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California regulators withdraw controversial work mask rules

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

California's workplace regulators reversed themselves for the second time in a week Wednesday, withdrawing a controversial pending mask regulation while they consider a rule that more closely aligns with Gov. Gavin Newsom's promise that the state will fully reopen from the pandemic on Tuesday.

The California Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board's revised rule, adopted last week after it was initially rejected, would have allowed workers to forego masks only if every employee in a room is fully vaccinated against the coronavirus. That contrasts with the state's broader plan to do away with virtually all masking and social distancing requirements for vaccinated people in concert with the latest recommendations from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Withdrawing that worksite rule before it goes into effect allows the board to consider changes at its June 17 meeting and potentially have them go into effect by month's end.

The goal of the unanimous vote, said board chairman David Thomas, is to change the workplace regulation "so that it matches up with the CDC and the California Department of Public Health, so that we're all on the same page. That's what this is about, so we're not out of step with everybody else."

The safety board's staff was not specific on what changes it will recommend next week, other than it will try to more closely conform the workplace rules with public health guidelines.

But Eric Berg, deputy chief

SEE **MASK** PAGE 11



File Photo

CHAMPS: Crossroads Boys Soccer Team made a championship run this season. See Page 6 for more information.

Bobadilla rejects Santa Monica City Manager position

MATTHEW HALL
SMDP Editor

René Bobadilla will not become Santa Monica's new city manager after informing the Council he will not move forward with contract negotiations.

"Today, my Council colleagues and I received a letter from René Bobadilla announcing that he will not move forward with contract negotiations to be Santa Monica's next city manager. Mr. Bobadilla has made the decision to continue his public service with the City of Montebello," said Mayor Sue Himmelrich.

"We will take up this matter at our next Council meeting and remain confident that we will hire an exceptional, energetic leader for our world-class organization."

Several Montebello councilmembers said they wanted to retain him following Santa Monica's announcement of his possible departure and the Montebello Council approved a new contract with Bobadilla at their June 9 meeting by a 4-1 vote.

Montebello Councilman David Torres praised Bobadilla but opposed the compensation package approved to retain him.

"I really have to give it to my colleagues for tangling with Santa Monica, with their $700 million operating budget and 1900

SEE **MANAGER** PAGE 11

Feud deepens between Villanueva and Los Angeles officials

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

The gloves are off between L.A. County Sheriff Alex Villanueva and City and County electeds over who has the authority over and correct approach to Venice's homelessness crisis.

The fight centers around the Venice Boardwalk, where an estimated 200 unhoused individuals are living and violent crime is surging. The area is under LAPD and the City of L.A.'s purview, but Villanueva has decided to intervene citing a moment of crisis that politicians are failing to address.

This week Villanueva dispatched sixteen deputies and eight mental health workers to find out what resources unhoused Boardwalk residents need to transition to a new living space. Villanueva calls for a complete clearing of the Boardwalk by July 4 and announced his desire to work with the LAPD on enforcement measures.

CD-11 Councilman Mike Bonin is displeased.



File Photo

SHERIFF: Villanueva took aim at several other elected officials this week.

On Monday morning he released a 15 post Twitter blitz lambasting the track record of Villanueva's administration and calling him "a roadblock to progress". Bonin said that as Councilman he is personally working to offer housing and services to hundreds of people living on the street whereas Villanueva is "exploiting" the crisis and not offering "actual help."

On Wednesday morning Villanueva clapped back.

"We're taking action and apparently Councilman Bonin had a meltdown on social media," said Villanueva during an impromptu press conference held on Facebook. "The point is this Mike: if you did your job, I would never be in Venice."

Villanueva also drew sharp criticism from L.A. County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, whose district includes Venice.

"His intervention is essentially counterproductive, disrupting, and then taking credit for, ongoing efforts to provide the housing and services necessary to address the crisis in Venice," said Kuehl in a statement released on Wednesday afternoon.

Kuehl denounced Villanueva for not collaborating with the LAPD or providers already working on the Boardwalk.

SEE **SHERIFF** PAGE 6



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Food allergies complicate hungry Americans' search for meals

KATHLEEN RONAYNE
Associated Press

When Emily Brown, a Kansas City mother, couldn't find foods that her 2-year-old with multiple food allergies could eat at a local food pantry, she mustered up the courage to ask about gluten-free foods or dairy alternatives.

The response: "You got something."

The only things her daughter could eat were potatoes and salsa.

"It took, really, all of my strength to make it to the car," she said. "I cried in the car and then I just thought to myself, 'We cannot be the only family, I cannot be the only mother, struggling with this."

For the millions of Americans newly experiencing food insecurity during the pandemic, a particular crisis is hitting those with food allergies and intolerances: Most charitable and government food programs offer limited options.

While some pantries maintain gluten-free shelves or post allergen information, most were forced to limit clients choices last year, instead turning to contactless models where clients drive up and take a pre-made bag of food.

"Everybody deserves an equal opportunity to select their own foods," said Carla Carter, director of outreach and programming at the National Celiac Association. But, she said, "COVID drastically changed that into: 'Here's a box of food, good luck.'"

Those signing up for government assistance face similar problems. The program for women, infants and children - known as WIC - offers a substitute for peanut butter: It's beans, not exactly useful for making sandwiches. Soy milk is a substitute for cow's milk, but some people, like Brown's child, can't have either.

Food stamps, or SNAP, let families choose what to buy, but specialized foods - like gluten free bread or sunflower seed butter - are often far more expensive. In some stores, the latter costs triple the cost of store-brand peanut butter, gluten free flour costs four times a standard bag, and even the cheapest dairy milk alternatives are often double the price.

Feeding America, the nation's largest anti-hunger organization, hasn't gathered data on the overlap between hunger and food allergies or intolerance. But it's likely millions of Americans who are food insecure face some limits on what they can eat. An estimated 32 million people have a food allergy, and 85 million people live in a household where someone has a food allergy or intolerance, according to Food Allergy Research & Education, which advocates for people with allergies. About 1% of people are diagnosed with Celiac disease, which means they can't consume gluten, and about 6% of people have a non-Celiac gluten sensitivity Carter said.

Eight years after her food pantry experience, Brown is now one of the few people running a program dedicated to helping people with allergies and intolerance access safe foods.

Brown's nonprofit, the Food Equality Initiative, serves about 200 families with Celiac or food allergies, providing them $150 per month to use in an online marketplace with allergy-friendly foods. Some of her clients use the benefit to supplement government assistance programs.

Dietitian Kate Scarlata is among advocates trying to change the conversation around food insecurity by promoting what she calls a more dignified approach. She specializes in irritable bowel syndrome, which can cause stomach pain, diarrhea and constipation when people consume certain foods including garlic and onion, ingredients found in many shelf-stable products like sauces and soups.

She launched a tour of food pantries in April to raise awareness, and she found many of those she visited weren't asking people if they had intolerances or special dietary needs.

Charitable food programs can start with a few simple questions she said: "Are you on a special diet? Are there any foods that bother you?"

Brown, meanwhile, is working with Drs. Ruchi Gupta and Lucy Bilaver at the Center for Food Allergy & Asthma Research at Northwestern University to gather better information on how many people with allergies are food insecure, because no comprehensive data exists.

"The challenge we have is that the way we address food insecurity and food programming here in the U.S. is just so general," Brown said.

As the pandemic risks wane, advocates hope to see a return to client choice programs. That's the model Claudia Montenegro uses at her San Diego pantry, Porchlight Community Services, which is dedicated to serving people with food allergies.

In 2016, Montenegro was struggling to afford allergy friendly foods to meet her gluten and dairy intolerances.

She and some friends decided to pool their money so they could buy in bulk and looks for sales. Word of mouth grew, and she was soon distributing food from her porch.

Today, Porchlight's grown to a full-fledged, volunteer-run food pantry serving people allergic to nuts, dairy, gluten and wheat, shellfish, egg and soy, and those who are diabetic.

Clients are asked to chip in $35 per week if they can, but those who can't pay are still welcome. Volunteers buy all the food themselves, and shoppers can choose items like coconut-based yogurts, nut butters, lactose-free milk and gluten-free flour.

Elizabeth Shoemaker turned to Porchlight during the pandemic, after a hip replacement caused her to lose her job, her relationship and her place to live. At one point, her food assistance payments decreased from $200 to $20. She developed a gluten intolerance but struggled to afford gluten-free products until she found Porchlight, provides those and caters well to her mainly vegetable-based died.

She can't afford the fee, so she volunteers at the pantry.

"I know now I can depend on them the next week, so I don't have to hoard food," she said.

The unanswered 'Jeopardy!' question: Who's the new host?

LYNN ELBER
AP Television Writer

"Jeopardy!" needed a host, and Lucille Ball had an enthusiastic suggestion for creator Merv Griffin: The smooth-voiced, debonair emcee of the "High Rollers" game show.

That was 1984. Decades later, filling the void left by the late Alex Trebek involves sophisticated research and a parade of guest hosts doing their best to impress viewers and the studio that's expected to make the call before the new season begins taping later this summer.

Think of Sony Pictures Television as clutching the rose, and Mayim Bialik, Anderson Cooper, Katie Couric and "Jeopardy!" champs Ken Jennings and Buzzy Cohen among the suitors so far, with more to come including Robin Roberts, Dr. Sanjay Gupta and LeVar Burton.

Sony has "the most robust team of people I have ever seen looking at this and analyzing it in a very cerebral way," said executive producer Mike Richards. "It's a real change from the way casting has traditionally been done on television."

"It's usually been a gut instinct of the head executive: 'How about that person?'" Richards said.

That was producer-entertainer Griffin's approach when he brought a syndicated version of "Jeopardy!" to TV, five years after the quiz show's last network iteration wrapped in 1979 on NBC. A word from Ball, of "I Love Lucy" fame, and Trebek's skill and experience sealed his hire.

Audience and critical regard for the Canadian-born Trebek grew over the years, which makes finding a worthy replacement both a gesture of respect for the late host and the means to protect a corporate asset. While ratings have shifted under the guest hosts, "Jeopardy!" remains among the top-ranked syndicated programs in viewership.

Trebek helped build the show's "display of excellence with his own excellence. And it's tremendously difficult to find somebody to replace him, not only because of the status that he had in the American imagination," said Deepak Sarma, a Case Western Reserve University professor and Netflix cultural consultant. "Anyone who is going to take his position will be judged in the end against this model of perfection."

Game show hosts of Trebek's era were usually radio and TV broadcasting veterans steeped in the genre, and almost invariably white men. Among the "Jeopardy!" subs are men and women of color and prospects from a variety of fields, including NFL quarterback Aaron Rodgers.

The approach makes sense to Louis Virtel, a longtime fan whose vantage point is informed by writing for a game show ("Match Game") and competing on "Jeopardy!" in 2015.

"It's great to see all these different fill-ins. I'm open to suggestions, and I think most people are," said Virtel, a "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" writer and co-host of the "Keep It" podcast. "'Jeopardy!' is a one-of-a-kind show, and the replacement should be tailored to the game."

What makes for a good "Jeopardy!" host?

"I think establishing a sense of comfort (so) the audience just eases into the game," Virtel said. "Also a sense of stakes, that a real tough game is being played. It's called 'Jeopardy!' for a reason. The host is there to make sure we're all on our toes."

The try-outs are an unusually public form of auditioning, one that could cause flop sweat even for veteran emcees. For actor Bialik of "Blossom," "The Big Bang Theory" and "Call Me Kat," any nerves were crowded out by the demands of the job — and she's a neuroscientist.

"There is very little room for not being 100% dialed in to the job of hosting when you are on that stage," Bialik said in an email. It proved the most "joyful, challenging, transcendent act I have undertaken — second only to giving birth to my second son on the floor of my living room."

Back in the day, there were only a handful of pioneers like Betty White, the first female game show host to win a Daytime Emmy (for 1983's "Just Men!"), and Adam Wade, a Black singer who hosted the 1975 game show "Musical Chairs." Wayne Brady, Steve Harvey and Meredith Vieira are among those who made further inroads, with pressure only growing on the entertainment industry to reflect America more broadly on screen.

But taking over for an authority figure like Trebek is harder on women and others not typically seen in such roles, said Sarma.

"The sorts of expectations placed on a person of color in a leadership position are usually higher than those placed on a white person in position of power," he said, and any error or "slight movement against the norm is jumped upon ... as some tremendous mistake."

There could be backlash from those resentful that Trebek isn't replaced like-for-like, which Sarma said isn't far-fetched in this period of social discord.

"Sony is in a pickle," he said.

Series producer Richards, the second temporary host after Trebek's pancreatic cancer death last November at age 80, holds an optimistic view despite the prospect of online trolls and whatever their gripes about the newbie may be.

"My hope is that whoever is chosen will be given a chance to prove why they were chosen, without too much static," he said. "Ultimately, we are trying to put out the best product for our fans. That tends to narrow your focus to a pretty nice North Star, as opposed to, 'What's the internet going to say?'"

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Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 274 CALLS ON JUNE 9

Battery 6th St / Broadway 1:45 a.m.
Loud Music 15th St / Broadway 1:53 a.m.
Living In A Vehicle 1700blk Appian Way 3:30 a.m.
Encampment 1100blk Palisades Park 4:45 a.m.
Petty Theft 2600blk The Beach 6:11 a.m.
Loitering 800blk Montana Ave 6:36 a.m.
Person Down 14th St / Georgina Ave 6:50 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2700blk Lincoln Blvd 7:19 a.m.
Encampment 00blk Pico Blvd 7:44 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1800blk Ashland Ave 7:55 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 800blk 10th St 8:03 a.m.
Encampment 200blk Marine St 8:03 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2900blk 11th St 8:04 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2800blk Washington Ave 8:16 a.m.
Living In A Vehicle 2500blk 14th St 8:25 a.m.
Auto Burglary 900blk 11th St 8:28 a.m.
Prowler 800blk 9th St 8:40 a.m.
Grand Theft 1000blk 25th St 8:48 a.m.
Grand Theft 1000blk 25th St 9:24 a.m.
Person With A Gun 4th St / Colorado Ave 9:48 a.m.
Malicious Mischief 1200blk 24th St 9:49 a.m.
Arson 2400blk 10th St 9:56 a.m.
Fraud 1400blk 5th St 10:06 a.m.
Vandalism 1200blk 24th St 10:13 a.m.
Encampment 1700blk The Beach 10:31 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 19th St / Santa Monica Blvd 10:36 a.m.
Extortion Investigation 1000blk Berkeley St 10:56 a.m.
Expired Registration 1400blk 10th St 11:13 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1600blk Appian Way 11:18 a.m.
Grand Theft 2000blk Arizona Ave 11:31 a.m.
Overdose 1800blk Pier Ave 11:32 a.m.
Burglary 2800blk 2nd St 11:37 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 23rd St / Pico Blvd 11:43 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 1700blk Cloverfield Blvd 11:49 a.m.
Fight 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 11:51 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1500blk 4th St 12:00 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1100blk 2nd St 12:19 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 4th St / California Ave 12:21 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 7th St / San Vicente Blvd 12:21 p.m.
Vandalism 800blk 7th St 12:23 p.m.
Found Property 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 1:26 p.m.
Fraud 1400blk Princeton St 1:28 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 100blk Hollister Ave 1:32 p.m.
Petty Theft 1400blk 7th St 1:35 p.m.
Person With A Gun 1500blk Ocean Front Walk 1:40 p.m.
Family Disturbance 1500blk Yale St 1:51 p.m.
Battery 11th St / Michigan Ave 1:53 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1400blk 2nd St 2:13 p.m.
Encampment 1600blk Stanford St 2:30 p.m.
Encampment 1000blk 9th St 2:34 p.m.
Petty Theft 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 2:44 p.m.
Encampment 1700blk 14th St 2:51 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Neilson Way / Bicknell Ave 3:02 p.m.
Battery 300blk Santa Monica Pier 3:11 p.m.
Petty Theft 200blk Broadway 3:25 p.m.
Vandalism 2200blk Colorado Ave 3:28 p.m.
Petty Theft 1500blk The Beach 3:31 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1700blk Ocean Front Walk 3:35 p.m.
Injured Person 23rd St / Arizona Ave 3:53 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 700blk Pine St 3:54 p.m.
Lost Property 200blk Santa Monica Pier 4:26 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1900blk 6th St 4:31 p.m.
Keep The Peace 300blk Olympic Dr 4:31 p.m.
Vandalism 2200blk Colorado Ave 4:41 p.m.
Lost Property Ocean Ave / Pico Blvd 4:44 p.m.
Found Property 300blk Santa Monica Pier 4:47 p.m.
Petty Theft Now 700blk Broadway 5:02 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2700blk Pico Blvd 5:03 p.m.
Lewd Activity 2400blk Main St 5:14 p.m.
Found Property 2100blk Colorado Ave 5:26 p.m.
Petty Theft 500blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:09 p.m.
Found Property 1300blk 15th St 6:10 p.m.
Found Property 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 6:10 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 2200blk Ashland Ave 6:12 p.m.
Found Property 300blk Santa Monica Pier 6:22 p.m.
Petty Theft 1400blk 14th St 6:23 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1600blk Berkeley St 6:24 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1500blk 6th St 6:25 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1000blk Montana Ave 6:33 p.m.
Petty Theft 2000blk Wilshire Blvd 6:34 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Ocean Ave / Santa Monica Blvd 6:40 p.m.
Drinking In Public 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 7:07 p.m.
Vandalism 1400blk 2nd St 7:17 p.m.
Family Disturbance 1300blk 18th St 7:54 p.m.
Silent Robbery Alarm 1100blk Colorado Ave 7:59 p.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 6th St / Broadway 8:20 p.m.
Loud Music 2000blk Ocean Front Walk 8:28 p.m.
Loitering 600blk Arizona Ave 8:51 p.m.
Speeding 00blk Vicente Ter 9:00 p.m.
Vandalism 800blk Pico Blvd 9:24 p.m.
Fight 1300blk Pacific Coast Hwy 9:34 p.m.
Family Disturbance 2700blk Neilson Way 9:45 p.m.
Loud Music 2700blk Barnard Way 10:05 p.m.
Loud Music 1800blk Euclid St 10:31 p.m.
Encampment 1600blk Ocean Ave 10:36 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 800blk Pacific Coast Hwy 10:43 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 1300blk Berkeley St 10:53 p.m.
Party Complaint 1300blk 2nd St 10:59 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Main St / Ashland Ave 11:07 p.m.
Loud Music 2000blk Ocean Ave 11:09 p.m.
Construction Noise 900blk 17th St 11:13 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 500blk Wilshire Blvd 11:19 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1500blk Berkeley St 11:32 p.m.
Family Disturbance 1500blk Yale St 11:45 p.m.
Vandalism 2400blk Centinela Ave 11:51 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 37 CALLS ON JUNE 9

EMS 1300blk 15th St 12:15 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300blk Stanford St 12:48 a.m.
EMS 600blk 24th St 12:58 a.m.
EMS 1300blk Franklin St 1:14 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 300blk Santa Monica Pl 2:16 a.m.
EMS 900blk 3rd St 4:00 a.m.
EMS 1400blk Ocean Ave 4:35 a.m.
EMS 2200blk 20th St 6:39 a.m.
EMS 1800blk Ashland Ave 8:08 a.m.
EMS 2700blk Main St 8:09 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 200blk Wilshire Blvd 8:17 a.m.
EMS 900blk 25th St 8:56 a.m.
EMS 900blk 7th St 9:27 a.m.
EMS 800blk Pico Blvd 9:28 a.m.
EMS 1100blk 3rd St 9:42 a.m.
EMS 3000blk Paula Dr 10:11 a.m.
EMS 600blk Pico Blvd 10:58 a.m.
EMS 1800blk Pier Ave 11:32 a.m.
EMS 1300blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:27 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 500blk Ocean Ave 12:47 p.m.
EMS 600blk Grant St 3:19 p.m.
EMS 23rd St / Arizona Ave 3:51 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 4:05 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 3rd St 5:41 p.m.
EMS 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 6:31 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 11th St 6:54 p.m.
EMS 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 8:13 p.m.
EMS 1700blk Cloverfield Blvd 8:18 p.m.
EMS 2400blk Oak St 8:32 p.m.
EMS 1600blk 7th St 9:23 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 3300blk Ocean Park Blvd 9:35 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1900blk 6th St 9:53 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 3300blk Ocean Park Blvd 9:59 p.m.
EMS Main St / Ashland Ave 11:06 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Main St / Ashland Ave 11:07 p.m.

BRIEFS

Venice

Venice Congregation Installs New Rabbi

Temple Mishkon Tephilo of Venice will install Rabbi Joshua Katzan as its new rabbi on Sunday, June 13, at 2:00 p.m. This live, online ritual and gathering marks a sacred moment to formalize this relationship.

The 103-year-old synagogue welcomes Rabbi Katzan (pronounced kah-TZAHN) into the community at an auspicious time, as the synagogue, California, and the nation prepare to reopen after the pandemic. Installation chair Michele Prince calls it "a time to recommit ourselves to learn, pray, work, and heal together." She says, "All participants will have a role in the ritual as we surround Rabbi Katzan with words, songs, and blessings of inspiration and welcome."

Rabbi Katzan is a native Los Angeleno, and his installation marks a remarkable homecoming after decades of rabbinic work in Denver and New York City. His great-grandparents were founders of Mishkon, his great-grandfather was the synagogue's first president, and his parents were married at Mishkon.

In the few short months since he joined the Mishkon community, "Rabbi Josh" has won over the congregation with his knowledge, teaching skills, caring, community outreach, and musical talents — and occasionally corny jokes.

The ritual's main three officiants will be Rabbis Bruce Dollin, Mark Soloway, and Cheryl Peretz, all teachers, friends, and colleagues of Rabbi Katzan. Rabbi Dollin is the senior rabbi of Congregation Hebrew Educational Alliance in Denver. Rabbi Soloway is the rabbi of Congregation Bonai Shalom in Boulder, Colorado, and previously was an actor and storyteller in his native London. Rabbi Peretz is the Associate Dean of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies here in Los Angeles. Other Jewish and interfaith clergy from throughout L.A. will be present to bless Rabbi Katzan during the installation, alongside Mishkon's congregants, friends, and neighbors.

Contact Mishkon Tephilo at (310) 392-3029 or mishkon.org to learn more or RSVP for the ceremony.

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WINNER

Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

My Almost "Heartbreak Kid"Afternoon, Part II

In my last column I wrote about my honeymoon in Hawaii, specifically about a magical afternoon I spent body surfing and chatting on a secluded beach in Kauai with Ali MacGraw who essentially told me her life story. Meanwhile, at my wife's insistence, she was on a shopping adventure in town. Getting dressed for dinner, Katherine excitedly showed me what she bought and began describing her day. "Let's wait until dinner," I said because I was nervous how she'd respond to my day.

The restaurant was beautiful and romantic. After we ordered, Katherine finished about her day and asked, "So how was yours? Any great waves?" "A few," I replied. "That's all?" she asked as I took a large sip of wine. (Actually more a gulp than a sip.)

"Well, there was one unusual thing, I met Ali MacGraw." Katherine immediately stopped eating and I immediately had more wine. "How did you meet her?" I explained how Ali approached me in the water asking if there were any dangerous coral reefs and we got to chatting.

Cautiously I shared what Ali had told me about her difficult childhood, college, modeling, her movie career and failed marriages to Robert Evans and Steve McQueen, Katherine seemed fascinated. (Or contemplating using her knife for something other than cutting her Hap'upu'u sea bass.)

I even mentioned that at one point Ali said, " It's so weird, you and I talk the same language." But I still didn't detect an ounce of jealousy. Just the opposite. "You realize you could have scored today. No woman tells a man what she told you who doesn't want to have sex." Suddenly I went from worried Katherine would be jealous to offended she wasn't.

"So if I'd have had sex with Ali MacGraw you wouldn't be upset?"

"Just the one time?"

I nodded.

"It'd be a great story that my husband was attractive and appealing enough that Ali MacGraw wanted to have sex with him."

The subject of Ali never came up again. That is except during an argument when strong-willed Katherine made an adamant statement I couldn't refute, I joked, "Spoken by the woman who insisted Ali MacGraw wanted to have sex with me." (That actually got a laugh from her which was always music to my ears.)

Sadly, seven years later we got divorced, albeit amicably. (Eight if you count we lived together for a year.) Soon my female acupuncturist (who cured my tennis elbow) insisted on introducing me to a number of attractive, age appropriate girl friends, some who even lived in my neighborhood.

One she felt that couldn't miss was an avid Seinfeld fan as was I. This was the first season when there was talk it would be canceled so being a devoted fan was definitely a bond. Plus I played tennis with Seinfeld's business manager which intrigued her no end. At dinner she asked, "So which character do you identify with the most?" When I said George, she was horrified. "You're that neurotic?!" I could have said, "Waiter, check please" because it was all downhill from there.

Even though I bombed over and over my matchmaking acupuncturist refused to give up on me. The last blind date was with a beautiful widow of a famed rock pianist who shall remain nameless. She also mentioned she was one of Ali MacGraw's closest friends which intrigued me no end. We talked on the phone and agreed to meet at Starbucks on Main Street.

Finally the conversation steered to my time with Ali in Hawaii. Almost laughingly I mentioned, "My ex said I could have scored." As I drank my coffee she replied, "Jack, you're now the third man who has told me of meeting Ali on that vacation. And I can only tell you the other two, did." Suffice it to say, I came very close to duplicating a Danny Thomas spit take.

Forgive the awkward segue, but this brings me to the double standard about sex. If a man on vacation sleeps with numerous women likely he would be regarded as a stud. Even today, if a woman does the same with men she likely might be regarded as a tramp.

I've wanted to write about that afternoon with Ali for years but didn't out of respect for her privacy. That is until I read her remarkably candid autobiography, "Moving Pictures." Courageously she shared her life struggles, including alcohol and sex addictions for which she sought treatment at the Betty Ford Clinic. She's always been very open about it, even in recent interviews from her home in Santa Fe where she moved over 20 years ago.

For many reasons I admire Ali MacGraw enormously, including how she's embraced aging. Frankly, I consider her heroic. (And I can personally attest she was fearless body surfer.)

To see beautiful images Google "Photos of Ali MacGraw's home in Santa Fe." Jack is at: facebook.com/jackneworth, twitter.com/jackneworth and jackdailypress@aol.com

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

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Your column here

Laurie Brenner
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Libraries are the Heart of Civilization

When I moved to Santa Monica 19 years ago, one of my very first acts, before the moving truck had even arrived, was to sign up for my library card. That little piece of plastic was then, and is now, my gateway to the world, an endless cornucopia of information and pleasure.

Montana was "my" branch. I knew all the librarians, wonderful people, kind, helpful, efficient. When they disappeared overnight, without my even having a chance to say "goodbye" or to tell them how much I appreciated them, I was devastated. I live within walking distance of the Montana branch; seeing it shuttered and lifeless is beyond sad.

When my grandchildren were small, their lengthy visits always included multiple trips to pick out books and attend programs. I remember so well my small granddaughter's utter delight in the chance to read to a dog….. she's 20 years old now, and still cherishes the memory. (Her brother, a very literal-minded person, was incredulous when I suggested participating in the program. "Grandma", he said, patiently, "the dog doesn't understand".)

When my stepdaughter visits from back east with her kids, she's barely off the plane before she and I grab backpacks and head to the library for literary provisions for the days ahead. A visit without books is unimaginable.

The shockingly diminished numbers of the library staff have done a fabulous job with curbside pickup. I had been going to Main for that - Montana is only open curbside 2 days a week. The librarians remain patient, kind. friendly, helpful. It is so much appreciated.

I am thrilled that I can now actually enter what feels almost like the sacred space of the Main library, though only on the first floor. A lack of staff keeps inaccessible the second floor, which houses all the non-fiction. How sad!

All of this is truly shocking. I mean that quite literally. How could the City of Santa Monica truncate its' library system? Libraries are now, and have been for centuries, the very heart of civilization. Santa Monica, our beautiful city by the sea, will remain forever diminished if our libraries are sacrificed. I am imploring the City Council to reconsider the draconian budget cuts. Our kids need our libraries, students need our libraries, families need out libraries, old ladies like me need our libraries.

Laurie Brenner is a Santa Monica resident. save.sm.library@gmail.com or @SaveSMLibrary1

BRIEFS

Citywide

Mental Wellness Tips for People Returning to Work

With the State of California planning to eliminate most COVID-19 restrictions on June 15, Iliniza (Nisa) Baty, Venice Family Clinic's director of behavioral health, today offered four tips for people to avoid stress, fear and anxiety as they resume broader social interactions and return to the workplace and group outings. She encouraged people to explore the root of their fears, focus on what they can control, get outdoors and exercise and recognize they're not alone.

"Our social muscles may have atrophied as we sheltered at home over the past year, and the return to normal social interactions may cause stress and anxiety," she said. "We need to recognize that for some of us, it may take small steps to get back to feeling comfortable again at work, school and in groups."

She encouraged people to explore the root of their fears by taking a step back and questioning whether they feel anxiety about the state of the global pandemic broadly or whether their fears are based on their own experiences? She said that taking the time to conduct this assessment will help offer fresh answers and perspective.

With all the challenges of the pandemic, Baty said people need to focus on what they can control now – from the way they control their breath to the decisions about where they go and who they see.

"When you intentionally choose to focus on what you can take action on, you start to eliminate ifs and buts and any fears associated with those," she said. "It is extremely powerful."

To help ease anxiety and stress, she suggests getting outside and exercising because physical movement helps calm these emotions. She suggested starting with small steps, such as a walk around the block, and to expand that over time.

Baty also said sharing feelings and experiences with others not only reminds people that they aren't alone; it helps relieve stress and anxiety. Speaking with a counselor or other mental health professional can help. To become a patient of Venice Family Clinic, please call (310) 392-8636. L.A. County offers help at (800) 854-7721 for COVID-19 related stress and support.

For more information, visit VeniceFamilyClinic.org. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

SUBMITTED BY LAURA MECOY





Gregg T. (Dibbz) Dibble
Las Vegas, NV (formerly Venice, CA)
April 20, 1950 - May 15, 2021



A few lines are not enough to tell the story of "Dibbz". For those who knew him in Santa Monica and Venice I am sure that he was an experience unique to you. He was loved by many, remembered by all. A true individual to the end and the great love of my life as I was his.

He died at home with me by his side. Cancer took his body. Nothing took his soul. He lives on in all who knew him. Missed desperately by his wife and best friend, Sandy.
For full obituary please see *Legacy.com*

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BRIEFS

Citywide

Crossroads Soccer Season

The Crossroads Varsity Boys Soccer Team had a stellar championship season starting with a true underdog story with CIF Division 6 Playoff run. The team squeaked into the playoffs after tying Paraclete 1-1 at home in their last game of the regular season. The Roadrunners then had to win in a wildcard game against Canyon Springs in order to advance in the bracket. A 2-1 win behind goals from Lucas Markle and Lucas Kawamoto-Duran advanced them into game one. Crossroads stepped up to the challenge with a 2-0 shutout against South Hills thanks to two goals from Curtis Boozer. San Jacinto pushed the Roadrunners to a 1-1 stalemate (behind an incredible volley from freshman Oak Jarvis) and ending in a nail-biting 5-4 win in PKs. Flintridge Prep went down 1-0 with a Kawamoto-Duran penalty kick goal while Hugo Guckert led the team with a clutch goal to give the team a 1-0 win in the semi-final game against Charter Oaks. The CIF Division 6 Championship Game was held at the neutral Culver City High School Field. Oak Jarvis scored a goal and teamed up with Kawamoto-Duran who delivered a hat trick for a 4-1 win.

Their success bolstered the Crossroads team on to a number one seed in CIF Regional State Division 5 Championships. Their first game was against Whitney who they dominated 3-1 behind 2 Kawamoto-Duran goals and one from Henry Fisher. The team advanced on to Semi-Finals against Sherman Oaks CES where Guckert came up big again with another clutch goal and Henry Fisher sealed the deal to give the team a 2-0 victory and a spot in the State Regional Championships. Saturday, June 5, Olympian from San Diego and Crossroads met on the neutral field of Santa Monica High School. With over 500 fans in attendance, the energy was palpable. Crossroads Head Coach Federico Bianchi said, "After such a hard year, when nobody was able to be together, to see the community come together and all share this amazing moment was truly incredible." A defensive show-down held the teams to a 0-0 score throughout the first half. Gus Koven scored the first goal on a header off of a throw-in. The Olympian Eagles answered back, but the Roadrunners' Henry Fisher closed the door when he found the net during a free kick, putting his team up 2-1 and then letting the Crossroads backline (Curtis Boozer, Joe Borris, Oliver Aghai, Sean Stark) and goalie Cade Cohen go to work with their formidable defensive performance.

The Roadrunners scored a total of 18 goals in playoffs while they conceded only 5. "Throughout our playoff run, we were faced with many difficult situations, but the boys never gave up and battled in every moment," said Coach Federico Bianchi. "Nobody had an ego. Nobody complained about playing time. Everyone supported each other and cared about one thing: the team's success."

SUBMITTED BY TARA SHIMA

SHERIFF

FROM PAGE 1

In the Facebook press conference Villanueva explicitly criticized Kuehl and other LA politicians for "handcuffing" LAPD's enforcement power and creating an "anarchic" situation on the Boardwalk.

"Under anarchic situations the void is filled by people who are going to break the law, they're going to harm residents, they're gonna destroy businesses, and they're going to drive the economy into the toilet, which was already struggling to recover from the pandemic," said Villanueva. "And all you can complain about is why is there a sheriff there."

LAPD reports that crime has indeed skyrocketed in the Boardwalk area of Venice. Over the past year, robberies are up 177 percent, assaults with deadly weapons are up 116 percent and burglaries are up 85 percent.

Kuehl did not address rising rates of crime in her statement, but did attribute the increase in homelessness to the pause on disrupting encampments during the pandemic, which was mandated in accordance with CDC guidelines.

"Like many County residents, and my LA City college Councilman Mike Bonin, I am frustrated that the pandemic has temporarily set back some of our progress re-housing people experiencing homelessness," said Kuehl, adding that outreach efforts would now be ramping up as the public health threat recedes.

For many Venice residents an upcoming ramp up is too late and Villanueva's immediate action is welcome. Representatives from local organizations SHARE! housing and Friends of the Venice Boardwalk have praised the steps taken by LASD this week to assist unhoused individuals living on the Boardwalk.

Kuehl said that law enforcement led strategies are often less effective than those led by service providers and that the County and City's approach to homelessness is "supported by volumes of research".

The elephant in the room is the number of unhoused individuals who have traveled from out of state over the past year specifically to live on Venice Beach — a subject that both Bonin and Kuehl are hesitant to acknowledge, but Villanueva has been very vocal about.

"We're coming across a large number of people out of state that are descending on the strand (Boardwalk), just to enjoy the free services and the weather," said Villanueva. "LA cannot be the receiving body for the entire nation's homeless."

Villanueva also took swings at Supervisor Holly Mitchell, the People's City Council, and the LA Democrats during his press conference.

On Tuesday the LA County Democratic Party issued a resolution standing in solidarity with the family of Andres Guardado and calling for Villanueva to resign. Guardado was shot in the back and killed by a Deputy Sheriff from LASD in June, 2020.

Villanueva accused the LA Democrats of seeking to "capitalize on a tragedy" and that they were a group of wealthy Westsiders who do not accurately represent the Democrats of Los Angeles.

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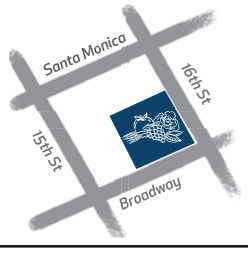
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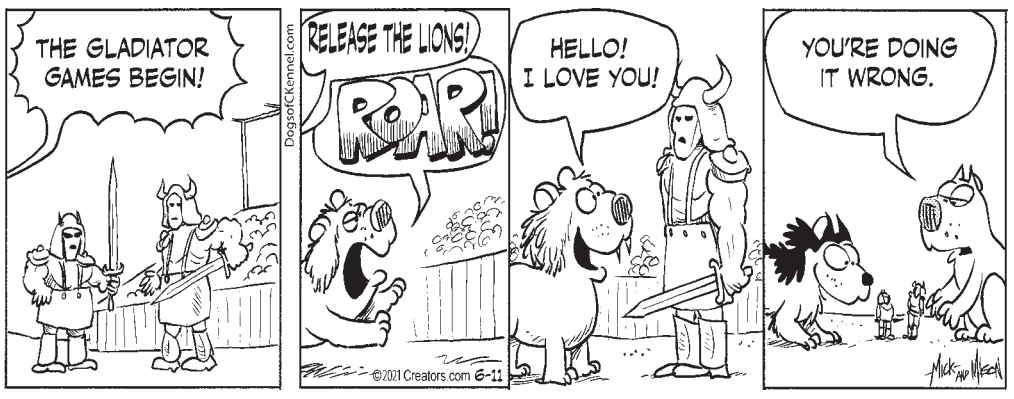
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



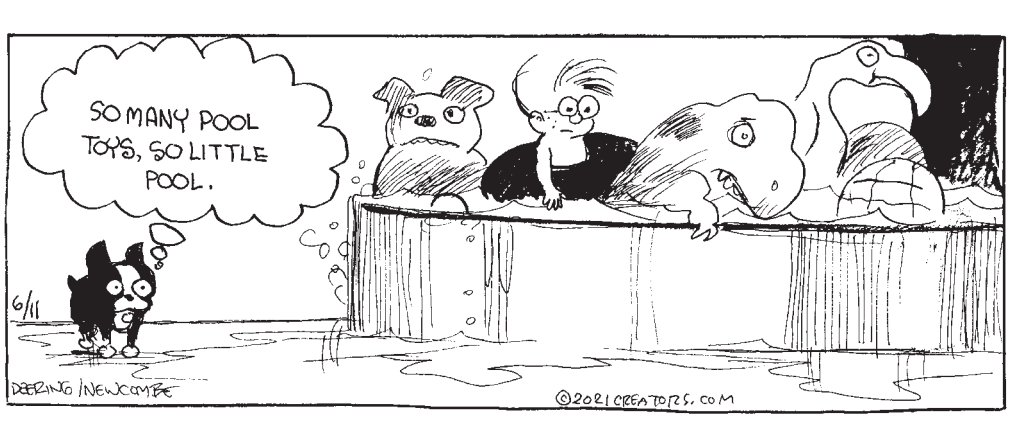
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



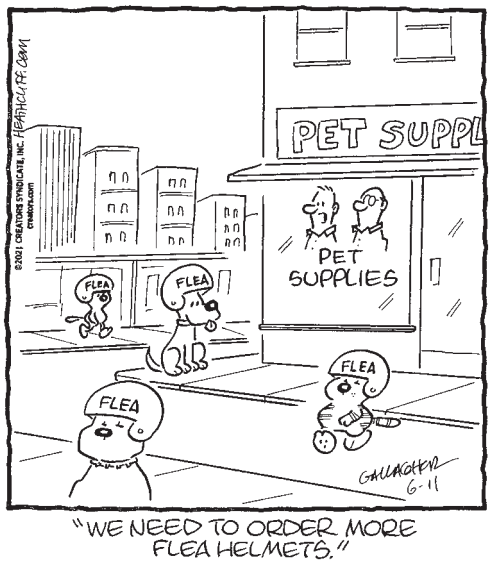
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

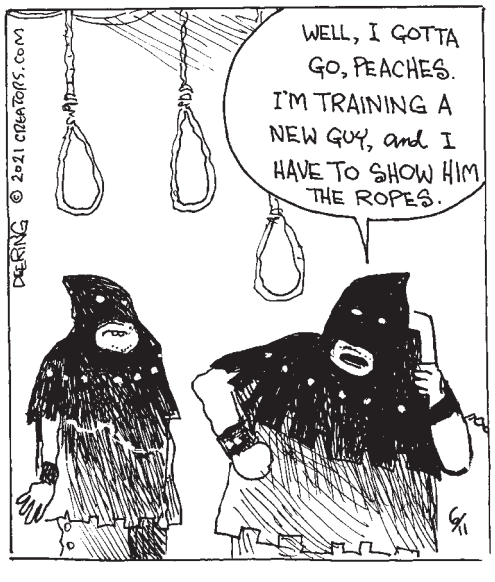
By PETER GALLAGHER



"WE NEED TO ORDER MORE FLEA HELMETS."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 63.9°

FRIDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high occ. 3 ft
Starting to get pretty modest as SSW swell eases. Drained early, but clean and should be rideable with the bigger boards.

SATURDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft Thigh to waist high
Pretty slow and minimal early with that drained, low tide. Shape and consistency improves with tide push. Modest S/SW swells in the water (old and new).

WEATHER

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 70. East northeast wind 5 to 15 mph.
Friday Night: Increasing clouds, with a low around 59. West southwest wind 5 to 15 mph.
Saturday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 72.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/06/11	Fri	05:07 AM	-0.58	L
2021/06/11	Fri	11:49 AM	3.37	H
2021/06/11	Fri	3:49 PM	2.50	L
2021/06/11	Fri	10:10 PM	5.82	H
2021/06/12	Sat	05:45 AM	-0.56	L
2021/06/12	Sat	12:35 PM	3.34	H
2021/06/12	Sat	4:23 PM	2.64	L
2021/06/12	Sat	10:44 PM	5.69	H
2021/06/13	Sun	06:24 AM	-0.47	L
2021/06/13	Sun	1:25 PM	3.33	H
2021/06/13	Sun	5:02 PM	2.78	L
2021/06/13	Sun	11:21 PM	5.49	H
2021/06/14	Mon	07:06 AM	-0.33	L
2021/06/14	Mon	2:19 PM	3.39	H
2021/06/14	Mon	5:53 PM	2.92	L
2021/06/15	Tue	12:05 AM	5.19	H
2021/06/15	Tue	07:50 AM	-0.14	L
2021/06/15	Tue	3:13 PM	3.56	H
2021/06/15	Tue	7:02 PM	3.02	L
2021/06/16	Wed	12:58 AM	4.79	H
2021/06/16	Wed	08:37 AM	0.10	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 6/9
19 28 46 50 54
Power#: 9
Jackpot: 0 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 6/8
9 22 39 41 54
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 20 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 6/9
1 14 23 42 44
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: 54 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 6/9
10 16 26 28 29

Daily 3
Draw Date: 6/9
EVENING: 8 7 2

Draw Date: 6/9
MIDDAY: 7 1 6

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 6/9
1st: 08 - Gorgeous George
2nd: 05 - California Classic
3rd: 11 - Money Bags
Race Time: 1:47.83

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (JUNE 11)

You'll have big ideas and effective strategies, too, but your real superpower is your power to attract the people who can share your dream and get it done. You'll communicate better than ever, and then step out of the way to let every star play their part. How you multiply resources for yourself and others will be miraculous. Aries and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 26, 30, 44 and 29.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The show mattered while it was happening but now the recap matters more. That's what you'll be building on going forward. Take a moment to decide what you can use about your recent experience.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). After doing the same thing for several days in a row and getting good results, suddenly things compounded and got exponentially greater. You will soon hit a point of diminishing returns -- a signal to change it up.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You know your boundaries in theory, but the map of a place is not a place. You have to be standing on the ground to really understand where the limits are.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Peer pressure is an actual force, as real as barometric, gauge or differential pressure. Furthermore, peer pressure has just as much influence as it did when you were 7, which is all the more reason to seek kind friends.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You've a chance to become the champion of a person or idea. Better to give too much than too little to this. You'll never have to look back and wonder if you could have done more.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Not everyone who smiles is happy. You can tell the difference though, and you'll speak to the hidden heart, offering the fortification of warmth and the sense of belonging that comes from being truly seen and accepted.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Every situation has potentials worthy of your curiosity, exploration and effort. Knowing where they are is a matter of dropping your preconceived notions and staying alert on every level, especially the intuitive one.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Things are happening, though perhaps not with the intensity, depth or profitability that you expected from the situation. Appreciate whatever results you get, however meager. It's something to build on.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It's the outside world giving you the motivation to improve, and there will be concrete benefits to reaching a certain goal by a particular day. The internal drive will kick in midway through this effort.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Steady progress is the usual way, but the current project is strange in this regard. Expect an erratic rhythm. In this case, nothing happens for a long time, and then, suddenly, it all seems to be happening at once.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There's enough to focus on here, so the fact that you are participating in other dimensions simultaneously doesn't seem relevant to you. Even so, the intuitive knowledge you receive will be worth considering as a viable option.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You have several projects going at once and could conceivably bounce around them without accomplishing much to speak of. For best results, choose one focus and stick with it until a meaningful marker is hit.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

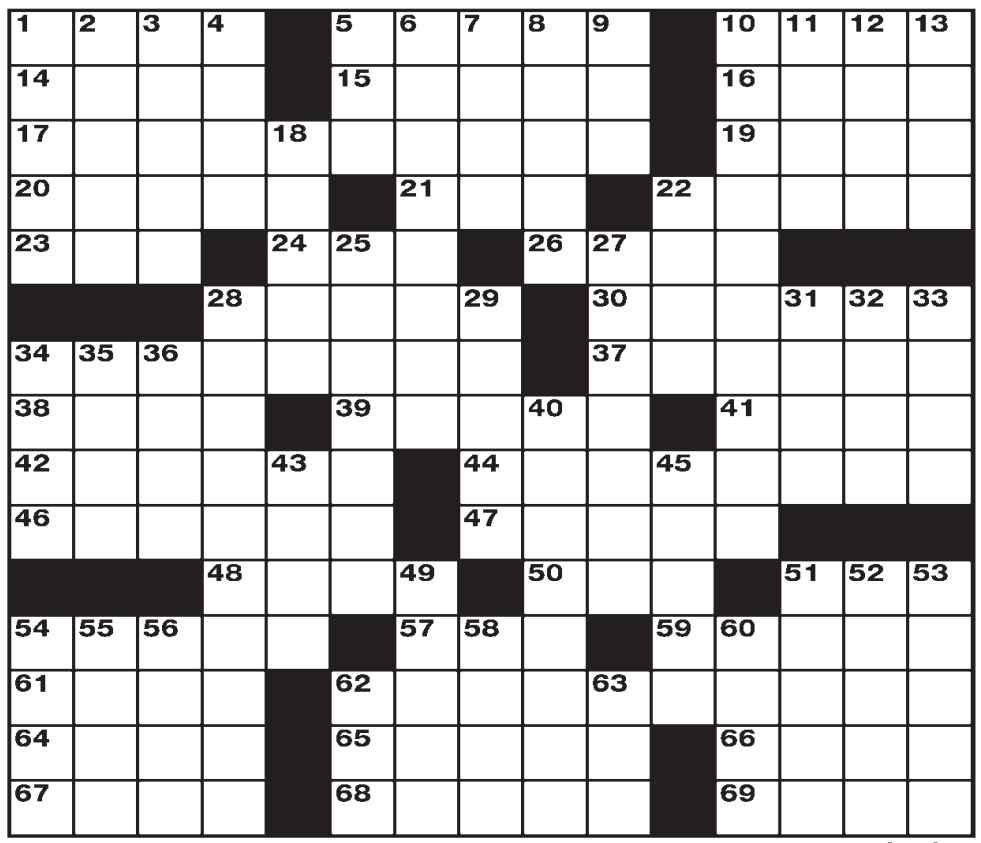
	3	1		4				6
			8			1	7	
4		9		7				
		4			5	7		8
	7			9			6	
8		5	7			4		
				5		8		9
	5	3			1			
9				6		2	1	

Newsday Crossword

MOUSE IN THE HOUSE by Clive Probert
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Zilch
5 This land, informally
10 Hurdle for would-be 34 Down
14 Flamenco shouts
15 Sorts of stitches
16 Bench wear
17 In a difficult position
19 Tuscan island
20 Unmitigated
21 One against you
22 Furniture material
23 Pitch catcher
24 Federal cultural org.
26 Furniture material
28 About
30 Get back on track
34 Cared for, perhaps
37 Crated
38 Lodge letters
39 Make accommodations
41 Son of Jacob
42 Rhodes' locale
44 Pal of Dennis the Menace
46 Meandered
47 Ben Hogan contemporary
48 Big cheese
50 Helmet gizmo at the X Games
51 Harry's successor
54 Mess-kit item
57 Ulla in *The Producers*
59 Social event
61 What Flavius called *ferrum*
62 Pollock colleague/ spouse
64 Go out for a while
65 Parting word
66 Place to strike
67 Wool coat owners
68 Taste, for one
69 Regarded

DOWN
1 Futile
2 Constellation's brightest star
3 Dissuade
4 '70s tennis star
5 Scanner target
6 Opposite of "submerged"
7 Ice cream flavor
8 Admiral's concern
9 Call upon
10 Popular diner course
11 Blue cheese feature
12 Palindromic pop group
13 Muscle injury
18 Hemingway nickname
22 Normandy city
25 Trips made for Mom or Dad
27 Ethiopia neighbor
28 Model's "high" features
29 *1776* protagonist
31 Frankfurter's "over"
32 Stir
33 Stage direction
34 Finance types
35 Still to be filled
36 *Antony and Cleopatra* costume
40 "Silver dollar" meal
43 Very long time
45 Frat letter
49 Nonwoven material
51 "Stop that!"
52 Nancy Drew series byline
53 Was wrong
54 Rib joint menu selection
55 Figurehead location
56 Slow flow
58 "Count __!"
60 Jersey, for one
62 __ Cruces, NM
63 Bemoan



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Binary Puzzle

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

I								O			
											I
								I		O	
											I
										I	
O						O				I	I
		O		I							I
						I	I		I		
		I			I						
					I		I		I	I	
							I	I		I	
	I		I		I			I			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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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 16 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5142

Driving

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

Alcohol
Alley
Amps
Brake
Buses
Caps
Cars
Cope
Core
Curve
Detour
Exchange
Fail
Fees
Flat
Flood
Free
Fuel
Garage
Hills
Horn
Inconvenient
Intersection
Keen
Lanes
Learner
Lift
Lights
Motor
Muffler
Pass
Pins
Plug
Power
Repair
Rest
Road
Signal
Slow
Spare
Speed
Start
Sump
Tank
Tools
Trams
Trial
Tyre
Utes
View
Volts

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
A state of many contrasts

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MASK

FROM PAGE 1

of health for California's Division of Occupational Safety and Health, known as Cal/OSHA, said the public health guidelines generally allow anyone who is vaccinated to skip wearing a mask indoors. Under those rules, he said, "a vaccinated person would not have to wear a mask at work."

The reversal came after State Health Officer Dr. Tomás Aragón reiterated to board members at a hastily scheduled special meeting that the state next week will end most masking rules for people who are vaccinated, while continuing to require face coverings for unvaccinated people in indoor public settings and businesses.

Exceptions where everyone must remain masked include public transit, indoor school classes, in health care and correctional facilities, and in places like homeless shelters and cooling centers, Aragón said. Individual businesses are also free to require everyone to remain masked under the general rules, he said.

Helen Cleary, director of the Phylmar Regulatory Roundtable, a coalition of large businesses with major California operations, was among numerous business representatives urging the board to conform its rule with public health requirements.

"Employers cannot plan with this high level of uncertainty," she said. "We are disappointed and frustrated with the confusion, the process, the substance and the lack of leadership."

The workplace board's more restrictive approach put Newsom in an awkward position as he battles a pending recall election, though he was reluctant to override a board that he appoints.

"The public doesn't draw a distinction between this board and the rest of the Newsom administration," Michael Miiller, California Association of Winegrape Growers government relations director, told board members before the vote. "What they hear is the Newsom administration say that wearing masks at work may be here to stay."

Pressure on the board built when a dozen business groups including the California Retailers Association and organizations representing manufacturers, farmers, tourism interests and other industries sent a letter to Newsom asking him to immediately issue an emergency order rescinding the board's regulations.

Requiring masks unless all are vaccinated in a workplace would "create yet another barrier to rehiring and reopening" at a time when "we need to be providing incentives to bring people back," they said. Moreover, they said requiring masks for people who are fully inoculated could lead the public to believe the vaccine isn't really effective.

Business organization representatives at Wednesday's meeting repeatedly asked the board to repeal its pandemic rules entirely and rely on Cal/OSHA's underlying authority to protect workers. Employee advocates countered that the pandemic isn't over and coronavirus variants pose a looming danger.

Board member Laura Stock said it is important to keep protecting employees who don't have a realistic choice but to go to work.

For instance, state data shows that in the retail sector in the last 30 days "there were 70 outbreaks, more than two a day," said Stock, who directs the Labor Occupational Health Program at UC Berkeley. "Outbreaks are still occurring."

Business groups also want the board to withdraw its proposal to require employers to start providing the most effective N95 masks for voluntary use by employees who work indoors or at large outdoor events and are not fully vaccinated, starting July 31. That would be costly and compete with the needs of health care workers, they said.

But "the N95 is the one that checked all of those boxes" for safety, Stock said.

The Cal/OSHA board's regulations apply in almost every workplace in the state, including workers in offices, factories and retail. Its pandemic rules apply to all employees except those working from home or where there is a single employee who does not have contact with other people.

Even prior to Wednesday's vote, board members emphasized that their revised rules were temporary, and they appointed a subcommittee to continue working on revisions.

MANAGER

FROM PAGE 1

employees compared to our $60 million dollar operating budget and 400 employees," said Torres.

Torres said the scale of the package approved to keep Bobadilla was out of step with other city employees despite his accomplishments.

"I myself am very much in favor of you continuing to work with the city. I don't think that anyone can dispute that there definitely have been bright points in what you brought to Montebello and, you know, as Montebello deserves the best, at the same time I believe that we have to be realistic and think if we can afford it, and unfortunately Madam Mayor, I can't support the package this extravagant."

Councilman Salvador Melendez said a good city manager can save the city thousands of dollars and Bobadilla's work on several projects justified his retention.

"So, you know, we have to do everything we can to keep the city manager. And I believe that we're not overcompensating or not doing anything, you know, extraordinary," he said. "I think we're doing what's fair, what's reasonable and, you know, I hope that we can keep our city manager here."

Bobadilla said he was happy to stay.

"It is with a great deal of humility and gratitude that I've decided to remain with the City of Montebello," said Bobadilla. "The support and confidence expressed to me by all members of our current City council for the hard work and results our staff and leadership have contributed to put this City on positive footing have provided the assurance that we can continue to build on our momentum. We have and will continue to do good things for the City and its residents."

Bobadilla said he was grateful for the opportunity in Santa Monica but expressed regret for this matter becoming public

"While this was a very difficult decision meant to be private until appropriate, I sincerely appreciate the vote of confidence and support the Montebello Council has made and the terms of their offer demonstrate their desire to continue building on the collaboration and cooperation we've been able to establish," he said. "This is the right decision for me and my family at this stage of my career and I genuinely thank the Council for their commitment and backing as we enhance our partnership for the benefit of our residents and the community."

Bobadilla was chosen from among 62 applicants for the position just a day before Montebello voted to retain him. Under his new contract, he will make $318,500, receive lifetime medical benefits and an enhanced severance package.

Santa Monica Councilwoman Gleam Davis was the lone "no" vote on trying to hire Bobadilla with Council met on Tuesday. She declined to explain her opposition and ultimately changed her vote to support negotiations in an effort to show a united council supported his success.

The city has been without a permanent chief executive since Rick Cole resigned in April 2020. Santa Monica has hired former City Manager John Jalili to serve as interim city manager when current interim City Manager Lane Dilg leaves on June 22.

editor@smdp.com



Santa Monica Daily Press
Classifieds

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Notice

I am a retired New York city Police Officer, senior citizen, and I am disabled from being shot and many other medical wounds while serving in the nypd as a police officer.
I had just cashed my pension check, and as I was coming out to the rear parking lot of Rite aid Drugstore in Santa Monica located at 1331 Wilshire Blvd, Santa Monica, CA 90403.
A wind blew everything out of my hand including my cash.
The assistant manager Gladys was helping me to my car, she witnessed that it suddenly got super windy and blew everything out of my hand.
Yesemia the rite aid manager, who also witnessed the whole incident. Said " it was sad because he couldn't go after his money because of all his injuries but he was lucky that a few guys that were washing the cars helped him and recovered some of the money.."
I am still short about 700 dollars, this was my rent money, food, survival money I may end up homeless..
I know it's a long shot but I know there are some honest people in Santa Monica,.
IF you see anything please.
Contact Dan Miller,
608 513 2721
Danmillerribic@ yahoo.com.
God bless all of you.
Bob.

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