approximately 1-2 joints of marijuana. Lisa Susan Clapperton was ultimately arrested for 23152(f) V.C. - Driving while impaired by Drugs.

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Letter to the Editor

By Bruria Finkel

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

McKeown retirement

Dear Editor:

What a great loss for the City Council of Santa Monica. His voice and the way he has treated people is phenomenal.

Listening to their concern and always doing something about their issues, has made our city a human place to live, a space for ideas and interchange, a place that grows and respects each other, and an involved community.

So sorry for his retirement.

We are the losers.

Bruria Finkel, Santa Monica

MCKEOWN

FROM PAGE 1

When the longtime Councilmember and local resident steps down on Friday, June 11, he will have served 24 years on City Council. During his tenure, he has had a special focus on renter issues, affordable housing, and environmental sustainability, but some residents will say his biggest accomplishment is serving as Mayor in 2020, a uniquely difficult year in Santa Monica history.

Current Mayor Sue Himmelrich said Wednesday that she was completely taken by surprise by the news, which was a sentiment shared by nearly all of her peers.

"Kevin has dedicated his life to making Santa Monica stronger, greener, and more equitable. I personally was devastated to learn about his plans to retire, and our City Council will sorely miss his depth of experience and his punny humor," Himmelrich said

"Kevin has had a unique ability to coalesce the Council around our shared values and goals and has tirelessly worked to meaningfully advance protections and support for vulnerable tenants and residents. His active correspondence with constituents has been a model of public service," she added. "This is a man who loves Santa Monica in his bones and demonstrated unrelenting integrity and dedication to the community as a tenured Councilmember. It is hard to imagine a meeting without his perfect radio voice and comedic timing."

Councilmember Gleam Davis described McKeown as an extremely dedicated Councilmember who always did the hard, unglamorous work of preparing for meetings and then brought well thought out comments and policy suggestions to Council discussions.

"Perhaps, most importantly, Kevin knows right from wrong and he never compromised his values for political gain or popularity. Kevin's contributions to this City are immeasurable and we all should be grateful for his extraordinary service to our community," Davis said.

Santa Monica's City Charter provides that the Council has 30 days after a vacancy is declared to appoint an individual to fill the vacancy. In the event that the City Council fails to fill the vacancy by appointment within 30 days after the seat is declared vacant, a special election would be held to fill the vacancy.

Council is expected to discuss the process in further detail during a meeting in early June.

McKeown could not be reached for comment Wednesday, but he said Wednesday, "I thank you. Goodnight and goodbye."

Brennon@smdp.com

BIDEN

FROM PAGE 2

in a city choked with traffic, establishing tougher earthquake safety standards for thousands of buildings and steering the city though the deadly pandemic at a time when LA was once a hot spot for infections. Cases have fallen steeply in the city and some restrictions have been rolled back, consistent with the trajectory in the state.

But Garcetti was overmatched by a crisis of homelessness that became a national embarrassment despite the massive jump in government spending to fight it. Many streets and sidewalks remain cratered and crumbling, despite his early pledge to make fixing them a cornerstone of his administration.

As is the case in many large cities, the crime rate in LA is spiking. One of his former deputy mayors was indicted on corruption charges in an ongoing federal investigation at City Hall. And a lawsuit alleges that a former top staffer sexually harassed one of the mayor's police bodyguards while Garcetti ignored it or laughed it off. The mayor denies the claims.

Associated Press writers Aamer Madhani and Kathleen Ronayne contributed to this report.

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AWARD WINNER

AWARD WINNER

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WINNER

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.

Biden orders more Intel investigation of COVID-19 origin

ZEKE MILLER AND AAMER MADHANI
Associated Press

President Joe Biden on Wednesday ordered U.S. intelligence officials to "redouble" their efforts to investigate the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic, including any possibility the trail might lead to a Chinese laboratory.

After months of minimizing that possibility as a fringe theory, the Biden administration is joining worldwide pressure for China to be more open about the outbreak, aiming to head off GOP complaints the president has not been tough enough as well as to use the opportunity to press China on alleged obstruction.

Biden asked U.S. intelligence agencies to report back within 90 days. He directed U.S. national laboratories to assist with the investigation and the intelligence community to prepare a list of specific queries for the Chinese government. He called on China to cooperate with international probes into the origins of the pandemic.

Republicans, including former President Donald Trump, have promoted the theory that the virus emerged from a laboratory accident rather than naturally through human contact with an infected animal in Wuhan, China.

Biden in a statement said the majority of the intelligence community had "coalesced" around those two scenarios but "do not believe there is sufficient information to assess one to be more likely than the other." He revealed that two agencies lean toward the animal link and "one leans more toward" the lab theory, "each with low or moderate confidence."

"The United States will also keep working with like-minded partners around the world to press China to participate in a full, transparent, evidence-based international investigation and to provide access to all relevant data and evidence," said Biden.

His statement came after weeks of the administration endeavoring to avoid public discussion of the lab leak theory and privately suggesting it was far fetched.

In another sign of shifting attitudes, the Senate approved two Wuhan lab-related amendments without opposition, attaching them to a largely unrelated bill to increase U.S. investments in innovation.

One of the amendments, from Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., would block U.S. funding of Chinese "gain of function" research on enhancing the severity or transmissibility of a virus. Paul has been critical of Dr. Anthony Fauci, the government's top infectious-disease expert, and aggressively questioned him at a recent Senate hearing over the work in China. The other amendment was from GOP Sen. Joni Ernst of Iowa and it would prevent any funding to the Wuhan Institute of Virology.

Both were approved without roll call votes as part of the broader bill that is still under debate in the Senate.

As for the origin of pandemic, Fauci, a White House coronavirus adviser, said Wednesday that he and most others in the scientific community "believe that the most likely scenario is that this was a natural occurrence, but no one knows that 100 percent for sure."

"And since there's a lot of concern, a lot of speculation and since no one absolutely knows that, I believe we do need the kind of investigation where there's open transparency and all the information that's available, to be made available, to scrutinize," Fauci said at a Senate hearing.

White House press secretary Jen Psaki said Tuesday that the White House supports a new World Health Organization investigation in China, but she added that an effective probe "would require China finally stepping up and allowing access needed to determine the origins."

Biden still held out the possibility that a firm conclusion may never be reached, given the Chinese government's refusal to fully cooperate with international investigations.

"The failure to get our inspectors on the ground in those early months will always hamper any investigation into the origin of COVID-19," he said.

Administration officials continue to harbor strong doubts about the lab leak theory. Rather, they view China's refusal to cooperate in the investigation — particularly on something of such magnitude — as emblematic of other irresponsible actions on the world stage.

Privately, administration officials say the end result, if ever known, won't change anything, but note China's stonewalling is now on display for the world to see.

The State Department, which ended one Trump-era probe into the Chinese lab theory this spring, said it was continuing to cooperate with other government agencies and pressed China to cooperate with the world.

"China's position that their part in this investigation is complete is disappointing and at odds with the rest of the international community that is working collaboratively across the board to bring an end to this pandemic and improve global health security," said spokesman Ned Price.

Research into the origins of the virus is critically important, said Arinjay Banerjee, a virologist at the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization in Saskatchewan, Canada, because: "If you don't know where it came from, how are you going to stop it from spreading it again?"

SEE **COVID** PAGE 11

POLICE LOG

FROM PAGE 3

Petty Theft Report 1800blk 16th St 9:02 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1200blk 6th St 9:15 p.m.
Loud Music 1400blk Harvard St 9:16 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Ocean Ave / Wilshire Blvd 9:54 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1600blk Ocean Ave 10:17 p.m.
Overdose 1300blk 18th St 10:41 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1300blk 4th St 10:53 p.m.
Child Abuse 2400blk Virginia Ave 10:57 p.m.
Domestic Violence Just Occurred 500blk Pico Blvd 11:24 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Just Occurred 1500blk 4th St 11:32 p.m.
Public Intoxication 600blk Wilshire Blvd 11:45 p.m.

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For New Patients
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6255



Noteworthy

Charles Andrews

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The World Can Sing Again



Courtesy photo

MUSIC: Jazz legend and Santa Monica dude PETER ERSKINE

WITH MUSIC IN THE AIR

SAM FIRST — "O frabjous day! Callooh! Callay!" ("Jabberwocky," Carroll), "HUZZAH!" (Albert Alligator, or mebbe Howland Owl, from the uniquely precious Pogo cartoon strips by Walt Kelly), "Great googly-moogly!" (Willie Dixon, F. Zappa) — I had to call out all the great orators to express my elation that Sam First is back in the saddle. They were pretty much the last club to wave the white flag, as the pandemic forced venues to shutter like falling dominoes, so this is fitting.

Many of you still don't know of this superb jazz club near LAX. Well, now is the time to make that right. It is laid out artfully, jazz-cool decor, because owner Paul Solomon wanted to create an intentional space, not convert to one, and gutted the room to build it out as a jazz club, period. It's small, but that means you are really close to the performers, playing at floor level.

This reopening is particularly auspicious because while they have already been presenting live shows at Second Home Hollywood, this is the place you want to be. They have a concert in Hollywood next Tuesday, and LAX performances tonight and next Wednesday through Saturday, with combos I'm not familiar with so I can't comment, except to say that Sam First booker/bass player David Robaire is spot on. It's been so long for most of us that a really good group sitting a few feet away is probably going to be as thrilling as the Miles Davis Quintets (mid-'50s and mid-'60s).

BUT, Friday and Saturday nights, two separate shows at 7 and 9 p.m., they have a trio, the Lounge Art Ensemble, that you should drive 500 miles for, crawl over broken glass and pay a lot of money. But it's nearby, and $25.

I was lucky enough to have the Ensemble play on my cable TV show years ago, and that's when I got to know my fellow Santa Monican Peter Erskine, one fine fellow and possibly the best drummer on the planet. Oh, yes.

The original Ensemble included the exquisite bassist Dave Carpenter, a founding member, who sadly passed from a heart attack in 2008 at the age of only 48. Carpenter was held in high esteem by other musicians, a veteran of the Buddy Rich, Maynard Ferguson and Woody Herman bands, and more than 200 recordings. The other member back then was superb sax man Bob Sheppard, and he will be there along with Darek Oles, who can't replace Carpenter, no one can, but he is now one of my very favorite jazz bass masters, and also a composer, arranger, and educator.

Erskine likes Sam First a lot, he told me, for all the reasons above but also "because it's so close to home." It has been a while, for players and public and I'm sure these guys are rarin' to go. These two nights with Peter Erskine's new Lounge Art Ensemble are a Don't Miss opportunity that we worried might never come. We have learned to count our blessings.

HARVELLE'S — my local heroes, Damian, Jason and Seven, for their cool vibe and hot bookings, the oldest blues club in LA (1930!) has been struggling to be good science-minders and still make it through to the other side, pushing swag, delivered drinks and concerts on their back patio with patrons spaced around inside watching a screen and getting the sound though the open back door, and now they are minding the county's date of June 15, to come roaring back. They have a bunch of their perennial favorites booked, like Cafe R&B, the Delgado Brothers, Alligator Beach, Led Zepagain (close your eyes and you'll think…), the too fabulous for words Toledo Show, and best of all, in my book, the DAMN WELL PLEASE ORGAN TRIO and Friends (just go, with no preview, no expectations, if you like music, and tell me if you don't think Darius… well, no expectations).

JACARANDA — another of our best-kept local music secrets, unfortunately (every seat should be filled in the acoustically articulate First Presbyterian Church, downtown SM). Jacaranda has not yet announced a live performance schedule but I hope that will soon come. Artistic Director Patrick Scott is responsible for their thoughtfully-curated, innovative programs of boundary-pushing

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 11

HOMELESSNESS

FROM PAGE 1

why the clean-up of illegal encampments isn't resuming.

Part of the problem stems from the confusing web of agencies with authority around the Venice Boardwalk. This includes L.A. City Council District 11, LA Homeless Services Authority, LA County Department of Parks and Recreation, LAPD and the California Coastal Commission.

"This was a crisis of leadership," said Cari Bjelajac, founding member of Friends of the Venice Boardwalk. "I wasn't seeing a plan. I was seeing a lot of heads nod and people saying 'yeah it is a shame', but no action."

Resident activists tackled this issue by collectively meeting with these agencies over Zoom, which resulted in the clean-ups of encampments from specific Boardwalk amenities. The handball court clean-up was spearheaded by Team Venice, a coalition of sports groups and individuals who utilize the Venice Beach Recreation Center.

"I think a lot of the success we had was getting the City and the County to sit at the table together," said Averill. "It's really cut down on the finger pointing, because now everyone is in the same room."

With these accomplishments under their belt, residents are working to keep the momentum up before hordes of tourists descend on the Boardwalk this summer and the situation worsens.

Founding member of Team Venice and Friends of the Venice Boardwalk Alex Stowell said that LAPD and Parks and Recreation are open to providing more enforcement. In his experience the City of L.A. and CD-11 representatives have been the biggest foot draggers.



Clara Harter

CAMPS: **Residents are forming organizations to spur action to remove camps from the area.**

"The City seems to want to stall and CD-11 specifically has their own political idea that they have to offer housing to every single person on the Boardwalk before any enforcement is done," said Stowell. "The reality is that most of these people don't want housing. They don't want to live inside because they have to follow rules."

Bjelajac has had a similar experience. She has personally gone tent to tent getting to know her unhoused neighbors and asking if anyone would like assistance finding housing. She's had many friendly conversations but ultimately no one has taken her up on her offer.

L.A. County Sheriff Alex Villanueva is also reaching a breaking point with the City's response to homelessness. After visiting the Boardwalk on Tuesday, he condemned the action of "phony politicians and idiot activists" who he said are enabling the crisis.

"For those that think they are going to make a lifestyle of being homeless and destroying communities, no that's not going to happen," said Villanueva in an interview with KFI radio following his visit. "Here's a clue for all our elected officials, we are not going to build our way out of the homeless crisis."

Stowell said that in a recent meeting with CD-11, representatives revealed that their plan is to request $3 million in July to fund housing. With each unit of permanent supportive housing in LA costing roughly $500,000 to construct, residents have little faith in the speed or efficacy of this response.

Moving forward, local organizers seek to gather data on the homeless individuals living on the Boardwalk and see what they need to safely vacate the space — whether it's a bus ticket home, connection to mental health or substance abuse treatment, or a shelter bed. They will present this information to the relevant agencies and continue to call for more enforced cleans-up of the Boardwalk.

"We're trying to impress upon agencies the urgency of what is going to happen when there are millions of tourists here, because it's already unmanageable now," said Averill. "We're trying to make it very clear that if this isn't handled by the summer bad things are going to happen."

Clara@smdp.com



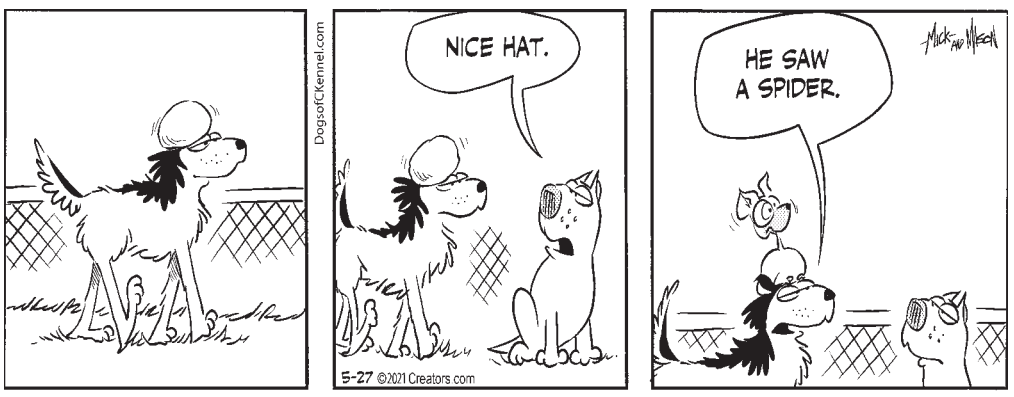
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



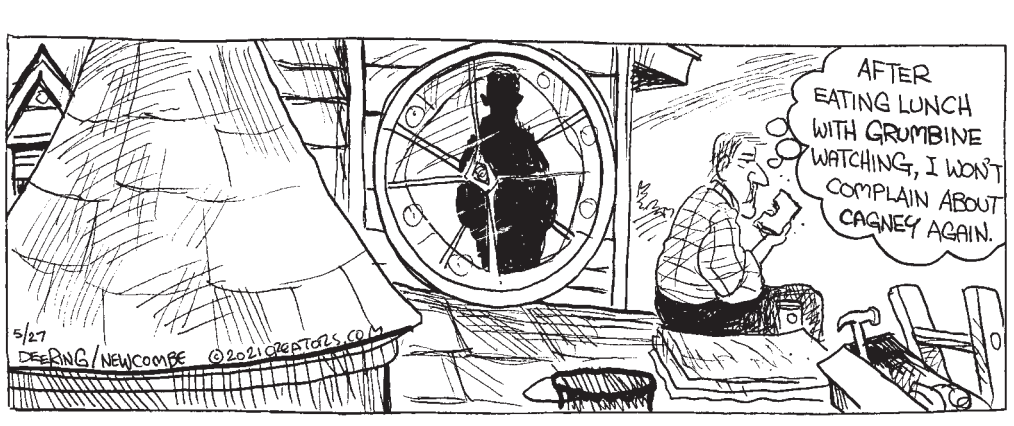
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

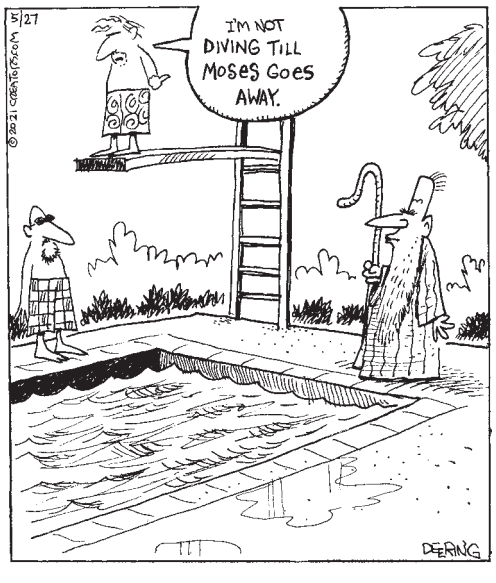
By PETER GALLAGHER



"HE PREFERS LIVE MUSIC."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 61.7°

THURSDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
Light E/SE wind may add a bit of crumble to some of the points but the AM tide push helps. SSW swell holds, smaller NW swell mix blending in with enough energy for ok shape at combo beachbreaks.

FRIDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft Waist to chest high
New pulse of SW swell starts to fill in. Morning wind looks light. Drained out first thing, will want to wait for the tide to come up through early/mid-morning.

WEATHER

Thursday: Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny, with a high near 62.
Thursday Night: Patchy fog. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 56.
Friday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a high near 63.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/05/27	Thu	05:00 AM	-1.74	L
2021/05/27	Thu	11:28 AM	3.85	H
2021/05/27	Thu	4:06 PM	1.87	L
2021/05/27	Thu	10:27 PM	6.77	H
2021/05/28	Fri	05:53 AM	-1.67	L
2021/05/28	Fri	12:31 PM	3.70	H
2021/05/28	Fri	4:54 PM	2.20	L
2021/05/28	Fri	11:14 PM	6.41	H
2021/05/29	Sat	06:47 AM	-1.39	L
2021/05/29	Sat	1:38 PM	3.62	H
2021/05/29	Sat	5:49 PM	2.51	L
2021/05/30	Sun	12:07 AM	5.89	H
2021/05/30	Sun	07:45 AM	-0.98	L
2021/05/30	Sun	2:51 PM	3.65	H
2021/05/30	Sun	6:58 PM	2.77	L
2021/05/31	Mon	01:07 AM	5.26	H
2021/05/31	Mon	08:46 AM	-0.53	L
2021/05/31	Mon	4:04 PM	3.83	H
2021/05/31	Mon	8:32 PM	2.88	L
2021/06/01	Tue	02:18 AM	4.62	H
2021/06/01	Tue	09:50 AM	-0.11	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 5/22
3 19 27 37 40
Power#: 8
Jackpot: 236 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 5/25
14 21 31 34 54
Mega#: 11
Jackpot: 22 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 5/22
26 38 39 41 44
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: 49 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 5/25
10 11 14 20 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 5/25
EVENING: 9 1 1

Draw Date: 5/25
MIDDAY: 1 4 6

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 5/25
1st: 04 - Big Ben
2nd: 07 - Eureka
3rd: 06 - Whirl Win
Race Time: 1:48.37

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 27)

You've often decided what you wanted to do but this time good fortune picks you, as you are chosen and nurtured to fulfill a role. You'll often apply your remarkable talent for sensing the value in things and collecting beauty. You'll also handle your own or other people's funds to an impressive result. Sagittarius and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 2, 15, 33 and 17.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The best outcomes happen with a diverse group or a challenging partnership. Working through disagreement will bring about magical combinations and evolutions.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). When you sense in another person some of the same sadness that has inhabited you, you want to do something about it for the sake of both of you. Even though you feel healed, further recovery comes from helping others.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your internal compass seems to be leading you to a dead end, but follow it anyway. This road weirdly winds, so you're only seeing a few feet in front of you at a time. You can trust your sense of direction.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your mind is smooth and forceful. You'll skillfully relay your ideas. There's no guarantee the others will be convinced, but chances are good. You're impressively adept at landing on the most convincing phrasing.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your work is not always so straightforward, so you appreciate days like today when the small picture so obviously matches up to the big one. The mountain is climbed one upward step at a time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It takes much more energy to start things than it does to continue them. Make momentum work for you by simply continuing. Once you get in the swing, stay in it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). What you want is out there, though it currently belongs to someone else. That doesn't mean you can't have it. It just means there will be some salesmanship involved.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). People often laugh because they think they should; it's a social response to a cue, and not necessarily one they understand. Those who laugh alone truly know what's funny.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There's much you could be doing, but don't stress over your choices. Just pick the one that most attracts you, and then stick with that and only that for a while. One choice is a portal through which the world opens up.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Some call it "doing nothing." To you, it's doing what comes naturally without having to think of the needs and reactions of another person. To be alone and agenda-less just may be a basic human need.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Today feels a bit like a costume party in which you are handed an arbitrary outfit at the door and told to start up the impersonation. Does it help to know that everybody feels this way?

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Everyone has fun differently, so if you're not catching on to what seems to delight the others, it only means that there are other sources out there for you. That's not a reason to stay where you are. Go find them!

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

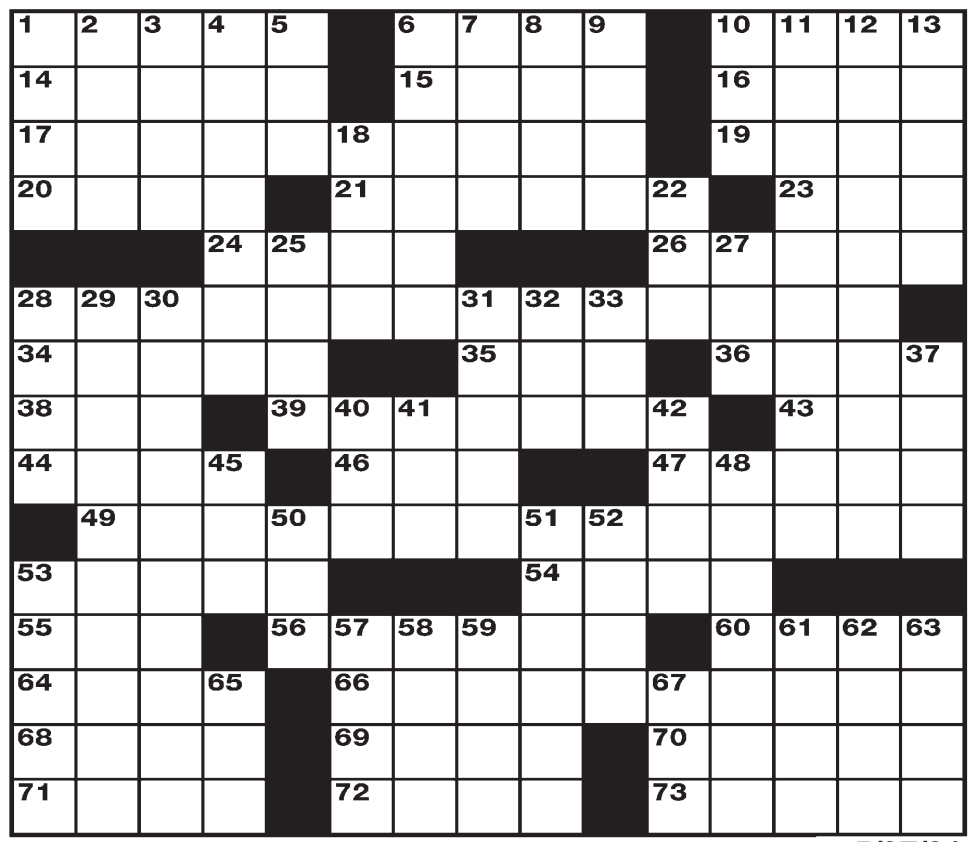
			9	4			6	
3			5			9		1
	9			7		5	4	
	4		6		7			2
7		2				8		6
1			2		8		3	
	7	5		6			2	
2		3			9			7
	1			2	3			

Newsday Crossword

ALLLITERATIVE by Greg Johnson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Got straighter in a chair
6 Some homebrew
10 High hair
14 Has its premiere
15 Managerial missive
16 Wellness fluids
17 Giant's words to Jack
19 Dudes
20 PO box, for instance
21 Get-go
23 Masks and gloves for safety, for short
24 Dark side of poetry
26 Helps in heisting
28 "In all honesty . . ."
34 Schoolyard comeback
35 Had something
36 Collaborative music
38 "Strong as a lion" guy's nickname
39 Common *Dilbert* setting
43 "Who __ to argue?"
44 Mineral jackpot
46 Set to put together
47 Source of much legalese
49 Simone's "so-so"
53 Sportscast anecdotes
54 Celestial bear
55 Quick "That's funny!"
56 Geometry subjects
60 Be somewhat partial
64 Fine, or less than fine
66 Baby babble
68 Electrical conductor
69 Mandolin cousin
70 Is wearing
71 Tweeter's retreat
72 Footnote notation
73 __-3 fatty acids

DOWN
1 Soft seating
2 Parodied
3 Ticked (off)
4 Locks up
5 Inflation letters
6 Become, with "to"
7 Got out
8 Wing-flapping runners
9 Vague amount
10 PC port
11 Extend indefinitely
12 End a monologue with flair
13 Cartoon mirages
18 Deceive
22 Rooftop sealer
25 Like-minded contingent
27 Pal
28 Hard to believe
29 45-calorie treat
30 Value of a roll of quarters
31 West Indies republic
32 Sign of condensation
33 Contacts list letters
37 Tuneful Turner
40 Mandolin cousin
41 Pen name
42 Stately shaders
45 Overdramatic one, informally
48 Hodgepodge
50 Woolf's __ *Dalloway*
51 Wooden weapon
52 Guesser's qualifier
53 Made-up horn honker
57 Eye impolitely
58 Stumblebum
59 Most minimal amount
61 Free from care
62 Bursting with enthusiasm
63 Family nickname
65 Nonetheless
67 "So that's your scheme!"



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2021 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 5/27/21

Binary Puzzle

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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



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

© australianwordgames.com.au 5126

Beach weather

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

Airlie Beach
Alva
Avoca
Bega
Bluff
Bowen
Bungan
Burleigh Heads
Cable
Chelsea
Eden
Exmouth
Hyams
Kirra
Lorne
Main
Marlo
Mindil
Mona Vale
Noosa
Nowra
Old Bar
Orbost
Pialba
Play
Port Macquarie
Rest
Robe
Rock
Sawtell
Surf
Tallow
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SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Many borrowed words and phrases

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CANDIDATE

FROM PAGE 1

obligation bond rates, property tax receipts, allocates property tax revenues to all taxing agencies and reconciles with the tax collector. Galperin recently issued a letter to the City of Los Angeles pointing out the amount of sales tax the City paid to other jurisdictions and said stronger buy local provisions would increase city funding.

Elected as Controller of the County's largest city in 2013 and again in 2017, Galperin said that during his eight years as Controller, he has transformed the Controller's role and improved public services by using data transparency, technology, audits and reports, dashboards, maps and more — to better meet people's needs.

Galperin said his priorities include homeless housing and services, planning, public safety and infrastructure. He is the third candidate to declare an interest in the seat following Horvath and Bloom.

Horvath was elected to the West Hollywood City Council in 2015 after previously serving from 2009 to 2011.

She has listed homelessness, Covid recovery, transportation, community safety, civil rights and climate change as her top priorities.

Kuehl has endorsed Horvath's campaign.

"I have followed Lindsey's work and have seen the impacts of her leadership, not only in West Hollywood, but also countywide. Her tenacity and commitment to getting things done for the residents of Los Angeles County show that she is uniquely qualified for the job of Supervisor," said Kuehl in her statement.

Bloom, like Kuehl, is a Santa Monica resident. He is a former Santa Monica councilmember and said his decision to run was tied to his current legislative term expiring in 2024.

In interviews with SMDP, Bloom's list of priorities was similar citing homelessness, mental health services, Covid-recovery, climate change and transportation.

"I think for residents and for voters, there's no question in my mind that homelessness is at the top of their list of concerns," said Bloom. "This is something that I've worked on since I was first elected in 1999, and I think I understand the issue."

editor@smdp.com

NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 6

modern (and not) classical music. Sometimes challenging, always different, never boring.

In the meantime, Scott has kept himself busy, the latest project to emerge being a video he directed, released Tuesday, titled "CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS: A Tribute to George Floyd in 8:46." Beautifully crafted in every way, and moving. It begins with a Mako four-drum ensemble playing over stylized news footage of the demonstrations following Floyd's murder, then soon brings in staccato, reverberating notes from a solo trumpet, accompanying a dancer performing without much lateral movement on a mandala-like turning art platform that eventually hurls us, and Floyd, into the vast unknown. Check it out.

LA PHIL at the HOLLYWOOD BOWL — they just added a very interesting Sept. 24 show with St. Vincent, Spoon and Mereba, to an already star-studded schedule that includes Yo-Yo Ma, H.E.R., Kamasi Washington, one of their best reggae nights in a while with Ziggy Marley and The Wailing Souls (is that not one of the best vocal group names ever? — and the mesmerizing quartet, still with original founders "Pipe" and "Bread" from the '60s, lives up to it), Christina Aguilera, Herbie Hancock, Ledisi Sings Nina Simone, Andrea Bocelli, and the usual Peter and the Wolf, Sound of Music sing-along, Mariachi USA + Tchaikovsky + Kool & the Gang fireworks, movie accompaniment, and classical gems. Bowled over!

NICOLE RECOMMENDS:

"BRING MUSIC HOME" — The last time I wrote about the nearly 500-page coffee table book that I helped write, which profiles some 200 music venues across 30 U.S. cities which were forced to shutter during COVID, it was still in the production stage, but the wait is finally over. Since its release just a few weeks ago it has already received a glowing review from Variety: "[Bring Music Home] captures, yes, the fear and desolation of past year, but much more than that, the hope for the future and the certainty that we'll come through all this and be in a room packed with people sharing the irreplaceable, inimitable experience of a concert."

I could not be more proud to have contributed to the tremendous efforts of co-founders Tamara Deike, Amber Mundinger and Kevin Condon, and the dozens of other creatives who helped make this very special project come to life.

Visit bringmusichome.com to order a copy, which will in part benefit the National Independent Venue Association (NIVA).

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 3,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 34 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

COVID

FROM PAGE 5

"The great probability is still that this virus came from a wildlife reservoir," he said, pointing to the fact that spillover events – when viruses jump from animals to humans – are common in nature, and that scientists already know of two similar beta coronaviruses that evolved in bats and caused epidemics when humans were infected, SARS1 and MERS. "The evidence we so far have suggests that this virus came from wildlife," he said

However, the case is not completely closed. "There are probabilities, and there are possibilities," said Banerjee. "Because nobody has identified a virus that's 100% identical to SARS-CoV-2 in any animal, there is still room for researchers to ask about other possibilities."

Andy Slavitt, Biden's senior adviser for the coronavirus, said Tuesday that the world needs to "get to the bottom ... whatever the answer may be."

"We need a completely transparent process from China; we need the WHO to assist in that matter,"" Slavitt said. "We don't feel like we have that now."

AP writers Christina Larson, Matthew Lee and Lisa Mascaro contributed.

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DBA

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2021091787 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 05/19/2021 . The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Surco 2. SK Associates 3. La Casa 4. Sierra Bonita MultiMedia 1501 Baxter Ave Los Angeles, CA 90026 . The full name of the registrant(s) is/are SK Associates 1501 Baxter Ave Los Angeles, CA 90026 2. Gustavo Santaolalla 1501 Baxter Ave Los Angeles, CA 90026 . 3. Anibal Kerpel 1501 Baxter Ave Los Angeles, CA 90026 This Business is being conducted by: A General Partnership . The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date) 07/1999 Registrant/Corp/ LLC Name /s/: Anibal Kerpel Title: Partner Anibal Kerpel , Anibal Kerpel This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 05/19/21 NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish , 05/19/21, 05/26/21, 06/02/21, 06/09/21

DBA

Notice

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Notice is given that proposals for the On-Call Project Management and Related Services for Federally- funded and Non-Federally funded projects (BRC0000221) will be received by the County of Los Angeles Public Works on June 21, 2021, by 4:00 p.m. DBE subconsultant participation is encouraged to meet contract DBE goal of 5%. To access RFP documents, visit link at https://dpw.lacounty.gov/contracts/opportunities.aspx . For additional information, call (626) 458- 2180.5/26/21CNS-3473307#SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

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