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Los Angeles County starts countdown to mask mandate

"Indoor areas of restaurants and bars, children's programs and educational settings would also need to institute universal indoor masking as well" — Dr. Barbara Ferrer

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

With case metrics moving LA County back into the "high concern" category for the spread of COVID-19 as of Thursday, July 14, the LA County Public Health Department is poised to enact sweeping mask mandates as early as July 29.

A slate of indicators including hospitalizations, workplace and skilled nursing facility outbreaks, and case rates among low-income residents can trigger a move into a higher or lower level of concern, and once the County's metrics bump the COVID-19 rate of spread into high concern, a timer begins. If the County stays in that high concern category for two weeks, masking orders resume.

The new rules would be a return to the indoor mask mandates of 2020 and 2021, including "all indoor spaces, including shared office spaces, manufacturing facilities, retail stores and at indoor events."

"Indoor areas of restaurants and bars, children's programs and educational settings would also need to institute universal indoor

SEE **COVID-19** PAGE 8

$13 million in funding secured toward proposed Behavioral Health Center

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

Ted Lieu's office announced last week the U.S. Congressman secured $7.5 million to fight homelessness locally, including nearly $4 million earmarked for programs in Santa Monica and Venice, for the fiscal year that began July 1. Though "secured" — in the words of Lieu's office — the funding is not guaranteed until the full House of Representatives approves the funding bill and it is signed into law, which is expected to occur later this month.

In late June, the U.S. House Subcommittee on Appropriations put forth a 207-page appropriations bill allocating $242.1 billion toward the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education for the budget year from July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. The bill is one of several appropriation packages heading before the full House later this month.

Altogether, Lieu has worked to secure more than $23.5 million in potential federal funding for 15 programs across District 33 (which spans the Westside and South Bay of Los Angeles from Malibu through Rancho Palos Verdes) for the next budget year, covering a wide range of issue areas. Those include a pedestrian trail in Pacific Palisades, modernization of the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant in Playa Del Rey and a new carbon capture pilot at UCLA.

Here in Santa Monica, $1.5 million is set aside for a Santa Monica Behavioral Health Center.

If approved, the $1.5 million in federal funding will be added to another $1.5 million recently allocated out of the $308 billion state budget.

The funding news comes months after Santa Monica city staff first shared the concept for

SEE **HOMELESS** PAGE 2

Santa Monica Softball Team to Play in National Tournament



Alison Mori

CHAMPS: Santa Monica's 14U softball team will play USA Softball Southern California State Tournament. At the end of the month. See Page 2 for more information.



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Softball team to play again on July 27

DYLAN GRAFF
Special to the Daily Press

This past weekend, three All-Star Teams represented Santa Monica in the USA Softball Southern California State Tournament. Of the three, the 14u team is expected to continue and play in the USA Softball National Tournament, which will be held from July 27-30 in Chino Hills.

The qualification marks the first time a Santa Monica team has advanced to the USA Softball National Tournament since 2018.

The 14u team opened the tournament with two dominating wins. Despite starting their first game down three runs to Alpine, Santa Monica would rally for eight combined runs in the second and third innings to give themselves a comfortable lead. In the second game of the day, Viviana Lesky would keep the bats going, as she drove in five runs, propelling Santa Monica to an 11-3 victory over Yorba Linda.

The next day, Santa Monica would face its first test in Temple City. While Santa Monica led for the first three innings, Temple City would make it extremely close with a two run effort in the fourth. Eventually, however, Santa Monica would break the game open and go on to win the game 5-2. This would mark the third consecutive win, as well as Santa Monica's official qualification for the USA Softball National Tournament.

The next two games against Escondido and La Habra did not go as well, as the team struggled both offensively and defensively. While some may view this negatively, Coach Lorenzo Lesky merely saw it as a chance to grow.

"I think the team needed an opportunity to face adversity, and I'm pleased with how they responded to it," Lesky said. "Sometimes it was good, sometimes it was bad, but when they were good, they learned they were better as a unit than they were individually."

When asked his thoughts about the USA Softball National Tournament, Lesky said the focus must be on the team playing within themselves and overcoming all forms of adversity.

"First of all, I hope they show up and start having some fun," Lesky said. "But when they get faced with that adversity, they will have the opportunity to be the same team that got them through both states and districts, where they competed against not only the opponent, but also their own doubts and negative thoughts. They have been fantastic when that happens."

HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 1

a behavioral health center, which came about due to the urgent need for mental health beds locally and followed the decision by Providence Saint John's (PSJ) to not include any inpatient mental health beds in its extensive remodel, which city council approved earlier this year.

As earlier reported in the Santa Monica Daily Press, PSJ officials have said that they are unwilling to incorporate inpatient beds into their plan and instead see their contribution to the mental health crisis as providing mental health urgent care (treatment for under 24 hours) and outpatient services. According to PSJ estimates, an inpatient facility would cost around $1.4 million per bed to set up and the ongoing operating costs for a 50 bed facility would be around $14 million per year, escalating annually.

As a compromise, PSJ will be providing a $10 million grant for the City to fund behavioral health initiatives as part of a greater community benefits agreement, which is estimated to provide $100 million in investments in the city over the next 30 years. City staff have earmarked the $10 million grant for capital expenditures to build the potential behavioral health facility.

The PSJ grant, combined with $3 million in state and federal funding, puts the behavioral health center coffers at a healthy $13 million.

Back in May, the City estimated city council would select a vendor and begin the visioning process toward the end of this summer. As of this week, city staff were reviewing proposals and remained on track to bring their recommendations before council around summer's end, according to City spokespeople.

In addition to funding earmarked for the behavioral health center, Lieu's office also detailed three other initiatives currently in line for federal funds over the next 12 months: $500,000 toward furnishing and equipping the Venice Family Clinic with new IT equipment and pharmacy and care team workstations; $1 million toward a Ready to Succeed Scholarship Program in Santa Monica to support foster youth in achieving their academic and career goals; and nearly $1 million ($898,053) toward the St. Joseph Center in Venice, to support job training and career development programs through the Purpose Lab Employment Project, which serves homeless people as well as those at risk of becoming homeless.

"Homelessness remains an incredible challenge in our country, but especially in our community," Lieu said in a statement provided by his office. "I'm pleased to champion these programs in Los Angeles County that will serve to address some of the acute issues facing homeless individuals, like shelter, healthcare and mental health support, as well as programs to help homeless people get back on their feet. I look forward to championing these projects as they move through the appropriations process. Securing funding to support these programs is a top priority."

Clara Harter contributed to this report.

emily@smdp.com

GET IT DAILY...

Long lines are back at US food banks as inflation hits high

ANITA SNOW AND EUGENE GARCIA
Associated Press

Long lines are back at food banks around the U.S. as working Americans overwhelmed by inflation turn to handouts to help feed their families.

With gas prices soaring along with grocery costs, many people are seeking charitable food for the first time, and more are arriving on foot.

Inflation in the U.S. is at a 40-year high and gas prices have been surging since April 2020, with the average cost nationwide briefly hitting $5 a gallon in June. Rapidly rising rents and an end to federal COVID-19 relief have also taken a financial toll.

The food banks, which had started to see some relief as people returned to work after pandemic shutdowns, are struggling to meet the latest need even as federal programs provide less food to distribute, grocery store donations wane and cash gifts don't go nearly as far.

Tomasina John was among hundreds of families lined up in several lanes of cars that went around the block one recent day outside St. Mary's Food Bank in Phoenix. John said her family had never visited a food bank before because her husband had easily supported her and their four children with his construction work.

"But it's really impossible to get by now without some help," said John, who traveled with a neighbor to share gas costs as they idled under a scorching desert sun. "The prices are way too high."

Jesus Pascual was also in the queue.

"It's a real struggle," said Pascual, a janitor who estimated he spends several hundred dollars a month on groceries for him, his wife and their five children aged 11 to 19.

The same scene is repeated across the nation, where food bank workers predict a rough summer keeping ahead of demand.

The surge in food prices comes after state governments ended COVID-19 disaster declarations that temporarily allowed increased benefits under SNAP, the federal food stamp program covering some 40 million Americans.

"It does not look like it's going to get better overnight," said Katie Fitzgerald, president and chief operating officer for the national food bank network Feeding America. "Demand is really making the supply challenges complex."

Charitable food distribution has remained far above amounts given away before the coronavirus pandemic, even though demand tapered off somewhat late last year.

Feeding America officials say second quarter data won't be ready until August, but they are hearing anecdotally from food banks nationwide that demand is soaring.

The Phoenix food bank's main distribution center doled out food packages to 4,271 families during the third week in June, a 78% increase over the 2,396 families served during the same week last year, said St. Mary's spokesman Jerry Brown.

More than 900 families line up at the distribution center every weekday for an emergency government food box stuffed with goods such as canned beans, peanut butter and rice, said Brown. St. Mary's adds products purchased with cash donations, as well as food provided by local supermarkets like bread, carrots and pork chops for a combined package worth about $75.

Distribution by the Alameda County Community Food Bank in Northern California has ticked up since hitting a pandemic low at the beginning of this year, increasing from 890 households served on the third Friday in January to 1,410 households on the third Friday in June, said marketing director Michael Altfest.

> "A lot of these are people who are working and did OK during the pandemic and maybe even saw their wages go up - Michael Flood"

At the Houston Food Bank, the largest food bank in the U.S. where food distribution levels earlier in the pandemic briefly peaked at a staggering 1 million pounds a day, an average of 610,000 pounds is now being given out daily.

That's up from about 500,000 pounds a day before the pandemic, said spokeswoman Paula Murphy said.

Murphy said cash donations have not eased, but inflation ensures they don't go as far.

Food bank executives said the sudden surge in demand caught them off guard.

"Last year, we had expected a decrease in demand for 2022 because the economy had been doing so well," said Michael Flood, CEO for the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank. "This issue with inflation came on pretty suddenly."

"A lot of these are people who are working and did OK during the pandemic and maybe even saw their wages go up," said Flood. "But they have also seen food prices go up beyond their budgets."

The Los Angeles bank gave away about 30 million pounds of food during the first three months of this year, slightly less than the previous quarter but still far more than the

SEE **FOOD** PAGE 8

DAILY POLICE LOGS

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 300 CALLS ON JULY 13

Traffic Hazard Cloverfield Blvd / Olympic Blvd 12:08 a.m.
Loud Music 1400Blk Ocean Ave 12:43 a.m.
Battery 2900Blk Main St 1:52 a.m.
Loud Music 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 2:41 a.m.
Encampment 2700Blk Barnard Way 4:49 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 400Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 7:17 a.m.
Vandalism 500Blk Wilshire Blvd 7:22 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1300Blk 23rd St 7:39 a.m.
Indecent Exposure 1200Blk 4th St 7:52 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1200Blk 25th St 8:05 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 300Blk 21st Pl 8:11 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 15th St / Santa Monica Blvd 8:19 a.m.
Encampment 1300Blk Franklin St 8:28 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1300Blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:42 a.m.
Encampment 1200Blk 21st St 8:46 a.m.
Burglary 1600Blk Appian Way 9:04 a.m.
Petty Theft 1500Blk 2nd St 9:10 a.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 2500Blk Lincoln Blvd 9:25 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 3300Blk Barnard Way 9:25 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1700Blk Lincoln Blvd 9:36 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 25th St / Idaho Ave 9:37 a.m.
Vandalism 4th St / Broadway 9:49 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1200Blk Palisades Beach rd 9:58 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2200Blk 14th St 10:02 a.m.
Traffic Hazard 1100Blk Olympic Blvd 10:05 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1900Blk 6th St 10:09 a.m.
Battery 800Blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:14 a.m.
Grand Theft 1200Blk Euclid St 10:14 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2500Blk Michigan Ave 10:25 a.m.
Battery 1300Blk 15th St 10:32 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 800Blk Montana Ave 10:40 a.m.
Prowler 1300Blk 18th St 11:16 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 500Blk 9th St 11:26 a.m.
Vandalism 1200Blk Harvard St 11:51 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 2400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:52 a.m.
Vandalism 5th St / Arizona Ave 12:00 p.m.
Overdose 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 12:01 p.m.
Identity Theft 1000Blk California Ave 12:21 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 20th St / Santa Monica Blvd 12:46 p.m.
Indecent Exposure 2500Blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:55 p.m.
General Parking Problem 2000Blk Ocean Ave 1:19 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 300Blk 15th St 1:41 p.m.
Petty Theft 2800Blk Pico Blvd 2:04 p.m.
Petty Theft 1600Blk Main St 2:18 p.m.
Person With A Gun 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 2:24 p.m.
Traffic Hazard Cloverfield Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 2:39 p.m.
Grand Theft 1500Blk 4th St 2:40 p.m.
Traffic Hazard Cloverfield Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 2:46 p.m.
Attempt Auto Theft 1100Blk 10th St 2:48 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 800Blk Hill St 2:52 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1300Blk Wilshire Blvd 3:15 p.m.
Battery 1600Blk Cloverfield Blvd 3:30 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2nd St / Colorado Ave 4:00 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2400Blk Montana Ave 4:08 p.m.
Vandalism 1400Blk 10th St 4:14 p.m.
Strongarm Robbery Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 4:16 p.m.
Petty Theft 1200Blk Berkeley St 4:29 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1200Blk Palisades Park 4:36 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 20th St / Pico Blvd 4:40 p.m.
Vandalism 2800Blk Main St 4:42 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 100Blk Bay St 4:45 p.m.
General Parking Problem 700Blk 11th St 4:48 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 100Blk Pacific St 4:58 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop Barnard Way / Ocean Park Blvd 5:16 p.m.
Lewd Activity 1000Blk Broadway 5:17 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 3000Blk Pennsylvania Ave 5:18 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop Ocean Ave / Bay St 5:37 p.m.
Vandalism 2400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 5:43 p.m.
Health & Safety Code Violation 1000Blk 12th St 5:44 p.m.
Petty Theft 2400Blk Pico Blvd 5:45 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2200Blk The Beach 5:49 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 00Blk Bay St 5:53 p.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 400Blk Ocean Ave 5:55 p.m.
Valet Zone Violation 1800Blk Ocean Ave 6:12 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2700Blk Barnard Way 6:12 p.m.
Loud Music 2500Blk Main St 6:35 p.m.
Encampment 16th St / Montana Ave 6:39 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 2500Blk Lincoln Blvd 7:00 p.m.
Petty Theft 1400Blk 3rd Street Prom 7:01 p.m.
Lost Property 800Blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:08 p.m.
Traffic Hazard Pacific Coast Hwy / California Incline 7:27 p.m.
Armed Robbery 1500Blk Ocean Ave 7:43 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1000Blk 2nd St 7:44 p.m.
Battery 1600Blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:57 p.m.
Loud Music 200Blk Ocean Ave 8:01 p.m.
Petty Theft 1000Blk Centinela Ave 8:11 p.m.
Grand Theft 1300Blk 15th St 8:13 p.m.
Vandalism Ocean Ave / Palisades Ave 8:15 p.m.
Fire Request Police 1500Blk Yale St 8:15 p.m.
Encampment 600Blk Idaho Ave 8:20 p.m.
Petty Theft 3100Blk Wilshire Blvd 8:29 p.m.
Petty Theft 1100Blk 25th St 8:32 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper In Progress 200Blk Santa Monica Pier 8:43 p.m.
Burglary 2200Blk Dewey St 8:44 p.m.
Petty Theft 400Blk Ocean Park Blvd 8:49 p.m.
Arson 1200Blk Wilshire Blvd 8:58 p.m.
Battery 2nd St / Broadway 8:58 p.m.
Battery 1400Blk Ocean Ave 9:00 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 800Blk Pacific St 9:49 p.m.
Vandalism 2300Blk 28th St 9:50 p.m.
Encampment 400Blk The Beach 10:04 p.m.
Vandalism 1600Blk Ocean Ave 10:17 p.m.
Prowler There 1600Blk Ashland Ave 10:46 p.m.
Loud Music 200Blk Ocean Ave 10:59 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 600Blk Palisades Beach rd 11:00 p.m.
Petty Theft 2500Blk Main St 11:05 p.m.
Traffic Hazard Cloverfield Blvd / Ocean Park Blvd 11:06 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 28th St / Donald Douglas Loop 11:17 p.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 600Blk Marguerita Ave 11:23 p.m.
Vandalism 1400Blk 9th St 11:25 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 600Blk Palisades Beach rd 11:27 p.m.
Domestic Violence 1200Blk California Ave 11:49 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOGS

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 28 CALLS ON JULY 13

Automatic Alarm 100Blk Broadway 12:01 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1500Blk 2nd St 12:06 a.m.
EMS 2900Blk Main St 2:11 a.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 1300Blk Palisades Park 5:09 a.m.
EMS 1500Blk 16th St 6:30 a.m.
EMS 500Blk Georgina Ave 6:53 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1500Blk 2nd St 7:59 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Interstate 10 / 5th St 8:37 a.m.
EMS 100Blk Ocean Park Blvd 9:08 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Lincoln Blvd / Interstate 10 9:22 a.m.
EMS 17th St / Broadway 9:37 a.m.
EMS 2400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:25 a.m.
EMS 2400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:12 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk 17th St 11:28 a.m.
EMS 1100Blk 9th St 11:56 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 20th St / Santa Monica Blvd 12:46 p.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 2200Blk Virginia Ave 12:51 p.m.
EMS 2500Blk Main St 2:16 p.m.
EMS 1200Blk Ocean Ave 2:47 p.m.
EMS 1100Blk 9th St 3:18 p.m.
EMS 800Blk 2nd St 5:27 p.m.
Elevator Rescue 1300Blk 10th St 6:05 p.m.
EMS 800Blk Broadway 7:06 p.m.
EMS 1500Blk Yale St 8:07 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk Ocean Ave 9:22 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200Blk 26th St 9:40 p.m.
EMS 2100Blk Main St 10:30 p.m.
EMS 800Blk 2nd St 11:33 p.m.



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Santa Monica Mountains

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area to host "Las Montañas" festival in Calabasas

National Park Service rangers from Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (SMMNRA) will host "Las Montañas," a festival featuring family-friendly events, guided hikes, and speakers who work in conservation.

The free event, which will take place on July 16, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., is part of Latino Conservation Week. Parking is also free, and there will be food trucks for park visitors to purchase food and beverages.

During the event, visitors will hear from Latinx biologists and others highlighting their work in conservation. For example, they will discuss how they capture wildlife activity with trail cameras after wildfires and talk about native plants in the Santa Monica Mountains, including which ones are edible.

Miguel Ordeñana, a wildlife biologist from the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles (NHMLA), will discuss his journey in conservation and how he discovered mountain lion P-22. He will also talk about his ongoing research on bats.

Community-based organizations like Heal the Bay, the Santa Monica Mountains Fund's Monarca team, Angeles National Forest, the Forest Foundation, Pacoima Beautiful, and the Los Angeles Audubon Society will have booths at the festival.

Guests will learn how to create a seed pinata "bomb" for their gardens and how to plant milkweed for native monarch butterflies. Rangers will talk about the Spanish ranching history of the region and be available to allow young land stewards to become Junior Rangers by taking the pledge.

Free bilingual field guides and adventure kits will be available for visitors interested in continuing their conservation journey when they return home.

Participants can learn more and register for the event at samofund.com/outdoors-calendar.

For more information, please call the Santa Monica Mountains Visitor Center at 805-370-2301.

SUBMITTED BY SUBMITTED BY ANA BEATRIZ CHOLO, PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

INGLEWOOD

1 million pills with fentanyl seized in record bust near LA

One million pills containing fentanyl were seized during a raid near Los Angeles this month in what the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration called the largest bust of its kind in California.

The pills were found when agents served a search warrant July 5 at a home in Inglewood that investigators believe was a stash house with links to Sinaloa cartel traffickers, the DEA said in a statement Thursday.

"This massive seizure disrupted the flow of dangerous amounts of fentanyl into our streets and probably saved many lives," DEA special agent Bill Bodner said in the statement.

The pills have an estimated street value of $15 to $20 million dollars, officials said.

SUBMITTED BY ASSOCIATED PRESS

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

SANTA MONICA
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
VIA TELECONFERENCE
Pursuant to AB361

DATE / TIME: Monday, July 18, 2022, 7:00 PM

LOCATION: In an effort to reduce the risk of spreading Coronavirus (COVID-19), members of the Architectural Review Board and City Staff will participate via teleconference. The public may join the teleconference via https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/syvugykd dialing in at +1 (415) 466-7000 (US) PIN: 2746042 #.

PROPERTIES:
22ARB-0120: 3100 Ocean Park Blvd. Landscape Design, Sign Adjustment

DISCUSSION:
PRELIMINARY REVIEW: 1452 2nd Street Two-Story Addition

More information is available online at https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Architectural-Review-Board/ or at (310) 458-8341 (en espanol tambien).

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Those wishing to give written public comment shall email comments to planningcomment@santamonica.gov. Comments received **prior to 12 p.m.** on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Architectural Review Board prior to the meeting and posted online. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

Public comment can also be made by phone during the meeting by calling 1-408-740-7256 (Meeting ID: 592631538 and Passcode: 2318 followed by #) when the caller queue opens for the item on which you wish to comment. Remarks from the public will be limited to 2 minutes per item. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment.

For disability-related accommodations, please contact 310-458-8701 or TTY 310-450-8696 a minimum of 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request.

Capitol riot hearings raise questions of presidential power

GARY FIELDS
Associated Press

The House Jan. 6 committee's investigation of the aftermath of the 2020 presidential election and the events leading up to the U.S. Capitol insurrection is raising questions about former President Donald Trump's role and whether he committed crimes.

The various schemes and talking points that witnesses have revealed also highlight what a president has the authority to do.

Government and legal experts say the bigger question is: Can further limits be put on presidential authority to make sure there are no repeats of 2020 in future administrations?

WHAT LAWS FORM THE BASIS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL POWERS IN QUESTION?

There are two primary ones: the Insurrection Act, first enacted in 1792, and the National Emergencies Act of 1976.

The Insurrection Act is a long-standing presidential power that gives the president wide latitude to use military forces to stop a rebellion or domestic violence. Military forces are normally barred by the Posse Comitatus Act from joining in civilian law enforcement actions.

Elizabeth Goitein, senior director of the liberty and national security program at the Brennan Center for Justice, said the insurrection "in my opinion" could have been the catalyst for the president to invoke the act and bring in the military to escort congressional lawmakers out of the proceedings for their safety. "That doesn't mean Donald Trump would have been the president, but it would have thrown a wrench in the works," she said.

Under the NEA, dozens of statutory authorities become available to any president when national emergencies are declared. They include everything from severe weather responses to civil disorder. Congress can vote to terminate the declaration, but if the president vetoes, a two-thirds supermajority is required to overcome the veto.

"The statute itself doesn't say what an emergency is. It leaves it up to the president," said Chris Edelson, assistant professor of government at American University. "That means an unscrupulous president can use it" for ill purposes. It is up to Congress to rein in the president, he said.

WHAT ISSUES WERE RAISED AT THE LAST HEARING?

In the most recent hearing, former White House counsel Pat Cipollone discussed a rancorous meeting in which Trump's outside legal team brought a draft executive order to seize the states' voting machines. In his testimony Cipollone said the plan was a terrible idea. It had been floated before.

"You can't preemptively seize voting machines. If there was a reason to do so, you need a court order," Edelson said.

At the same meeting, there were a range of theories pushed, including invoking martial law. It was an idea Trump adviser Michael Flynn had floated before, along with seizing the voting machines.

WHAT ABOUT MARTIAL LAW?

Under the Insurrection Act the president can call on the military in certain circumstances, but they are intended to support civilian law enforcement. One example was the use of the military during the 1992 Los Angeles riots. Under martial law the military takes over the function of the civilian government.

Martial law, said Goitein, "gives me nightmares" because the law is unsettled. "The whole concept of martial law, there's not even an agreed upon definition of what it is," she said.

> "The Constitution assumes that checks and balances work. If the president goes too far, Congress will rein him in - Chris Edelson"

ARE THERE GUARDRAILS TO PREVENT FUTURE PRESIDENTS FROM ABUSING POWER?

The House passed the Protecting Our Democracy bill last year and sent it to the Senate. The legislation would prevent presidents from pardoning themselves, strengthen reporting requirements for campaigns, and clarify and enhance criminal penalties for campaigns that accept foreign information sought or obtained for political advantage.

The Senate has taken no action on the proposal. Without congressional action, the questions over presidential power and its expansiveness remain open. "The Constitution assumes that checks and balances work. If the president goes too far, Congress will rein him in," said Edelson.

In Trump's case, Congress has not shown an appetite for doing that.

Abortion pills will soon be available on California campuses

MALLIKA SESHADRI
Special to the Daily Press

As California's efforts to enshrine abortion access continue, the University of California and California State University are working to provide medication abortions on all campuses by Jan. 1.

So far, none of the Cal State campuses offer medication abortions, and access within the UC system varies from campus to campus. Both university systems, however, say they are on track to implement a law passed in 2019 requiring their student health centers to provide access to the pills.

As many as 6,228 students could seek medication abortions on UC and Cal State campuses each year, once they are available, according to Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health, a research program at the University of California San Francisco.

Making medication abortions available on college campuses would likely free up appointments at clinics throughout the state that could then be sought by people living in areas of California where abortion access is limited or in other states where it is now illegal, multiple reproductive health experts and advocates told CalMatters.

"Because there is going to be this increase in people coming to California, all of the clinics are going to have, you know, additional demand and kind of struggle with capacity," said Cathren Cohen, a reproductive rights expert at the UCLA Center on Reproductive Health, Law and Policy. "While it's not necessarily going to help all the people coming from out of state, it's just generally going to increase the number of abortion providers."

State Sen. Connie Leyva, who authored Senate Bill 24, said its significance could not have been anticipated years ago, before the recent Supreme Court ruling that overturned Roe v. Wade and ended the constitutional right to an abortion in the U.S.

"Little did we know how important this bill would be and this law would be based on the Supreme Court's decision," said Leyva, a Chino Democrat. "I think it's even more important than it was when we did it."

SECURING ABORTION ACCESS ON UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES

Each month, between 322 and 519 students at Cal State and UC seek medication abortions, according to a 2018 report published by UCSF's Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health.

As many as two-thirds of those students have to travel at least 30 minutes on public transportation to reach the closest non-campus clinic, the report estimated. The average cost of medication at facilities near campus is more than $600, according to the report, and the average wait time is a week.

"If one part of the population is able to get pregnant, has to go through hoops and overcome barriers to terminate a pregnancy, and in trying to do that has to miss class, that's kind of an equity issue," said UCSF OB-GYN and abortion specialist Josie Urbina. "You want everybody to have the same access, to have the same opportunities, to be able to concentrate and focus on their studies and their coursework without having to take time off."

As campuses start providing medication abortions, many students will spend less time on the road and will see out-of-pocket costs decrease. Getting a medication abortion often involves a couple of appointments — either in person or virtually — and receiving a prescription.

The University of California Student Health Insurance Plan, which is required for students, covers the costs of medication abortions.

However, students in the Cal State system — and those who waive the insurance requirement at the UC — will have to pay to receive the medications. Sacramento State University expects the cost of medications would be between $60 and $80.

"There's still a lot of areas where abortion access maybe is less than perfect or varies between different campuses and surrounding communities, or for different students within those communities," said Alex Miles, chairperson of government relations for the UC Student Association. "Reproductive health care access, in general, has to be central and fully accessible."

To meet the Jan. 1 deadline, Cal State and UC campuses without medication abortion access — including UC San Diego, UC Davis and UC Riverside — will have to both train providers and update information on websites so students know the service is available. The COVID-19 pandemic has delayed some of that preparation, said Annie Sumberg, senior director for medication abortion access for Essential Access Health, a reproductive health advocacy and consulting group that is helping campuses gear up.

Essential Access Health is offering Zoom training sessions for UC and Cal State campus providers that give an overview of the new law, how to administer a medication abortion and how to support patients after they end their pregnancies.

Several campuses said they are considering offering telehealth appointments for medication abortion and allowing students to pick up pills at a pharmacy closer to home.

The FDA approved having abortion medications sent by mail in 2021, and demand for telehealth has grown during the pandemic. Physical exams and ultrasounds are not necessary to safely end a pregnancy, said Urbina, the OB-GYN at UCSF.

Cal Poly San Luis Obispo's assistant vice president for health and wellbeing, Tina Hadaway-Mellis, also raised the possibility of having prescriptions mailed to students. Increased access to telehealth, she said, has been one of "very few silver linings as a result of the pandemic."

"If (students) prefer to be someplace that offers them a sense of privacy, or if they don't live very close to campus, if they're only coming to campus one or two days a week, but they live an hour away, a telehealth appointment would be much more approachable and convenient," Hadaway-Mellis said.

UC Berkeley has been offering medication abortions at the campus Tang Center since the fall of 2020, according to University Health Services spokesperson Tami Cate.

The campus has provided 34 medication abortions since 2020, and students are often able to get an appointment the same day, Cate

SEE **ABORTION** PAGE 8

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If you don't like what we have to say we will give you a copy of your x-rays at no charge
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*Offer to non insured patients
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OPINION **LAUGHING MATTERS**

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Terriers in the Jungle

Long time Santa Monica resident Georja Umano has published her first novel, “Terriers in the Jungle,” which has already won three prestigious awards. It’s based on her real-life affection for elephants and how this passion has taken her to Kenya six times in her advocating for conservation and protection of these remarkable animals.

On one of these trips, Georja took her dogs, thus the title “Terriers in the Jungle.” It’s the story of Kate (aka Georja) who rescues Romeo and Roxie, two street pups in Santa Monica, and turns them into loving pampered pups. The trio is happily enjoying the good life when conservationist Kate decides to help rescue endangered elephants in Africa.

So Kate moves the unusual trio to Kenya where her dogs encounter animals they’ve never seen before – mischievous monkeys, an imposing camel, frightening crocodiles, an elegant ibis and enormous African elephants.

This brings me to Georja’s fascinating personal evolution. (And considerably less fascinating, how she met me twenty-five years ago.) In 1997 Georja wanted badly to have a dog, something she hadn’t experienced since her early but difficult childhood. Georja’s first dog provided her with joy and unconditional love and allowed her to return the same.

So, with her husband’s blessing, author Gerald Everett Jones, Georja adopted Marcello, a Jack Russell Terrier. However, they faced an immediate obstacle regarding their Ocean Avenue rent-controlled apartment which had a spectacular ocean view.

Unfortunately their landlord insisted they move if they wanted to keep their pooch, so they did and never regretted it. (Impossible to imagine now, it was at a time when Santa Monica property values were tanking so they could afford a condo.)

In addition to her writing, I’d be remiss not to mention Georja’s many other talents. For example, she has been a stand-up comedian in Los Angeles, San Diego and eleven states; a film, TV and theater actress; a teacher and a journalist. She has a B.A. in English Literature and an M.A. in Educational Theater.

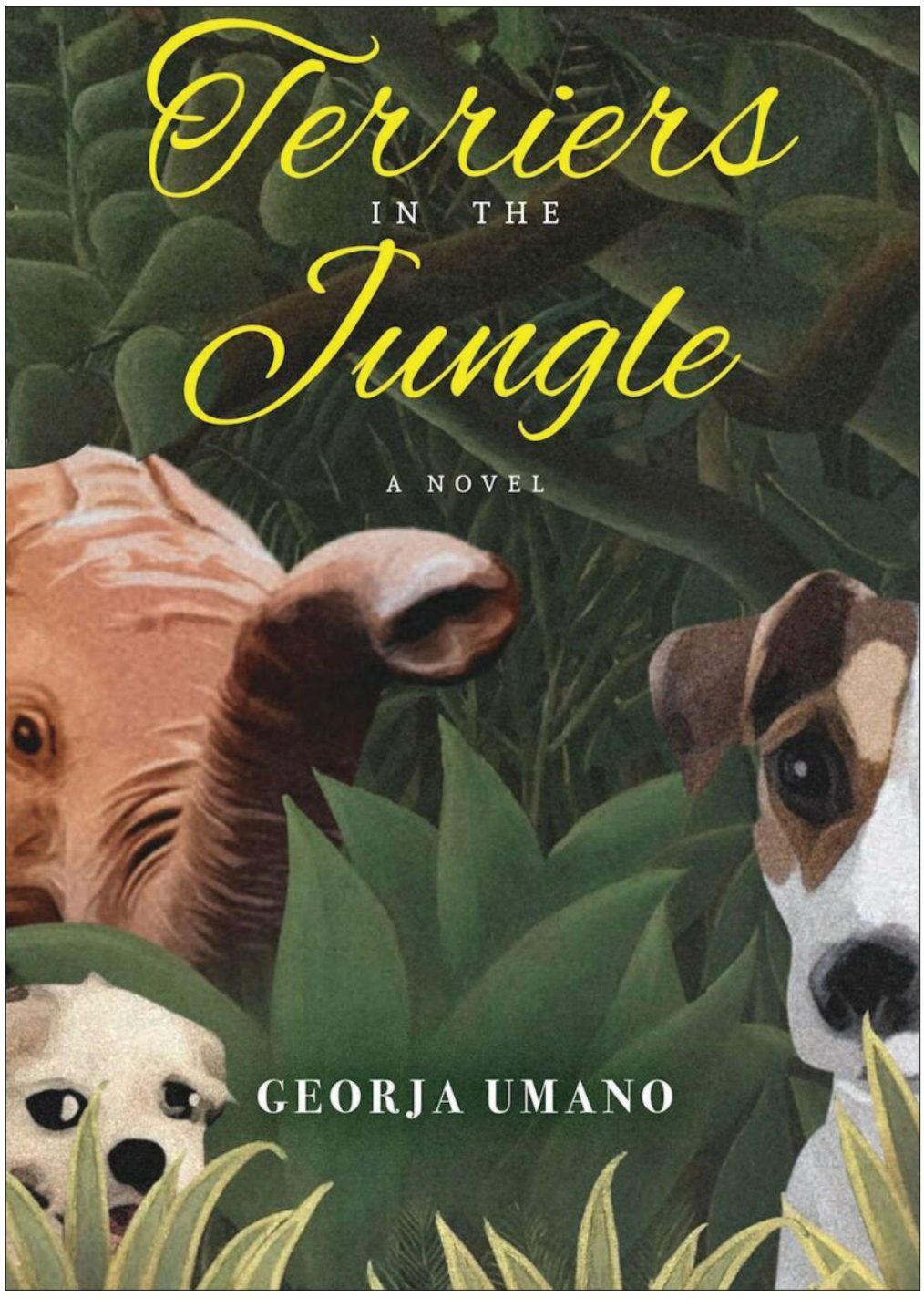
Among Georja’s notable TV credits are “Off the Rack” with the late Ed Asner and the title character in the award-winning short film, “The Godmother.” She was also nominated for her theatrical performance in “Kabbalah” with the late actor/comedian Avery Schreiber.

That brings me to how Georja and I first met. Because of Marcello she began a campaign for a small beach dog park. “Unleash the Beach” resonated with dog owners who were thrilled. I wasn’t an owner but I was also excited.

You see, back then I walked my disabled neighbor Colleen’s seizure alert dog, Oscar, a beautiful Golden Retriever who dearly loved the ocean. Though it was highly illegal, I’d sneak Oscar into the water at sunset and throw tennis balls he eagerly fetched. He was so full of joy diving through the waves it mesmerized strangers on the sand who stood and watched in awe. I was drawn to “Unleash the Beach,” because of Georja’s optimistic and boundless energy. (Plus I didn’t want to get the dreaded $350 ticket.)

With her political savvy, Georja was twice able to get City Council to almost authorize a dog beach, with the key word being “almost.” But that setback only led Georja to a new calling, animal activist. In fact, Georja has organized, spoken and written about animal causes in the U.S., Italy and Kenya, in the fields of elephant and wildlife conservation.

In addition to educating readers about Africa’s dwindling elephant population, estimated 100,000 in 2011 and 40,000 today, “Terriers in the Jungle” is just great fun. Roxie and Romeo, the two canine narrators are filled with irrepressible and child-like wonder. In their many adventures exploring Kenya, often they’d inadvertently get into dangerous scrapes but manage to escape. Georja also is adept in weaving the dog’s adventures and the importance of wildlife conservation, promoting a world where elephants can thrive. She’s also an artful literary tour guide of Kenya.



Courtesy image

BOOK: The local author tells the story of travel from Santa Monica to Africa.

One creative tool Georja deftly employed is her use of Kenyan artists Hilton Mghan Mwakima and Moses Mugasia Misigo, whose sensitive illustrations beautifully complement the storyline. It’s remarkable how much feeling of Kenya they project. Umano drew inspiration from her association with Kenyan charities such as the renowned Sheldrick Wildlife Trust that operates an orphan elephant rescue and wildlife rehabilitation program in Kenya.

As Romeo and Roxie adapt to their new home, they discover that heroes come in every size. Together, they face new and unexpected threats, including dognappers and poachers, and muster the courage needed to save the day.

“Terriers in the Jungle,” takes us on a sensational and inspiring journey into the world of endangered animals and presents a heartfelt dog’s-eye-view of the beauty and brutality of East Africa. (Plus I think it’d make a great movie!)

“Terriers in the Jungle,” is available at Amazon.com and BarnesAndNoble.com. Georja’s website is georjaumano.com. Jack is at: Jackdailypress@aol.com





Local coffee shop offers domestic bean tasting this weekend

BRYNN SHAFFER
SMDP Intern

In part of their "Top Dog presents" series, local espresso bar goodboybob is collaborating with FRINJ coffee, a California-harvested roastery, for a unique coffee tasting, celebrating tastes from around America.

This Saturday, July 16 at 2 p.m., individuals are invited to join a discussion and tasting experience, featuring light and medium roasts from Santa Barbara and Kona, Hawaii, free of charge. All attendees will receive a tasting flight of three cups of fresh brew, their selection of complimentary pastries, as well as a 20 percent discount on the event's featured coffees.

"I think people often drink coffee, but don't taste coffee," said Jay Ruskey, co-founder and CEO of FRINJ, whose goal is to make people more appreciative of the fine tastes coffee has to offer. He strives for people to think of coffee in the same regard people think of when it comes to wine.

"Sometimes, I struggle with how people will order a glass of wine for $15 and not think about it, but a $7 cup of coffee will freak them out," said Ruskey. "The amount of work in what the farmer gets for that cup of coffee doesn't equate back to wine."

After years of selling at farmers markets, Ruskey began harvesting coffee beans in 2000 when he was looking to grow new crops and received several recommendations from fellow farm advisors. Over the course of 15 years, Ruskey grew coffee beans, and as consumers became more interested in fine coffees, he saw the value of creating his own brand of craft coffee. Ruskey officially founded FRINJ in 2017 alongside Andy Mullins, Juan Medrano and Lindsey Mesta.

> "We make sure the farmer gets half of the value back in his pocket — Jay Ruskey

According to Ruskey, there are so many advantages of farming coffee locally as opposed to importing from overseas, both from a production and quality standpoint. Due to California's cool climate and change in latitude, farmers can mimic high cups of coffee that are representative of some of the finest coffees from the highest elevations of Central America.

Additionally, respect for farmers is at the heart of FRINJ's philosophy. Because of the mindful cultivation and artistry that goes into producing each cup, the company believes the money is best spent reinvesting in the plants, land and people that make it a reality.



Courtesy photo

COFFEE: Goodboybob coffee will host the event at 2058 Broadway.

"We make sure the farmer gets half of the value back in his pocket," said Ruskey. "That's another advantage of buying FRINJ Coffee is that we're farmer founded and we do everything we can to make sure the farmer benefits from growing coffee."

Ruskey will be leading the experience, beginning with a demonstration on how to hand-brew the coffee with a presentation on each cup, before attendees will be given their individual tasting flight with complimentary bites to eat, made from locally-sourced ingredients like caviar limes and passionfruit.

"I think a lot of avid coffee drinkers don't really get the chance to meet people like that, on the opposite end," said Josh Choe, director of stores for goodboybob. "You know, they meet the baristas, sometimes they meet roasters or owners of coffee companies, but farmers … it's such a different experience."

The tasting will be followed by a live Q&A and will wrap up around 3:15 p.m.

Those interested in participating can meet at 2058 Broadway or RSVP here: https://goodboybob.com/products/top-dog-presents-celebrating-usa-coffee.



COVID-19

FROM PAGE 1

masking as well," according to Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer. These mandates would be in addition to the ongoing mask rules in place on public transit, in health care and long-term care facilities, in jails, and during the 10 days following COVID-19 diagnosis or exposure.

Ferrer made the announcement during the weekly COVID-19 virtual public briefing on Thursday. At the briefing, the Director emphasized the department's reasoning for reinstating the mandates.

"Vaccination is a powerful tool, but when transmission is as high as it is now, vaccination is not sufficient and we need to use additional protective measures to lower the risk, particularly for the most vulnerable," Ferrer said. "Masking and testing are both tools that can interrupt transmission and thereby reduce risk."

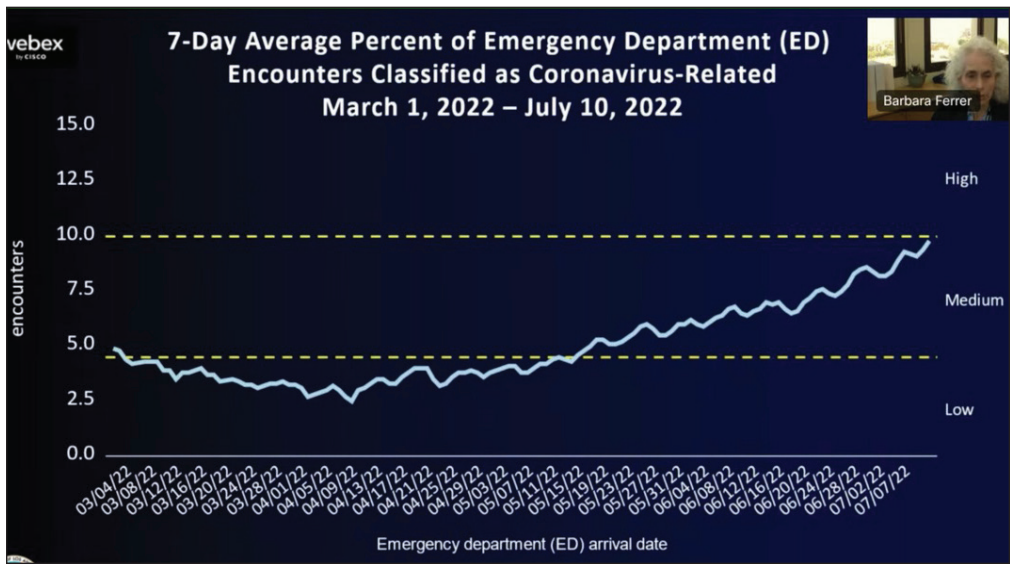
Ferrer said that while there have been many cases of incidental coronavirus hospitalizations when patients hospitalized for other reasons test positive for COVID-19 upon arrival to medical centers, the rate of virus-related hospitalizations has been steadily climbing since April, and has just hit the "high" threshold.

The weekly briefing always includes a media Q&A, and this week reporters came prepared with questions about the mandate — Is it a done deal? Will people actually follow it? What will it take to drop masks?

"It's never too late to reverse course," Ferrer said. But hospitalization rates, one of the metrics that bumped the County into the high concern category, are considered lagging indicators, meaning they are very likely to get worse before they get better. Since both new cases and hospitalizations are rising, it is unlikely that number will go back down before the two-week timer is up.

As for the usefulness of the rules themselves, Ferrer said that from a public health department's point of view, to not impose a mask mandate would be a misstep.

"You know, I think it's really hard, if you're in public health, to look at our data — and that's our responsibility, to look at the LA County data — and not notice … that we have, like, lots and lots of people with severe illness, lots of people who die, and lots of people with long COVID, and not want to take a fairly straightforward step to try to layer in some additional protections," Ferrer said. "You know, we are not closing anything down. We are not asking people not to gather with the people they love. We are not asking you to forego activities you love. We're asking you to take a sensible step. When there's this much transmission with a highly transmissible variant, to go ahead and put back on a well fitting high filtration mask when you're indoors around others and I think that's the prudent thing to do."



COVID: The number of people hospitalized for Covid, not just individuals who have sought care and then tested positive, has increased to the "high" threshold. While a reversal is technically possible that would prevent the need for a new mask mandate this month, officials said many of the metrics used to determine the need for masks trail behind overall case counts which means it's unlikely they will rapidly decline without a preceding drop in cases.

As of latest testing, the omicron variant accounts for 100 percent of all known cases in the county, with the rapidly spreading BA.5 subvariant taking up the largest portion of new cases, at 48 percent of all cases sequenced in the most recent week of available data (ending on June 25) — more than doubling since June 11.

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ABORTION

FROM PAGE 5

said. Currently, UC Berkeley only administers medication abortions on site, but it might add telehealth options in the future, she said.

ENABLING ACCESS FOR COMMUNITY AND OUT-OF-STATE ABORTION SEEKERS

Directing students toward campus medical centers is particularly important, abortion rights activists say, because California is expecting a surge of people seeking abortions from states where it is now illegal.

UCLA's Center on Reproductive Health, Law, and Policy expects the influx could be as large as 8,000 to 16,100 people each year.

There are also several regions throughout the state where abortions are already difficult to access. These "abortion deserts" are especially concentrated in California's Central Valley, said Larissa Mercado-López, Fresno State University Chair of Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies.

"We have large swaths of land without abortion providers or even comprehensive reproductive health clinics," Mercado-López said.

Forty percent of California's counties do not currently have an abortion provider, according to the Guttmacher Institute, a research and advocacy organization. There are several Cal State and UC campuses located in these areas, Cohen said, including CSU Bakersfield, CSU Fullerton and CSU Stanislaus.

RAISING AWARENESS

Regardless of where individual campuses are in implementing the new law, advocates stress the importance of raising awareness of abortion services at student health centers.

"It's not well advertised," said Esmeralda Quintero-Cubillan, president of the UC Student Association. "Most students, if you were to ask them, would not know we offered medicated abortions or that you could pursue reproductive health care services."

Many anti-abortion groups, including the California Family Council, opposed the requirement for public universities to provide medication abortion before it passed the Legislature, but did not return CalMatters' requests for comment.

Pro-abortion activists say they are gearing up to educate campus communities about the availability of medication abortion. URGE, a group that organizes young people to support reproductive rights, is conducting presentations on medication abortion to gender studies classes and students pursuing health-related careers.

The presentations highlight the safety of medication abortions, introduce audiences to the new law and provide an overview of the reproductive justice movement, said Callie Flores, a student at UC Merced who sits on the group's student advisory board. The board also conducts anonymous surveys that ask students for input on what their campuses should be doing to support abortion access, and shares the results with campus health centers.

"We try to push like that, you know, being abortion positive means that there's no shame, no stigma and no apologies connected to getting the abortion," Flores said. "Abortion isn't a bad word. It's not a bad decision. It's a decision that people make for themselves, and it's totally valid."

Reeling after the Supreme Court's ruling overturning Roe v. Wade, Flores said activism has given her a sense of purpose and made her feel like she's making a difference.

"I gotta do something with this anger," she said.

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

FOOD

FROM PAGE 2

22 million pounds given away during the first quarter of 2020.

Feeding America's Fitzgerald is calling on USDA and Congress to find a way to restore hundreds of millions of dollars worth of commodities recently lost with the end of several temporary programs to provide food to people in need. USDA commodities, which generally can represent as much as 30% of the food the banks disperse, accounted for more than 40% of all food distributed in fiscal year 2021 by the Feeding America network.

"There is a critical need for the public sector to purchase more food now," said Fitzgerald.

During the Trump administration, USDA bought several billions of dollars in pork, apples, dairy, potatoes and other products in a program that gave most of it to food banks. The "Food Purchase & Distribution Program" designed to help American farmers harmed by tariffs and other practices of U.S. trade partners has since ended. There was $1.2 billion authorized for the 2019 fiscal year and another $1.4 billion authorized for fiscal 2020.

Another temporary USDA "Farmers to Families" program that provided emergency relief provided more than 155 million food boxes for families in need across the U.S. during the height of the pandemic before ending May 31, 2021.

A USDA spokesperson noted the agency is using $400 million from the Build Back Better initiative to establish agreements with states, territories and tribal governments t o buy food from local, regional and underserved producers that can be given to food banks, schools and other feeding programs.

For now, there's enough food, but there might not be in the future, said Michael G. Manning, president and CEO at Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank in Louisiana. He said high fuel costs also make it far more expensive to collect and distribute food.

The USDA's Coronavirus Food Assistance Program, which included Farmers to Families, was "a boon" for the Alameda County Community Food Bank, providing 5 billion pounds of commodities over a single year, said spokesman Altfest.

"So losing that was a big hit," he said.

Altfest said as many as 10% of the people now seeking food are first timers, and a growing number are showing up on foot rather than in cars to save gas.

"The food they get from us is helping them save already-stretched budgets for other expenses like gas, rent, diapers and baby formula," he said.

Meanwhile, food purchases by the bank have jumped from a monthly average of $250,000 before the pandemic to as high as $1.5 million now because of food prices. Rocketing gasoline costs forced the bank to increase its fuel budget by 66%, Altfest said.

Supply chain issues are also a problem, requiring the food bank to become more aggressive with procurement.

"We used to reorder when our inventory dropped to three weeks' worth, now we reorder up to six weeks out," said Altfest.

He said the food bank has already ordered and paid for whole chickens, stuffing, cranberries and other holiday feast items it will distribute for Thanksgiving, the busiest time of the year.

At the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation in Montebello east of Los Angeles, workers say they are seeing many families along with older people like Diane Martinez, who lined up one recent morning on foot.

Some of the hundreds of mostly Spanish-speaking recipients had cars parked nearby. They carried cloth bags, cardboard boxes or shoved pushcarts to pick up their food packages from the distribution site the Los Angeles bank serves.

"The prices of food are so high and they're going up higher every day," said Martinez, who expressed gratitude for the bags of black beans, ground beef and other groceries. "I'm so glad that they're able to help us."

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 15)

Family bonds will be braided beautifully this year. You'll travel for love. You'll make a sale that helps you move to a new stage in your career. For a long time, you have been wanting to be able to give someone a particular gift and you'll finally have the chance. Go all out with the presentation! Sagittarius and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 39, 2, 21, 28 and 40.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your social sophistication helps you find common ground with just about anyone. You'll keep things light and stay on the surface of conversation. You'll establish the rapport that starts relationships rolling.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Though you may have doubts as to whether you can accomplish what's being asked of you, believe in yourself anyway. Training or instinct will kick in just when you need it the most.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). People further along in the endeavor than you may have you thinking you should have embarked sooner, but the important thing is that you're doing it now. Just maybe, your timing is perfect. Love and support are all around you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Difficult people abound. Thank goodness for them because otherwise you wouldn't know if you were really kind or just doing the socially acceptable thing. The truly kind don't need to be incentivized to treat others well.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). When you first tried to add a skill to your arsenal, you had low hopes. You just didn't want to be terrible at it. Now you've gained proficiency. Do you dare go for mastery? You're well within the realm.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your genuine interest in a subject makes learning about it very easy. This is also true of an intriguing person. With your curiosity in the lead, you've a knack for taking the conversation right where you want it to go.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). People are drawn to your wow factor. It's not about what you look like or say; rather, it's the curiosity and drive that burns in you causing you to unselfconsciously involve yourself in the fascinating world around you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It is clear that you are operating on multiple levels at once. You'll think of someone, then cross paths, or you'll have an idea and resources show up as though by magic to help you develop it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). If you feel constricted, you'll get out of the situation before it can trap you. You know what you want. You seek relationships that will expand you: give you new perspective, different insights and a wider array of options.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You have taken on a burden of guilt over something that wasn't your fault at all. Your understanding at the time was limited. There were factors in play that were beyond your knowledge or control. Let that all go. Be light.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). A negotiation is in order. Asking for what you want may feel uncomfortable but do it anyway. It will seem easier to just give the other person what they want, but it's better for both of you to meet somewhere in the middle.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It will be better to have nothing in the space or no one in the role than to fill it with a subpar alternative. Find the real thing. It will be worth the quest. There will be no suitable substitutes for the genuine article.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

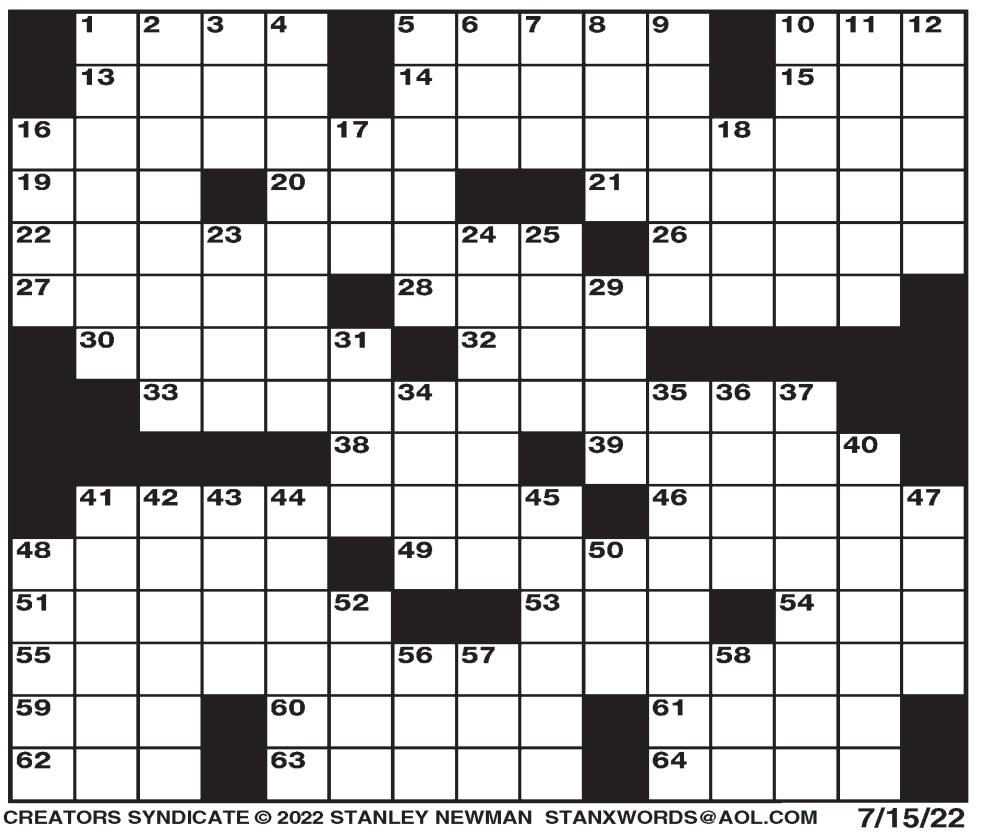
			7	6	3		5	
9	3							6
		4				1		2
	6		3		9		2	
			2	5	4			
	5		6		7		8	
8		7				3		
5							4	7
	4		9	7	5			

Newsday Crossword

IT'S GETTING WARMER by S.N.
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 __ 1869 (Heinz label line)
5 Common Mexican surname
10 Half follower, in a morning order
13 Dip __ in the water
14 Savory taste
15 Canine care org.
16 ONE ELEMENT
19 "Beats me" text
20 Modern bookmark
21 Looks villainous
22 ONE ELEMENT
26 Exclamation after a revelation
27 __ nova (samba cousin)
28 Subscription protectors
30 Asked of
32 Word on the Asian nation list
33 ONE ELEMENT
38 Cop show broadcast
39 Wobbly table levelers
41 From whom you might get tired
46 Party crasher of British fiction
48 "Open __!" (Popeye shout in an Arabian Nights spoof)
49 ONE ELEMENT
51 Gets ready to rumble
53 Chi preceder
54 "Pale" potation
55 WHAT THE ELEMENTS ARE
59 *Schindler's* __ (basis for a Spielberg film)
60 Bond on the run
61 *"Absolut nicht!"*
62 Bowl goals
63 "Message received"
64 What should be sent with an autograph request

DOWN
1 Canal cleanser
2 Fuels, as a furnace
3 Way up a slope
4 Bare
5 Relay conclusion
6 "Heavens me!" text
7 Non-PC
8 Whiny teens
9 It's last in many a floral index
10 Lead voice in *Despicable Me*
11 Latter-day "How cute!"
12 Not to be believed
16 Relative of romaine
17 Second-qual.
18 Tip off
23 Starry starter
24 "Don't expect free drinks"
25 Actress Sedgwick
29 Takes it
31 Anthem opener
34 Risky biz
35 Abu __ (some 37 Down)
36 Rhythmic swing
37 Some Middle Easterners
40 Trig adjective
41 __ Manley Hopkins (Victorian poet)
42 What you'll see while in Branson
43 Do without
44 More impenetrable
45 "Buzzsaw" guy on *The Chase*
47 Watchful one
48 March VIP
50 Pol painted by Warhol
52 Go it alone
56 Metaphor for memory
57 What the largest arboreal animal is
58 Lunar region



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2022 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 7/15/22

MORE OF STAN'S CROSSWORDS! Play FREE from Stan's archives of Easy, Hard and Sunday puzzles at: tinyurl.com/stan-newman-crosswords

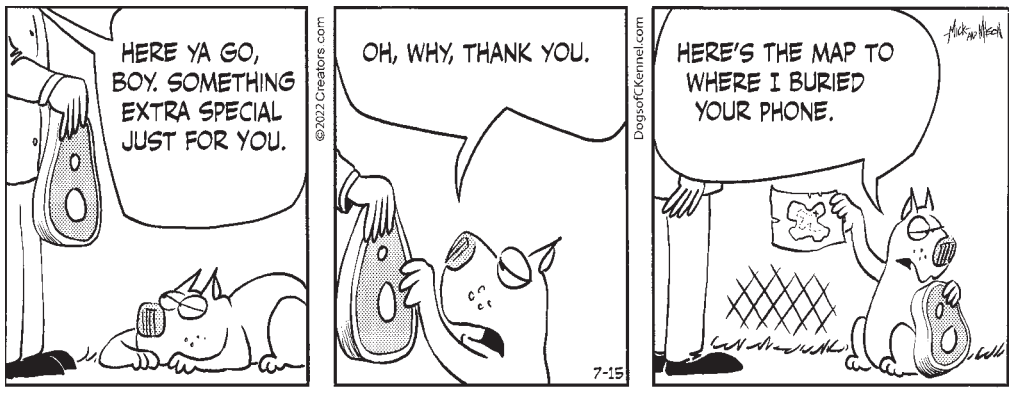
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

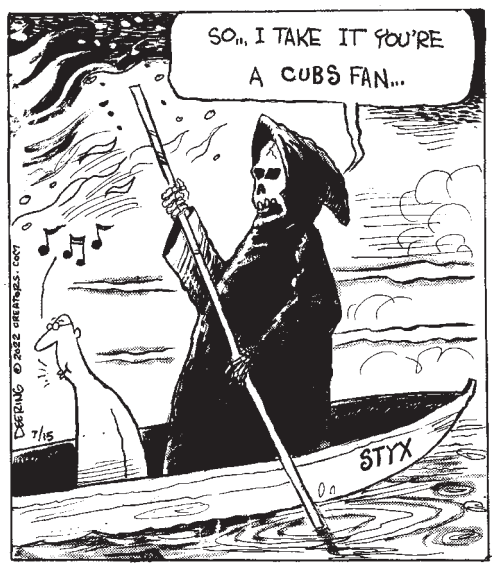
By PETER GALLAGHER



"GUM ANGELS."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



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 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5541

School sports carnival

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

Action	Events	Laps	Sack
Awards	Exercise	Legs	Shotput
Bags	Fast	Lightweight	Small
Bats	Final	Mascot	Sweep
Blades	First	Novelty	Team
Blockout	Funny	race	Uniform
Boys	Games	Ocean	Vying
Carnival	Girls	Olympics	Whistle
Cheer	Gym	Playground	Yell
Class	Heat	Rest	
Crew	House	Ribbon	

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What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

FRIDAY JULY 15

SEASIDE STORYTIME

Join organizers on the sand at the Annenberg Community Beach House for ocean themed stories, songs and action rhymes. For ages 2 and up. 415 Pacific Coast Hwy, Santa Monica, 10 - 10:30 a.m., annenbergbeachhouse.com.

CAPITAL ONE ALL-STAR OCEANFRONT

Enjoy youth baseball and softball activities, beach yoga, sand sculptures, batting cages and more throughout this three-day event for all ages. Please note that Special Event Pricing will be in effect at the beach lots closest to the Pier from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. all weekend. If you arrive earlier, the standard rates apply. https://www.mlb.com/all-star/oceanfront

KIDS NIGHT OUT

Join the Boys and Girls Clubs of Santa Monica for the best volunteer event of the year. You will be paired with a child aged 7-12 for 2 hours of fun. Make a one-on-one connection with youth in our community over games, art projects, food and laughter! 7 p.m. Registration required at https://www.smbgc.org/kidsnightout/.

THE PETER MAX EXPERIENCE GALLERY RECEPTION

The Peter Max Experience is a not-to-be-missed Exhibition & is complimentary and open to the public in a limited engagement Pop Up presentation at the Road Show Gallery at Santa Monica Place (395 Santa Monica Place, Unit 166 – between Nordstom and Tiffany & Co.). This exhibition is THE curated Collection of the finest original work of artist Peter Max. Previews begin on Friday with an amazing opening party from 6-8 p.m. RSVPs are requested at 866-900-6699 or Max@roadshowcompany.com

SATURDAY JULY 16

NOTABLE BOOKS DISCUSSION GROUP

A community-led book club, focusing on books which have won major prizes or are otherwise notable. This month's selection is Our Country Friends by Gary Shteyngart. Contact jeff.schwartz@santamonica.gov for the Zoom link. 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

CAPITAL ONE ALL-STAR OCEANFRONT

All-Star event repeats Saturday/Sunday. Enjoy youth baseball and softball activities, beach yoga, sand sculptures, batting cages and more throughout this three-day event for all ages. Please note that Special Event Pricing will be in effect at the beach lots closest to the Pier from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. all weekend. If you arrive earlier, the standard rates apply. https://www.mlb.com/all-star/oceanfront

SUNDAY JULY 17

20TH ANNIVERSARY POOL PARTY

Dive in and celebrate the Swim Center's 20th-anniversary pool party with an afternoon full of family-friendly activities. Enjoy music, pool floats, food trucks, sweet treats, and special performances by the USA National Artistic Swim Team! Begins at 12 and ends at 4 p.m. Santa Monica Swim Center 2225 16th St. https://www.santamonica.gov/press/2022/07/05/santa-monica-swim-center-commemorates-its-20th-anniversary-with-a-community-pool-party

"SILENT" PIANO EXPERIENCE

Get ready for a magical journey as Murray Hidary's real-time compositions are beamed directly into one's mind while they kick back and take in their surroundings. Join organizers for a transformational evening where music and mindfulness meet. Don't forget to bring your favorite beach chair or blanket and warm layers. Begins at 7 and ends at 8:30 p.m. Santa Monica Beach (in front of Casa del Mar Hotel 1910 Ocean Way. Tickets required and can be purchased at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mindtravel-live-to-headphones-silent-piano-experience-santa-monica-beach-tickets-369207518627?aff=ebdssbdestsearch.

LIVE DJ MUSIC

Meet at Santa Monica Place every Saturday and Sunday from 2-5 p.m. in Center Plaza to enjoy the sounds of our DJ playing his best beats while soaking up all the Santa Monica sun.

MONDAY JULY 18

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD MEETING

The Architectural Review Board established in 1974, acts "to preserve existing areas of natural beauty, cultural importance and assure that buildings, structures, signs or other developments are in good taste, good design, harmonious with surrounding developments, and in general contribute to the preservation of Santa Monica's reputation as a place of beauty, spaciousness and quality." Begins at 7 p.m. Virtual.

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Begins at 7 and ends at 9:30 p.m. Join virtually using the following link: https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/kgubzxpu.

MAIN LIBRARY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Join a community-led discussion of books selected by the group. This month's selection is The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett. Begins 7 and ends at 8:30 p.m. Virtual. Contact jeff.schwartz@santamonica.gov for the Zoom link.

For help submitting an event, contact us at
310-458-7737 or submit to events@smdp.com



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **62.8**

FRIDAY *FAIR*	**SURF:** 3-4ft Waist to chest	Long period SW/SSW swell continues to slowly build through the day. Fun waves for many spots.
SATURDAY *FAIR*	**SURF:** 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder	Fun SSW swell peaks, looking like top day of the week. Best winds in the AM.

WEATHER

Friday: Cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 74.
Friday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 66.
Saturday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 75.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 65.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2022/07/15	Fri	05:40 AM	-1.54	L
2022/07/15	Fri	12:10 PM	4.28	H
2022/07/15	Fri	4:58 PM	2.06	L
2022/07/15	Fri	11:10 PM	6.71	H
2022/07/16	Sat	06:24 AM	-1.15	L
2022/07/16	Sat	12:57 PM	4.42	H
2022/07/16	Sat	5:57 PM	2.08	L
2022/07/17	Sun	12:01 AM	6.06	H
2022/07/17	Sun	07:06 AM	-0.60	L
2022/07/17	Sun	1:44 PM	4.57	H
2022/07/17	Sun	7:02 PM	2.13	L
2022/07/18	Mon	12:56 AM	5.25	H
2022/07/18	Mon	07:48 AM	0.06	L
2022/07/18	Mon	2:34 PM	4.72	H
2022/07/18	Mon	8:17 PM	2.14	L
2022/07/19	Tue	01:59 AM	4.37	H
2022/07/19	Tue	08:32 AM	0.77	L
2022/07/19	Tue	3:26 PM	4.88	H

DAILY LOTTERY

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

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 7/13
22 23 36 47 63
Power#: 2
Jackpot: 82 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 7/12
4 7 10 45 64
Mega#: 12
Jackpot: 480 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 7/13
12 19 20 36 42
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 7 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 7/13
20 29 31 33 38

Daily 3
Draw Date: 7/13
EVENING: 1 6 2
Draw Date: 7/13
MIDDAY: 5 6 0

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 7/13
1st: 04 - Big Ben
2nd: 02 - Lucky Star
3rd: 03 - Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:41.97

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