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SMPD shares details on 1991 hate letter investigation

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

In 1991, several hundred local Latino families received an envelope containing a viciously racist rant, and while the perpetrator was never identified, details on the hate crime investigation have now been released.

At the behest of City Councilmember Oscar de la Torre, who was personally victimized by the letter, SMPD released a report on the investigative actions undertaken in the nineties. De la Torre argued, and other council members agreed, that as the case has lay cold for 30 years, affected community members deserve some type of recognition and resolution.

Unfortunately, those searching for clues or answers in the report will not find much to grasp at.

After speaking with ten witnesses, questioning four subjects of interest, and releasing a $25,000 reward for information leading to a conviction, SMPD did not identify any viable suspects. The report states that "the lead investigator exhausted all known and viable leads based on investigative tactics and techniques available in 1991."

The hate letter was entitled "Samohi Assn. for the Advancement of Conservative White Americans," espoused a white supremacist ideology, contained a litany of anti-Hispanic slurs and directly attacked two individuals. It was written on SMMUSD letterhead and sent to the families of Latinx students attending Santa Monica High School.

At the time of the incident the LA Times reported that the letter was sent to around 800 families, however

SEE **HATE CRIME** PAGE 11

Los Angeles hopes new mask mandate will reverse virus spike

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Los Angeles County residents are again required to wear masks indoors regardless of their vaccination status — a new mandate starting this weekend that health officials hope will reverse the latest spikes in coronavirus cases, hospitalizations and deaths.

The rule went into effect late Saturday for the nation's largest county, home to 11 million people, where a sharp increase in COVID-19 cases is led by the highly transmissible delta variant.

The vast majority of new cases are among unvaccinated people, LA County Supervisor Hilda Solis said Sunday.

"I'm not pleased that we have to go back to using the masks in this matter but, nonetheless, it's going to save lives. And right now that to me is what's most important," Solis said on ABC's " This Week."

California has seen a steady rise in virus cases since the state fully reopened its economy on June 15 and did away with capacity limits and social distancing.

San Francisco Bay Area health officials last week urged residents to again wear masks inside public buildings, offices or businesses regardless of whether they are vaccinated. The counties of San Francisco, Santa Clara, San Mateo, Marin, Alameda, Contra Costa and Sonoma and the city of Berkeley stopped short of making face coverings a requirement.

Other counties, including Sacramento and Yolo, are also

SEE **MASKS** PAGE 11

Council approves contract for parking structure demolition



SMDP File Photo

PARKING: A contract has been awarded for demolition of Parking Structure 3

ASHLEY NAPIER
Special to the Daily Press

A unanimous council has advanced plans to demolish a downtown parking structure to make way for an affordable housing project.

At Council's July 13 meeting, six members of the council approved a contract to AMPCO Contracting Inc. for the demolition of Parking Structure Three and approved a Request for Proposal from Arcadis, a Program Management consulting firm. Newly appointed Councilwoman Lana Negrete was absent from the meeting.

In a decades-long pursuit to remove the five-story decaying structure, due to its urgent need to be retrofitted, council approved a bid to AMPCO in an amount not to exceed $2,552,566 and award a Request for Proposal to Arcadis in an amount not to exceed $172,800.

The five-story structure houses 337 parking spaces and is located on 4th Street and Arizona Avenue, posterior to the 3rd Street Promenade.

The item had been scheduled for the consent calendar, the portion of the agenda usually passed without discussion but Councilman Phil Brock asked for a staff report and individual vote.

Civil Engineer, Curtis Castle said the demolition of the structure has been contemplated by the city for almost two decades, starting with the implementation of the Downtown Parking Task Force in December 2000. He said there is structural damage to the building including noticeable cracks in the concrete facade and broken tendons — steel wires wrapped into a cable that support the building. While other parking structures have been fixed, Structure Three is in need of several million dollars in repairs.

Mayor Himmelrich noted the similarities between this building and "other concrete buildings that have been in the news lately" mostly likely referring to the Surfside Condo Collapse in Florida.

The proposed plan was met with controversy from concerned residents and business owners, who consider the building as an integral part of the parking system in the downtown area and would like to see it restored. Local resident, John Alle started a change.org petition eight weeks ago to prevent the demolition, which has accumulated 2,600 signatures to date.

"The only constant with successful retail restaurants and movie theaters is availability of safe parking," said Alle. "When

SEE **CONSTRUCTION** PAGE 11



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COMPASS

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 284 CALLS ON JULY 18

Person With A Gun 3100blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:00 a.m.
Sexual Assault 2900blk Main St 12:12 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Neilson Way / Kinney St 12:24 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1300blk Franklin St 12:26 a.m.
Domestic Violence Just Occurred 4th St / Colorado Ave 12:30 a.m.
Suicide Just Occurred 1900blk 11th St 12:47 a.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon Report 400blk Pico Blvd 12:49 a.m.
Strongarm Robbery Just Occurred 2900blk Main St 12:54 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 2600blk Main St 1:22 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 100blk Hill St 1:23 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Pacific Coast Hwy / California Incline 1:24 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1300blk Montana Ave 1:41 a.m.
Death Investigation 1400blk 7th St 2:04 a.m.
Public Intoxication 200blk Wilshire Blvd 2:41 a.m.
Grand Theft Just Occurred 800blk 5th St 4:10 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 200blk Arizona Ave 4:56 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2900blk Main St 5:26 a.m.
Encampment 900blk Ocean Ave 5:53 a.m.
Forensics Request - Fingerprint 2900blk Main St 6:26 a.m.
Vandalism Now 2200blk Lincoln Blvd 6:34 a.m.
Encampment 600blk Kensington Rd 7:06 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2000blk Ashland Ave 7:22 a.m.
Lost Property Ocean Ave / California Ave 7:46 a.m.
Burglary Report 3200blk Olympic Blvd 7:59 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 400blk Strand St 8:15 a.m.
Burglary Report 1500blk 6th St 8:19 a.m.
Found Property 400blk Palisades Park 8:21 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 1700blk Appian Way 8:25 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 500blk Pacific St 8:31 a.m.
Fraud Report 100blk Pacific St 9:20 a.m.
Trespassing 1300blk Idaho Ave 9:48 a.m.
Found Property 800blk Palisades Park 10:03 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2400blk 7th St 10:16 a.m.
Trespassing 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 10:27 a.m.
Found Property 2200blk 24th St 10:32 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 100blk Arizona Ave 10:37 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 2nd St / Arizona Ave 10:39 a.m.
Burglary Report 1300blk Stanford St 10:43 a.m.
Forensics Request - Fingerprint 3200blk Olympic Blvd 10:51 a.m.
Burglary Report 1000blk 12th St 11:29 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2000blk Ocean Ave 11:30 a.m.
Family Disturbance 1800blk Euclid St 11:41 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 400blk Strand St 11:42 a.m.
Auto Burglary Just Occurred 600blk Broadway 12:44 p.m.
Domestic Violence Just Occurred 2900blk Arizona Ave 12:46 p.m.
Injured Person 2nd St / Broadway 12:46 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 100blk Hollister Ave 12:59 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 100blk Hollister Ave 1:11 p.m.
Found Person 300blk Santa Monica Pier 1:16 p.m.
Auto Burglary Just Occurred 600blk Broadway 1:21 p.m.
Health & Safety Code Violation 2100blk Lincoln Blvd 1:33 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1400blk Olympic Blvd 2:02 p.m.
Vandalism Just Occurred 2500blk Pico Blvd 2:07 p.m.
Battery Report 500blk Colorado Ave 2:10 p.m.
Traffic Control Request - Level 1 300blk Olympic Dr 2:15 p.m.
Trespassing 300blk Colorado Ave 2:19 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 100blk Hollister Ave 2:29 p.m.
Burglary Now 1000blk 3rd St 2:44 p.m.
Trespassing 2600blk 23rd St 2:56 p.m.
Family Disturbance 900blk 12th St 2:57 p.m.
Loitering 2300blk Ocean Park Blvd 3:01 p.m.
Trespassing 2300blk Ocean Park Blvd 3:04 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1300blk 5th St 3:07 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 20th St / Olympic Blvd 3:21 p.m.
Lewd Activity Appian Way / Marine Ter 4:20 p.m.
Encampment 200blk Montana Ave 4:22 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1700blk Ocean Front Walk 4:40 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 200blk Palisades Beach Rd 4:49 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1200blk 2nd St 4:59 p.m.
Found Person 2600blk Ocean Park Blvd 5:07 p.m.
Family Disturbance 2300blk Wilshire Blvd 5:39 p.m.
Found Person 2600blk Barnard Way 5:54 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 800blk 5th St 6:01 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now Ocean Ave / Idaho Ave 6:02 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon Just Occurred 1800blk The Beach 6:34 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon Just Occurred 00blk Pico Blvd 6:38 p.m.
Found Property 4th St / Santa Monica Blvd 6:39 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 300blk Santa Monica Pier 6:42 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1700blk Olympic Blvd 6:42 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 14th St / California Ave 7:05 p.m.
Vandalism Now 1000blk Wilshire Blvd 7:05 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 7th St / Raymond Ave 7:18 p.m.
Family Disturbance 2300blk Wilshire Blvd 7:21 p.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 1400blk Ocean Ave 7:22 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Barnard Way / Hollister Ave 7:26 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1000blk Pico Blvd 7:32 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 500blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:44 p.m.
Battery Report 1500blk 7th St 8:02 p.m.
Traffic Control Request - Level 1 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 8:12 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 1300blk 4th St 8:24 p.m.
Forensics Request - Miscellaneous 1800blk The Beach 8:33 p.m.
Vandalism Just Occurred Lincoln Blvd / Broadway 8:42 p.m.
Found Person 2100blk The Beach 9:27 p.m.

SEE **POLICE LOG** PAGE 5

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 39 CALLS ON JULY 18

Automatic Alarm 1300blk Lincoln Blvd 12:09 a.m.
EMS Neilson Way / Kinney St 12:25 a.m.
EMS 1900blk 20th St 12:32 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 7th St 1:52 a.m.
EMS 200blk Broadway 2:54 a.m.
EMS 400blk 11th St 4:32 a.m.
EMS 1400blk Ocean Ave 7:40 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1100blk 7th St 8:00 a.m.
EMS 100blk Montana Ave 9:06 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1000blk Pico Blvd 9:15 a.m.
Ladder Request 2900blk 10th St 9:56 a.m.
EMS 1100blk 12th St 10:02 a.m.
EMS 800blk Pico Blvd 10:12 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200blk Franklin St 10:39 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 11:08 a.m.
EMS 1600blk Arizona Ave 11:17 a.m.
EMS 900blk Euclid St 11:41 a.m.
EMS 1800blk Ocean Ave 12:09 p.m.
EMS 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:21 p.m.
Vehicle Fire 1300blk Arizona Ave 12:48 p.m.
EMS 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:25 p.m.
EMS 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 1:27 p.m.
EMS 900blk 12th St 3:04 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Alta Ave 3:29 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 5th St 3:42 p.m.
Elevator Rescue 2900blk Pennsylvania Ave 4:45 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 5:08 p.m.
EMS 1500blk Princeton St 5:35 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 14th St / California Ave 6:12 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Euclid St 6:22 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 7th St 7:26 p.m.
EMS 24th St / Wilshire Blvd 7:29 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 2nd St 7:56 p.m.
EMS 2500blk Lincoln Blvd 8:05 p.m.
EMS 23rd St / Hill St 8:15 p.m.
EMS 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 10:05 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 10:12 p.m.
Public Assist 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:46 p.m.

Chief: Bomb squad caused Los Angeles fireworks explosion

STEFANIE DAZIO
Associated Press

Los Angeles bomb technicians grossly miscalculated the weight of homemade fireworks last month when they detonated them in a containment chamber, causing a catastrophic explosion that injured 17 people and rocked a neighborhood, the police chief said Monday.

Chief Michel Moore said five members of the department's bomb squad have been removed from field duties as the investigation continues. They could face discipline.

The explosion was highly unusual, officials say, and has prompted the Los Angeles Police Department and FBI to review police protocols regarding the detonation of explosives. The Police Department is now requiring a captain to sign off on detonations, in addition to the two bomb technicians and a supervisor who are already required.

Residents in the neighborhood have called for accountability and asked why some people were still in their homes, despite a door-to-door evacuation order. Fireworks are illegal to sell or possess in Los Angeles and in unincorporated areas of the county.

The explosion came after police had spent the day disposing of thousands of pounds (kilograms) of commercial-grade fireworks that were found in a South Los Angeles home following an early-morning tip. Those fireworks were detonated at an off-site location.

However, officers also found homemade fireworks that were leaking and the bomb squad decided to detonate them in the neighborhood — believing they were too unstable to transport elsewhere. They examined them by X-ray and robotics and loaded them into the detonation chamber, officially called a total containment vessel.

The bomb technicians — without using a scale, as is allowed by Los Angeles police procedures to avoid additional handling of the unstable devices — estimated the weight of the homemade explosives and a counter-charge to be about 16.5 pounds.

They arrived at 16.5 pounds by estimating that the smaller explosives — there were 280 of them — each weighed about a half an ounce in a standard flash powder measurement. The bomb technicians estimated that the 44 larger explosives — which were about the size of a soda can with a fuse — had about 1.5 ounces worth of flash powder.

Federal authorities who weighed the remains after the blast calculated that the weight was actually more than 42 pounds (19 kilograms). The smaller explosives were actually 1.37 ounces and the larger ones were about 5 ounces.

The detonation chamber's maximum capacity is 15 pounds for multiple uses or 25 pounds for a single use, Moore said. The LAPD has not publicly identified the manufacturer of the detonation chamber, despite repeated requests.

The truck-mounted chamber used during the June 30 explosion had been in service for a decade and this was its 42nd time in use.

Nine police officers and a federal agent were among the injured. One officer was taken to the hospital and is now recovering at home.

Authorities say they are also investigating whether the detonation device had a defect.

The department is also looking at the practices of bomb squads nationwide to see if its standards are up-to-date. If the Los Angeles bomb squad is found to have been following the police department's protocol but, in fact, the department's procedures turn out to be inaccurate, Moore said the technicians will not be disciplined.

California launches largest free school lunch program in US

JOCELYN GECKER
Associated Press

When classrooms in California reopen for the fall term, all 6.2 million public school students will have the option to eat school meals for free, regardless of their family's income.

The undertaking, made possible by an unexpected budget surplus, will be the largest free student lunch program in the country. School officials, lawmakers, anti-hunger organizations and parents are applauding it as a pioneering way to prevent the stigma of accepting free lunches and feed more hungry children.

"This is so historic. It's beyond life-changing," said Erin Primer, director of food services for the San Luis Coastal Unified School District on California's central coast.

Several U.S. cities including New York, Boston and Chicago already offer free school meals for all. But until recently, statewide universal meal programs were considered too costly and unrealistic. California became the first state to adopt a universal program late last month, and Maine followed shortly after with a similar plan.

"We've completely leveled the playing field when it comes to school food," Primer said. The extra funding will also allow her to offer tastier, better quality food such as fresh bread, produce and cheese from local producers, she said.

Under federal rules, a family of four must make less than $34,000 a year to qualify for free meals and $48,000 to qualify for reduced-price meals. The caps shift annually but are based on federal poverty measures that don't take into account the high cost of living and taxes in California.

"So it's just for the most poor families, and not even all of them because some people failed to sign up or were fearful to sign up," said Kat Taylor, a philanthropist and major funder of the Center for Ecoliteracy and the TomKat Ranch that backed California's plan.

About 60% of California students qualify, but experts say the number of children who need food assistance is much higher in a state with vast income inequality. Communities of color are disproportionately affected and immigrant communities in particular are fearful of applying because of detailed forms that ask intrusive questions such as their family income, Social Security number and children's immigration status.

Schools reported a declining percentage of families applying for free and reduced-price meals during the Trump administration, which attempted to tighten immigration policies and public benefits.

Like school officials statewide, Primer has countless tales of children who struggled to pay for school meals or were too ashamed to eat for free. There was the child whose mother called Primer, distraught because she made a few hundred dollars too much to qualify; the father who is in the country illegally and feared that filling out the free meal application could get him deported; and constant cases of high schoolers not wanting friends to know they need free food, so they skip eating.

When the pandemic hit, it changed everything — including how school meals were served — and provided an impetus for the universal program, which had bipartisan, unanimous support. Lawmakers previously had only pursued targeted bills such as easing school lunch debt.

After schools shut in March 2020, many transformed their parking lots into pickup sites, and federal funding allowed schools to offer meals to anyone. There were no applications, qualifications and no questions asked.

The massive turnout showed how much families rely on the meals.

The Los Angeles Unified School District, the state's largest with 600,000 students, handed out upward of 400,000 meals a day, said spokeswoman Shannon Haber. San Luis Coastal, with 7,500 students, gave out 30,000 meals a week at the height of the pandemic, nearly triple the number before. The district includes the wealthy city of San Luis Obispo and lower-income areas.

"I thought it was a pipe dream for a long time," said Sen. Nancy Skinner, a longtime advocate for universal free meals.

Backed by over 200 organizations in a coalition called "School Meals for All," Skinner and other lawmakers pushed for funding in the state budget, seizing the momentum at a time when California is flush with cash. The $262 billion budget provides $54 million for the coming school year, supplementing funding from the Biden administration through June 2022. After that, California will spend $650 million annually.

"If you're a hungry child, you're not going to learn well," said Skinner, a Democrat representing Berkeley. "Why should we have to go through a bureaucratic hassle to get a kid fed, when we could just have universal meals?"

Senate Education Committee Republicans supported the plan as a way to help families struggling with California's high cost of living. Sen. Brian Dahle, a Republican from a largely rural area of Northern California, said he had watched kids at his children's school steal leftover food when cafeteria workers weren't looking.

"For a lot of them that was their dinner and they were sneaking it or taking it off someone's plate when they didn't finish it," said Dahle.

Schools rarely turn hungry kids away. But for children who didn't qualify and needed lunch, their parents were billed and many racked up huge debts. In recent years some schools threatened to not let students graduate middle or high school until lunch debts were paid, or stamped the hands of students who owed money, said Jessica Bartholow, chief of staff for Skinner who previously was an anti-

SEE **SCHOOL** PAGE 7





WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE BECAUSE OF THE CARELESSNESS OR NEGLIGENCE OF OTHERS.



Robert Lemle

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Female surfers overcome sexism's toll to earn Olympic berth

SALLY HO
Associated Press

Johanne Defay of France was devastated when the mega sponsor Roxy dropped her right before she became a pro surfer in 2014, shattering her confidence and threatening her career altogether.

"They were just like 'Oh, you don't look this way, you know, for, like, pictures," Defay said. "And I just felt like I was never doing enough or I wasn't fitting in, in the way that they wanted for their brand."

Now, Defay is headed to the Tokyo Olympics for surfing's debut at the Summer Games, buoyed by an upset win against reigning world champion Carissa Moore at the high-intensity Surf Ranch competition last month.

Though there's much excitement and renewed enthusiasm for the women's game, years of objectification, pay disparities and an opportunity gap have taken their toll. Industry leaders from the professional World Surf League and the developmental USA Surfing say they're committed to righting the wrongs that have long held female surfers back in the male-dominated sport.

The mental, financial and logistical roadblocks for women in surfing date back centuries.

Hawaiians who invented the sport treated it as an egalitarian national pastime that all genders, ages and social classes enjoyed, according to Isaiah Helekunihi Walker, a Hawaii surfing historian. But Christian missionaries who arrived on the island tried to ban surfing in large part because of nudity — surfing naked was common at the sports' inception. Though locals largely defied the colonizers, female surfers saw their ranks shrink disproportionately.

"When it comes to controlling nudity, it's about controlling female bodies," said Walker, also a BYU-Hawaii history professor.

Even for Moore, the child prodigy who could beat the boys before growing up to be — at 18 years old — the youngest World Surf League champion in history, said she's also struggled with her body image. Moore is 28 now and has spoken openly about starving herself as a teenager, only to binge eat later, and once even trying to force herself to throw up.

"Everyone had this idea of what a surfer girl should look like. And there were a lot of 'hot lists' or the 'cutest surfer girl list,'" Moore said. "I never made them, but then you see who actually made them and you feel like: 'Oh, I guess, like, that's what I should look like.'"

Modern day professional surfing in a previous iteration had a decentralized approach that left brand sponsors in charge of many of the competition logistics, which would vary widely from one event to another, said Greg Cruse, USA Surfing CEO. And though it wasn't an official rule or standard, there was clearly a preference for the men's game.

Surfing schedules are determined in the morning based on what the ocean waves are like, and it was no secret that the boys' and men's competitions would be given the best surf conditions, usually in the morning. Female surfers took the scraps, if they were invited at all.

"There'd be the event directors and they would kind of schedule things the way they wanted to schedule and there would be bias from the outdated patriarchy. It's changed immensely," Cruse said. "It took a while for the women to complain about it."

A turning point came in 2013, when new ownership took over the professional league and the rebranded WSL began to prioritize standardizing the competitions and rebuilding the women's events, said Jessi Miley-Dyer, a retired pro surfer who now runs the WSL's competition as senior vice president.

In 2019, the WSL as the leaders of the $10 billion surfing industry also began offering equal prize money for all its events, making it one of the few professional sports leagues to achieve pay equity.

"It was an important statement to make around the value of our athletes. More than anything, it speaks to the emphasis on women's surfing. We believe men and women are valued the same," Miley-Dyer said. "It's the right thing to do."

The announcement was emotional for many, including Miley-Dyer. Back in 2006 when she won a pro event, she earned just $10,000 — a third of what the top male surfer took home.

"I cried because it means so much," Miley-Dyer said. "I had also retired, so it wasn't something for me, but it felt something to me and so many people like me."

Next year will be the first time the WSL will include its women surfers at the famous Pipe Masters competition, allowing them the chance to ride the Banzai Pipeline in Oahu, Hawaii, considered by many the best waves in the world.

The WSL has also committed to hosting the same number of events and in the same locations for both the men and women, though the competition at the highest level today still has twice as many male competitor spots — 36 — compared to the women's game.

In terms of skill and experience, the damage caused by decades of sexism has not yet been fully reversed.

It used to be that girls could begin competitive surfing training at about 11 years old while boys began as early as 4, Cruse said, adding that USA Surfing has closed this experience gap.

And surfboard makers, like many male leaders in the sport, used to believe that girls and women weren't strong enough to paddle or ride powerfully enough to pull off airs, or aerial maneuvers, so they were given bigger surfboards that are physically easier to ride, but limited their ability to progress into more explosive moves.

So while airs have for years become the gold standard in the men's competition, it is rarely done by the top female surfers today. Moore, the U.S. surfer to beat at the Olympics, is among the first women to land an air during competition, a milestone she achieved

SEE **SURF** PAGE 11

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AWARD WINNER

Sustainable Quality Awards
WINNER

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

COVID-19 Hospitalizations Rate Increases in L.A. County

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) is reporting a significant increase in the number of people hospitalized each day for COVID-19 illness. There are 528 people with COVID-19 currently hospitalized; last Monday, there were 372 people hospitalized and on June 15, there were 218 people hospitalized. Unfortunately, because cases increased 700% since June 15, we are now beginning to see corresponding increases in hospitalizations.

Test positivity increased 10-fold from the 0.4% on June 15, to today's test positivity rate of 4.1%.

Due to the significant increased circulation of the more infectious Delta variant, the intermingling of unmasked individuals where vaccination status is unknown, and the risks to the almost 4 million people in L.A. County who have not been or are not eligible to be vaccinated, including 1.3 million children under 12 years of age, the Los Angeles County Health Officer Order was modified to require masking for everyone while indoors, regardless of vaccination status to prevent increased COVID-19 spread.

Masking for everyone while indoors, regardless of vaccination status, went in to effect on Saturday at 11:59 p.m. in all indoor public places, venues, gatherings, and businesses (including offices, retail, restaurants, gyms, theaters, family entertainment centers, meetings, and state and local government offices serving the public). Standard exceptions apply for children under the age of two, for those with certain medical conditions or disabilities that prevent masking, and for those whose job doesn't permit masking.

Public Health is working closely with worksites and businesses so that they have the tools needed to ensure that their employees and customers are adhering to the indoor masking requirement. Public Health inspectors continue to visit sites regularly to address questions and concern, ensure compliance with Cal/OSHA standards and the Health Officer Order, and also respond to complaints of non-compliance. Public Health utilizes education and information sharing as the primary step in gaining compliance. When compliance is not achieved at worksites and businesses, enforcement may include issuance of a notice of violation or a citation.

Violations of safety requirements and dangerous conditions can be reported anonymously to Public Health by phone at 888-700-9995 or online at www.publichealth.lacounty.gov.

Public Health has confirmed 1,233 new cases of COVID-19. Of the two new deaths reported today, one person that passed away was over the age of 80 and one person who passed was between the ages of 65 and 79. The number of cases and deaths likely reflect reporting delays over the weekend. To date, Public Health identified 1,269,090 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County and a total of 24,585 deaths. Testing results are available for more than 7,182,000 individuals with 16% of people testing positive.

"To everyone who have lost someone to COVID-19, our hearts and our deepest condolences go out to you," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "L.A. County continues to see alarming trends of increased community spread. The spread of the more infectious Delta variant through intermingling of unmasked individuals where vaccination status is unknown has caused a rapid spread of COVID-19 that is resulting in a significant increase in cases and hospitalizations. By wearing masks indoors at public places and worksites, we can get back to slowing the spread of the virus. Many businesses and worksites are doing their part by posting signs and asking employees and customers to mask up while indoors. Please do you part and cooperate. If you are not yet vaccinated, please know that we need you to take extra precautions. Since vaccines remain the most powerful tool for reducing spread, now is the time to get your vaccine. We need to bring down transmission rates so that when schools open next month, there is much less risk."

Through Thursday, at County-run vaccination sites, LA City sites, and St. John's Well Child and Family Center sites, everyone 18 and older coming to get a vaccine will have an opportunity to win one of seven packages of tickets to family fun at the Staples Center, including performances by the Harlem Globetrotters, Disney on Ice, and the Gold Over America tour starring Simone Biles. Official rules and participating site locations are posted online on the Los Angeles County Vaccination Sweepstakes page. Winners will be contacted by phone and/or email.

To find a vaccination site near you, make an appointment at vaccination sites, and much more, visit: www.VaccinateLACounty.com (English) and www.VacunateLosAngeles.com (Spanish). If you don't have internet access, can't use a computer, or you're over 65, you can call 1-833-540-0473 for help finding an appointment, connecting to free transportation to and from a vaccination site, or scheduling a home-visit if you are homebound. Vaccinations are always free and open to eligible residents and workers regardless of immigration status.

COVID-19 Sector Protocols, Best Practices, COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard, COVID-19 Surveillance Interactive Dashboard, Recovery Dashboard, and additional actions you can take to protect yourself, your family and your community are on the Public Health website, www.publichealth.lacounty.gov.

SUBMITTED BY PUBLIC HEALTH

POLICE LOG

FROM PAGE 2

Battery Just Occurred 1300blk 14th St 10:01 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2100blk 4th St 10:18 p.m.
Grand Theft Just Occurred 1400blk Broadway 10:22 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 4th St / Colorado Ave 10:25 p.m.
Fight 900blk Ocean Ave 10:35 p.m.
Loud Music 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 10:38 p.m.
Disturbance At A Business 2700blk Main St 11:05 p.m.
Suspicious Person 2000blk Dewey St 11:08 p.m.
Person Down 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 11:12 p.m.
Trespassing 1000blk 12th St 11:30 p.m.
Disturbance Of The Peace Report 1100blk Pico Blvd 11:32 p.m.
Trespassing 800blk Colorado Ave 11:48 p.m.
Vandalism Just Occurred 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 11:52 p.m.

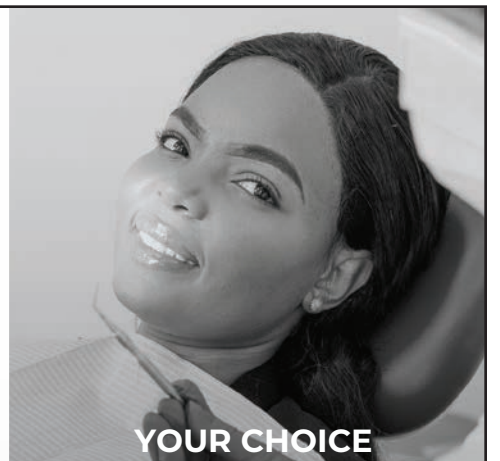
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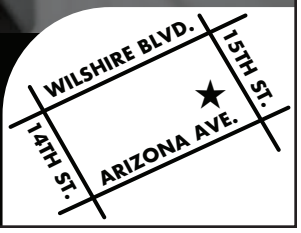
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Editorial

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Tyranny of the Stupid

As of Midnight this past Saturday, Los Angeles County is officially living under a tyranny of the stupid.

It's a multilayered idiocy rooted at the grassroots, resident level and traveling all the way to the federal government and while there's plenty of blame to go around, we have to hold everyone at every level to account here or face an even worse situation.

L.A. is experiencing a spike in Covid cases among unvaccinated people who are contracting the more infectious Delta variant at a high rate and this weekend Los Angeles County officials reinstated a mask mandate on all indoor activity.

According to LA County Health Officer Dr. Muntu Davis, "it's the easiest thing to do in terms of ensuring that we're all protected, regardless of the risks that we have." The easiest. Not the smartest, or fairest or most effective thing. Nope, the easiest.

This punish-the-whole-class mentality brings with it justifiable confusion and anger because we're now implementing widespread public health policy not for the benefit of the vulnerable, but rather, to compensate for the stupid.

To be clear, masks absolutely work. Covid is absolutely real. Vaccines are the best tool to fight the disease. All of these things are true and if we were in a situation where masks were necessary to protect vulnerable citizens, we should all wear them without complaint.

But hospitals are not being overwhelmed with vulnerable patients, they are being flooded with unvaccinated patients and we're not in a place where information is unknown, it's not a pandemic of ignorance. This is a surge of straight stupidity and we shouldn't base our public policy around it.

You absolutely have a choice and the government shouldn't be forcing needles into arms. However, giving people a choice doesn't mean all choices are equally valid.

Smoking gives you cancer. It's absolutely a choice to use tobacco but we don't pretend the choice to smoke is some philosophical value that needs to be weighed against the public good. We are not forced to put on masks to protect us from the smoker's poison. Smokers have their rights restricted to protect everyone else from their reckless behavior, not the other way around.

Many of the people who go unvaccinated will get sick and some of those people will die. However, that's no longer a tragedy when preventable suffering is the choice of the patient.

This is where the spineless, unimaginative regulators have let us down. Smart, brave, bold and functional leadership would have created an immunization record to verify vaccinations that would have enabled us to separate wheat from chaff. Instead, we've relied on a hodgepodge of private systems to show vaccine status and created perhaps the world's least secure document in the form of easily photocopied paper cards that utterly undermine faith in the system.

A trustworthy system of verification would allow businesses and other service providers to restrict unvaccinated patrons in a way that would create a societal pressure to vaccinate.

What if there was a priority line at the DMV or the post office for the vaccinated? Cut the wait time, allow them inside buildings and generally incentivize the vaccine with that experience. Airlines could create fully vaccinated flights (or limit unvaccinated flyers to a group with fewer flight options) and restaurants could provide more reservations to vaccinated diners while confining the unvaccinated to the now semi-permanent outdoor zones.

This pandemic doesn't have to continue. We can prevent the vast majority of negative outcomes with an easy, effective and readily available vaccine. However, instead of allowing life to return to normal for good actors, we're prolonging this horrible experience to cater to the feelings of the stupid and that is itself, very, very dumb.

SMDP Editorial Board

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 SATURDAY, JULY 10 AT APPROXIMATELY 1:30 P.M.

Officers responded to a report of an armed robbery near 9th and Colorado Ave. Witnesses stated the subject of the investigation approached the victim with a knife and forcefully removed their necklace. Based on the description provided, officers searched the area and detained Joe Billy Maddox , a 59-year-old male, near the 700 block of Colorado. Maddox was found to be in possession of two knives at the time of detention. After booking Maddox at the Santa Monica Jail it was determined he had an outstanding $100,000 felony warrant for crimes in the West Hollywood area and a $35,000 warrant for drug-related crimes in LAPD's Wilshire Area. At the time of this report, Maddox remains in custody with court dates of July 15th and July 27th. SMPD Officers are seeking felony charges for the armed robbery.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Commercial Burglary Arrest

On July 18, at approximately 5:26 a.m., Santa Monica Police Officers responded to a burglary in process at a bike store in the 2900 block of Main Street. The owner of the shop was monitoring the store via security cameras and reported several subjects inside the store. Arriving officers set up a perimeter and contacted one of the subjects, later identified as 19-year-old Sergio Garcia of Los Angeles, to the rear of the location. Garcia was standing behind a sedan, unsuccessfully attempting to close the trunk of the vehicle with two bicycles sticking out. Another subject, 25-year-old Chris Hernandez also of Los Angeles, was apprehended as he fled southbound down the alley west of Main Street.

The suspects used a bolt cutter or other tool to defeat the store's security gate and then smashed the window with a hammer to gain access to the store. Taken from the store were three electric bikes, two of which were recovered from the car and another found in the alley nearby with the store tags still attached. Also located in the trunk of the vehicle was an electric scooter identified by the store manager as having been stolen earlier in the week in a separate burglary at the same store. Garcia and Hernandez were arrested and transported to the Santa Monica Jail where they were booked for 459 PC - Burglary, 466 PC - Possession of Burglary Tools, and 496(a) PC - Receiving Stolen Property. Anyone with any additional information is encouraged to call 310-458-8451 or the SMPD's Watch Commander (24 hours) at 310-458-8427.

SUBMITTED BY SERGEANT ERIKA AKLUFI

SCHOOL

FROM PAGE 3

hunger advocate.

Some schools would hire debt collectors to hound parents, but at the end of the year schools have to use general fund dollars to pay off lunch program debts, she said.

For Tina Self, a mother of three, avoiding the cost of $3 school lunches every day will be an enormous relief.

"It might seem like a little bit, but it helps a lot," said Self, who lives in San Luis Obispo where a gallon of gas can cost just shy of $5 a gallon and rent is "crazy."

"Lucky for us we both have a job and we have two running cars," she said of herself and her husband. "But we're barely making it as it is."

Tony Wold, an associate superintendent of the West Contra Costa Unified School, says it's about time lunches were free.

"Just like you need to give students textbooks and a computer, there are certain things you need to do. And this is one of them," Wold said.

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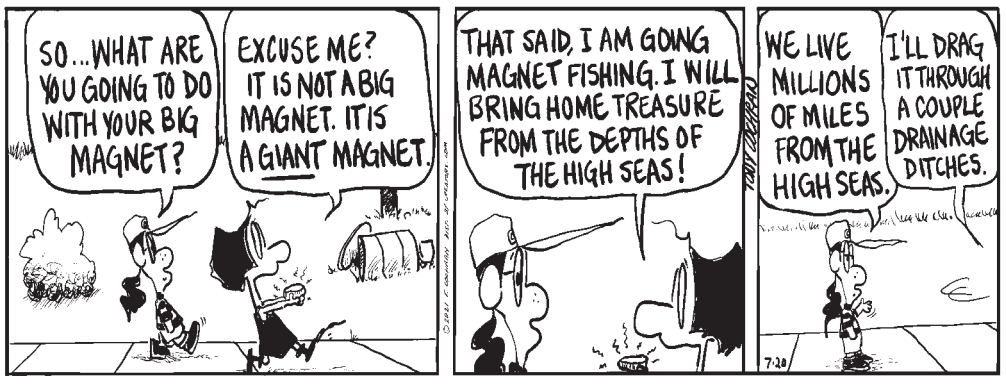
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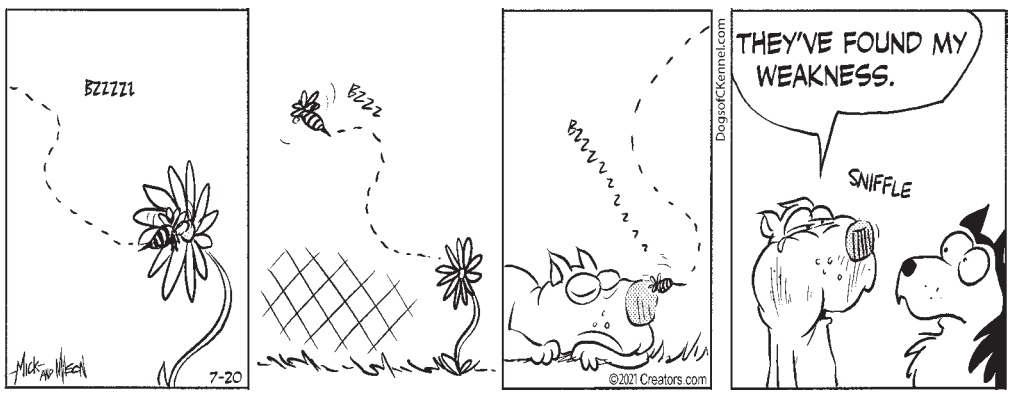
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



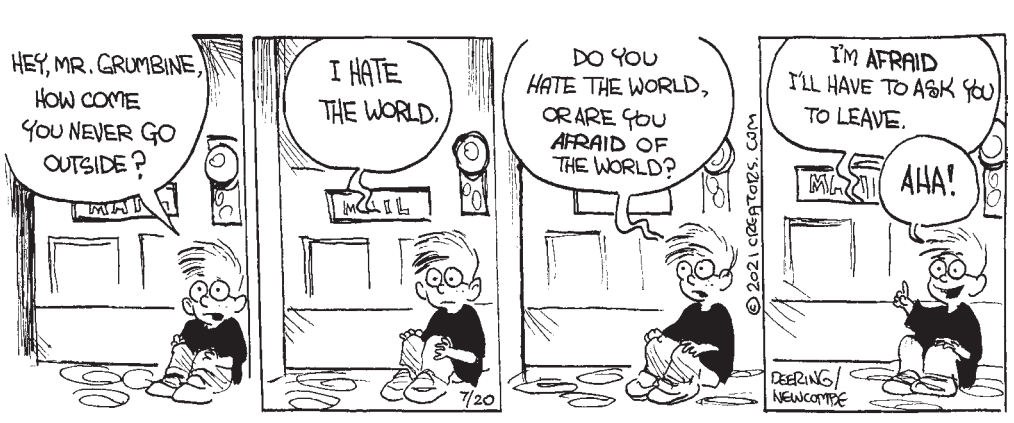
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



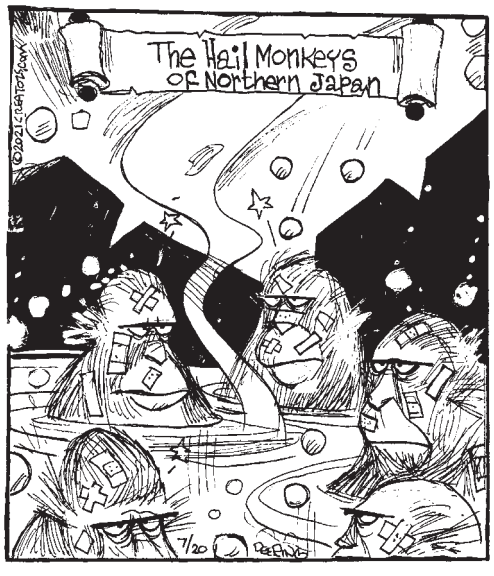
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 71.4°

TUESDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
Modest round of SW/SSW swell. Small NW swell blends in. May see tropical SSE swell building through the day.

WEDNESDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft Waist to chest high
Could be peaky and kinda fun if the cards come together. SW/SSW swell lingers, may get a boost from the tropics -- watching potential for SSE swell to pick up. NW windswell back up a peg.

WEATHER

Tuesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, sunny, with a high near 71.
Tuesday Night: Patchy fog. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 65.
Wednesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 72

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/07/20	Tue	01:35 AM	-0.16	L
2021/07/20	Tue	07:59 AM	3.48	H
2021/07/20	Tue	12:18 PM	2.27	L
2021/07/20	Tue	6:58 PM	6.52	H
2021/07/21	Wed	02:26 AM	-0.79	L
2021/07/21	Wed	08:55 AM	3.74	H
2021/07/21	Wed	1:17 PM	2.31	L
2021/07/21	Wed	7:48 PM	6.86	H
2021/07/22	Thu	03:12 AM	-1.22	L
2021/07/22	Thu	09:42 AM	3.97	H
2021/07/22	Thu	2:12 PM	2.25	L
2021/07/22	Thu	8:36 PM	7.06	H
2021/07/23	Fri	03:56 AM	-1.41	L
2021/07/23	Fri	10:24 AM	4.13	H
2021/07/23	Fri	3:04 PM	2.15	L
2021/07/23	Fri	9:22 PM	7.07	H
2021/07/24	Sat	04:39 AM	-1.39	L
2021/07/24	Sat	11:06 AM	4.26	H
2021/07/24	Sat	3:53 PM	2.07	L
2021/07/24	Sat	10:07 PM	6.87	H
2021/07/25	Sun	05:20 AM	-1.17	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERball
Draw Date: 7/17
15 22 38 54 66
Power#: 3
Jackpot: 161 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 7/16
24 25 47 52 57
Mega#: 24
Jackpot: 128 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 7/17
1 39 41 46 47
Mega#: 23
Jackpot: 9 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 7/18
17 18 22 29 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 7/18
EVENING: 4 5 4

Draw Date: 7/18
MIDDAY: 3 3 7

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 7/18
1st: 01 - Gold Rush
2nd: 12 - Lucky Charms
3rd: 03 - Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:40.52

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 20)

Your life will be rich in love, and relationships are the oasis you so deserve. Out of the blue, here comes money to bring a desire to hand. The maintenance will make you think twice about how long to keep it. Getting experiences and moving on to the next is a valid way to find the groove that fits you just right! Capricorn and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 1, 4, 49, 23 and 17.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Another mark on the calendar. You're doing your thing every single day and not expecting anything of it except that you continue to do it to the very best of your ability. This is the path of greatness.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). When you know you're going to go the distance for someone, wear good shoes. In other words, the relationship has to be comfortable. One way to make things more comfortable is to tell the truth early on.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You don't create an appetite by feeding people. Hunger is the driver. If you want someone to be driven to your project or solution, you need to create distance to the prize.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You can take the reins and steer a relationship pretty much anywhere you want to go. This is true power, accompanied by its constant companion, great responsibility.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Of course, there are no little people. Those who believe there are variations in the inherent worth of others are confused at best. The wrong-headed will be influenced and taught via your example.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You tend to relationships before they need it, which is one of the reasons your relationships are in excellent shape! You'll catch on to some subtle changes in a loved one's mood or behavior. It's a good excuse to exhibit support.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Let yourself have the innocence of first attempts. Give yourself the room for wonder and the leeway for mistakes that you would any child. Ease up, and expect less -- and you'll find there is fun and good fortune in beginnings.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Hunger points to lack of nutrition; boredom signals lack of creativity. Distractions don't handle boredom; pursuits do, the sort that tease out your curiosity and call up your deeper problem-solving faculties.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). From the outside, it appears you're being favored, though you've actually paid dearly for your position. Since the others don't see all that goes into earning this special regard, you'll need to inform or forgive them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Awareness is a huge factor in the day's decisions. It's not just a matter of what you think about but how you see yourself in relation to the subject that will influence your next move.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're brave, and no one would argue otherwise. In fact, you're so strong that you make the job look easy. There are those who will take your contributions for granted. Remind them what goes into delivering such fine results.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The updates may have overshot the problem they were trying to solve. Beware of developments that are no longer about making things better, just newer. Consider the virtue in the old-fashioned way of doing things.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

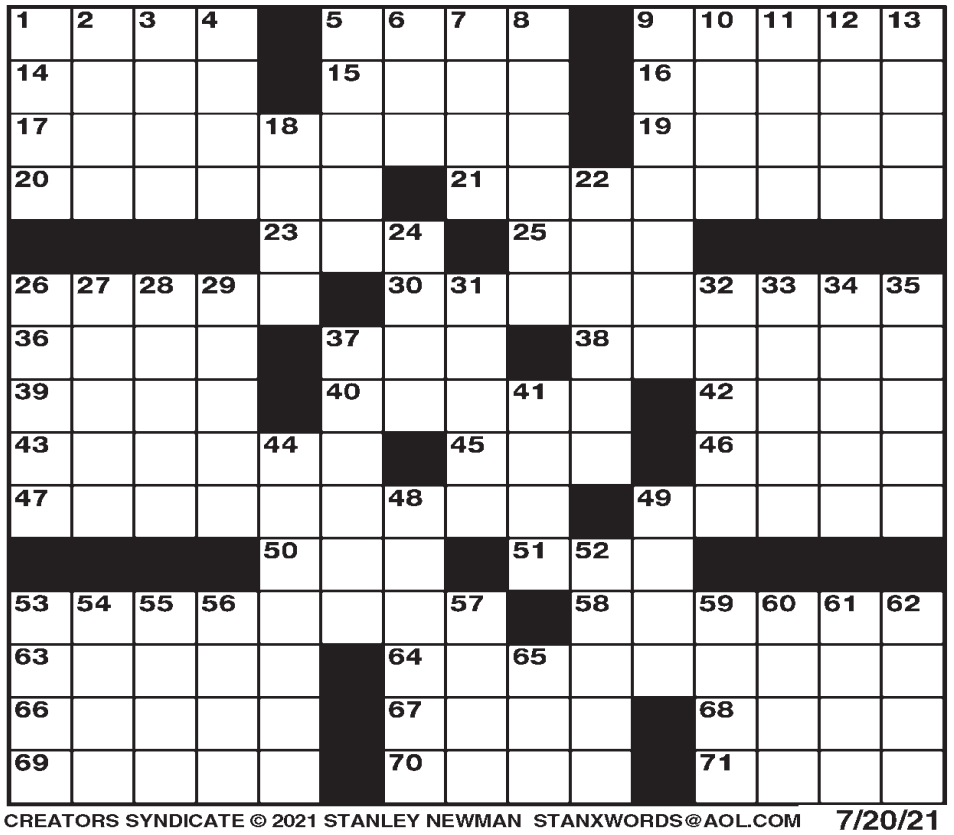
			1			2		4
9			2	6				
1		3	7			9		
4		1		9				5
	5						3	
6				8		4		1
		6			3	5		8
				4	1			7
8		4			5			

Newsday Crossword

UNWEARABLES by Jerry Clarkson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Singer Turner or Actress Fey
5 Having no clutter
9 San Antonio landmark
14 "Once __ a time . . ."
15 Scandinavian capital
16 Toon skunk Pepe
17 Metal lid for beer or cola
19 Coffee-and-milk drink
20 Light bulb inventor
21 Accentuates
23 Tooth specialist's deg.
25 Brain-wave test, for short
26 Happy look
30 Diamonds or clubs, in bridge
36 "Tiny" prefix for second
37 Slip into, as clothes
38 Swoop down (on)
39 Vanish __ thin air
40 Athlete's best effort
42 Short car ride
43 To earn money
45 *Hamilton* VIP __-Manuel Miranda
46 Aid for someone stumped
47 Region of wintry weather
49 What birds flap
50 Chicken coop cackler
51 When a plane is expected: Abbr.
53 Leapt suddenly towards
58 Pungent burger toppings
63 *Gone With the Wind* surname
64 Part of a car-slowing device
66 Ship's tracking device
67 Place for an earring
68 Actress Thompson or Stone
69 Elevator passageway
70 Old Testament paradise
71 A sight for sore __

DOWN
1 Shape of ziti
2 Apple's music player
3 "It was someone else"
4 Pests in a pantry
5 Constantly
6 PC bailout key
7 "That's too bad"
8 List of the best
9 Fast tempo
10 Grassy fields
11 Tenants' dwellings: Abbr.
12 Dole (out)
13 Is indebted to
18 Vein of ore in a mine
22 Admit customers again
24 Air pollution
26 Sense by smelling
27 Posh residence
28 Opening statement, for short
29 Small strips on pants
31 Counting everything
32 Japanese "bar" food
33 Remove, as a brooch
34 Cake frosting
35 Campers' shelters
37 Convertible sofa
41 Tiny plant pest
44 Fundamentally
48 Make possible
49 Decrease gradually
52 Small memento
53 At a __ for words (speechless)
54 "Here comes trouble"
55 Granny
56 Tennis great Steffi
57 Walked (on)
59 "Now it makes sense"
60 "Horrors!"
61 Port of Alaska
62 Briny bodies of water
65 Lincoln nickname



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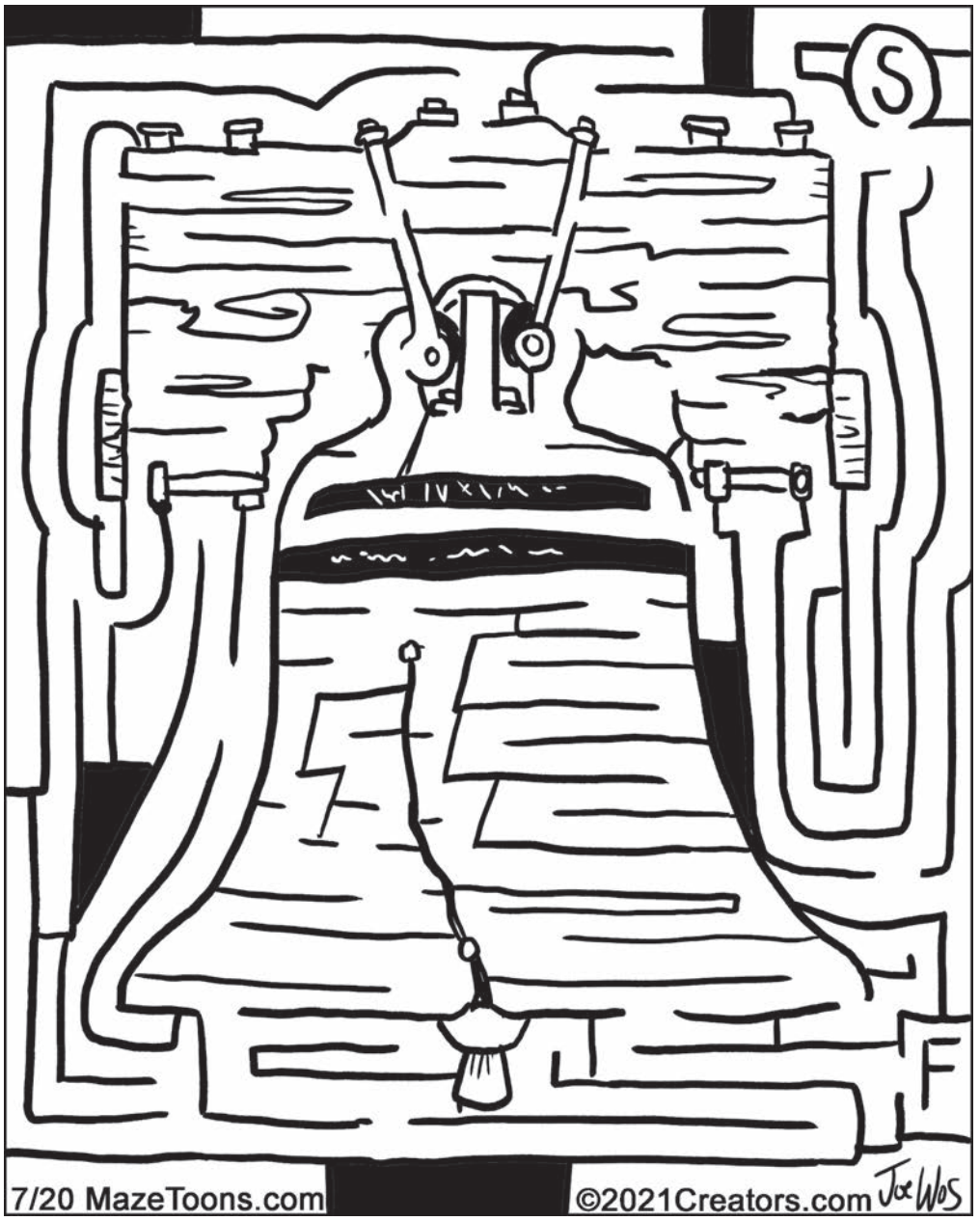
Binary Puzzle

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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



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

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smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 25 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5181

Spice is nice

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

Ajwan	Clove	Korma
Aloe	Cook	Mint
Amchoor	Curry	Onion
Anise	Dhansak	Oregano
Basil	Dill	Piri piri
Camomile	Dried	Rosemary
Caraway seeds	Eschallot	Sage
Cassia	Flavour	Season
Cayenne	Garlic	Sharp
Celery salt	Ginger	Sumac
Chili	Juniper	Whole
Cilantro	Kaffir leaves	Zahtar

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CONSTRUCTION

FROM PAGE 1

337 spaces are taken away from the public you are here to serve, we are in effect closing our borders."

The Bayside Owners Association is also against the current plans to demolish the structure and are reportedly suing the City and the California Coastal Commission over the approval of the Coastal Development Permit to demolish parking structure three, claiming that the city is "piece-mealing" this plan as it goes along.

Castle rebutted the concerned residents, noting that "there's been multiple opportunities for the public to be involved" throughout its 21-year history. He also referenced the 2020 Walker Parking Study, which aimed to analyze the impact that Parking Structure three has on Downtown and the adequacy of the parking supply in Downtown and the Coastal Zone. The report concluded that "the proposed demolition of PS 3 would not generate additional parking demand" but that even on peak days, there would be approximately 2,015 empty spaces throughout the multiple structures that already exist in downtown. Including the re-design of parking structure six in 2009 to include 750 spaces, 400-of-which would supplement the 337-lost in parking structure three.

Critics have said the study is flawed due to the inclusion of data from the past year including the time residents were under lockdown.

Castle went over the project proposal, recommending that the City Council Authorize the contracts due to the fact that the capital investment to retain and retrofit the structure is currently set at $4.5 million, including the possible risk of damage to life and property in the event of a significant earthquake, with future budget actions to be taken for maintenance of the structure over time. The demolition project is currently budgeted for in the 2019-2020 Capital Investment Plan budget.

The Council approved the Bid and RFP unanimously, with newly elected Council Member Lana Negrete absent. Council members Phil Brock and Oscar De La Torre originally abstained from the vote, but ultimately changed their vote to align with the Council.

Mayor Himmelrich noted that "we [the city] are scheduled to receive an earmark later in the year from the United States Congress, through our congressman Ted lieu for $2 million of the cost of demolition," due to their plans to replace the structure with 100 percent affordable housing. City Manager, John Jalili stated that the earmark has been approved by the House Appropriations Committee and that the earmark will be before the full House in a few weeks where he said, "it is highly improbable for that not to be approved."

There are no official plans for the demolition of the structure yet, due to the fact that the project was put on hold in the murkiness of the COVID-19 pandemic and the project manager laid off by the city in 2020. However, Director of Community Services, Andy Agle assured the council that they are ready to restore the Project Manager and submit a staff report detailing the proposed timeline of the project.

Councilmember Phil Brock asked for the structure to remain open through the holidays.

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MASKS

FROM PAGE 1

strongly urging people to wear masks indoors but not requiring it.

The County's mask rule, announced Thursday, follows a winter where the region experienced a massive surge in infections and deaths, with hospitals overloaded with COVID-19 patients and ambulances idling outside, waiting for beds to open.

Los Angeles County reported a caseload of 1,635 on Sunday — the 10th straight day with more than a thousand new cases. On June 15, when the state reopened, county health officials reported just 210 new cases.

More than 525 people were hospitalized with COVID-19 in LA County on Saturday, the highest number since April 14. There were four new virus-related deaths reported Sunday.

"The level of COVID-19 transmission we are currently experiencing is now leading to significant increases in serious illness and hospitalizations, and requires us to take immediate action to prevent erosion of our recovery efforts," Barbara Ferrer, the county's public health director, said in a statement.

LA County Supervisor Kathryn Barger came out in opposition to the new mask mandate, saying by deviating from the state rules "we create confusion and disagreement at the local level, which hinders public trust."

Sheriff Alex Villanueva said Friday his deputies will not actively enforce the mandate, saying requiring vaccinated people to wear masks "is not backed by science and contradicts the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines."

The sheriff's position is not new. He has said that since March 2020 that the sheriff's department has focused on education and voluntary compliance, "with criminal enforcement measures being an extreme last resort."

Solis said that the LA County mask rule is "not punishment, it's prevention." But some vaccinated residents said it felt like they were being penalized despite doing the right thing.

"It feels like the burden of the unvaccinated is being placed on the vaccinated," Glendale resident Justin Sevakis told ABC7. "It's like there are people that don't have common sense and so therefore all of us have to pay for it. And it sucks. It feels like, you know, the teacher is punishing the whole class."

HATE CRIME

FROM PAGE 1

SMPD said only four victims were listed in the investigative files, as only four individuals came forward with letters. According to the report, the number of families that received the letters was never determined.

Councilmember de la Torre was upset that SMPD did not attempt to gather more letters to maximize the possibility of finding evidence.

"Why didn't they say 'look, let's make a concerted effort to collect all the unopened letters and see if there is a pattern of fingerprints within those unopened letters?" said de la Torre. "There was a three-part fold on the letter before it was mailed off, so if the perpetrator handled those letters, there would have had to have been a fingerprint inside."

Ten witnesses were interviewed in the investigation and four subjects of interest were identified. The four letters turned in by victims were analyzed for the presence of fingerprints and compared to fingerprints samples taken from the subjects. Neither the results of this analysis nor the original letters remain on file.

"Given the age of this investigation and the Police Department's compliance with municipal document retention policies, this is not an unusual circumstance," states the report. "Furthermore, any crime associated with the mailing of this letter is well beyond the statute of limitations thus barring any opportunity for prosecution on the charges."

The investigation was overseen by the police captain in charge of the Criminal Investigations Team, who led a 14 member investigative team. Several SMMUSD personnel cooperated with the investigation and a District Attorney in the Hate Crimes Prosecution Unit was consulted.

De la Torre said he was surprised by how many people were on the team and still only four letters were retrieved. He also expressed frustration that there was no mention of SMPD contacting the FBI in the report and that more efforts were not made to communicate with the Latino community at the time of the investigation. Lastly, he said he would have liked to have seen information on when team members were taken off the case and when the investigation ended.

SMPD's update said that were such an incident to happen today, the department would have many more investigative tools at its disposal.

"A present-day investigation would automatically involve DNA testing of the letters," stated the report. "Provided there was a sufficiency of evidence to secure a search warrant to seize computers and/or printers, a forensic analysis of any computers/printers would also be in order."

All new SMPD officers receive specialized training on hate crime investigation in line with the POST Hate Crimes Model Policy of 2019 framework.

In recent years, Santa Monica has had low rates of hate crimes compared to other parts of Los Angeles. Data from SMPD indicates that there may have been an uptick in hate crimes in 2020—which would mirror trends seen across the county and state—however, the limited sample size prevents firm conclusions from being drawn.

In the first six months of 2019, one hate crime was reported in Santa Monica. Seven hate crimes were reported during the same time window in 2020 and five have been reported so far in 2021.

The investigation report states that "the Police Department unequivocally stands by its understanding that hate crimes have a deleterious impact on the community. Accordingly, the Police Department remains dedicated to thoroughly investigating these crimes, using the full weight of its resources."

De la Torre said that he was proud to have instigated the writing of the report and is interested in finding policy ways to support historically marginalized communities.

"30 years after arguably the largest hate crime in the city that has been unsolved, I think it (the report) is a step forward, but there's more work to be done," said de la Torre. "Maybe justice doesn't come in this case, but our City Council finds a creative way to bring justice to this community."

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SURF

FROM PAGE 4

just recently but has no doubt electrified the women's game and its future.

"They started demanding getting the same type of equipment that allows you to generate more speed and turn sharper and harder," Cruse said. "Right now, there's a group of girls coming up. The girls under 16 are better at airs than any of the women in the WSL. They already have the air game and it's next level and there's going to be a changing of the guard."

For Defay, she persevered during her first year without corporate backing. She remembers feeling humiliated hearing others take for granted their private car services arranged by their sponsors after Defay arrived on a two-hour bus ride in order to save money.

She's thankful fellow pro surfer Jeremy Flores helped sponsor her "insane" rookie season, as a nine-month season can cost as much as $80,000 in travel costs alone.

Now, they're equals, teammates in Japan on the French Olympic surfing team.

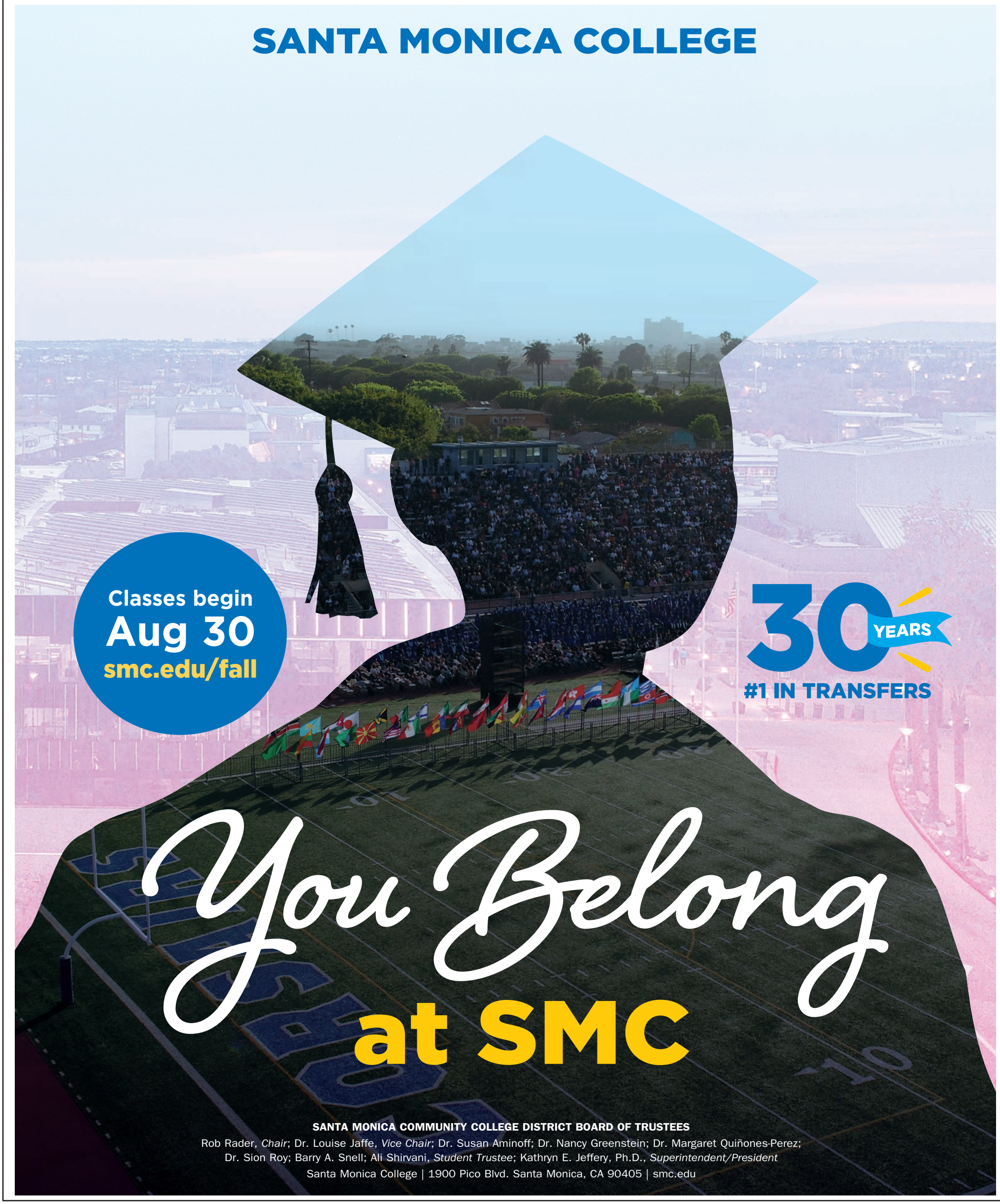
The 27-year-old Defay's journey to the pros has made her hungrier than ever to prove her talents and worth at the world's most elite sporting event. And she'll do it with the body she has learned to appreciate, regardless of how any sponsor may have judged her before.

Though Roxy didn't respond to requests for comment on Defay's past sponsorship deal, the surfer declares this:

"I like my shoulders now and my butt," Defay said with a smirk. "It's just what it is and what makes me surf this way, so I try to celebrate it."

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