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Santa Monica Daily Press
WEEKEND EDITION
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Newly funded Community Response Unit will help firefighters fight homelessness



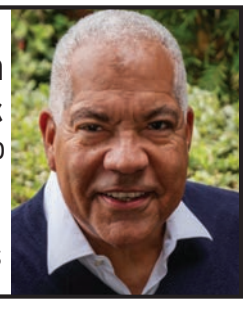
CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

After years of decrying the standard response to 911 calls regarding unhoused individuals, and advocating for change, the Santa Monica Fire Department has had its prayers answered — with two years of funding for a Community Response Unit.

The Community Response Unit is designed to reduce the number of repeat 911 callers by designating firefighters who can stay on calls with unhoused individuals long enough to connect them with the resources needed to address the

SEE **HOMELESSNESS** PAGE 7


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Vaccinated teachers and students don't need masks, CDC says

MIKE STOBBE AND COLLIN BINKLEY
Associated Press

Vaccinated teachers and students don't need to wear masks inside school buildings, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Friday in relaxing its COVID-19 guidelines.

The changes come amid a national vaccination campaign in which children as young as 12 are eligible to get shots, as well as a general decline in COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths.

"We're at a new point in the pandemic that we're all really excited about," and so it's time to update the guidance, said Erin Sauber-Schatz, who leads the CDC task force that prepares recommendations designed to keep Americans safe from COVID-19.

The nation's top public health agency is not advising schools to require shots for teachers and vaccine-eligible kids. And it's not offering guidance on how teachers can know which students are vaccinated or how parents will know which teachers are immunized.

That's probably going to make for some challenging school environments, said Elizabeth Stuart, a John Hopkins University public health professor who has children in elementary and middle schools.

"It would be a very weird dynamic, socially, to have some kids wearing masks and some not. And tracking that? Teachers shouldn't need to be keeping track of which kids should have masks on," she said.

Another potential headache: Schools should continue to space kids — and their desks — 3 feet apart in classrooms, the CDC says. But the agency emphasized that spacing should not be an obstacle to getting kids back in schools. And it said distancing is not required among fully vaccinated students or staff.

All of this may prove hard to implement, and that's why CDC is advising schools to make decisions that make the most sense, Sauber-Schatz said.

The biggest questions will be at middle schools where some students are eligible for shots and others aren't. If sorting vaccinated and unvaccinated students proves too burdensome, administrators might choose to just keep a masking policy in place for everyone.

"The guidance is really written to allow flexibility at the local level," Sauber-Schatz said.

Widespread mask-wearing is expected to continue this fall in some of the nation's largest school districts, but not in others. In Detroit's public schools, everyone will be required to wear a mask unless everyone in the classroom has been vaccinated. But masks won't be mandated in Houston schools. Philadelphia was planning to require masks, but on Friday a spokesperson said the school district is now reviewing their policy based on the CDC guidance.

What about requiring COVID-19 vaccination as a condition of school attendance? That's commonly done across the country to prevent spread of measles and other diseases.

The CDC has repeatedly praised such requirements, but the agency on Friday didn't recommend that measure because it is considered a state and local policy decision, CDC officials said.

Early in the pandemic, health officials worried schools might become coronavirus cauldrons that spark community outbreaks. But studies have shown that schools often see less transmission than the surrounding community when certain prevention measures are followed.

The new guidance is the latest revision to advice the CDC began making to schools last year.

In March, the CDC stopped recommending that children and their desks be spaced 6 feet apart, shrinking the distance to 3 feet, and dropped its call for use of plastic shields.

In May, the agency said Americans in general don't have to be as cautious about masks and distancing outdoors, and that fully vaccinated people don't need masks in most situations. That change was incorporated into updated guidance for summer camps — and now, schools.

The new schools guidance says:

—No one at schools needs to wear masks at recess or in most other outdoor situations. However, unvaccinated people are advised to wear masks if they are in a crowd for an extended period of time, like in the stands at a football game.

—Ventilation and handwashing continue to be important. Students and staff also should stay home when they are sick.

—Testing remains an important way to prevent outbreaks. But the CDC also says people who are fully vaccinated do not need to participate in such screening.

—Separating students into smaller groups, or cohorts, continues to be a good way to help reduce spread of the virus. But the CDC discouraged putting vaccinated and unvaccinated kids in separate groups, saying schools shouldn't stigmatize any group or perpetuate academic, racial or other tracking.

Becky Pringle, president of the National Education Association, called the new CDC guidance "an important roadmap for reducing the risk of COVID-19 in schools."

American Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten praised the guidance as being "grounded in both science and common sense."

"Our ultimate goal remains: to get students, teachers and staff back in school buildings full time, and to make sure they're safe while doing it," she said in a statement, adding that dozens of the union's affiliates are holding vaccine clinics.

SEE **MASK** PAGE 6



DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 309 CALLS ON JULY 8

Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 3000blk 4th St 12:37 a.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 1700blk Stanford St 12:56 a.m.
Auto Burglary Now 11th St / Oak St 1:11 a.m.
Attempt Auto Theft Just Occurred 600blk Pier Ave 3:43 a.m.
Armed Robbery/Auto Theft Just Occurred 2700blk Main St 4:35 a.m.
Burglary Now 2600blk Highland Ave 5:03 a.m.
Encampment 1100blk 26th St 5:09 a.m.
Encampment 500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 5:23 a.m.
Encampment 2700blk Barnard Way 5:28 a.m.
Encampment 2800blk The Beach 5:52 a.m.
Encampment 2600blk The Beach 5:58 a.m.
Encampment 2300blk The Beach 6:23 a.m.
Encampment 1900blk The Beach 6:39 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 400blk The Beach 6:49 a.m.
Encampment 1600blk The Beach 6:50 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 18th St / Santa Monica Blvd 6:56 a.m.
Encampment 1000blk The Beach 7:06 a.m.
Burglary 1400blk Colorado Ave 7:27 a.m.
Burglary 1000blk 17th St 8:11 a.m.
Fraud 800blk 22nd St 8:17 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 2900blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:18 a.m.
Encampment 3000blk Ocean Front Walk 8:18 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 26th St / Marguerita Ave 8:21 a.m.
Bike Theft 400blk Broadway 8:37 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 300blk Olympic Dr 8:46 a.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public Woodacres Rd / San Vicente Blvd 8:51 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 17th St / San Vicente Blvd 8:53 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 2100blk Virginia Ave 9:28 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 400blk Pacific Coast Hwy 9:29 a.m.
Silent Burglar Alarm 100blk Santa Monica Pl 10:00 a.m.
Auto Burglary 2400blk 22nd St 10:04 a.m.
Encampment 2800blk Barnard Way 10:12 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1100blk Bay St 10:53 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 7th St / California Ave 11:07 a.m.
Burglary Just Occurred 1100blk Pico Blvd 11:12 a.m.
Person Down 500blk Olympic Blvd W 11:14 a.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 100blk Fraser Ave 11:19 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1400blk Euclid St 11:24 a.m.
Speeding Lincoln Blvd / Colorado Ave 11:29 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 200blk 24th St 11:29 a.m.
Elder Abuse 1200blk Marine St 11:30 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 11:31 a.m.
Encampment 2900blk Barnard Way 11:40 a.m.
Lost Property 2000blk Wilshire Blvd 11:53 a.m.
Found Property 2900blk Barnard Way 11:59 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1600blk Stanford St 12:29 p.m.
Found Property 1300blk 4th St 12:36 p.m.
Fight 100blk Hollister Ave 12:36 p.m.
Fraud 1900blk 18th St 1:09 p.m.
Identity Theft 800blk Bay St 1:23 p.m.
Overdose 1000blk Pacific St 1:58 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 00blk Ocean Park Blvd 2:13 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1200blk Montana Ave 2:17 p.m.
Found Property 300blk 22nd St 2:20 p.m.
Identity Theft 100blk Ocean Park Blvd 2:35 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1300blk Yale St 2:49 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1700blk Euclid St 2:50 p.m.
Attempt Burglary Just Occurred 300blk Marine St 2:57 p.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 3:07 p.m.
Petty Theft 1200blk 24th St 3:16 p.m.
Found Property 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 3:35 p.m.
Death Investigation 1500blk Broadway 3:36 p.m.
Petty Theft Now 500blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:38 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 100blk Wadsworth Ave 3:50 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 600blk Pacific Coast Hwy 3:55 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 11th St / Michigan Ave 4:15 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 11th St / Michigan Ave 4:20 p.m.
Fraud 2300blk 5th St 4:21 p.m.
Speeding 23rd St / Arizona Ave 4:28 p.m.
Speeding Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 4:45 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public Lincoln Blvd / Pacific St 4:52 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1000blk Arizona Ave 4:58 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 200blk Santa Monica Blvd 5:31 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1500blk 9th St 5:33 p.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 5:40 p.m.
Encampment 700blk Ozone St 6:17 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 2600blk Ocean Front Walk 6:20 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 15th St / Montana Ave 6:36 p.m.
Found Property 900blk 10th St 6:42 p.m.
Fraud 2200blk Colorado Ave 6:49 p.m.
Elder Abuse 1300blk 20th St 7:18 p.m.
Injured Person 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 7:20 p.m.
Encampment 700blk Ozone St 7:28 p.m.
Animal Related Incident Ocean Ave / Washington Ave 7:32 p.m.
Out Of Order Traffic Signals Pacific Coast Hwy / California Incline 7:36 p.m.
Stolen Vehicle 1000blk Pacific Coast Hwy 8:30 p.m.
Attempt Strongarm Robbery Just Occurred Cloverfield Blvd / Olympic Blvd 8:56 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 21st St / Broadway 9:03 p.m.
Party Complaint 900blk Berkeley St 9:07 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1300blk 11th St 9:27 p.m.
Burglary 900blk 15th St 9:31 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper In Progress 1500blk Ocean Ave 9:51 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 9:56 p.m.
Party Complaint 200blk 14th St 10:00 p.m.
Party Complaint 1000blk 26th St 10:05 p.m.
Encampment 1400blk The Beach 10:46 p.m.
Party Complaint 500blk 24th St 10:46 p.m.
Sexual Assault Main St / Ashland Ave 11:17 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 00blk Pico Blvd 11:25 p.m.
Petty Theft 3200blk Pico Blvd 11:51 p.m.
Prowler Just Left 1100blk Pico Blvd 11:57 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 30 CALLS ON JULY 8

Traffic Collision With Injury 3000blk 4th St 12:37 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 700blk 19th St 4:31 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 7:25 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 26th St / Marguerita Ave 8:21 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 100blk California Ave 8:38 a.m.
EMS 500blk Olympic Blvd W 11:14 a.m.
EMS 500blk Olympic Blvd W 11:14 a.m.
EMS 600blk Kensington Rd 12:33 p.m.
EMS 19th St / Pico Blvd 1:10 p.m.
EMS 1000blk 4th St 1:23 p.m.
EMS 2500blk Pico Blvd 1:43 p.m.
EMS 1000blk Pacific St 1:58 p.m.
EMS 2900blk Wilshire Blvd 2:17 p.m.
EMS 3100blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:19 p.m.
EMS 1000blk Wilshire Blvd 2:31 p.m.
Elevator Rescue 1400blk 4th St 2:45 p.m.
EMS 300blk Olympic Dr 3:16 p.m.
EMS 400blk Broadway 3:21 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 600blk Pacific Coast Hwy 3:55 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 11th St / Michigan Ave 4:15 p.m.
EMS 1900blk 20th St 4:24 p.m.
EMS 3000blk Delaware Ave 5:48 p.m.
Haz Mat - Level 1 1500blk Broadway 6:14 p.m.
Odor Of Natural Gas 2000blk 20th St 7:10 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 7:16 p.m.
EMS 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 8:55 p.m.
EMS 21st St / Broadway 9:03 p.m.
EMS 14th St / Pico Blvd 9:06 p.m.
EMS 100blk Colorado Ave 10:10 p.m.
EMS 2700blk Neilson Way 11:43 p.m.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SACRAMENTO

Key California Hate Crime Bill Moves Forward

Legislation to address the growing epidemic of hate crimes passed the Senate Judiciary Committee on this week. The bill, AB 1126, authored by Assemblymember Richard Bloom (D Santa Monica), would established the first statewide commission in California to not only accurately monitor and track hate crimes and incidents, but to formally recommend policy to the Governor and State Legislature.

According to the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism's 2020 Report to the Nation, hate crime totals for 2019 hit their highest level in over a decade with over 7,000 hate "incidents" reported. In 2020, anti-Asian hate crimes surged by 149% and hate crimes against gay men jumped nearly 30%.

Already in 2021, the Los Angeles Police Department has reported a 66% increase in hate crimes overall and a 26% increase in hate crimes based on sexual orientation. Black people remain the number one target for hate crimes in America, at twice the level they represent in the population.

"Due to the staggering statistics and challenges of monitoring, collecting, and analyzing this data, it is clear that California needs better tools and dedicated individuals to help us track and report this information," said Assemblymember Bloom. "The Commission on the State of Hate will monitor and assess current trends relative to hate crimes, produce annual reports on these trends, and make policy recommendations in order to help the State better address, and, hopefully, reduce instances of these crimes."

The FBI relies on the voluntary reporting of more than 15,000 participating law enforcement agencies across the country. Last year, 86% of them did not report a single hate crime, including at least 71 cities with populations over 100,000, according to the Anti-Defamation League and the Sikh Coalition. Bloom continued, "The Commission is necessary in order to fully understand who is perpetrating these crimes, who is being targeted, and how we can develop policy solutions to address and reduce the instances of these crimes."

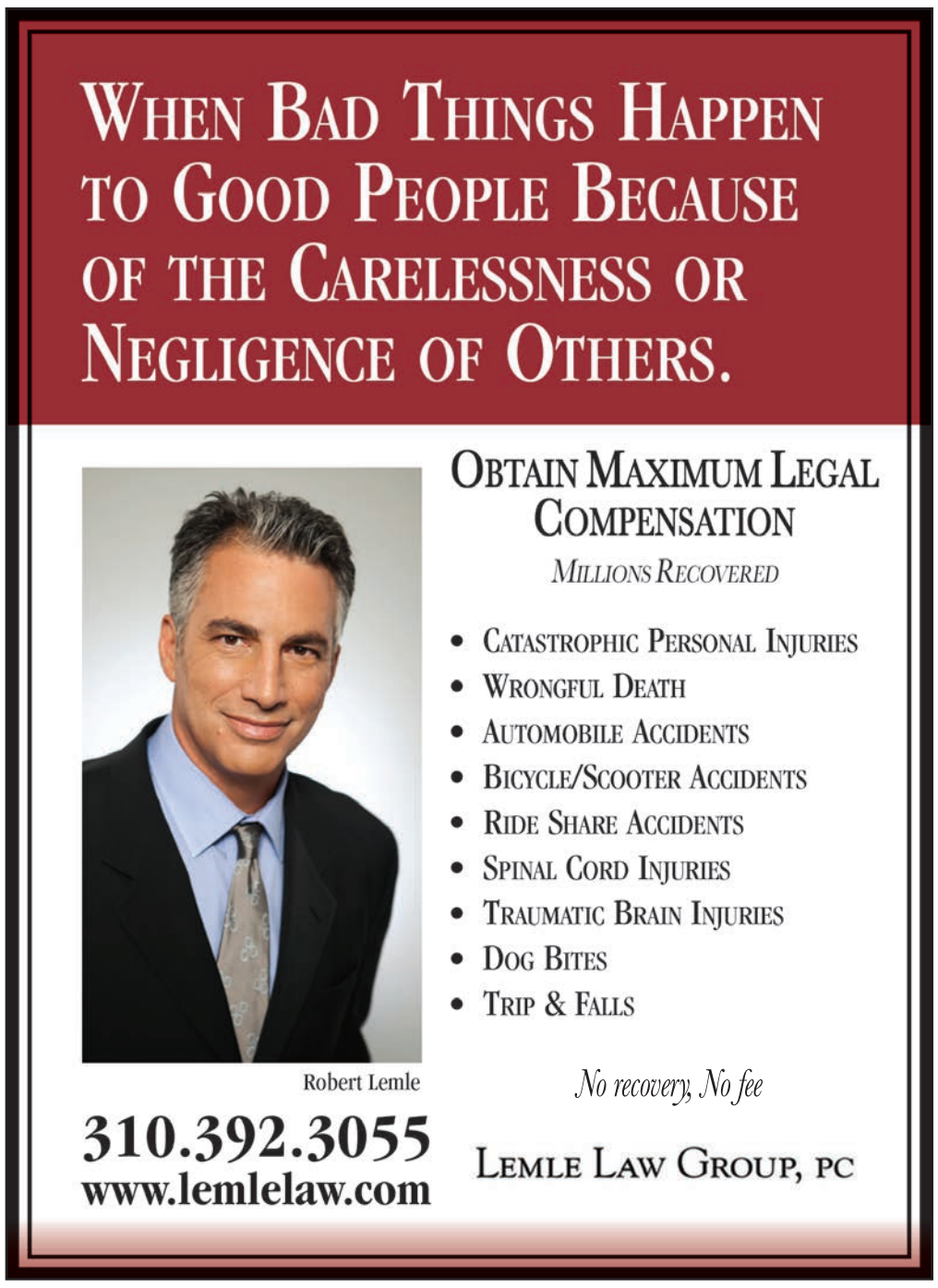
The bill, which is supported by groups such as the Anti-Defamation League, Equality California, and Islamic Networks Group (ING), now heads to the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

Richard Bloom represents California's 50th Assembly District, which comprises the communities of Agoura Hills, Bel Air, Beverly Hills, Brentwood, Hollywood, Malibu, Pacific Palisades, Santa Monica, Topanga, West Hollywood, and West Los Angeles.

SUBMITTED BY MELISSA KAUFLER WITH SENATOR BLOOM'S OFFICE

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

SMC Seeks Applicants for Citizens Bond Oversight Committee

Santa Monica College (SMC) is seeking applications for the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee, which oversees the implementation of the bond measures that are funding capital improvement projects at the college: Measure S (2004), Measure AA (2008), and Measure V (2016).

The application deadline is Friday, July 23, 2021.

The vacancies are specifically for representatives of local business communities of Santa Monica and Malibu. Applications for additional members are encouraged, and are available at: Application for Membership on CBOC

To qualify for appointment, an applicant must be at least 18 years old; must not be a college employee or official, and must not be a vendor, contractor or consultant to the college.

Santa Monica College is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion that enriches the District's mission and supports students in achieving their educational goals.

The committee was established in spring 2002—as required by state law—to oversee the implementation of Measure U, the $160 million bond passed by an overwhelming 70 percent of Santa Monica-Malibu voters. The committee's responsibility was expanded to include oversight of Measure S, the $135 million bond measure passed in November 2004; Measure AA, the $295 million bond measure passed in November 2008; and Measure V, the $345 million bond measure passed in November 2016. The bond measures are funding a wide range of projects, including replacement buildings, seismic retrofitting, safety and technology upgrades, and more.

The SMC Board of Trustees will review all applications and make the final appointments. For more information on the application process, please contact Lisa Rose, at ROSE_LISA@smc.edu or 310-434-4402. Detailed information on the committee may also be found at www.smc.edu/CBOC.

SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Citywide

Two Residents to Participate in the 2021 Pan-Mass Challenge

On Aug. 7 and 8, more than 6,000 riders, including two participants from Santa Monica (Travis Boyle and Sheeroy Desai), will take part in the Pan-Mass Challenge (PMC), a two-day 211-mile bike-a-thon across Massachusetts, with the goal of raising $52 million for cancer research and patient care at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (Dana-Farber).

The PMC is the nation's single most successful athletic fundraiser, donating 100 percent of every rider-raised dollar to Dana-Farber as its largest single contributor, accounting for 64 percent of its Jimmy Fund's annual revenue. For the first time since 2019, more than 6,000 riders from 47 states and 11 countries will once again hit the road together during the first weekend of August with the common goal of making an impact in the fight against cancer. In 2020, the PMC raised an impressive $50 million through its summer-long Reimagined campaign, bringing its 41-year contribution to $767 million.

"We couldn't be more excited to bring our passionate PMC riders, volunteers, donors and sponsors back together in person for PMC Ride Weekend this year," said Billy Starr, founder and executive director of the PMC. "With fully supported routes and Reimagined options, everyone can customize their PMC experience to join us in the fight against cancer. Cancer doesn't stop for anything, even a global pandemic, and funding for research, treatment and care is as critical as ever."

PMC 2021 will include 16 routes - from 25 to 211 miles - designed to cater to all levels of cycling and fundraising ability, including Reimagined options for those who prefer to complete their PMC ride on their own. Most participate in honor of a family member or friend fighting cancer and more than 950 riders and volunteers are cancer survivors or current patients, considered Living Proof® of the PMC mission. More than 150 Dana-Farber employees are committed to the cause as riders and volunteers as well, in some cases to fund their own cancer research.

The PMC is presented by the Red Sox Foundation. To make a financial contribution to a rider from your town or to register as a rider, visit www.pmc.org, or call (800) WE-CYCLE. Connect with #PMC2021 on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn.

SUBMITTED BY LENNA ISKENDERIAN

CRIME WATCH BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

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

ON JUNE 27 AT 2:30 A.M.

As officers were completing a response to an early request for service, they were approached by a passerby. The passerby engaged the officers and exhibited concerning behaviors including slurred speech, unsteady gait, and delayed response to questioning. The behavior described along with a strong smell of alcohol on the person led officers to deduce that she was intoxicated. Angela Sak was arrested and booked into the SMPD Jail for 647 (f) PC - Drunk in Public. She was issued a citation with a return court date of August 9, 2021.

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AWARD WINNER

AWARD WINNER

WINNER

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

Democrats bet on early Latino outreach to avoid '20 pitfalls

WILL WEISSERT
Associated Press

On a sweaty recent Thursday afternoon, Alex Berrios was instructing his team on how to get people to register to vote. Extend your hand, he said; it makes folks more likely to stop. Smile a lot, that works, too. But immediately take no for an answer so you don't seem too pushy.

Berrios, co-founder of a new nonprofit, Mi Vecino, or "My Neighbor" has a lot riding on developing the right pitch. His group, which works out of a cramped office in the shadow of Disney World, is targeting Latino would-be voters. He was role-playing how best to approach them in front of Walgreens, amid games of dominoes at a senior center or outside El Bodegon, a supermarket chain specializing in Colombian products.

Fifteen months before the midterm elections, groups like his are mobilizing across the country — both Democrats who have enjoyed a historic Latino allegiance and Republicans emboldened by gains in 2020 — all trying to lock down the fastest growing segment of the U.S. population.

The stakes are high, particularly for Democrats who are counting on Latino votes as a vital part of a winning coalition for cycles to come. And few places are as central to that effort as Florida.

"We're not selling cars here," said Berrios, a onetime boxer who has "fighter" tattooed on his arm and is now vice chairman of the Palm Beach County Democratic Party. "We're not going anywhere. We're in the community and we're staying."

Even as Joe Biden flipped heavily Hispanic Arizona to Democratic to clinch the presidency last November, he underperformed with many Latino voters elsewhere. And his party lost congressional seats where Spanish is often more common than English, from Miami's Little Havana to South Texas' sparsely populated borderlands to the high desert north of Los Angeles.

Nationally, Biden won Latinos by a 59-38 percent margin over Donald Trump, but that was 17 percentage points lower than Hillary Clinton's 66-28 percent margin in 2016, according to Pew Research Center data.

Republicans say they gained ground with Latinos because Democrats, with their increasingly left-leaning positions, are proving soft on issues like socialism and border security.

But Democrats say a problem for them was that they waited until just before the election to intensify outreach to Latino communities.

"It's very transactional. Campaigns, they come and they start 30-60 days before an election, then they're gone," said Berrios, who left Biden's campaign after raising concerns about lagging engagement with Hispanic voters.

Berrios says Mi Vecino is trying to change that. And the party has begun an expensive, intensive effort to reach Latinos and other voters of color long before the 2022 elections.

The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee is investing more than $1 million on 48 organizing directors around the country designed to bolster "strategic outreach and build trust" with minority communities in midterm battleground districts, including in Florida and Texas.

Matt Barreto was the Biden campaign's pollster in charge of Latino message and research and noted that he was only brought on last July, a few months before the election.

"We did what we could," Barreto said.

He and other top Democratic advisers are now leading Building Back Together, a play on Biden's "Build Back Better" post-pandemic campaign slogan, to promote the administration through television and digital advertising.

The initiative first targeted Arizona and Florida as well as two other states with sizeable and growing Latino populations, Nevada and Pennsylvania.

Barreto says the "always on" approach relentlessly communicates with Latinos and has tailored messages for those from different backgrounds, including distinct narrator accents for audiences in different parts of the country.

He pointed to recent Gallup polling putting Biden's approval rating among Hispanics at higher than that of all voters, suggesting the campaign is working.

Others, though, are less optimistic.

"The truth is, the money, it hasn't come as early as it needs to come," said Giulianna Di Lauro, Florida director of the Hispanic political advocacy group Poder Latinx.

"Once these people are registering, we need to find a way to plug them in and engage them on the issues that we care about," said Di Lauro, whose group is now leading community meetings around key issues.

Democrats say that's especially vital along Florida's I-4 Corridor, which runs 130 miles from Tampa to Daytona Beach and bisects theme-park dotted Orlando and Kissimmee. It's heavily Puerto Rican but also Colombian-American and, most recently, has seen an influx of Venezuelan immigrants fleeing their country's political and economic upheaval.

Florida's surging population could also see the area gain a congressional seat — making it an even more important battleground.

Cecilia Gonzalez was one of Berrios' trainees and moved to Kissimmee four years ago from Barinas, Venezuela. She said the U.S. could be on a similar path toward her homeland's collapse, if "we don't stop electing the wrong people and giving them too much power."

"We've got to stop being a plate on the table and get a seat at the table," Gonzalez said of Latino voters.

Republicans aren't just sitting quietly and

SEE **DEMOCRATS** PAGE 7

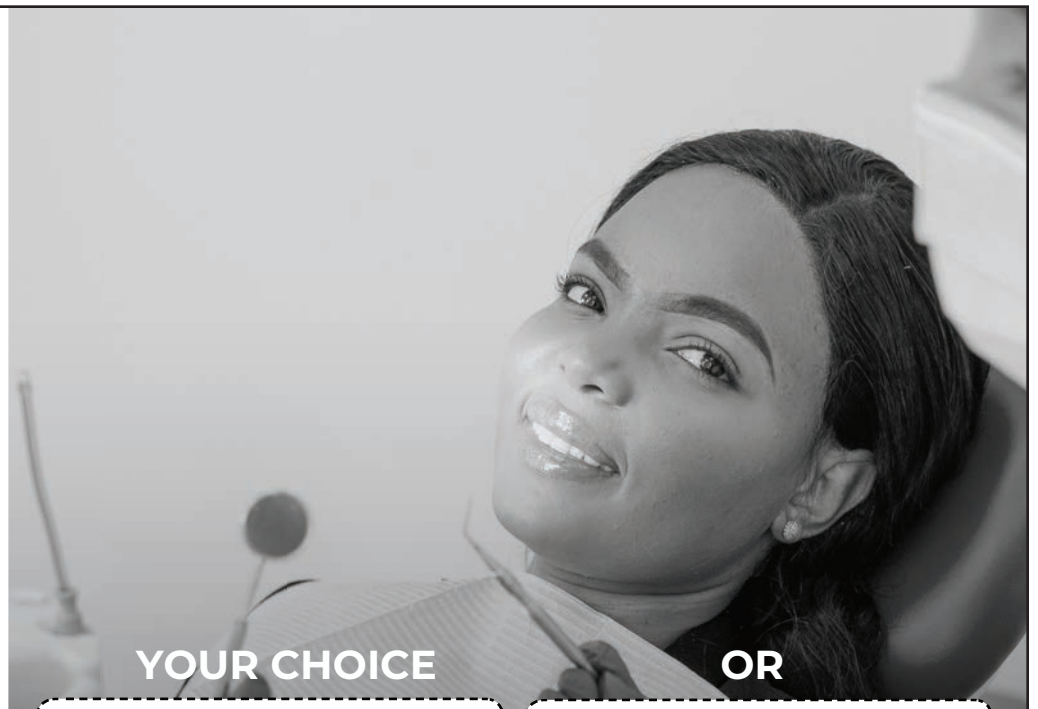
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• Zoom bleaching
• and more

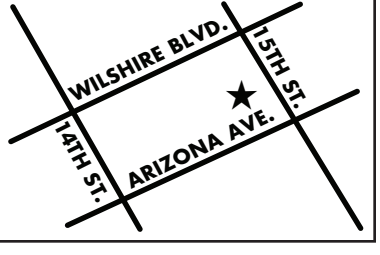


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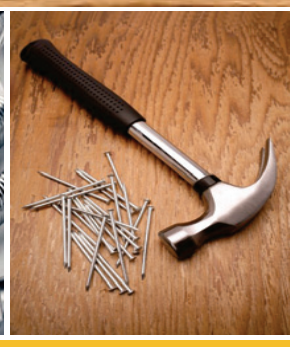
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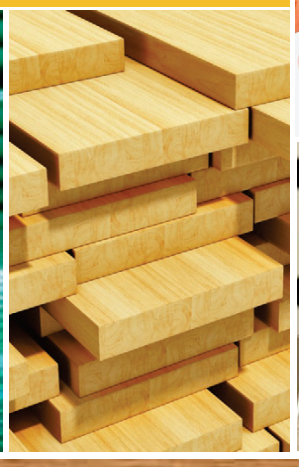


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The Re-View

By Merv Hecht

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Taverna Tony in Malibu

This restaurant has been around for a long time and it is unique. There are so few Greek restaurants in Los Angeles, which is hard to understand since the food is wonderful. Years ago we used to sail all the way to San Pedro… to go to a delightful Greek restaurant with authentic ambiance and great food. When it closed we rarely went out for Greek food because Taverna Tony was the only place close by and Malibu was out of our normal range for restaurants (no place to dock a boat).

But this week we went back. I had noticed incredibly good reviews on the internet, so I figured it was time to try it again. And it was better than ever. It's not only a good restaurant, it's an experience. Of course it's loud, unless you sit on the outside patio. Usually, we hate loud restaurants, but Tony's is so much fun, and the noise is part of the ambiance so that didn't bother us. We were too busy enjoying the food, looking at the plates on the adjacent tables, talking to some of the 20 people at a nearby table who were celebrating the birthday of a very attractive blonde in a see-through dress, and watching the dancing girl with amazing belly muscles.

I suppose all my readers know something about Greek food. But there are a lot of dishes one finds in Greece that are hard to find in Los Angeles. My two favorite Greek dishes are moussaka and baklava. You can find these in most Greek restaurants. But I only like the moussaka if made with ground lamb, not beef. Unfortunately, at Tony's they use beef. Their baklava is also not as flaky as some, but it's a large enough piece for two or three people so that's some compensation.

Seafood is obviously a major part of Greek food, especially octopus. And the octopus at Tony's is very authentic and very good. Dolmades (stuffed grape leaves) are stuffed with different things in different restaurants, but these were stuffed with ground beef and more flavorful than most. Dishes with feta cheese are very Greek and show up here on the menu in various dishes.

Good appetizers, especially dips, are very Greek. Tzatziki, a cucumber yogurt dip, and Taramosalata, a carp roe spread, are traditional. Tony's has all of them on this menu, but the house dip, served as soon as you are seated, with thick hot bread, was one of the best dips we've ever had.

We ordered some drinks, and the waiter brought the delicious warm bread and the famous house dip. The dip was so good we were in no rush to order. After a half hour or so we ordered the peasant long-cooked lamb and the whole Branzino. Both were fine, and each dish was enough for two people. I ate the whole fish and my companion took home half the lamb. Then I ordered the baklava for dessert with a Greek (thick) coffee.

We watched the table next to us receive a flaming cheese dish which looked great, and the octopus, a very popular dish here. Of course all the popular Greek dishes, like grape leaves, spanakopita, and various dips were being served to the birthday table.

All in all it was a lot of fun, and we're going back soon. When we go back we are going to order differently. We will just order grape leaves and the various Greek appetizers, maybe the flaming cheese and the octopus. That's the best part of the menu.



Merv Hecht

DINNER DANCE: Taverna Tony has more than just food.

Merv Hecht, like many Harvard Law School graduates, went into the wine business after law. In 1988, he began writing restaurant reviews and books. His latest book "The Instant Wine Connoisseur, 3rd Edition" is available on Amazon. He currently works for several companies that source and distribute food and wine products internationally. Please send your comments to: mervynhecht@yahoo.com

MASK

FROM PAGE 2

U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona pledged to work with schools to help them get kids back into classrooms.

"We know that in-person learning offers vital opportunities for all students to develop healthy, nurturing relationships with educators and peers, and that students receive essential supports in school for their social and emotional wellbeing, mental health, and academic success," he said in a statement.

California will require that masks be worn at schools when classrooms open this fall, despite new guidance.

California Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly said that not all schools can accommodate physical distancing of at least 3 feet or more, so the best preventive measure is wearing masks indoors.

The California Department of Public Health said in a statement that the mask requirement "also will ensure that all kids are treated the same," without any stigma attached to those who are vaccinated or unvaccinated.

Binkley reported from Boston.

HOMELESSNESS

FROM PAGE 1

underlying issues at hand.

Typically, firefighters responding to medical calls with unhoused individuals transport them to the emergency room and rush back to address other calls.

"We're kind of forced by protocols to default to take somebody to the emergency room and we have no other options available," said Interim Fire Chief Wolfgang Knabe. "There's really no resolution at that time. They're seen for a couple hours and they're turned loose back onto the streets, only to have this cycle continue."

If effective, a CRU can generate significant cost savings for the City and create a collaborative bridge between emergency responders and homeless service providers.

City Management initially turned down a 2019 proposal to fund a CRU, but as the homelessness crisis has only worsened City staff changed their tune.

In the July biennial budget process, City Council designated $480,000 in funding for a dedicated firefighter-paramedic and firefighter-EMT to staff a CRU for 40 hours a week for two years. This is a pared down version of the 6.5 full time equivalent staff member unit proposed in 2019, but Captain Patrick Nulty expressed hope that the CRU could expand over time as it proves its efficacy in action.

"The thought with the CRU is we can have a focused team who understands the network of services and is able to divert those calls, instead of to the emergency room, to more targeted help," said Nulty, who will be leading the unit. "The request at the end of two years is going to be to expand the program, seven days a week would be great, and then the next step after that would be 24 hours a day."

The CRU has the capability to connect callers to a wide range of resources including mental health care, shelter beds, transportation home to reconnect with family, and substance abuse treatment. Local service provider partners include The People Concern, West Coast Care, Exodus, Clare Matrix, Wise and Healthy Aging, and SMPD's Homeless Liaison Program.

The Santa Monica Fire Department initially ran a pilot CRU program staffed by one person from January to March of 2019.

According to Santa Monica Firefighters Union President Dom Bei, there were four key benefits observed from the program: it successfully connected unhoused individuals to appropriate resources, it educated fire personnel on those resources, it freed up units to respond to other calls, and it limited the costs incurred by high frequency users.

The cost savings of breaking cycles of repeat 911 calling are a huge potential benefit of the CRU.

The approximate cost of a Fire Department medical response with ambulance transportation to an emergency room is between $6,800 and $7,500.

In a case study conducted for the initial 2019 CRU proposal, SMFD analyzed the costs of repeat calls from three unhoused individuals from August, 2016 to June, 2018. The study estimated that 62 calls from one 35-year-old male cost $272,666, while 28 calls from a 50-year-old male cost $172,947, and 17 calls from a 54-year-old female cost $112,429.



Matthew Hall

HOMELESS: The Community Response Unit has received funding to help tackle the problem.

The CRU is a flexible unit and has applications beyond assisting unhoused individuals. For example, it can help reduce the number of repeat callers from elderly individuals who experience frequent falls.

"The CRU is able to look into these calls and say 'Hey, what do you need? Do you need a walker? Do you need some rails installed?'," said Bei. "Anytime they solve the root of the problem, you're going to decrease those calls."

Lastly, adding an additional firefighter unit through the CRU provides the department with another team to call upon in the case of a large-scale incident.

Although the program took several years to move forward, the fire department is very excited by the progress that has been made and is thankful for the support of the City and community.

"Knowing that there needs to be something done allowed us to stay the course and we kept trying to develop a program, kept pushing, kept trying to get community support. A lot of our neighborhood groups really stepped up and saw the value in the program," said Bei. "The firefighters have seen the value of what the program could be, so having council take the ball and spearhead it was huge."

Clara@smdp.com

DEMOCRATS

FROM PAGE 5

watching.

The Republican National Committee says it's making a seven-figure commitment for outreach to communities of color, including opening regional engagement centers in key congressional districts. The first was inaugurated last month in Orange County, California.

"Hispanics all across the country are Republicans," said Florida Sen. Rick Scott, who heads the chamber's GOP campaign arm for the 2022 midterms. "If Republicans reach out to them, we're going to win."

Scott was governor before winning his Senate seat and advocated for Puerto Ricans leaving the island after Hurricane Maria's devastation in 2017 to settle in Florida over objections from party officials in Washington who warned the new voters could make the state more blue. Republicans have only done better in statewide elections since.

More Latino voters aren't always a boon to Democrats in other parts of the country, either. Abel Prado, executive director of the Democratic advocacy group Cambio Texas in the Rio Grande Valley, said selling empathic positions like expanding health care access is often tougher than simply counting on Trump's personality and his boasting about disrupting traditional politics.

With Trump not on the 2022 ballot, many of his supporters may simply stay home, Prado said.

His organization estimates that getting voter turnout to 65% of registered Rio Grande Valley voters is a "16-20 month endeavor," which means it should have started already — but it largely hasn't.

"There are conversations about talking about how to start changing," Prado said with a laugh.

Still, some conservative groups already have achieved the kind of ever-active Latino outreach campaigns Democrats envision. The Libre Initiative has offices in South Texas and around the country, including near Orlando's airport.

It advocates for issues like increased school choice and free market economics under the slogan "Limited Government, Unlimited Opportunities" and conducts continuous door-knocking efforts to identify would-be voters. Libre also provides nonpartisan civic assistance, offering free English classes, as well as Spanish-language instruction on health, obtaining U.S. citizenship and entrepreneurship.

Democrats "have treated Latinos, for a while now, as get out the vote targets and took them for granted, used them as props," said Libre Initiative President Daniel Garza.

Prado said Democratic activists in Texas have begun trying to emulate some of Libre's work through "deep canvassing," a process that seeks to have longer, ongoing conversations with people to find out what motivates them — both politically and otherwise.

That's the kind of multi-year campaign former gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams launched in Georgia, which saw both of its Senate seats flip Democratic in January. Ex-Senate and presidential candidate Beto O'Rourke heads an organization trying to emulate Abrams' success in Texas.

But such efforts take time and aren't cheap — and that doesn't delight donors looking for immediate results, Prado said: "This isn't the stock market where you buy 500 shares of something and triple your money in three weeks."

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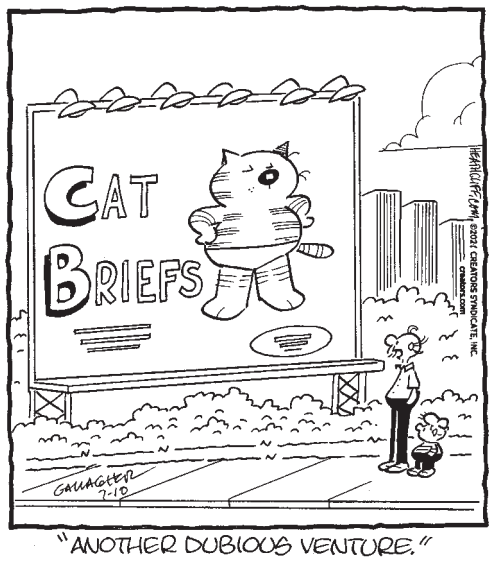
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 65.8°

SATURDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high
Fresh SSW swell keeps fun surf in the water, blending with old SW swell. Likely drained out first thing in the AM, may want to let it build some before paddling.

SUNDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high
Holding SSW swell, keeps surf looking fun. Drained AM low tide first thing. possible gusty ESE winds in the AM trending S by afternoon.

WEATHER

Saturday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 72.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 65.
Sunday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 70.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/07/10	Sat	04:52 AM	-0.62	L
2021/07/10	Sat	11:29 AM	3.68	H
2021/07/10	Sat	3:44 PM	2.53	L
2021/07/10	Sat	10:00 PM	6.18	H
2021/07/11	Sun	05:26 AM	-0.63	L
2021/07/11	Sun	12:05 PM	3.74	H
2021/07/11	Sun	4:23 PM	2.53	L
2021/07/11	Sun	10:36 PM	6.08	H
2021/07/12	Mon	06:01 AM	-0.56	L
2021/07/12	Mon	12:42 PM	3.82	H
2021/07/12	Mon	5:07 PM	2.56	L
2021/07/12	Mon	11:14 PM	5.84	H
2021/07/13	Tue	06:36 AM	-0.37	L
2021/07/13	Tue	1:21 PM	3.95	H
2021/07/13	Tue	5:59 PM	2.58	L
2021/07/13	Tue	11:57 PM	5.45	H
2021/07/14	Wed	07:11 AM	-0.08	L
2021/07/14	Wed	2:01 PM	4.14	H
2021/07/14	Wed	7:00 PM	2.56	L
2021/07/15	Thu	12:46 AM	4.90	H
2021/07/15	Thu	07:48 AM	0.33	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 7/7
8 21 30 49 57
Power#: 8
Jackpot: 127 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 7/6
18 47 63 68 69
Mega#: 14
Jackpot: 94 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 7/7
10 12 32 37 39
Mega#: 18
Jackpot: 62 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 7/8
7 13 25 36 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 7/8
EVENING: 8 5 1

Draw Date: 7/8
MIDDAY: 8 0 1

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 7/8
1st: 06 - Whirl Win
2nd: 05 - California Classic
3rd: 07 - Eureka
Race Time: 1:41.27

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 (JULY 10)

You'll meet the one you've known in another life. Loyalty is amplified. You'll communicate through dreams and telepathy. You'll give of yourself, which causes effects far-reaching. There's a clinical side of this that the scientifically inclined will know what to do with. Gemini and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 11, 2, 27 and 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Some people need to be constantly entertained or they will leave. Let them. You don't need the extra work of dancing for an unappreciative audience. Seek only relationships of mutual investment.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The pot of gold is within your realm. To find this luck, venture out in an organized way. Start close to you, and then venture in ever-wider concentric circles.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). When people laugh at or with you, whether true friends, false friends or perfect strangers, it's a sign that you're making an impact. You're literally changing the airflow. Let them laugh for their own reasons. Know you're alive.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The long story and the short story are the same, except one is way more boring. Ask for the short story or you'll grow to resent the way some people can go on and on and on.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll be in the position to speak as an expert or tell a story. Your extemporaneous remarks will come off brilliantly. Little does your audience know that those are the ones you've rehearsed the most.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The person who presents facts and lessons and the one who lived through them are not one and the same. Be careful not to project onto people qualities they do not possess. Take everything at face value.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You want a person to take a step, so make it easy. First order of business, make sure there's a step in front of them that is stable and situated in a position that would be right for the taking.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You don't usually need as much attention as some of the other people around you. It's one reason why you end up serving others more than you get served. It's a good way to live, but be sure to take your turn receiving today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The task is more challenging than you thought it would be. Things have a way of very quickly becoming a mess. Fix it fast and completely now or you'll be fixing it for a very long time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The motion picture director emphasizes a detail of the scene, pulls the audience away from what is going to happen, interrupting suspicions and setting the stage for a surprise. Liars do the same thing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Space is the expression of the ultimate serenity. Give it to another. Make buffer zones around you. There is interest in overlapping and in space, divinity.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You are qualifying a certain scenario, checking if it meets your standards, seeing if it offers what you're looking for. These are high-level decisions and as you make them, you'll make destiny.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

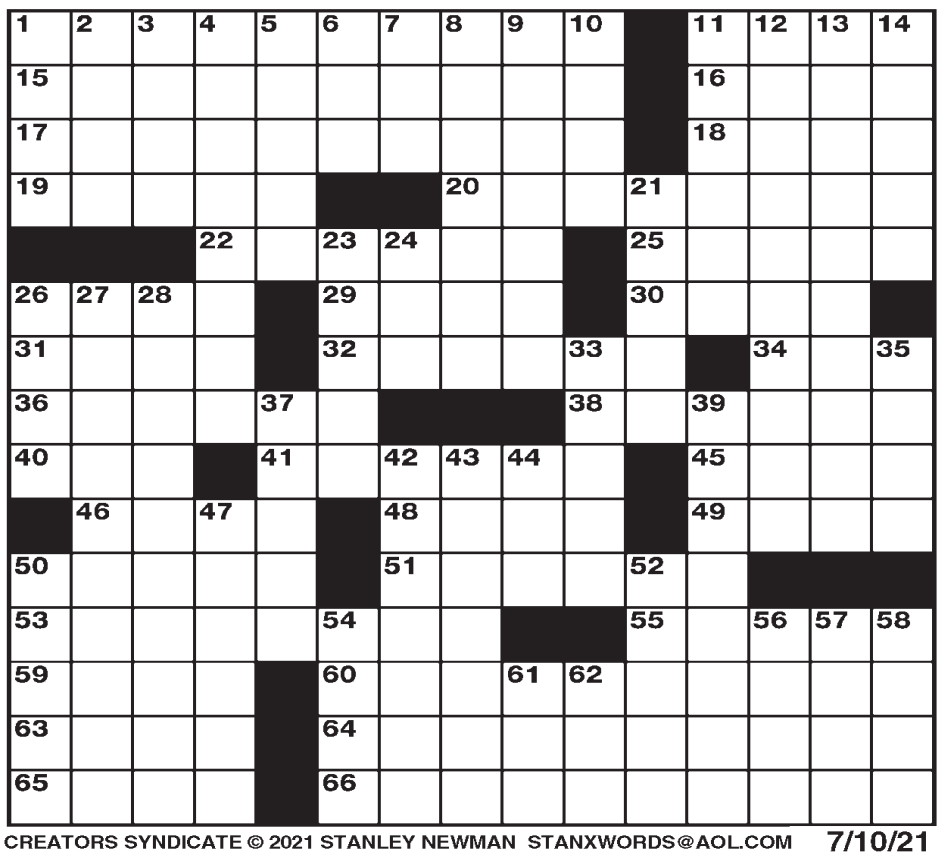
9			1			2		5
	1		7					
3				8	2		9	
		9		4		3		
	4						5	
		2		5		6		
	2		6	7				3
					3		6	
7		6			1			8

Newsday Crossword

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

ACROSS
1 Face covering
11 See 21 Down
15 Disinclined to vote
16 Sport scored electronically
17 Show watched by Spanish learners
18 In the public eye
19 Verb in a lifeguard test battery
20 Begin hastily
22 Bites lightly
25 Neat state
26 Be a passenger
29 "Look!" in Latin
30 Look that's not so nice
31 Bordeaux buds
32 Gazelle's small cousin
34 Make it
36 Flock leader
38 Holiday alternative
40 Devoted attention
41 Dolly's "I cannot compete with you" woman
45 Bonding candidate
46 Whom Bart's pal has a crush on
48 Unfluctuating
49 Double-arc shape
50 Having fun
51 Want no part of
53 Jurassic carnivore
55 Region known for tea and silk
59 Urgent plea to act
60 Moby-Dick, e.g.
63 Monumental A.
64 "We've come back before!"
65 Many a first-time voter
66 Shaving in the kitchen

DOWN
1 Solar panel unit
2 Would-be clone
3 Folk art metalware
4 Spotless
5 #4 most spoken language worldwide
6 Ferrari supercar designation
7 Name that looks like a number
8 Blackjack winner
9 Devoted a whole show to, say
10 Intense impact
11 It may be burning
12 Discussion for all
13 Straddled unstably
14 Marquez title
21 With 11 Across, design on some dresses
23 San __ Bay (L.A. inlet)
24 Academic department (for short) that's a homophone of one of its subdivisions (for short)
26 Totally taken
27 Company request, essentially
28 Kung fu, for example
33 Goddess well-regarded by Athenians
35 Holds back
37 "Love Train" R&B group
39 Archie Comics hangout
42 Engendered eventually
43 Backdrop of the book *Into Thin Air*
44 Securer of some cargo
47 Unimprovable, as an estimate
50 Battled
52 Handled
54 Take __ (sample some)
56 Excluding
57 "Helm hard" direction
58 Raven relative
61 Vaccine development facilitator
62 Bit of wit



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2021 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 7/10/21

Binary Puzzle

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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



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

© australianwordgames.com.au 5171

Happy snaps

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

Angle	Father	Mode	Sister
Babies	Film	Nanny	Snaps
Bike	Flash	Negative	Speed
Bitmap	Focus	Noise	Tiff
Blur	Home	Pets	Tone
Bokeh	Instant	Pixel	Travel
Camps	Joyful	Poppy	Trophy
Cars	JPEG	Post	Uncle
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