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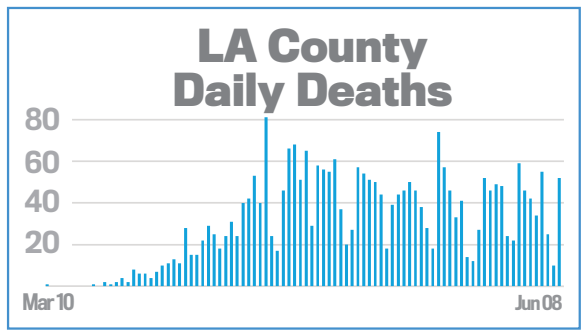
A Great Privilege
Charles Andrews sees important work ahead.
Page 5

Fire concerns
Hot weather brings problems.
Page 4

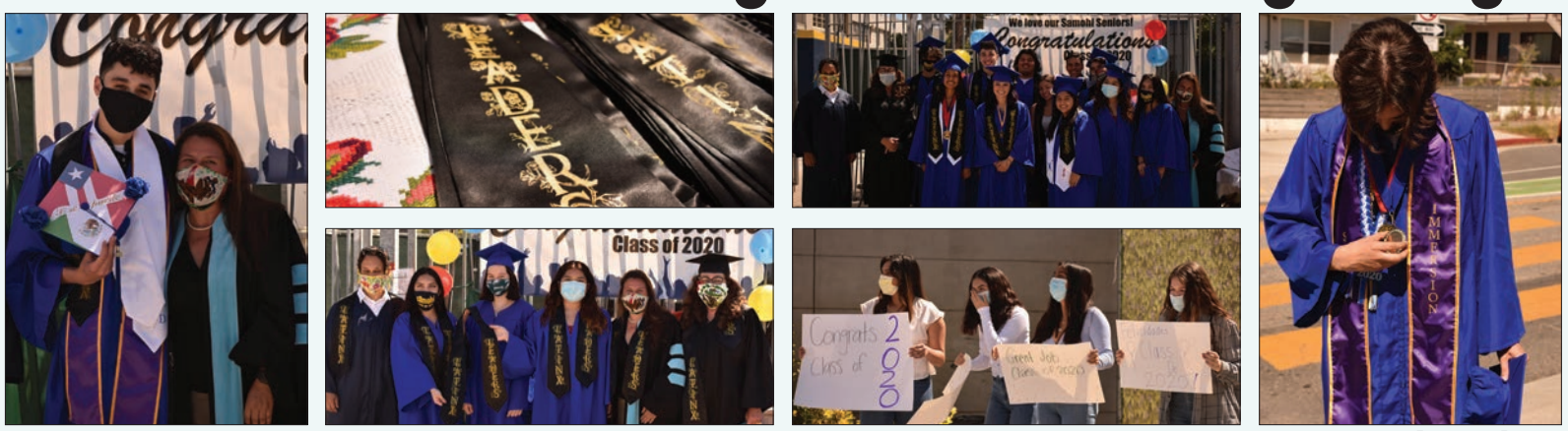
CORONAVIRUS CASES (1WkChg)

SANTA MONICA	LA COUNTY	CALIFORNIA	USA	WORLDWIDE
312 +10%	65,822 +15%	134,287 +16%	1,970,613 +8%	7,190,447 +13%

SMDP Graphic - Data from Johns Hopkins, WHO, LA County Public Health



Samohi LatinX clubs gather for final goodbye



Brennon Dixson

GRADS: Samohi's LatinX and ChicanX community came together before graduation for a celebratory send-off.

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

With more than 1,000 Spanish speakers at Santa Monica High School, the LatinX and ChicanX community at Samohi is pretty close knit, so it was only natural that they would meet for one final goodbye before graduation.

Most of the local the Chicanx-Latinx Student Council, Latinos Unidos, and Brown Minds Matter club members attended elementary and middle school together and were quite eager to complete their academic journeys as a group this year when they crossed the stage during graduation. Dr. Mireles-Toumayan, a local teacher whose impact cannot be overstated by her students, even ordered customized

SEE **LATINX** PAGE 11

Local artists beautify boarded store fronts



Matthew Hall

PAINT: Two projects brought art to local stores over the past few days.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The boards that have covered many local businesses for the past week have become outlets for local artists with messages of unity, peace and support.

Santa Monica based nonprofit, Paint The City Peaceful (www.

SEE **ARTISTS** PAGE 6

$10,000 reward offered for information on theft of 29 guns during civil unrest

MADELEINE PAUKER
SMDP Staff Writer

Authorities are offering a reward of up to $10,000 for information on the theft of 29 guns from a Santa Monica sporting goods store during a day of civil unrest.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives on Monday announced a reward of up to $10,000 for information on a group of people who stole firearms from a Big 5 Sports Goods on Wilshire Boulevard at about 8 p.m. on May 31. ATF Los Angeles is offering up to a $5,000 reward, along with up to a $5,000 reward from the National Shooting Sports Foundation, for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the people responsible for the burglary.

Authorities said the suspects used

SEE **GUNS** PAGE 11


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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SACRAMENTO

California deal for protective masks wins federal approval

Millions of protective masks will soon be on their way to California after the manufacturer paid by the state to make them finally won U.S. federal certification, the governor's office announced Monday. It came more than a month after the masks had originally been set to start arriving.

Gov. Gavin Newsom's administration signed a nearly $1 billion contract with BYD, a Chinese company with California offices, in April for hundreds of millions of protective masks for health care workers and others amid the coronavirus. The deal included both tight-fitting N95 masks ideal for health care workers and looser-fitting surgical masks. The surgical masks started arriving last month, but the critical N95 masks were twice delayed as BYD failed to win certification from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

Now that the company has approval, the state expects to receive the first shipment in "the coming days," according to a press release from Newsom's office. The state will receive a total of 150 million N95 masks.

That's half of what the state originally planned to receive when it took the unusual step of paying nearly $500 million up front. BYD refunded California half of that in May when it failed to meet its first certification deadline. Brian Ferguson, a spokesman for the Office of Emergency Services, said the state could decide to pay that money back to BYD for more masks.

The masks "are game-changing and play a crucial role in our state's public safety and reopening strategy," Newsom said in a statement.

The contract faced a series of delays since Newsom first announced it in April on a nightly cable news show before the deal was finalized. Lawmakers immediately voiced skepticism when the administration didn't show them the contract.

Newsom's administration eventually released it. The contract revealed the state was paying $3.30 per N95 mask, which officials said was a good deal at a time when many states were paying double that for masks.

KATHLEEN RONAYNE, ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 29 CALLS ON JUNE 08

Wires Down 800blk 3rd St 2:07 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 2nd St 4:19 a.m.
EMS 1000blk 18th St 7:06 a.m.
EMS 1100blk 7th St 7:19 a.m.
Broken Water Main Centinela Ave / Interstate 10 8:40 a.m.
Wires Down 900blk Princeton St 9:09 a.m.
Wires Down 2700blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:17 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:43 a.m.
Wires Down 1200blk Ashland Ave 9:59 a.m.
EMS 300blk 20th St 11:12 a.m.
EMS 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 11:45 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Lincoln Blvd 12:12 p.m.
EMS 1800blk 16th St 12:47 p.m.
EMS 400blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:50 p.m.
EMS 400blk 4th St 2:11 p.m.
EMS 700blk Wilshire Blvd 2:47 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1000blk Wilshire Blvd 3:02 p.m.
EMS 2600blk 23rd St 3:16 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 5th St 3:19 p.m.
Elevator Rescue 1200blk 6th St 3:44 p.m.
EMS 4th St / Colorado Ave 3:52 p.m.
EMS 900blk 20th St 4:00 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 5th St 4:55 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 4th St 6:04 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Ocean Ave 6:08 p.m.
EMS 2600blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:21 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 5th St 7:31 p.m.
EMS 500blk Colorado Ave 8:36 p.m.
EMS 500blk Broadway 10:33 p.m.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA

SANTA MONICA RENT CONTROL BOARD
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
Thursday, June 11, 2020

Public hearings on the following topics will be conducted during the Santa Monica Rent Control Board meeting on Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via teleconference:

1) Consideration of imposing a $32 ceiling (or maximum increase) on the 2020 annual general adjustment of 1.4%;

2) Consideration and adoption of the Santa Monica Rent Control Board's Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operating Budget; and

3) Consideration of amending Regulation 11200 to clarify that a "business day" is any day that the Board is staffed and conducting business, regardless of whether City Hall is open to the public; and to provide for the deferment of registration fee payments with respect to units occupied by tenants who were unable to pay rent due to a loss of income occasioned by COVID 19.

Instructions on accessing the meeting and speaking to the Board are provided in the agenda. The agenda and staff reports are available on the Board's website at: www.smgov.net/rentcontrol.

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 356 CALLS ON JUNE 08

Petty Theft Report 800blk Broadway 12:26 a.m.
Prowler 500blk 10th St 3:49 a.m.
Auto Burglary Just Occurred 200blk Euclid St 4:54 a.m.
Person With A Gun 700blk Arizona Ave 5:22 a.m.
Encampment Lincoln Blvd / Olympic Blvd E 6:54 a.m.
Found Property 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 7:31 a.m.
Burglary Report 1800blk 14th St 8:19 a.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 2800blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:30 a.m.
Fraud Report 1000blk Marine St 8:45 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 500blk Colorado Blvd 8:54 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 1500blk 4th St 9:02 a.m.
Burglary Report 2400blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:10 a.m.
Red Zone Violation 1300blk Pacific Coast Hwy 9:17 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 1300blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:20 a.m.
Burglary Report 200blk Broadway 9:29 a.m.
Burglary Report 1800blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:33 a.m.
Burglary Report 1400blk 5th St 9:35 a.m.
Burglary Report 700blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:37 a.m.
Burglary Report 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 10:01 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now Ocean Ave / Santa Monica Blvd 10:12 a.m.
Stolen Vehicle 15th St / Alta Ave 10:28 a.m.
Fraud Report 1100blk 20th St 10:36 a.m.
Bike Theft Report 400blk 9th St 10:36 a.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 1600blk Montana Ave 10:53 a.m.
Attempt Burglary Report 3100blk Colorado Ave 10:56 a.m.
Burglary Report 3100blk Colorado Ave 11:01 a.m.
Identity Theft 1200blk Georgina Ave 11:07 a.m.
Burglary Report 300blk Colorado Ave 11:17 a.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 3000blk Lincoln Blvd 11:38 a.m.
Burglary Report 1100blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:44 a.m.
Burglary Report 1500blk Lincoln Blvd 12:02 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1500blk Broadway 12:06 p.m.
Identity Theft 800blk 2nd St 12:14 p.m.
Burglary Report 3200blk Broadway 12:45 p.m.
Burglary Report 400blk Wilshire Blvd 12:47 p.m.
Overdose 1800blk 16th St 12:48 p.m.
Burglary Report 2400blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:58 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 500blk Colorado Ave 12:58 p.m.
Identity Theft 2700blk Neilson Way 1:34 p.m.
Fraud Report 1000blk Marine St 1:37 p.m.
Burglary Report 1500blk Lincoln Blvd 1:52 p.m.
Sexual Assault 900blk Palisades Beach Rd 1:52 p.m.
Burglary Report 1200blk 6th St 1:54 p.m.
Out Of Order Traffic Signals Centinela Ave / Pearl St 1:56 p.m.
Burglary Report 1300blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:18 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2600blk 23rd St 2:24 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 21st St / Pico Blvd 2:33 p.m.
Attempt Burglary Just Occurred 1000blk Pier Ave 2:46 p.m.
Burglary Report 300blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:52 p.m.
Fraud Report 700blk 20th St 3:00 p.m.
Illegal Weapon Cloverfield Blvd / 26th St 3:29 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1100blk 9th St 3:31 p.m.
Burglary Report 700blk Broadway 3:34 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 100blk 17th St 3:58 p.m.
Armed Robbery Just Occurred 600blk Wilshire Blvd 4:08 p.m.
Fight 2500blk Barnard Way 4:12 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 2100blk Delaware Ave 4:22 p.m.
Found Property 1100blk 19th St 4:33 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1500blk Broadway 4:34 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 4th St / Pico Blvd 5:06 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 600blk Broadway 5:29 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon Report 300blk Santa Monica Pl 5:30 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1500blk Broadway 5:33 p.m.
Person Down 33rd St / Pearl St 6:06 p.m.
Strongarm Robbery Report 6th St / Colorado Ave 6:29 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Just Occurred 1000blk Wilshire Blvd 6:36 p.m.
Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 100blk Santa Monica Pl 6:37 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 16th St / Idaho Ave 6:41 p.m.
Burglary Report 400blk Wilshire Blvd 6:47 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 800blk 16th St 7:10 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Lincoln Blvd / Wilshire Blvd 7:12 p.m.
Loud Music 900blk 2nd St 7:14 p.m.
Counterfeit Money Report 800blk 11th St 7:40 p.m.
Encampment 1800blk 11th St 7:43 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 6th St / Colorado Ave 7:56 p.m.
Found Property 700blk Lincoln Blvd 8:08 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2300blk Kansas Ave 8:17 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1800blk 9th St 8:25 p.m.
Domestic Violence Just Occurred 900blk 15th St 8:49 p.m.
Battery Report 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 9:26 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 900blk 3rd St 9:40 p.m.
Strongarm Robbery Report 6th St / Colorado Ave 10:18 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 700blk Broadway 10:39 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 2nd St / Wilshire Blvd 10:39 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1300blk 12th St 11:45 p.m.

Video evidence increasingly disproves police narratives

RYAN J. FOLEY
Associated Press

Minneapolis police initially told the public that George Floyd died after a "medical incident during a police interaction." The Buffalo, New York, department said a protester "tripped and fell." Philadelphia police alleged that a college student who suffered a serious head wound had assaulted an officer.

All three claims were quickly disproved by videos seen widely on the internet and television, fueling mistrust and embarrassing agencies that made misleading or incomplete statements that painted their actions in a far more favorable light.

Police departments deny lying but acknowledge sometimes making mistakes when releasing information in fast-moving, complicated situations. The videos, they say, do not always capture officers' perspectives.

Defense lawyers say the inaccurate statements are encouraged by a culture of silence in which officers protect misbehaving colleagues, a court system that rarely holds officers accountable and a public that has given police the benefit of the doubt.

Floyd died after a white officer put his knee on his neck, even after Floyd stopped moving. Cellphone video showed him pleading for air as other officers stood by and bystanders urged the police to help him.

The department's initial news release claimed that Floyd "appeared to be suffering medical distress" after he resisted arrest and was handcuffed. The death set off nationwide protests against police brutality and racial injustice.

Minneapolis police spokesman John Elder said Tuesday that he missed initial notifications about Floyd and did not visit the scene, as he usually does after major events. He said he knew the arrest was on body camera video but that he would not be able to review it for several hours. Instead, he released the initial description after being briefed by supervisors, whom he learned later were also not at the scene.

The department realized the statement was inaccurate hours later when the bystander video surfaced, and immediately requested an FBI investigation, he said. By then, the state Bureau of Criminal Apprehension had taken over the investigation of Floyd's death, and Elder said he was unable to send out a corrected statement.

"I will never lie to cover up the actions of somebody else," Elder said.

In Buffalo, authorities suspended and charged two officers who were seen last week shoving peace activist Martin Gugino, who fell backward and struck his head on the sidewalk. The charges came only after video captured by a television crew was broadcast. The shove was not mentioned in an initial statement saying that Gugino fell. Police later apologized and said they were "working with incomplete details during what was a very fast-moving and fluid situation."

On Friday, a prosecutor in Philadelphia charged an officer who was seen on video striking a Temple University student in the head and neck with a metal baton.

The 21-year-old protester needed several staples and stitches to close his wound. He was in custody for almost 40 hours on allegations that he assaulted and injured an officer, according to his attorney. The student was released after prosecutors saw the video and decided to pursue the officer who hit him instead.

Those are only the most recent examples. The same phenomenon has rocked other law enforcement agencies, particularly when minorities have been killed in police interactions that are captured by cellphones, surveillance systems or officers' cameras.

In Chicago, authorities initially said the 2014 shooting of 17-year-old Laquan McDonald was justified because the teen was approaching officers with a knife. But more than a year later, video was released showing that McDonald was veering away when he was shot by officer Jason Van Dyke, who was later convicted of second-degree murder.

When an officer in suburban Dallas shot 15-year-old Jordan Edwards in 2017, his department said Edwards was in a vehicle with other teenagers that backed up toward police "in an aggressive manner." The chief later acknowledged that police video showed the vehicle was moving away from, not toward, officers. The officer who fired into the car was later convicted in Edwards' death.

Civil rights lawyer Michael Avery, who is the board president of the National Police Accountability Project, said false claims by the police had long been known to inner-city communities.

"But what is happening now with video, this is getting out into the larger world, into the media, into white communities, suburban communities, and people outside the affected communities are becoming more aware of what's going on," he said. "It's a completely different situation."

When he started practicing law 50 years ago, Avery said, claims of misconduct were hard to prove because it was often one person's word against "an officer and the officer's buddies."

The habit of police giving false testimony is so widely known in New York that it has long been nicknamed "testilying." Officers are rarely held accountable because they enjoy broad legal protections, and prosecutors almost never charge them with perjury, Avery said.

False public statements made by police departments and their leaders are more of a "political issue" than a legal one, he said.

The availability of video and a fast-moving news cycle accelerated by social media have put extra pressure on police department public information officers.

Having to retract a statement is "very embarrassing to the agency" and causes the community to lose trust, said Leonard Sipes Jr., a retired law enforcement and government spokesman who has written and taught extensively about media relations.

Police representatives should try to watch any video before releasing information to the public and take steps to verify the statements of officers and administrators, he said.

"If they aren't sure as to what transpired, simply say it's under investigation and leave it alone," he said. "It makes no sense to be putting out a story today and two days later having to retract it."

Associated Press writers Amy Forliti in Minneapolis and Claudia Lauer in Philadelphia contributed to this report.

California legislative leaders back state 'sleeper hold' ban

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

California's Assembly speaker and other key lawmakers on Monday backed making it illegal statewide for police to use a type of neck hold that blocks the flow of blood to the brain, a proposal that appears to go beyond any other state.

Major law enforcement groups did not immediately say if they would oppose the move, which comes after a different restraint used by Minneapolis police was blamed for the death of George Floyd, triggering ongoing nationwide protests.

However, the Los Angeles Police Department announced an immediate moratorium on the training and use of the hold until the civilian Board of Police Commissioners can review the issue. Police departments in suburban Pasadena and El Monte and in Santa Ana in Orange County also have suspended use of the technique.

Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon endorsed legislation that fellow Democratic Assemblyman Mike Gipson said he will amend to make it illegal to use chokeholds and a carotid artery restraint tactic to forcibly detain a suspect.

"We ... have to change a culture of excessive force that seems to exist among some members of law enforcement," Rendon said at a news conference. "This bill will end one brutal method that police use for restraining people."

The method, also known as a sleeper hold, involves applying pressure to the sides of the neck with an arm. It can almost immediately block blood flow in the carotid arteries and render someone unconscious, but can cause serious injury or death if the blood flow is restricted too long.

"These methods and techniques are supposed to save lives, but they don't — they take lives," said Gipson.

Colorado and Illinois allow use of the hold only if police deem lethal force to be justified, said Amber Widgery, a criminal justice analyst with the National Conference of State Legislatures, while Tennessee allows its use if other means of restraint have been ineffective. Washington, D.C., bans a similar trachea hold but permits the carotid hold under circumstances where lethal force is allowed.

Other states use more general legal language, she said, and it's not clear if California's proposal will allow any exceptions because Gipson did not release the actual language of his bill.

Gov. Gavin Newsom on Friday said he would sign Gipson's bill if it is approved by lawmakers, and ordered the state's police training program to stop teaching officers how to use the neck hold.

Congressional Democrats on Monday also introduced legislation aimed at reforming police practices, including by banning certain policing tactics including chokeholds.

Although the Legislature is controlled by Democrats, Sen. Scott Wiener said law enforcement reforms "are incredibly hard to move forward." He also mentioned proposed legislation that would restrict when police can use rubber bullets.

The sleeper hold ban was backed Monday by Black, Latino, Asian-Pacific Islander, Jewish and LGBTQ legislative caucuses. Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins said in a statement that "it is now time to have a conversation to ban chokeholds and carotid artery restraints on a statewide level."

The proposal is also supported by the California Medical Association because the holds "can be misapplied and botched easily," said incoming President Dr. Lee Snook.

One problem is the holds can fatally aggravate underlying health issues, Snook said, something police can't know about on the spur of the moment.

"It is a difficult procedure to do...but it is effective when applied effectively," said Brian Marvel, president of the rank-and-file Peace Officers Research Association of California, which represents more than 77,000 individuals and 930 associations.

His association is likely to defer to organizations representing police chiefs and sheriffs that determine what methods officers and deputies are allowed to use.

The sheriffs' association has not taken a position in part because it hasn't seen the details, said spokesman Cory Salzillo. The chiefs' association did not take a stance but said "painful examples" of use of force prompted chiefs across the state to in recent years "to develop strict guidelines on certain techniques, including the carotid restraint."

Officers would still have a variety of tools to control suspects if the hold is banned, Marvel said, ranging from voice commands to night sticks, Tasers, pepper spray and firearms. Sen. Maria Elena Durazo, a bill co-author, said 23 California law enforcement agencies have already limited its use, several in the last week.

On Friday, San Jose Police Chief Eddie Garcia said his department still allows the carotid hold as a last option before lethal force. On Monday he said in a statement that his department already bans chokeholds — which he said are distinct from carotid holds. Chokeholds apply pressure from the front and stop the individual from breathing, while carotid holds are from the side.

Garcia said the department is updating the department's polices including by making it clear that chokeholds can't be applied using pressure with any body part including the knee. Floyd died after prolonged pressure on his neck from an officer's knee.

Marvel urged California lawmakers to make it clear that police still can "do what they need to do to save themselves." He said lawmakers should consider allowing its continued use in certain circumstances, for instance where police or air marshals have limited options to control a suspect aboard an airplane.

Gipson, a former police officer, was among lawmakers who said they hope other states will follow California's lead in banning the hold.



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AWARD WINNER

AWARD WINNER

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WINNER

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

California simmers in spring heat wave, raising fire concern

California simmered in a spring heat wave Tuesday as high pressure cleared skies and pushed away cooling influences.

"June Gloom? Not today," the National Weather Service office for San Francisco and Monterey said on social media.

The unusual lack of the seasonal marine overcast was apparent along the entire coast as June took on a summerlike appearance.

The hot and dry conditions raised fire concerns, sending firefighters to tamp out brush and grass blazes.

"This is the day to avoid outdoor activities that could accidentally start a fire," the Los Angeles weather office said.

One blaze burned several acres near the Hollywood Bowl during the morning rush hour before Los Angeles Fire Department water-dropping helicopters and ground crews controlled it.

A return to cooler weather is expected later in the week.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO

California OKs movie theaters to reopen with limited seats

California movie theaters can begin opening later this week if they limit theater capacity to 25% or no more than 100 attendees, under state guidance released Monday.

The guidance adds movie theaters to a long list of other businesses that can start reopening as the nation's most populous state relaxes its stay-at-home order. Restaurants, churches, hair salons and retail stores have already reopened in many counties.

Soon that reopening will expand vastly in counties that can meet certain metrics including number of cases, positive test rates and testing and tracing capabilities. Other entertainment venues that can reopen later include bowling alleys, mini golf courses and arcades.

The state recommends movie theaters implement reservation systems, designate arrival times and designating certain seats that people can use so that movie goers can maintain 6 feet (2 meters) of distance from other groups. Moviegoers should, at a minimum, wear face coverings when entering and exiting the theater or buying concessions, the state guidance says.

The state also suggests theaters use disposable or washable seat covers that are easy to clean and prop open doors so people don't have to touch handles.

Meanwhile, the state is also allowing film, music and television production to resume subject to labor agreements. Film, television and commercial production make up a significant amount of the Los Angeles economy.

California has reported more than 130,000 coronavirus cases and 4,600 deaths. For most people, the virus causes mild or moderate symptoms and clears up within weeks. But it can be more serious for some people, including older adults and people with pre-existing health conditions, causing pneumonia and even death.

KATHLEEN RONAYNE, ASSOCIATED PRESS

San Diego

San Diego City Council declines calls to cut police budget

The San Diego City Council declined calls to cut police funding and approved a city budget that includes a modest increase for the department.

The decision came at a lengthy meeting Monday in which the majority of some 400 callers and emails from more than 4,000 people urged rejection of the mayor's plan to increase the police budget by $27 million to $566 million, the San Diego Union-Tribune reported.

The council approved the budget plan on an 8-1 vote.

The pressure to cut the police budget echoed calls nationwide for defunding or cutting law enforcement budgets in protest of the death of George Floyd at the hands of police in Minneapolis, where the idea has received support from some municipal leaders.

In Los Angeles, Mayor Eric Garcetti announced last week that the city would reverse plans for boosting police spending and instead redirect $250 million from the city budget into programs for health care, jobs and "healing" aimed largely at the black community.

Although refusing the demands for police budget cuts, the San Diego council did agree to create a new Office of Race and Equality and to increase rent relief funding by nearly $5 million to $15.1 million.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONG BEACH

Port of Long Beach reports shipments up in May after decline

Cargo shipments through the Port of Long Beach rose in May and there was a jump in empty containers heading back overseas, officials said Tuesday.

May was the first month in 2020 to see a rise in cargo shipments and followed seven consecutive months of declines, the port said.

"We aren't out of the woods, but this is the gradual growth we have anticipated as the United States starts to rebound from the devastating economic impacts of COVID-19 and the trade war with China," Harbor Commission President Bonnie Lowenthal said in a statement.

According to the port, manufacturing in China continues to rebound and demand for furniture, digital products and home improvement goods is increasing in the U.S.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Curious City

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

What A Great Privilege!

BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU WISH FOR

Like the three wishes from a genie, right? Beware the unintended consequences. You are a global-thinking humanist, and you want to end the evil of hunger throughout the world. An unbelievable opportunity! So you wish for it.

And your genie kills everyone on the planet who is hungry. Oops.

I can't say that for the last few decades since college, I have tucked myself into bed every night with the prayer that this sorry, violent, unfair, divided, unconscious evil world would correct all its missteps and shine with the love light of billions of good souls. But I kept hope alive.

Maybe I was thinking too small. Just get us out of Vietnam, I prayed back then. Oh, and bring down the oppressive capitalist system in Amerika, please. Yeah, those two, would be fine for now.

RADICALIZED THOUGH I BECAME

My last years in college and after, I was never quite convinced of that '60s total revolution, cops are pigs, dump capitalism thing. The revolutionaries all had different visions. I had a cousin who was a cop in Phoenix and he was one of the finest humans I've ever known, and he chuckled grimly at the terrible incompetence of the LAPD. I never had it all in for capitalism, just unfettered capitalism, which is the variety the one percent prefers, and has their bought politicians maintain. Though I should have realized that as a writer, and especially a music journalist, capitalism in any form was not going to do me any favors.

I feel I am as "radical" now as then (I skipped the whole me me me '70s evolution into mainstream married mortgage-slave corporate ladder climber), but let's keep a little perspective, shall we? In Europe I would be considered only slightly left of center. There are no real leftists in the U.S. (shhh! -- don't tell the Republicans, it would spoil their fun), who could get even 1000 votes.



Courtesy photo

PROTEST: Accountability is a major issue.

COMMON SENSE

I've always, to this day, felt my outlook was just common sense, if your bedrock is that we are all the same, brothers and sisters, deserving of equal, compassionate treatment. In our hearts and under the law. You have to think that through, and I did. We pay that notion only lip service in this country — we were founded on those ideas 244 years ago, weren't we? All those well intentioned white male slaveholders wrote it down in a couple of documents we say we revere (but don't). Our history, to this day, belies it.

But that has been, to many Americans of little or no color, the Big Secret, hidden even to themselves, until now. Sorry. Cat's out of the bag. A very large number of Yanks are still refusing to accept it, even though that makes it hard to explain why all those people are out in the streets marching, every day for two weeks, numbers growing, seemingly pretty upset about... something. In more than 400 cities in every state of the union, in more than 50 countries on every continent except Antarctica (lazy apathetic Chinstrap penguins!), hundreds of thousands are marching for real equality. Time's up. Not

SEE **CURIOUS CITY** PAGE 11



Matthew Hall

GRADUATION: Santa Monica students graduated on Tuesday. Celebrations were held virtually or by car depending on the school. Prior to the event, some students including Naveen Haque and Rachael Odebunmi participated in a citywide scavenger hunt to revisit memories of their SMMUSD experience.

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THE LATEST TOPICS AND NEWS FROM SANTA MONICA



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ARTISTS

FROM PAGE 1

paintthecitypeaceful.com), organized a mass painting of boarded storefronts last weekend with more than 200 artists working throughout the city.

"Many of us are participating in the conversation of what to do about racial inequality and injustice, how to do it and with whom and there's a lot of people that are stuck in paralysis and want to help but don't know how or where to start," said PTCP Founder Lee Stapleton.

"As this important conversation persists, it is essential that we all listen and learn from the experts leading it. After the looting hit Santa Monica, I was looking around at a place we all once called beautiful and was now masked behind destruction and pain. From there I knew instantly, we had to start right in our own backyards. By starting with something as small as creating beautiful art for the community and businesses that were affected, we are not covering up the voices of oppression, but instead creating a safe community by opening up a line of communication to create a safe place and for us all to come together."

Artist Mufasa Floats said he had been searching for an opportunity to paint something in the street.

"I've been looking for a place to drop a message and I guess I couldn't find a place that was very willing and lord above I found this Instagram feed," he said. "There's a couple of inconsistencies to what I really wanted to do but at least I'm given the opportunity to paint."

Organizers said the work will stay for as long as the business owners have the boards up. Some stores have already begun taking down the wood and there are ongoing discussions about preserving some of the work.

A similar, but unrelated, project was temporarily installed at the Avocado mattress store on Montana. The store worked with Beautify Earth to provide space for several professional artists.

"Avocado is committed to the health and wellbeing of our planet and all its inhabitants, so when this historic movement for equality came to our neighborhood, we were moved to show our support and thought that art is an amazing way to connect and inspire our community," says Kris Karuna from Avocado.

The boards were painted and removed from the store within a few days but Avocado is working with Beautify Earth to auction the works. Money from the sales will be split between the organization, the artist and a BLM affiliated nonprofit.

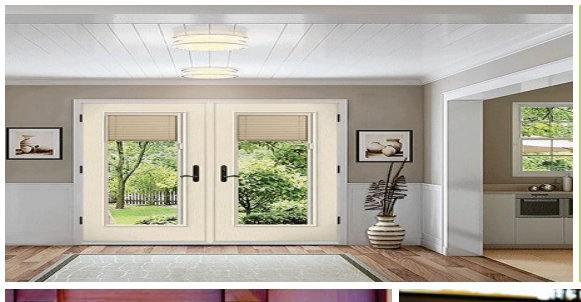
"Community is the heart of our work. Beautify strives to bring people together through art and transform walls into sources of hope and inspiration. We are thrilled to collaborate with Avocado Green Mattress to showcase these talented artists' work and spread messages of equality, love, and beauty to all," says Moral Masuoka from Beautify Earth.

For more information about the auction visit https://www.avocadogreenmattress.com/santa-monica or www.beautifyearth.com.

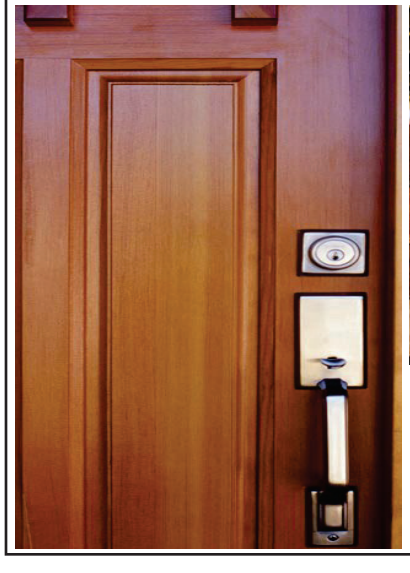
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Matthew Hall

ART: Artists including Allison Bamcat, Mufasa Floats, Gino Burman-Loffredo, Heidi Neilson, Kasey Blaustein, Cat Ferrier and Kara Brooks painted boards this week. While one project spread artists throughout the city, another brought several to one location for a fundraiser.

Dear President Trump,

CC: AG William Barr CC: Gov. Gavin Newsom CC: AG Xavier Becerra
CC: Senator Kamala Harris CC: Senator Cory Booker CC: Rep. Matt Gaetz
CC: Federal Bureau of Prisons CC: Department of Justice
CC: California Department of Corrections

George Floyd, a father and a member of the cannabis community was killed, at the hands of disgraced and dishonored Minneapolis police officers, who violated an oath to serve and protect their community by killing an unarmed man. I have been using the time since George Floyd's death to reflect on the root causes of systemic racism in the United States and possible changes. As leaders we can no longer stand idly by and allow for such racism to exist in the greatest country, in the most advanced civilization in the history of the world. We are better than this as a society and we must take action and the time to take action is now.

According to the Pew Research Center 40% of all US law enforcement drug arrests in 2018 were for cannabis. 92% of those arrests were for simple cannabis possession and 8% were for growing or transporting cannabis. According to a study by the ACLU, members of the black community and white community use cannabis at about the same rate, but black people are four times more likely than white people to be arrested for cannabis possession. In Minnesota, where George Floyd was killed, black people were arrested at rate of 8.5 times higher than white people for cannabis possession.

Being arrested for cannabis possession can mean loss of financial aid for education, loss of job, loss of public benefits and loss of access to government programs. It can cost $2000 to $20,000 on average to defend a cannabis possession case. Incarceration over cannabis can make it harder to find a job and reduces the rate of wage growth by 30% over the course of a person's lifetime.

Police spent $3.6 billion annually enforcing cannabis possession laws which resulted in 820,000 arrests in 2019. Police spent $4,390 per arrest between 2001 and 2010, or $73,170 per felony conviction of a marijuana related crime. To put that in perspective, it costs $77,560 per cannabis conviction. It would be cheaper to send someone convicted of a cannabis possession crime to UCLA to receive a world class education ($34,620 annually).

According to a 2019 Pew Research Poll 91% of Americans support medical or recreational cannabis legalization, recreational marijuana is legal in 11 states for adults over the age of 21 and is legal for medical use in 33 states (including the recreational states). According to the law, cannabis use is legal in one form or another in 33 of the 50 states. Yet members of the cannabis community were arrested 820,000 times last year.

A WebMD/Medscape survey of the attitudes of general physicians and nurses in North America and Europe similarly found that 71 percent believe that cannabis possesses therapeutic efficacy. The National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, in 2017 acknowledged that there is "conclusive or substantial evidence" that cannabis and its organic constituents "are effective" for the treatment of chronic pain, multiple sclerosis, nausea, and other conditions. The American Nurses Association, states: "Marijuana (cannabis) … has been shown to be effective in treating a wide range of symptoms in a variety of conditions."

In 1970 cannabis was officially outlawed for any use by the controlled substances act. 50 years later Mayors, Governors and Medical Doctors proclaimed it to be an essential business and an essential item. Cannabis is now an Essential Part of American Life. American citizens should no longer be arrested for cannabis possession as it has been deemed "essential" by our healthcare professionals and our honored elected officials.

Now that cannabis is legal in 33 states including Washington DC (in one form or another) has a 91% approval rating among American adults, 71% approval rating from doctors in North America and Europe and has been deemed "Essential" during a worldwide crisis of biblical proportions the cannabis community would like to humbly and respectfully request that:

1. All law enforcement agencies cease making cannabis possession related arrests immediately.

2. All inmates incarcerated for non-violent cannabis crimes be released as soon as possible from local, state and federal custody. This could be done by President Trump via Executive Order/Executive Pardon and by Gov. Gavin Newsom through Governors Clemency for inmates incarcerated by the state of California (who has more incarcerated inmates than any other place in the world).

3. Americans arrested for non-cannabis related drug possession charges be offered drug treatment as an alternative to incarceration. I would like to suggest redirecting the $3.6 billion annually spent enforcing cannabis possession laws to be used on drug treatment for those convicted of none cannabis drug possession offenses.

Laws change, law enforcement officers are expected to change and enforce the new laws of our lands. We can no longer allow members of the cannabis community and the African American community to be unfairly targeted and arrested 820,000 times a year for cannabis possession. A crime that quite frankly shouldn't exist anymore and unfairly targets members of the black cannabis community.

As great leaders you are expected to do what is right. This is the will of 91% of your constituents and change is not only necessary but is essential and this would be a great first step in the right direction in the fight against systemic racism.

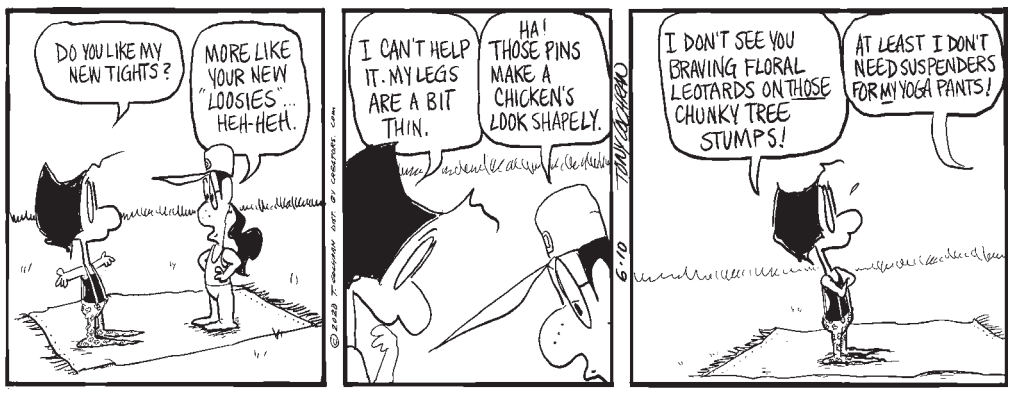
Respectfully Yours,

BUDTRADER

Brad McLaughlin
CEO BudTrader.com
Member of the Cannabis Community
Citizen of the United States of America
Compassionate Human Being from Planet Earth

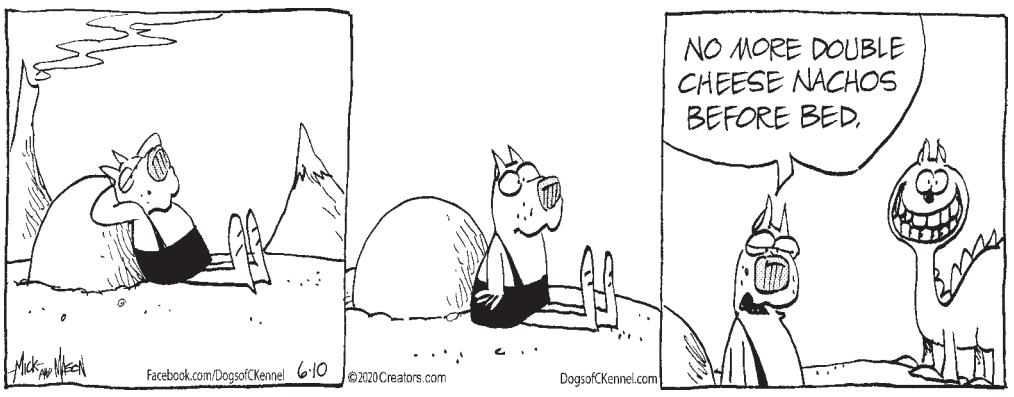
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 57.3°

WEDNESDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high occ. 5 ft
SSW swell tops out.

THURSDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high
SSW swell eases as new long-period S swell starts to fill in.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 84.
Wednesday Night: Clear, with a low around 64.
Thursday: Sunny, with a high near 78.
Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 61.
Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 71.
Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 59.
Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 70.

Date	Day of the Week	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2020/06/10	Wed	12:26 AM	5.19	H
2020/06/10	Wed	08:01 AM	-0.29	L
2020/06/10	Wed	3:16 PM	3.72	H
2020/06/10	Wed	7:29 PM	2.95	L
2020/06/11	Thu	01:19 AM	4.60	H
2020/06/11	Thu	08:55 AM	0.15	L
2020/06/11	Thu	4:18 PM	3.87	H
2020/06/11	Thu	9:06 PM	2.97	L
2020/06/12	Fri	02:25 AM	4.04	H
2020/06/12	Fri	09:50 AM	0.54	L
2020/06/12	Fri	5:08 PM	4.10	H
2020/06/12	Fri	10:56 PM	2.68	L
2020/06/13	Sat	03:49 AM	3.60	H
2020/06/13	Sat	10:42 AM	0.88	L
2020/06/13	Sat	5:47 PM	4.36	H
2020/06/14	Sun	12:10 AM	2.19	L
2020/06/14	Sun	05:15 AM	3.36	H
2020/06/14	Sun	11:27 AM	1.18	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date:06/06
1 17 38 68 69
Power#: 18
Jackpot:22 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 06/05
32 35 37 47 55
Mega#: 22
Jackpot: 410 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 06/06
5 21 22 34 39
Mega#: 8
Jackpot: 13 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 06/08
2 13 15 17 29

Daily 3
Draw Date: 06/08
Evening: 3 5 8
Draw Date: 06/08
Midday: 0 2 6

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 06/08
1st: 04 - BIG BEN
2nd: 01 - GOLD RUSH
3rd: 12 - LUCKY CHARMS
RACE TIME: 1:49.50

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 (JUNE 10)

Love enfolds you this year! Your cosmic birthday gift is a surge of ambition that is well-matched to your abilities, which makes for a steady climb over the next 10 weeks. Adjust to new ways, and seize opportunity. Your optimism and reliability will earn you a coveted place in an organization, and praise and pay to match. Virgo and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 40, 1, 19 and 33.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). New scenes invite you. You won't know what to say or how to behave when you get there, but go anyway. There's no way around it; experience is the only teacher here.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). There's somewhere you see yourself. This vision of you in an improved state is growing increasingly vivid. To change your life, change the patterns of behavior that have held you from that place.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There are good reasons to let go of hard feelings. First of all, they are heavy, and carrying around unnecessary weight gets tiring. You can take the lesson and lose the burden. Writing or talking about it helps.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Instead of providing all the answers (exhausting!), you'll encourage others to find the answers. This takes longer and requires you to be OK with their early-stage mistakes.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The truly confident aren't thinking about how their performance looks or sounds. They just play the moment. There are two ways to get there. Either do a thing a million times, or cease to care what people think of you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). One stroke of luck will vanquish 10 worries. Magic like this doesn't come along every day, although you'll have two more waves of this wand before the month is through.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Advice from the top will only help if the person knows your particular kind of journey. What counts more is advice from someone but one or two rungs above you on the ladder.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Everyone is fragile to some degree and indestructible in other ways. It's hard to tell on the surface, though, because each person's shatterproof glass parts are differently distributed.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll have a chance to use an underappreciated talent, not only satisfying but also a reminder of how good life can be when you're doing what you love. Appreciation is just a bonus.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Make no assumptions about how to please people. Your idea of a happy outcome is different from someone else's, and it will be important to get clear on the terms.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). What makes special things special is their infrequency. A treat every day isn't a treat; it's a habit. An essential ingredient to special treats: anticipation and delayed gratification.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Among your most beautiful cosmic gifts are compassion and high-level empathy. Sure, these talents sometimes cause you pain. But today, they will bring you nothing but joy.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

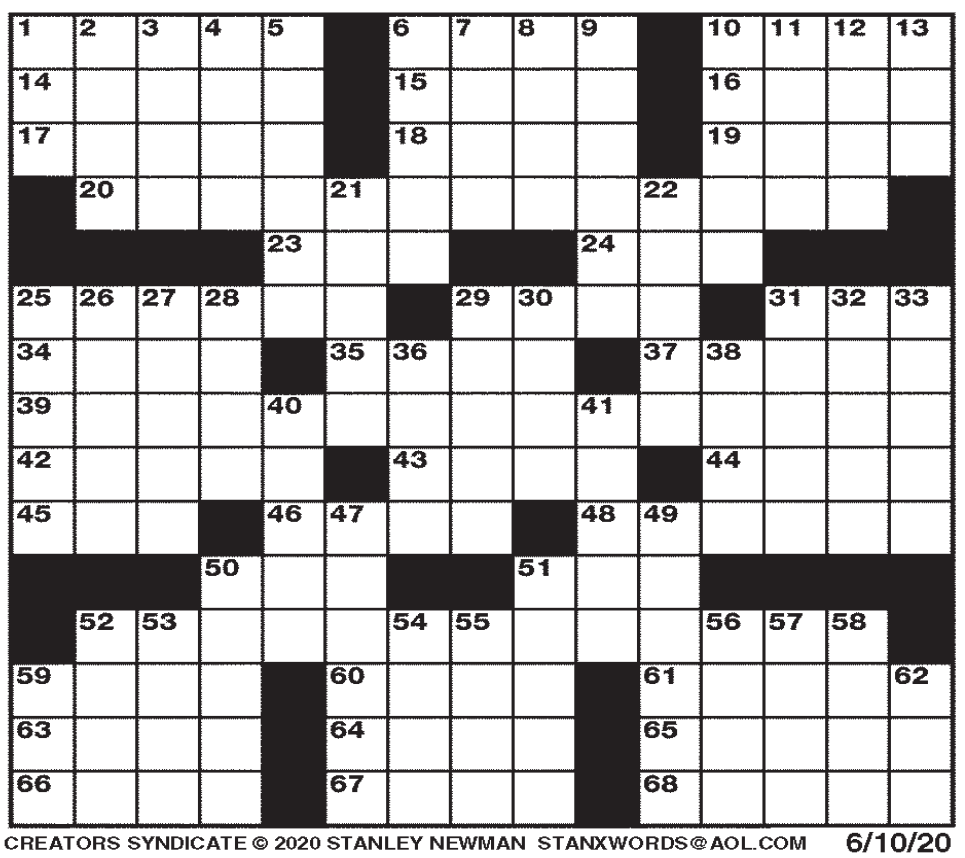
3	8				5	7		9
	9			4				1
			8		1			
8						1	6	
7				3				2
	1	5						8
			3		2			
9				1			8	
1		7	4				2	3

Newsday Crossword

BANKING ON IT by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Linguini, for example
6 Fly very high
10 Part played
14 Knighted singer __ John
15 "Chunk light" fish
16 Bard of __ (Shakespeare)
17 Included with
18 Portions of a play
19 __ over backwards (try hard)
20 Word processor's typo-finding function
23 "A mouse!"
24 "Furthermore . . ."
25 Kept from entering
29 Angelic ring
31 Feasted on
34 Neighborhood
35 Kite's back part
37 Crossed a stream on foot
39 Pharmacy's custom work
42 Art studio stand
43 Bid first
44 Prescribed amount
45 Sandwich bread
46 Approximately
48 __ along (relayed)
50 George Washington's bill
51 Title for 14 Across
52 Service-station job
59 *Gone With the Wind* estate
60 Comet cleanser competitor
61 British singer of "Skyfall"
63 Phone app image
64 Unlikely to bite
65 Discourage
66 Ping-__
67 Historical periods
68 Makes less difficult

DOWN
1 Potpie legume
2 Charitable gifts
3 Go no further
4 Voicemail beep
5 *Life of Pi* director
6 Pile of poker chips
7 "That hurts!"
8 Poker hand starter
9 Rogue
10 Extremely enthusiastic
11 Pizzeria appliance
12 Overly extended
13 Phase out
21 Paved the way for
22 Not a secret
25 Justice Ruth __ Ginsburg
26 Grand grouping
27 Get extra value from
28 Go ballistic
29 Big zoo beast
30 Sunblock additive
31 Spanish "Bye!"
32 Feeling jittery
33 Double-__ sword
36 Pop singer Tori
38 Mentions further
40 Genetic duplicate
41 Remove, as a brooch
47 Partial-refund promotion
49 Video game center
50 Red-haired ape
51 Jazz band horns
52 Crunchy Mexican food
53 Clothes presser
54 Not quite shut
55 The Dalai __
56 Notion
57 Clears after taxes
58 Great joy
59 Helpful hint
62 Ambulance destinations: Abbr.



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2020 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 6/10/20

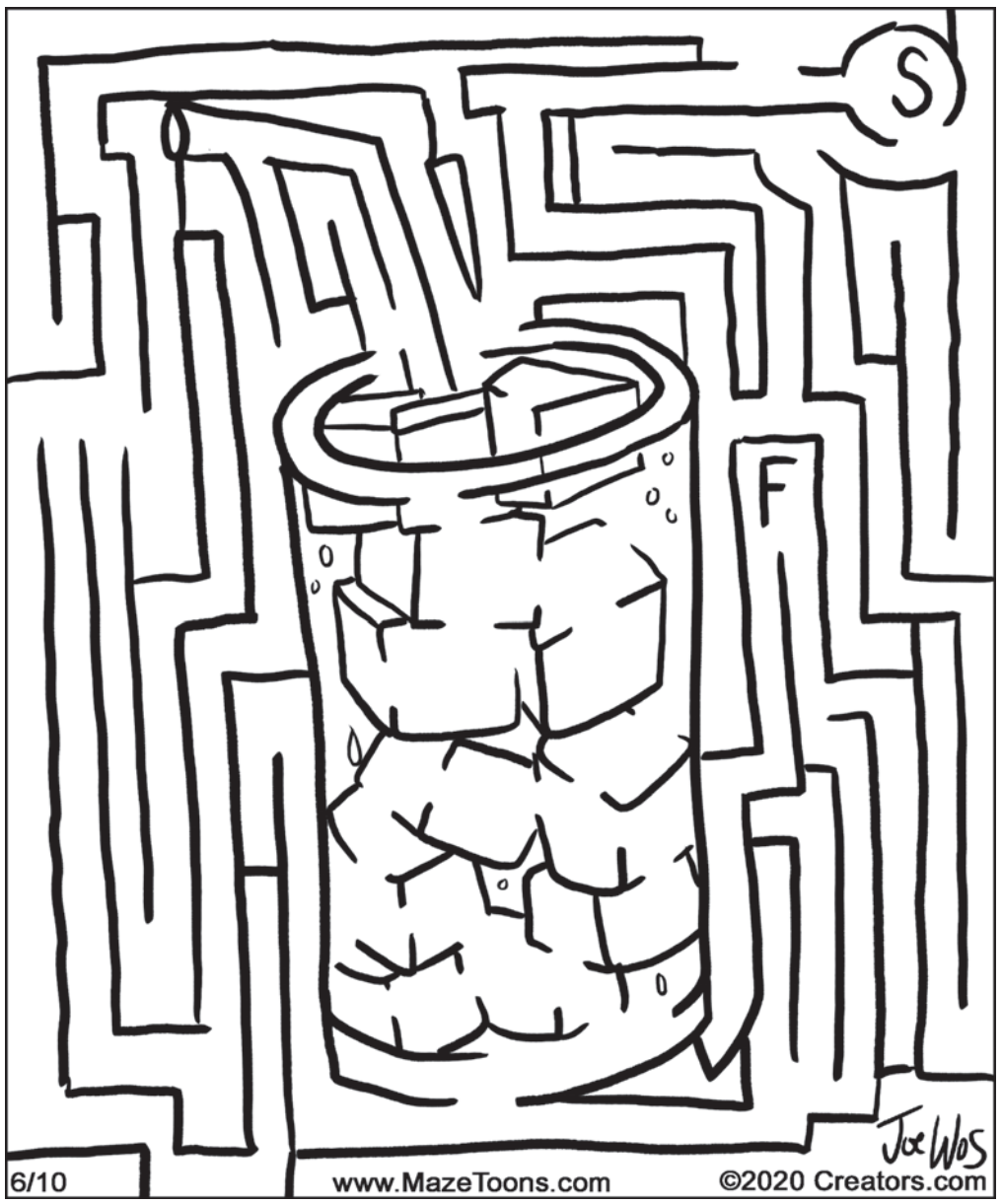
Binary Puzzle

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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



"The City of Bell spectacle is what happens to communities without their own old-fashioned, diligent news coverage." - Terry Francke, Journalist

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smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

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 24 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 4775

The world of dogs

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

Afghan	Chase	Lowchen	Saint
Akita	Coat	Loyal	bernard
Basset	Collar	Pets	Schnauzer
Beagle	Corgi	Playful	Skye
Bitch	Family	Poodle	Spitz
Bones	Foxhound	Pugs	Staffordshire
Boxer	Guide	Puli	Yelp
Brittany	Kennel	Puppies	
Bulldog	Labrador	Running	
Cairn	Laika	Saluki	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Pleasant weekend getaway

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LATINX

FROM PAGE 1

graduation stoles that she intended to gift to the young scholars prior to their commencement ceremony.

However, that was before the pandemic forced the dismissal of students and staff from school campuses back in March, so Monday's meetup came as a unique surprise to the nearly 50 families who stopped by Samohi to enjoy conversation and a bite to eat with students, loved ones and respected mentors like Rebecca G. Villegas.

"It's pretty cool that all of us Latinos are getting together to celebrate something as a community since we weren't allowed to come together during the pandemic," Julian Martinez said. "It's really cool to celebrate the little things we have like food and getting our stoles, and taking pictures with our teachers."

Though he was planning to "attend" Tuesday night's virtual graduation, Nathan Vincent considered his peers an unlucky class since they weren't able to enjoy any of the traditional activities held for seniors around graduation time.

"Everything was just so unexpected. We didn't know that (March 12) would be our last day walking in the passing period or going to fourth period, so I just took it as a normal day. And it just goes to show, at any moment, something could just be snatched from under you. And I'll never get to experience that ever again. I'll never be able to experience a passing period and say 'Hi," to my friends or what it's like for D to scold me for going to class late or anything like that. I feel like I kind of took it for granted," Vincent said. "But I'm so happy to be here as opposed to having this online, which would suck because it takes away from the emotion of it all."

Keila Sanchez, president of ChicanX LatinX community council, and Cynthia Navarro, vice-president of CLCC, said during Monday's gathering that students typically see each other every week to plan and coordinate events.

"The whole point of our club is to raise cultural awareness and try to change the image of how people perceive us," Sanchez said. "So, we hold college events and we try to really build leaders in our club, not just followers. Meaning we like to get them politically involved and we try to inform them as much as we could about how politics really affects our communities."

As a former student who could barely muster up the courage to previously address a room of classmates, Navarro can attest to the benefits of the club firsthand.

"Before the club I was very shy — I'm still very shy — but it was way out of my comfort zone to run a club, much less talk to people about It or politics and why they should join," Navarro said. "But now, I think it definitely has allowed me to become more confident when it comes to subjects like politics or some of the beliefs that I have. l I feel like I'm more comfortable sharing them and talking about them through social media or one-on-one. And since our entire club is pushing for people to be leaders, I feel like that's definitely going to help me not just stay in the shadows but have my own opinions and be able to express it whenever I feel it's needed."

Club adviser Sarah Rodriguez added prior to the conclusion of Monday's meet-and-greet that this year has been one of the most challenging.

"And, it's tough to know they will have to miss an opportunity to celebrate a huge milestone in their lives, especially when it's a chance to really be seen and acknowledged for the incredible work they've done — not only to get themselves through to this point, but also to organize and raise consciousness among their peers and community about the many issues of social justice that many more of us are awakening to now," Rodriguez said. "So, I'm just feeling honored to be part of this community of young people and adults who are committed to ensuring that these students get the visibility and the leadership opportunities and the access to college and next steps that you know they deserve and have worked so hard for."

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GUNS

FROM PAGE 1

a crowbar and a sledgehammer to break the store's windows and used bolt cutters to cut the metal roll-down gate. They entered the Big 5 through its emergency exit door and left in a white BMW four-door sedan.

Anyone with any information about the burglary should contact ATF at 1-888-ATF-TIPS (888-283-8477) or by visiting www.reportit.com. The investigation is being conducted jointly by the ATF Los Angeles Field Division and Santa Monica Police Department.

The Big 5 burglary is one of dozens that occurred May 31 as groups of people came to Santa Monica to loot businesses during a protest against police violence.

SMPD arrested more than 400 protesters and looters May 31 and continues to search for looters who escaped. The department announced Monday afternoon that peaceful protesters who had been arrested would not be prosecuted.

SMPD Chief of Police Cynthia Renaud called in the National Guard shortly after noon May 31, but they did not arrive in the city until 9 p.m. because they were guarding Los Angeles City Hall. The National Guard was stationed in the city from May 31 through this past Sunday, when personnel left Los Angeles County.

Residents and business owners have criticized the police department's approach to the unrest, saying officers wasted time confronting peaceful protesters rather than stopping the looters. More than 55,000 people have signed a petition asking for Renaud to be fired.

City Council member Sue Himmelrich has asked the City Council to approve an independent review of the Santa Monica Police Department's response to the events of May 31.

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CURIOUS CITY

FROM PAGE 5

waiting any longer. We set our alarm clock for 400 years and it went off last year.

I'D LIKE TO TAKE CREDIT

For keeping the faith, but I would have to go to the back of a very long line. And wave a very small banner. Besides, I'd have to take responsibility for a few things I would rather not: a worldwide pandemic that has killed 115,000 Americans (2M infections) with no sign of miraculously being bleached away anytime soon, the resultant economic disaster resulting from it that has left more than 40M Americans on unemployment, many families without even food, and the spark, the murder of even more unarmed black Americans, particularly George Floyd. His name, his sacrifice, will never be forgotten. Suddenly, spontaneously, the vast majority of people in the world declared, that's it, this is the limit, no more. No more demonstrations and thoughts and prayers and then back to normal.

NO MORE BACK TO NORMAL

That's been the theme of my columns here for a couple of months now. The pandemic forced us to realize and acknowledge how toxic our normal was, to remember that the climate change clock is ticking away a few final years before the state of Florida disappears and they all move here for the palm trees (hey! come to Santa Monica, we've been trying to mimic Miami Beach for about a decade now, getting close). I figured if we had enough people die, and lose their livelihoods, that just might be the combination terrible enough to spark a complete reset on what had become a terminal lifestyle for Mother Earth. A monumental sacrifice, but not for naught if it saves the planet. I refer you again to "The Great Realisation," now approaching 30M views, out in the fall in book form.

But being a white guy, I guess I lumped racism in with all the "normals" I prayed we would disappear. When I should have moved it to the top of the mountain. It is, after all, our Original Sin in America. And now I believe that if we can see and finally bury that one, well, fossil fuels, plastic-filled oceans, hunger and disease, are slam dunks. But there is resistance. I see so much of it on social media. Good people who haven't yet figured out that "all lives matter" is missing the point entirely. A couple of years ago I didn't get it until my daughter lovingly schooled me, so I try to be gentle with others. This may take time. BUT IT CAN'T. The time is NOW.

Two jobs right now, as I see it, for the planet, the nation, and our beloved Santa Monica. Move quickly and without compromise to identify and change everything that doesn't serve us, ALL of us. Prisons, governing bodies, health care, education, the police, everything. Service. Serve us. This is tough work but there has never been anything more important. Let's go.

Charles Andrews has lived in Santa Monica for 33 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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Help Wanted

3D Artist (Worksite: Culver City) Req'd: BA + 12 mos exp. w/new content creation techniques using MAYA, CINEMA 4D, 3DS MAX, and/or ZBRUSH. Resumes: TIKTOK INC, Attn: H. Zheng/ TTLA20-101, 5800 Bristol Pkwy, Suite 100, Culver City, CA 90230



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VIOLENT, RACIST POLICE MISCONDUCT IN SANTA MONICA



Richard Vogel/Associated Press



ETIENNE LAURENT/EPA-EFE/Shutterstock

REMEMBER THEIR NAMES: MCKEOWN, DILG, AND RENAUD

"There are peaceful protests, there are angry representations against social injustice and systemic racial inequality that can turn to violence, and then there's what we have right now." -- Santa Monica Police Chief Cynthia Renaud

In her podcast interview with *Daily Press* in the immediate aftermath of the tragedy of May 31, Police Chief Renaud spoke the above words. In doing so, she exposed both the nature and the cause of SMPD's violent and unlawful conduct.

The question is not "peaceful protesters" or angry ones. The question is lawful or unlawful; and a wise and measured reaction by SMPD or a violent and unconstitutional one. News footage and eyewitnesses all demonstrate that it was the SMPD that acted unlawfully in firing tear gas and rubber bullets on the crowd.

If you oppose racism and lynching in America, then you understand that the demonstrators' anger was justified. The Police Department's violent response was not.



OCCUPY SMPD HEADQUARTERS

333 Olympic Drive
Wednesday, June 10
5 p.m. until dark

A community response to the racist and unconstitutional acts by our police force

The event is a project of **Santa Monicans for Democracy** in coalition with a handful of recent graduates of Santa Monica High School and Santa Monica City College.

Please bring protest signs and yellow flowers for the Chief of Police.

To learn more, visit santamonicansfordemocracy.org.

Santa Monicans for Democracy Steering Committee Chair: Craig R. Miller, Resident of Ocean Park since 1983