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Courtesy photos

B&G: Teens from the Boys & Girls Club of Malibu helped toddlers with cerebral disorders affecting body mobility through a unique STEM program and partnership with X-Bots Robotics Inc. Recently, members of the Boys & Girls Club of Malibu were part of a training seminar to assemble 20 specially designed physical therapy cars for toddlers with cerebral disorders. See Page 8 for more information.

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No elected incumbents to run for Rent Control Board in November

MATTHEW HALL
SMDP Editor

With three seats up for election on Santa Monica's Rent Control Board (RCB) this year, none will be contested by an elected incumbent.

The seats of Steve Duron, Naomi Sultan and Nicole Phillis are up this year but Duron cannot run again due to term limits and the other two have recently resigned due to the Commissioners moving out of town.

Phillis resigned last month and her seat has already been filled with an appointed successor despite her wish the seat remain vacant until the upcoming election.

"But as an elected official, I have seen first hand how insular Santa Monica politics can be. I have seen the insider baseball, the gamesmanship, the horse trading, and the sausagemaking. And I really, really don't like it," she wrote in May. "If Santa Monica is going to be a truly progressive, inclusive, and equitable community, then we must continually guard against anti-democratic tactics that undermine the direct democratic power of our residents. As we have seen, using anti-democratic tactics to gain a strategic edge, even in the promotion of candidates who hold progressive values, ultimately erodes trust in local government and the legitimacy of elected bodies."

First-term RCB Commissioner Naomi Sultan will not be seeking

SEE **RENT** PAGE 8

LA County backs off mask mandate as latest COVID-19 surge stabilizes

EMILY SAWICKI
SMDP Staff Writer

Facing flattening COVID-19 metrics and intense community pushback, the LA County Department of Public Health (DPH) announced on Thursday, July 28, that it would not be imposing new indoor mask mandates beginning the following day.

The renewed mask rules were announced two weeks ago during a DPH press briefing on July 21, after LA County COVID-19 case metrics, particularly hospitalization metrics, moved the County into the "high" community level.

"Given the declines in case and hospitalization numbers, we're hopeful that the [hospital] admission rate over the next few days remains under 10 new admissions per 100,000 residents and LA County is soon officially moved by CDC to the medium community level," LA County DPH Director Barbara Ferrer said during the weekly COVID-19 briefing on Thursday.

"As I noted last week, any indication that the County would soon be moving to the 'medium' community level would be a good reason to not move forward with universal indoor masking, which

SEE **MASKS** PAGE 8



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When employers steal wages from workers

ALEJANDRO LAZO, JEANNE KUANG, LIL KALISH, AGNES LEE AND ERICA YEE
CalMatters

Some of the lowest wage workers are getting their livelihoods stolen by their own employers.

Employers deny workers overtime premiums, ask them to work "off the clock" or take their tips.

In California, workers lost nearly $2 billion from not being paid the minimum wage in 2015, according to the Economic Policy Institute, a left-leaning think tank.

Most often the victims of wage theft are women, immigrants and people of color, researchers say; many work in restaurants, construction, hotels, car washes, garment businesses, farms, warehouses, and nail salons. These workers are among those who bore the brunt of job losses during the pandemic and have the most ground to make up.

For years, California's lawmakers have tried solving the wage theft problem by strengthening labor laws. Most workers who file wage theft claims wait months or years before getting a resolution; only a fraction who prevail get repaid lost wages.

USUALLY NO ONE GOES TO JAIL

Last year California made most wage theft a criminal offense. It also did away with the garment industry's system of paying workers by the piece instead of by the hour. Now lawmakers are considering creating a statewide council to set wage and work conditions for the fast food industry. Here's what you need to know about wage theft in California.



Source: Department of Industrial Relations • Credit: Erica Yee, CalMatters

WHAT IS WAGE THEFT?

The Economic Policy Institute has cited examples, such as an employer taking illegal deductions, confiscating tips or failing to pay tipped workers the difference between their tips and minimum wage, and misclassifying employees as independent contractors to pay a wage lower than the legal minimum.

HOW BIG IS THE PROBLEM OF WAGE THEFT?

One way to look at it is how much workers try to recover in unpaid wages.

Last year California workers filed nearly 17,000 claims totaling more than $300 million in stolen wages, according to a database provided by the Labor Commissioner's office. That may be an undercount; the office's public web site indicates as many as 19,000 claims filed last year. State officials haven't explained the discrepancy.

Either way, that's down from prior years, when on average 30,000 workers annually claimed $320 million in unpaid wages, the office told the Legislative Analyst's Office in 2020. Workers recovered about $40 million, or one-eighth, of those claims, the LAO said.

WAIT TIMES: HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO GET BACK STOLEN WAGES IN CALIFORNIA?

The state violates its own deadlines with wage theft cases.

By law the individual wage claims workers

SEE **WAGE** PAGE 5

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DAILY POLICE LOGS

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 326 CALLS ON July 27

Burglary Just Occurred 2200Blk Colorado Ave 12:13 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold Ocean Ave / Arizona Ave 12:19 a.m.
Loud Music 500Blk Broadway 12:23 a.m.
Death Investigation 400Blk Marguerita Ave 12:33 a.m.
Death Investigation 400Blk Marguerita Ave 12:48 a.m.
Report Of Shots Fired 2000Blk Euclid St 12:53 a.m.
Drinking In Public 1900Blk Main St 1:12 a.m.
Party Complaint 2600Blk 34th St 1:39 a.m.
Loud Music 1500Blk 6th St 3:14 a.m.
Party Complaint 2600Blk 34th St 3:22 a.m.
Traffic Hazard 5th St / Santa Monica Blvd 4:33 a.m.
Traffic Hazard Cloverfield Blvd / Colorado Ave 6:38 a.m.
Out Of Order Traffic Signals 11th St / Ocean Park Blvd 6:46 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Pacific Coast Hwy / California Incline 6:48 a.m.
Silent Robbery Alarm 1900Blk Olympic Blvd 7:08 a.m.
Construction Noise 100Blk Palisades Ave 7:12 a.m.
Out Of Order Traffic Signals 11th St / Ocean Park Blvd 7:21 a.m.
Construction Noise 700Blk Navy St 7:26 a.m.
Construction Noise 1100Blk 12th St 7:34 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 1600Blk Ocean Ave 7:46 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 2600Blk 7th St 8:01 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred Lincoln Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 8:13 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 1000Blk 9th St 8:20 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 1000Blk 9th St 8:23 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 2600Blk 7th St 8:25 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 2600Blk 7th St 8:26 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1500Blk Michigan Ave 8:41 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1700Blk Olympic Blvd 8:47 a.m.
Burglary Report 2100Blk Colorado Ave 8:56 a.m.
Encampment 3400Blk Pico Blvd 9:02 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1400Blk Olympic Blvd 9:08 a.m.
Burglary Report 1500Blk Ocean Ave 9:14 a.m.
Fraud Report 300Blk California Ave 9:16 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 1000Blk 9th St 9:32 a.m.
Burglary Report 2400Blk Wilshire Blvd 9:51 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1700Blk Ocean Front Walk 10:04 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 800Blk 16th St 10:15 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1400Blk Ocean Ave 10:26 a.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 700Blk Cedar St 10:34 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 800Blk 2nd St 10:41 a.m.
Encampment Centinela Ave / Pico Blvd 10:51 a.m.
Burglary Report 1200Blk California Ave 10:53 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold Ocean Ave / Wilshire Blvd 10:57 a.m.
Person With A Gun Ocean Ave / California Ave 11:04 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 2800Blk Main St 11:09 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 2700Blk Main St 11:09 a.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 2100Blk Carlyle Ave 11:11 a.m.
Overdose 600Blk Hill St 11:12 a.m.
General Parking Problem 3000Blk 4th St 11:19 a.m.
Fight 6th St / Santa Monica Blvd 11:25 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1900Blk Pico Blvd 11:38 a.m.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered 1600Blk 12th St 11:46 a.m.
Theft Suspect In Custody 200Blk Broadway 11:51 a.m.
Person With A Gun 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 11:59 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1700Blk Ocean Front Walk 12:05 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1900Blk 11th St 12:12 p.m.
Identity Theft 2000Blk 6th St 12:19 p.m.
Red Zone Violation 100Blk Marguerita Ave 12:19 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1700Blk Lincoln Blvd 12:25 p.m.
General Parking Problem 600Blk San Vicente Blvd 12:30 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1200Blk 11th St 12:34 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 2400Blk Wilshire Blvd 12:42 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 14th St / Pearl St 1:03 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 100Blk Broadway 1:08 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 2600Blk Main St 1:14 p.m.
Burglary Report 700Blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:16 p.m.
Lost Property 300Blk Olympic Dr 1:21 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 1:30 p.m.
Burglary Report 300Blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:39 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 1:40 p.m.
Theft Suspect In Custody 1400Blk 3rd Street Prom 1:59 p.m.
Critical Missing Person 1300Blk 17th St 2:05 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 2:42 p.m.
Assault Just Occurred 1900Blk Wilshire Blvd 2:49 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1700Blk Lincoln Blvd 2:55 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1700Blk Lincoln Blvd 2:56 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 900Blk 15th St 3:04 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1100Blk Yale St 3:04 p.m.
Expired Registration 900Blk 17th St 3:50 p.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 100Blk Washington Ave 3:55 p.m.
Lost Property 2000Blk Ocean Ave 3:58 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1100Blk 17th St 4:01 p.m.
Domestic Violence Now 500Blk Ashland Ave 4:15 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1400Blk 4th St 4:24 p.m.
Bike Theft Report 2800Blk The Beach 4:33 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 600Blk Navy St 4:33 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Berkeley St / Santa Monica Blvd 4:33 p.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 900Blk 11th St 4:36 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1700Blk Cloverfield Blvd 4:37 p.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 900Blk 11th St 4:37 p.m.
Fraud Report 2400Blk Pearl St 4:44 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 1000Blk Pearl St 4:46 p.m.
Encampment 1500Blk Palisades Park 5:00 p.m.
Fraud Report 2300Blk Kansas Ave 5:01 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 200Blk Hill St 5:11 p.m.
Expired Registration 1000Blk 10th St 5:14 p.m.
Burglary Report 300Blk Pacific St 5:16 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 2400Blk Broadway 5:19 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 2100Blk 23rd St 5:23 p.m.
Fraud Report 1600Blk 18th St 5:29 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 500Blk Broadway 5:29 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 1500Blk 11th St 5:34 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1900Blk Wilshire Blvd 5:36 p.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 1000Blk 3rd St 5:39 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1500Blk 5th St 6:03 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 6:06 p.m.
Fraud Report 2300Blk Kansas Ave 6:30 p.m.
Fraud Report 900Blk Pico Blvd 6:31 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1300Blk 2nd St 6:32 p.m.
Sexual Assault 4th St / Colorado Ave 6:45 p.m.
Burglary Report 3200Blk Olympic Blvd 6:46 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 400Blk The Beach 7:58 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 8:05 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1000Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 8:09 p.m.
Burglary Report 1200Blk 20th St 8:11 p.m.
Traffic Control Request - Level 1 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 8:26 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 2700Blk 2nd St 8:35 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 23rd St / Santa Monica Blvd 8:44 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1400Blk Ocean Ave 9:41 p.m.
Fight 4th St / Santa Monica Blvd 9:49 p.m.
Loud Music 2700Blk Barnard Way 10:01 p.m.
Public Intoxication 1200Blk 3rd Street Prom 10:05 p.m.
Loud Music 1200Blk Princeton St 10:07 p.m.
Assault Just Occurred 200Blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:09 p.m.
Party Complaint 600Blk 21st Pl 10:09 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1200Blk Washington Ave 10:39 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 1500Blk 4th St 10:57 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOGS

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 27 CALLS ON July 27

Automatic Alarm 1200Blk 2nd St 5:23 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 600Blk Pico Blvd 6:04 a.m.
EMS 2000Blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:50 a.m.
EMS 2300Blk 30th St 9:43 a.m.
EMS 600Blk Hill St 11:12 a.m.
EMS 1200Blk 16th St 1:27 p.m.
EMS 1700Blk Washington Ave 1:52 p.m.
EMS 26th St / Olympic Blvd 2:00 p.m.
EMS 2000Blk Pico Blvd 2:22 p.m.
EMS 200Blk Montana Ave 2:55 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300Blk Lincoln Blvd 3:47 p.m.
EMS 2200Blk Colorado Ave 5:29 p.m.
EMS 1600Blk Cloverfield Blvd 5:36 p.m.
EMS 2500Blk Virginia Ave 5:49 p.m.
EMS 1500Blk 5th St 6:07 p.m.
EMS 2500Blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:32 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2500Blk California Ave 7:06 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2400Blk Virginia Ave 7:07 p.m.
EMS 300Blk Olympic Dr 9:35 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1100Blk 12th St 10:18 p.m.
EMS 1600Blk Lincoln Blvd 10:47 p.m.

CRIME WATCH

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 JULY 13 AT ABOUT 2:45 A.M.

Officers responded to a call for a suspicious vehicle occupying the reporting party's assigned parking space near the 2300 block of Ocean Avenue. Officer located a subject sitting the in the driver's seat and another individual in the passenger seat. A records check of the license plate showed the vehicle had recently been reported stolen out of the Ventura County area. Luis F. Ramirez from Thousand Oaks was arrested for taking a vehicle without the owner's consent and possession of a controlled substance. Ramirez remains in police custody with a court date of August 4, 2022.

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New police accountability laws up demands on state agencies

NIGEL DUARA AND BYRHONDA LYONS
Special to the Daily Press

California Department of Justice agents realized they were short-handed just hours after a Los Angeles police officer shot and killed an unarmed man on Hollywood Boulevard.

A 911 caller told police the man was threatening people on the morning of July 15, 2021, waving what appeared to be a pistol in a busy tourist pocket. The object in his hand turned out to be a lighter with a pistol grip.

The fatal shooting was the first test of a law requiring the Justice Department to investigate police shootings of unarmed civilians. The agents would need to interview witnesses, mark evidence and canvass nearby businesses for surveillance footage, according to documents detailing the state's response.

The department's budget for these complex shooting investigation teams allotted three agents; the department sent 12.

Even so, justice officials would later say, it wasn't enough — calling their deployment "inadequate."

"There were dozens of tasks and assignments that the … special agents could not accomplish because of limited staffing," the department wrote in a budget request submitted to the Legislature in January.

For decades, police oversight in California began and ended within a local department. Rarely did the state step in.

That has changed. After unarmed Stephon Clark was shot and killed by Sacramento police officers in 2018, state lawmakers began taking a more active role in police accountability, passing several statewide mandates aimed at improving policing in California. Since then, they've tapped both the Department of Justice and California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) for new duties.

But ambitious deadlines, new job responsibilities and delayed funding are testing the limits of both agencies, officials say.

The shooting investigation on Hollywood Boulevard is still open, as are all 20 other Justice Department investigations into the shooting of unarmed civilians.

California's Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training missed its deadline this year to get police departments up to speed on newly-required bias screening for police applicants. The commission has also been given new authority to decertify police officers, a responsibility that is reshaping the previously low-profile commission.

Both agencies were redirected by legislation. For the Justice Department, its new role came with Assembly Bill 1506, which mandates that its agents investigate each officer-involved shooting of an unarmed civilian. Beginning next year, upon request of a law enforcement agency, the state is also supposed to begin reviewing the local agency's use of force policy and make recommendations.

THE LONG SHADOW OF GEORGE FLOYD

When the Gov. Gavin Newsom signed the officer-involved shooting bill in September 2020 — four months after the murder of George Floyd by Minneapolis police — it was a politically important piece of legislation to the governor and to then Attorney General Xavier Becerra. Current Attorney General Rob Bonta also supported the plan while still in the Legislature.

But months before the law went into effect on July 1, warning signs went up internally at the Justice Department.

"Additional burdens are increasingly being placed on the very limited staff of the (Bureau of Investigation) and (Bureau of Forensic Services)," one Justice Department employee wrote to the Attorney General in April 2021, according to redacted emails obtained by CalMatters.

"We are already stretched incredibly thin."

The Justice Department asked for $26 million to pay for the new shooting investigation teams. The Legislature allotted half of that, about $13 million.

Becerra complained about that discrepancy to the bill's author, Democrat Assemblymember Kevin McCarty of Sacramento.

The $13 million budget allocation "is significantly lower than our estimates and not enough resources to stand up professional teams to perform these new investigative and prosecutorial duties," Becerra wrote to McCarty in January 2021. "As a result, the DOJ will have limited capacity to implement this bill, short of redirecting resources from other essential, mandated work, which could compromise those operations."

McCarty recently told CalMatters that the Justice Department should be able to find a way to fund the program.

"The Department of Justice is a multi-billion dollar agency," McCarty said. "They have lots of other funding sources to pay for it, and we can settle up afterward."

When reminded of the 2021 letter he received from Becerra asking for more money, McCarty was still skeptical.

"That's ridiculous. That's why we passed on (adding more money to the DOJ budget)," he said. "As opposed to these hypotheticals, why don't you do the work for a year and see how much money it actually costs?"

Since 2016, police officers have shot and killed an average of 140 people in California each year. Of the people killed, about 20 are unarmed, 10 have a replica firearm and another 10 have objects that may not qualify as deadly weapons.

That amounts to about 40 shooting investigations of unarmed civilians each year.

The latest shooting took place July 15, 2022, in Anaheim, exactly one year after the first shooting investigated in Los Angeles by the Justice Department.

Dividing the $13 million budget by the number of open investigations – 21 – the cost of each investigation so far would average $619,000, an amount McCarty said is "enough to do the work."

The department had 5,008 employees in June, according to the Controller's Office. The Department of Justice declined to provide the number of employees in each job category, including those who would be assigned to officer-involved shooting investigations.

"Implementing AB 1506 has absolutely imposed new demands on the entire California Department of Justice and the entire office has, as necessary, adjusted admirably to the new responsibilities," a department spokesperson wrote in an email to CalMatters.

California's Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training has had similar challenges.

SMALL AGENCY HANDED BIG NEW DUTIES

In the past five years, many state directives aimed at improving police operations in California landed before the commission. The relatively small agency, with about 120 employees, is known for training and certifying police officers — but that job description is quickly expanding, often under tight deadlines.

For instance, in late 2020, legislators passed Assembly Bill 846, forcing police agencies to screen for bias during a potential officer's psychological evaluation. The commission was tasked with creating bias screening materials by Jan. 1, 2022.

They missed the deadline. (In a strange twist, a legislative clerical error inadvertently wiped the bias screening mandate from the law, though that is being remedied.)

"A year seems like a long time, but it's not when it comes to regulations," said Melani Singley of POST, who manages all regulations and guidance for police officers. "The timeline makes it challenging to develop something that is going to meet the intent of the law."

> "A year seems like a long time, but it's not when it comes to regulations. The timeline makes it challenging to develop something that is going to meet the intent of the law — Melani Singley

In May 2022, the agency's final changes were approved by its oversight commission. Now, as the Legislature rushes to reinstate the bias screening mandate, the commission is expecting the regulation to go into effect by Aug. 1.

Other new duties are piling up. For years, the commission averaged a few legislative bills a year. Nowadays, said POST executive director Manny Alvarez, "we're tackling a lot more now than ever before."

Between 2015 and 2020, lawmakers introduced roughly nine officer training bills a year, almost double the average between 2010 and 2014, according to a study by the Little Hoover Commission, an independent state oversight agency.

"It's a lot of work for a small number of people," said Singley.

But soon the commission will be larger.

With a new directive giving the commission authority to decertify police officers, which was enacted by Senate Bill 2, the agency is expected to nearly double in size over the next six months after receiving a roughly 32% funding increase earlier this month.

"We're hiring," said spokesperson Meagan Poulos.

In just a few months, the agency that almost exclusively dealt with police will interact with the public as well, as citizens and police departments make their cases regarding alleged bad officers. The commission will investigate officers accused of serious misconduct and recommend if an officer should be decertified.

Several states, including Mississippi, Alabama and Montana, already have decertification processes in place.

IS THE COMMISSION OVERLOADED?

While police decertification is one of the most significant changes the commission has undergone, some are raising concerns about whether the state is overloading the agency, which is overseen by a board that meets a few times a year.

In a report addressed to the governor and the Legislature, the Little Hoover Commission recommended lawmakers "temporarily refrain" from mandating new training requirements.

"…there is little evidence to demonstrate which types of training actually achieve intended goals and positively impact police behavior — and which do not," wrote Pedro Nava, chairperson for the Little Hoover Commission.

Instead, the Little Hoover Commission recommended California evaluate its current police training requirements.

State analysts also are concerned the small organization will not be able to make such a drastic shift as quickly and efficiently as the Legislature may expect.

"POST will likely face significant challenges implementing SB 2, primarily due to the fact that the commission's staffing will need to roughly double by January 1, 2023 — only six months after receiving funding in the budget…" wrote the Legislative Analysts Office in a report earlier this year.

Meanwhile, several commission workers told CalMatters they are still cautiously optimistic they will make their deadline on instituting the first police decertification process in California history.

"One of the big unknowns to us is the volume of data and the volume of reviews and investigations there will be," Alvarez said. "We've never collected that type of data."

This article was originally published by CalMatters.

WAGE

FROM PAGE 2

file with the Labor Commissioner's Office are supposed to reach a hearing in 120 days. Then the office gets 15 days to decide whether or not the worker is owed money and how much.

That can become a court judgment allowing the worker to claim the money.

While the vast majority of cases settle before the hearing, other workers have faced long delays just to get a hearing before the Labor Commissioner's Office. The average case filed last year that actually got a decision took double the time allowed by law. Thousands of cases filed in 2021 remain pending.

WHO IS IMPACTED MOST BY WAGE THEFT?

Wage theft is most prevalent in low-wage industries, according to advocates who say such workers often are not unionized and are reluctant to endanger their livelihoods by objecting to the theft.

Many of these jobs, other than construction, are service-sector jobs with a history of employing immigrants or minority workforces.

WHAT DOES WAGE THEFT COST A TYPICAL WORKER'S FAMILY?

An Economic Policy Institute report found California workers who were victims of minimum wage theft — who were paid less than the legal minimum wage — lost out on $64 in pay a week, or about $3,400 a year in 2015, the most recent data available. Adjusting for inflation, that's about $80 stolen each week, or $4,250 a year, based on June's record 9.1% inflation rate.

For workers in low-wage industries, that means less food on the table, a harder time paying rent, or delayed trips to the doctor.

A week's worth of stolen wages can mean an empty 12-gallon gas tank in a car.

A year of lost wages is the equivalent of three months of child care in California, or nearly one-and-a-half months' rent in San Jose, nearly two months' rent in Sacramento, and a little over a months' rent in Los Angeles, according to Rent.com.

Ironically, a year of stolen wages used to equate to a year of groceries for a family of four, but not this year. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, now it would pay for only 75% of that typical family's annual grocery bill.

CALIFORNIA'S HISTORY OF TRYING TO TACKLE WAGE THEFT

California lawmakers passed several laws in recent years to strengthen worker protections in industries where contracting is common, and to help workers collect unpaid wages.

Contracting allows big firms to escape liability for wage theft, advocates say, because the big firms hire contractors, who directly employ the workers and are often accused of wage theft.

If they were jointly liable, then the larger firms would be legally on the hook for any unpaid wages along with their contractors and subcontractors.

HOW DO CALIFORNIA WORKERS GET THEIR MONEY BACK?

California law allows workers several ways to accuse employers of wage theft and to open a case for recovering alleged losses. The vast majority of claims are made by individual workers in an administrative hearing system run by the Department of Industrial Relations' Labor Commissioner's Office. In theory it's intended to be a quick, inexpensive, accessible way to resolve complaints without needing to go to court, with opportunities to settle each step along the way.

Filing a complaint with the Bureau of Field Enforcement. The bureau, which also falls under the Labor Commissioner, conducts larger investigations of workplaces and issues citations or brings suits against employers that it says committed wage theft. The bureau relies on complaints and testimony from workers. Unlike the individual wage claims, these cases tend to be worksite-wide, and the bureau targets specific industries, some of which were picked by the Legislature.

Filing a lawsuit. A worker can file a private lawsuit against the employer for labor law violations. This is relatively rare, because it involves the worker hiring an attorney. If a worker finds a lawyer willing to take it on, the worker also can file suit under the state's Private Attorney General Act, which lets a worker sue the employer on behalf of the state. This takes the burden off the state to conduct its own investigation of every complaint, and the worker could represent all coworkers without having to get a judge to deem it a class action.

Seeking federal action by the U.S. Department of Labor. An employee must allege that federal labor laws were violated. The employee may file a wage-and-hour complaint with the regional offices in Fresno, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Diego, Orange County, Walnut Creek, San Jose, West Covina or Ontario.

WHERE DO PEOPLE MOST OFTEN FILE WAGE THEFT CLAIMS?

Workers file wage claims based on where they performed their jobs, legal experts say.

A CalMatters analysis of claims filed with the Labor Commissioner's office shows San Bernardino and Los Angeles – two cities with millions of low-wage workers in warehouse, garment, restaurant, and other industry work – had the highest numbers of individual wage claims.

The data paints a partial portrait of where wage theft occurs across the state. It includes claims at the Wage Claim Adjudication unit for 2021 gathered from the department's search portal and from a public records request. It does not include the Bureau of Field Enforcement cases, which involve multiple workers at individual employers.

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6255

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

SET ELVIS FREE

"The only thing that matters is that that man gets up on that stage tonight," says Colonel Thomas Parker, after Elvis collapses from drugs and exhaustion on his way to the stage in Baz Luhrman's new biopic. The Colonel, played by Tom Hanks, is the bad guy in this movie and his relationship with Elvis, played by Austin Butler, is analogous to what's wrong with motion picture distribution.

Elvis – who brought rock 'n roll out from behind the veil of segregation – should have been free to leave the building when the studios started distributing first-run movies direct to consumers at home. That's when the silver screen became the touch screen. But like the unscrupulous Colonel who will say anything to maintain his control Presley, movie theater owners insist that an exclusive theatrical release means more revenue for all stakeholders. The problem is, the audience is not among those stakeholders.

Twenty-eight months since Governor Gavin Newsom imposed the pandemic lockdown, I went to the movies last night to see Elvis on the big screen. And while I thoroughly enjoyed and highly recommend Luhrman's mesmerizing, razzamatazz film, I am in a state of disbelief over how dismal the movie theater going experience has become.

First, a legal disclosure sign on the front door warned about the carcinogenic cleaning products. But it didn't look like there was much cleaning going on. The place was a mess. It looked like an evacuation scene after a hurricane.

The floors – even the escalators – were littered with trash and popcorn. The concession counters backed by four attendants glistened with sugary, semi-dried soda pop. Plastic straws and wrappers were discarded and strewn across the candy cases. The bathroom waste bins overflowed with garbage, a urinal overflowed into a bucket, and that bucket was steadily overflowing onto a puddled bathroom floor.

My first thought was this must be the Great Resignation. But I spotted nearly a dozen ushers with brooms and dust bins at their side standing idle, their eyes glued to their mobile phone screens. There was such blatant disregard for hygiene, I thought about leaving. But just as Elvis fans turned a blind eye to his decay the final years of his Las Vegas Residency, I choose to grin and bear it, despite the fear of a possible rodent sighting.

In the film, the Colonel (a former carny operator) holds Elvis hostage in Las Vegas by playing down the clock through the delayed, progressive disclosure of lies and misinformation much as theater owners are holding audiences hostage in movie theaters through exclusive first run release windows. With the pipes already in place to sell movies at home, why would anyone choose to slum it in a dirty theater unless they had to?

When Elvis collapses en route to the stage, his father begrudgingly complies with the Colonel and lets a doctor inject his son with drugs to pep him up. The father sacrifices his son, which is what the movie studios are doing by continuing to grant movie theaters an exclusive release window, when the screen has already left the building.

Instead of making theaters earn their audiences by maintaining a competitive, hospitable environment, the studios – by granting the theaters first run exclusivity – have nullified that incentive. Both are complicit in holding moviegoers hostage. It's a shame that audiences are not more important to the studios.

In order to satisfy his gambling debts by keeping Elvis in the casino, the Colonel insists that international touring is unsafe. In order to satisfy their real estate debts, the theater owners tell the studios pulling theatrical exclusivity will cost them too much money. But there's no telling how much revenue a first-run, worldwide, direct to consumer release could generate. In truth, exclusive theatrical distribution windows mostly just benefit a handful of blockbusters.

I love seeing movies. But not enough to watch them in squalor if I can see them at home. No wonder motion picture piracy costs Hollywood as much as $71B annually. Theatrical exclusivity is no match for a moviegoer's proclivity. It's time for filmmakers to stop letting the theater owners and the studios collude to pollute the entertainment experiences they work so hard to create.

To restore the magic to the movie going experience, give theater owners an incentive to earn their audiences. The best way to do that is by eliminating theatrical exclusivity. Set Elvis free once and for all so theater owners have a reason to clean the place up. When they do, I'll be back.

Eric Schwartzman is a digital marketing consultant and author of The Digital Pivot: Secrets of Online Marketing.

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OPINION **LAUGHING MATTERS**

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Sing, Laugh, Hope at McCabe's

Given grim headlines across America these days, it's no wonder newspaper readership is tanking, though hopefully not at SMDP. I often take refuge in the sports section but since Covid the Times frequently shares sports with obituaries. So this past season I read about the Lakers losing and people younger than me dropping like flies. Numerous stories are about raging wildfires and possibly our worst drought in 1,200 years. In Phoenix as many people are dying from heat as from homicides.

Record fires are also scorching Europe, Africa, and Asia but climate deniers continue to deny. Al Gore compares them to the Uvalde police officers "waiting" during the shooting. Among the disbelievers is Hershel Walker, the Georgia GOP Senate candidate, and an apparent amateur meteorologist because he recently observed, "When our good air goes to China their bad air comes here." (Say what?!)

Headlines also feature the illegal war in Ukraine entering its 6th month with no end in sight. At home we're still averaging a mass murder every day and the Supreme Court reduced a woman's rights to far less than what their mothers and grandmothers had and longs to overturn same-sex marriage.

Meanwhile, based on perhaps the most evil of his 30,573 lies in four years, Donald Trump incited a deadly insurrection coup on January 6, the most violent attack on the Capitol since the War of 1812. (At least back then there was likely an occasional rain shower.)

In a temper tantrum fitting a four-year-old, Trump threw his ketchup-laden lunch against the wall but in the 187 minutes of the riots he watched gleefully, he ignored pleading calls from Ivanka, Don Jr., Sean Hannity and Kevin McCarthy and didn't lift a finger to stop the bloody attempted coup. With politics being his best con ever, Trump, currently under DOJ scrutiny, was desperate to stay in power and prevent future investigations into his vast criminal conduct.

In perhaps my clumsiest segue ever, what better time for singer, songwriter and legendary satirist Roy Zimmerman to lift our spirits with his hilariously witty show at McCabe's Guitar Shop on August 12th. Roy's appearance at McCabe's is essentially a family reunion because for fifteen years he gave guitar lessons there. And Melanie Harby, Roy's wife and collaborating partner, also worked at McCabe's for fifteen years. (Apparently "the family that works at a guitar shop for fifteen years stays together?")

Roy has performed at McCabe's over a dozen times and all over America, including wherever there's a blue dot in a red state. But, after a two-year Covid hiatus the "Satire Delivery Service" is back on the road with Roy's first live show unveiling his upcoming album "This Machine: The Best of Roy Zimmerman,"

Fittingly, the title of the tour stems from Roy's heroes Woody Guthrie and Pete Seeger. Woody wrote on his guitar, "This machine kills fascists" whereas Seeger wrote on his banjo, "This machine surrounds hate and forces it to surrender."

"This Machine: The Best of Roy Zimmerman" is a double album, 25 songs from 25 years but is far more than a "greatest hits" compilation. Roy and Melanie have chosen songs that, "Best answer crucial moments in history and turn our hearts, minds and ears toward the social justice battles yet to be won. "

The album includes laugh-out-loud originals like "Creation Science 101," biting satire like "Thoughts and Prayers" and expressions of hope like "I Approve This Message." (Roy and Melanie have re-recorded five songs including the YouTube 140,000,000 views mega-hit, "The Liar Tweets Tonight", which if you haven't heard, you must.)

I wrote about Roy ten years ago entitled "Saving America One Song at a Time." I included, "Before moving north, Roy and Melanie lived in the Palisades when their two sons Joe and Sam, were young. Roy wanted to give them literature, music, peace and justice. And all they wanted was an Xbox." (Such is one of the beauties of life in subsequent years they've taught Roy plenty on those subjects.)

Apparently I couldn't resist a corny joke because I also wrote, " There's no truth to the rumor that Roy's last name was originally Dylan before he changed it to Zimmerman." I also shared with readers the magnificent compliment given to Roy by the legendary Joni Mitchell, "Roy's lyrics move beyond poetry and achieve perfection."

Coincidentally, this past weekend Joni performed a full set for the first time in over twenty years at the Newport Folk Festival. It left her audience thrilled. However, I'm just as confident on August 12th Roy will leave his audience singing, laughing and with renewed hope.

Roy might have great fun with Herschel Walker who apparently is an amateur anthropologist as he asked rhetorically, "If man evolved from apes, how come there are still apes?" (Say what?!)

For tickets to Roy Zimmerman at McCabe's, 3101 Pico Blvd., on August 12, go to: www.McCabesconcerts.com or phone (310) 828-4497. Roy is at: https://roy-zimmerman.myshopify.com/ while Jack is at: jackdailypress@aol.com.



RENT

FROM PAGE 1

reelection to the five-member board this November, instead announcing her resignation effective Aug. 1 due to her moving out of Santa Monica.

The surprise announcement came during the Thursday, July 14, RCB meeting, just hours after the other vacancy was filled by new Commissioner Ericka Lesley.

"I was heartened that we've got so many wonderful applicants for the position and I feel like, you know, Commissioner Lesley is already a wonderful addition to the board," Sultan said, later adding, "I'm sad to need to resign — unfortunately, that's the rule. I can't stay on the Board if I'm not living in Santa Monica after July. But I do feel like the board is in good hands and will continue to be in good hands going forward."

Fellow Commissioner Caroline Torosis suggested the lack of affordable housing in Santa Monica was to blame for Sultan's sudden departure from the RCB.

"I would just say, obviously, this is just another indication Santa Monica is not very affordable if we're losing folks that need to go elsewhere — and good folks," Torosis said. "Naomi, I'm really, really sad not to be serving with you — your intellect, your empathy, the fact that you've dedicated your life's work to help folks who haven't been able to have a voice or representation kind of permeated over to the Board, and I know we're going to continue working together in our professional capacities and I really just appreciate all of your service."

Duron was first elected in 2014 and reelected in 2018. Rent Control Board Commissioners are limited to two terms and a recent effort to extend that to three terms which would align with current City Council limits was rejected.

> "I was heartened that we've got so many wonderful applicants for the position and I feel like, you know, Commissioner Lesley is already a wonderful addition to the board — Naomi Sultan

Torosis is not up for election to the Rent Control Board this year but she has declared a candidacy for City Council.

editor@smdp.com



COMMUNITY NEWS

Malibu

Local Boys & Girls Club Youth Help Build Physical Therapy Cars for Toddlers with Mobility Challenges

During the Boys & Girls Club of America (BGCA) National Keystone Conference on July 24 in Anaheim, California, X-Bots Robotics Inc. trained 100 Club youth leaders, including teens from the Boys & Girls Club of Malibu, on its X-Bots Robotics Mobility Program presented by PPG to impact toddlers with mobility challenges.

The X-Bots Robotics Mobility Program is a STEM program that partners with Boys & Girls Club youth to build specially designed physical therapy cars for toddlers with cerebral disorders affecting their body mobility. Together, X-Bots Robotics, the PPG Foundation and Boys & Girls Club are providing an opportunity for hands-on STEM learning by facilitating youth participants to put their skills to work to serve families with toddlers who have mobility challenges.

"Through the generous support of the PPG Foundation, we're launching a nationwide expansion of the X-Bots Robotics Mobility Program across Boys & Girls Club sites to bring STEM programming to youth who can explore these disciplines," said Elisa Avila, Executive Director of X-Bots Robotics Inc. "We're glad that together with Boys & Girls Club, we can offer this hands-on technical engineering programming that not only develops students' leadership skills and inspires them to pursue a career in STEM, but also serves their communities."

The training prepares the youth leaders to become peer mentors. They apply practical solutions, peer-to-peer learning, skills sharing and immersive lessons in engineering, all while bringing joy to children and their parents.

The X-Bots Robotics Mobility Program has focused on applying GoBabyGo!, an open-source movement focused on real-time, real-world solutions for mobility, to provide STEM educational and leadership opportunities for middle school and high school students. The program is a unique combination of peer-to-peer learning paired with a half-day hands-on workshop that draws in the families and toddlers who benefit from the finished product.

SUBMITTED BY GEMMA STEWART

MASKS

FROM PAGE 1

is what we're doing today," she added a few moments later. "We will be pausing and not moving forward at this time."

The announcement came two days after Ferrer spoke to LA County Supervisors about the impending mandate. At the time, Ferrer indicated the County was still on track to go back to universal indoor masking, but two supervisors — Kathryn Barger and Janice Hahn — both spoke strongly against the mandate. Hahn suggested the County may consider a compromise, adding mask mandates to grocery stores and pharmacies as "essential businesses."

On Tuesday, Ferrer said DPH would take that suggestion under consideration. Two days later, she said County attorneys were looking into the possibility, should another virus wave necessitate more public health measures in the future.

"It's always difficult to actually apply one set of standards to one set of businesses or locations and not another," Ferrer said, later adding, "I think it's a great idea for us to look into. I'm just not sure whether or not we'd be able to do it."

Another reporter asked how much the strong public resistance to potential mask orders entered into the DPH decision to not enforce a new indoor mandate.

Ferrer did not directly answer, but said, "We made our decision based on the data."

Indoor mask orders remained in place in some sectors considered especially high risk: on all public transit including trains, buses and rideshares; inside all indoor transportation hubs such as train stations and airports; in healthcare settings including hospitals and skilled nursing facilities; inside correctional facilities; and inside homeless shelters and cooling centers.

County rules also specify private businesses that wish to impose mask mandates are also permitted to do so by the County Health Order.



Emily Sawicki

MASKS: Masking will remain optional in most places across LA County.

emily@smdp.com

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 29)

Your maturity has brought you to a calm and appreciative place. Not only can you live the length of a day, but the depth of it too. You will be lavished in attention when you want to be, but mostly you're so passionately involved in what interests you that you don't feel great need of external validation. Capricorn and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 6, 44, 28 and 13.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There will always be reasons to give up. Today the reasons will look like substantial, immovable obstacles but are illusive shadows you can pass right through.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Knowledge is only power if it is applied in a powerful way. Though there is always more information to get, it's only as good as your absorption of it. On busy days like today it would be distraction, were it even possible to soak it all in.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). When the external world produces insecurity, it puts you in touch with the divine presence of power within you. It is the same force that animates all. You'll be comforted by a loss of boundary connecting you with the whole.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The gifts of the day satisfy your curiosity and bring unexpected amusement. In the evening hours, you'll be inspired to pay it forward, delighting others with all you've learned.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). It's a day for social and economic caution. By borrowing or lending from a friend you could cause stress and ultimately a situation that will lead to the end of the relationship.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Huge change doesn't have to be dramatic. Nor does it have to come about through revolt, struggle and battle. When everyone is ready for change, as they are today, it just happens.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Having but one perspective can make it impossible to see the entire truth of the matter, although some angles seem more honest than others. The less you need out of a situation the more clearly you can see it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Instead of counting your own blessings you are tempted to count somebody else's. While this produces a tinge of envy, jealousy doesn't have to be a monster. It teaches you about your hidden desires, wants and needs.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Whatever your age, all the ages you have ever been are still inside of you, and from them you can draw compassion and patience for those who are irritatingly younger. As for your elders, your respect continues to grow.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Like most people, you like your solitude as long as it's by choice. You'll have your options for company today, but you may choose your own instead. You'd much rather be alone than in less-than-enjoyable company.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Rainbows are not the only beautiful illusions around. There's a colorful person in your midst who is attractive as any prism of promise, but like a rainbow when you go to where they are they are suddenly somewhere else.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The task will take longer and be more arduous than you were hoping. Even so, it's exactly what will help you develop that life- and relationship-enhancing quality of patience. You wouldn't trade these challenges for anything.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

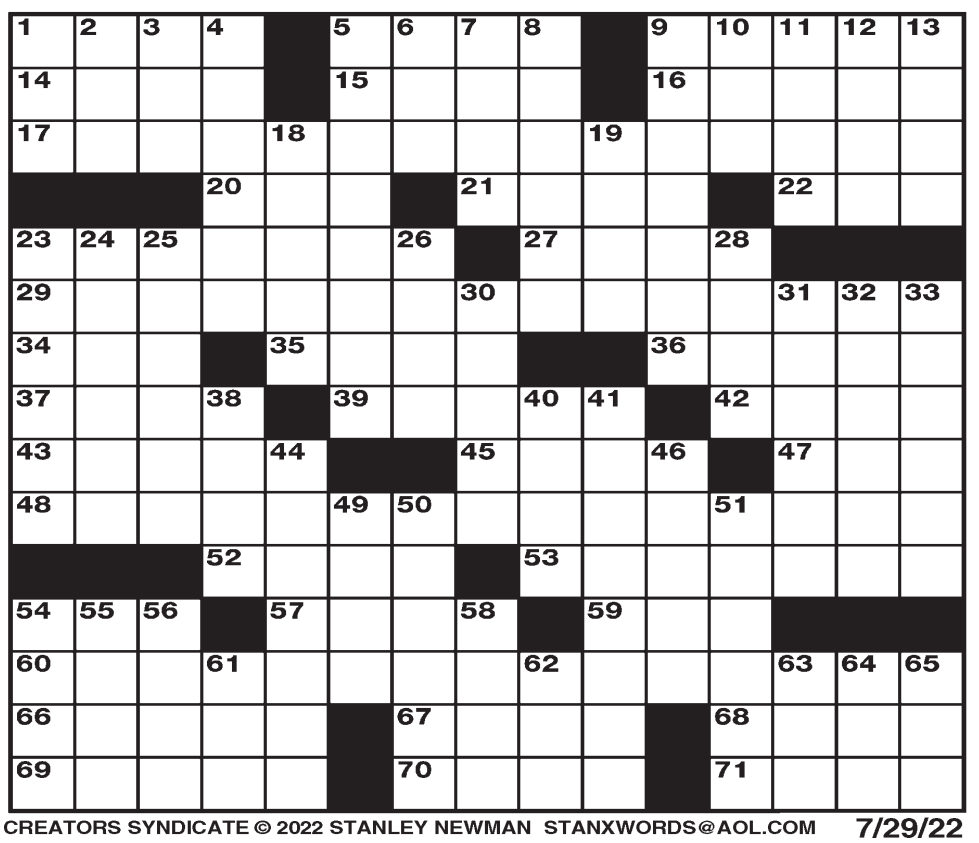
9	3			4		8		
	2		7		8			
6		8		2				7
		5			2	9		6
	1			5			7	
8		6	4			2		
7				1		6		3
			3		5		4	
		9		7			1	2

Newsday Crossword

SEE 64 DOWN by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Liechtenstein topography
5 Test stage
9 Port of Iraq
14 Big name in tortellini topping
15 Robed ruler
16 Log in
17 Altered prospects
20 Sound of discomfort
21 *M*A*S*H* star who served in Korea
22 Driller's deg.
23 Now a law
27 Driving-home rewards
29 Numb
34 Great time
35 Invalid
36 Coconutty Girl Scout cookie
37 Denier's assertion
39 Power points?
42 "That's tasty!"
43 TV actress Glazer
45 Feudal land
47 Asian OPEC member
48 Social network
52 Taiwanese computer company
53 Least relaxed
54 Foul territory
57 "I got this"
59 Goalie's spot
60 Ultra-chicness
66 Old Timers' Day participant
67 Set down
68 A couple of fifties
69 Heavy metal
70 River through Dresden
71 Jazz line

DOWN
1 Pendulum path
2 __-di-dah
3 Org. for excellent drivers
4 7-Eleven bought many of its stations
5 Fortified
6 Alt-rock genre
7 Squabble
8 Kennel comments
9 Pickings from patches
10 Adjectival ending
11 Wall support
12 Lacerate
13 Father of the Amazons
18 Arrived
19 ". . . there __ square"
23 Utopian
24 Orange blossom oil
25 Arcade icon
26 Tot's tote
28 Castigate
30 Inconsequential thing
31 Fully protected
32 They don't settle
33 Most plucky
38 Ancient potato farmer
40 Endowment, for instance
41 Light music from Mozart
44 What proof measures
46 Court collections
49 MD specialty
50 Magpie cousin
51 Old Testament queen
54 Dams, e.g.
55 Quick message
56 "Omigosh!"
58 Cookware name derived from "Teflon"
61 Test for MA hopefuls
62 Minor misstatement
63 "See __ care!"
64 __-CENTER (title of the puzzle)
65 Bad check notation

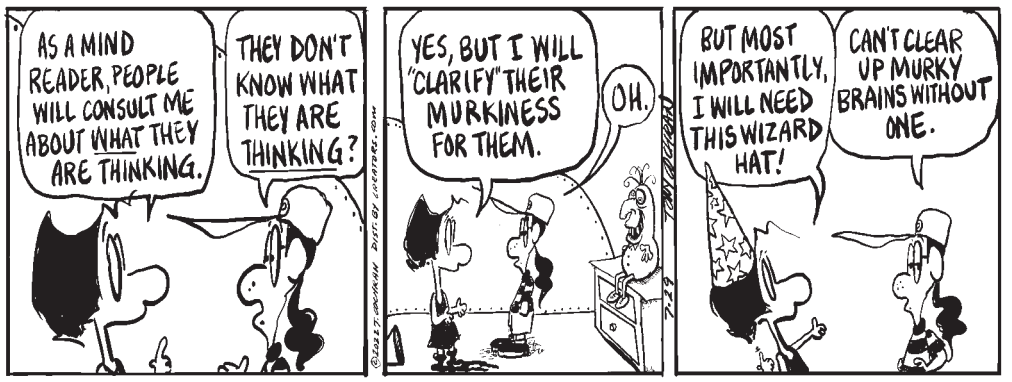


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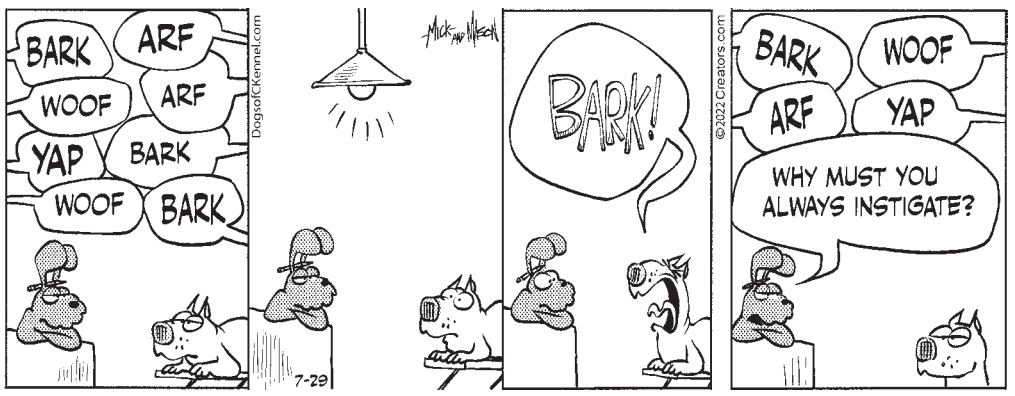
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



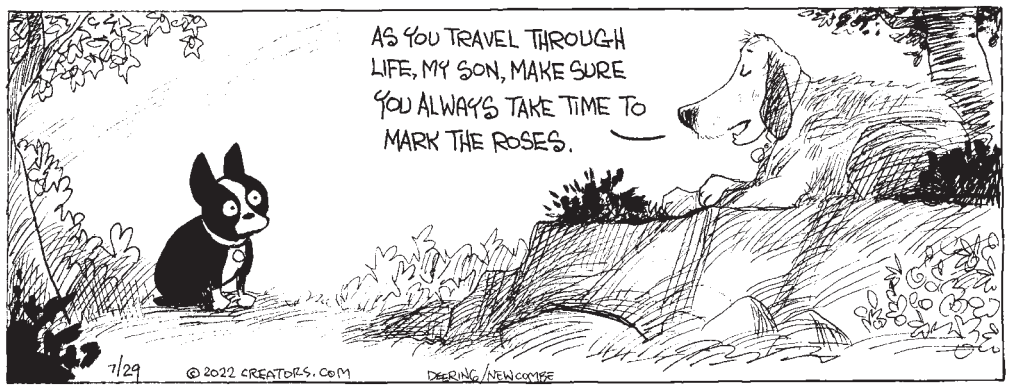
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



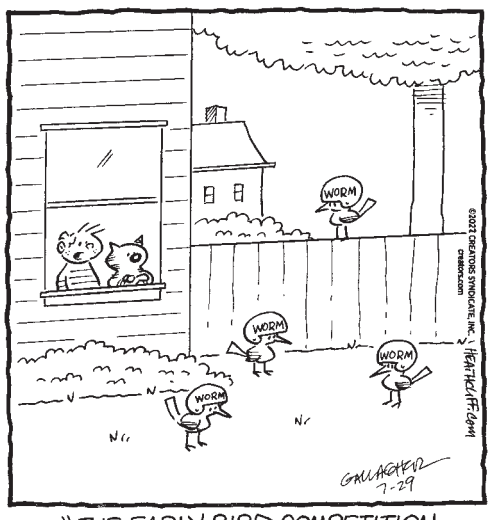
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"THE EARLY BIRD COMPETITION IS FIERCE."

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 5555

Dangerous Australians

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

Avoid	Fire	Leech	Scare
Bandage	Flies	Lice	Shoes
Beetle	Fright	Mako	Spots
Bites	Gnat	Moth	Sudden
Blowfish	Grubs	Nasty	Surprise
Burn	Hiss	Pale	Swat
Coma	Hornet	Panic	Tick
Dark	Hospital	Pets	Tides
Eels	House	Prey	Toad
Eggs	Hurt	Python	Tree
Faint	Itch	Rash	Venom
Fangs	King	Rats	Vinegar
Fear	Large	Rips	Weak

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What's Up Westside

out and about in Santa Monica

FRIDAY JULY 29

THE FRIDAY SHOW
Start your weekend right with The Friday Show, featuring national headliners, comics from TV and Film, and some favorite locals. This show is 21 and over only, please bring a valid ID. Ticket must be purchased in advanced. To see the lineup and purchase your tickets, visit https://web.ovationtix.com/trs/dept/1799/1656648000000.8 - 9:30 p.m. $25. M. I.'s Westside Comedy Theater 1323-A 3rd Street Promenade (in the alley between 3rd & 4th).

CALL ME BY MY HEBREW NAME
Join musical comedy master of ceremonies Abby Feldman and celebrate a Friday Shabbat with laughs in a musical comedy show with a lineup of talent! Doors for this 21+ show open at 7:45 p.m.. Show starts at 8 p.m. Ready to laugh? Find more information and purchase your tickets online at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/call-me-by-my-hebrew-name-tickets-383140191627. The Crow, 2525 Michigan Avenue, Unit F4.

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. annenbergbeachhouse.com.

SATURDAY JULY 30

MERMAID ACADEMY
The warm summer weather has brought our local mermaids to the Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel pool for the summer. Join us for Mermaid Academy, where aspiring mermaids will learn how to use their mermaid tails, search for hidden pool treasures, and swim with our mermaids. Mermaid tails are provided. Enjoy a special bakery treat following your mermaid adventure. 10 - 10:45 a.m. $45. Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel, 1700 Ocean Ave. https://resy.com/cities/lax/venues/blue-streak-at-loews-santa-monica-beach-hotel/events/mermaid-academy-2022-07-09.

STAND UP PADDLEBOARD CLASS
$45/class, pre-register online at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Home. Age 14 and up. This class offers you the chance to learn the basics and enjoy the world-famous Santa Monica State Beach from a whole new perspective. Participants will learn water safety, entering and exiting the water with the board and paddle, and the basic positions, techniques and strokes needed to enjoy their time on the water. 9 - 11 a.m. 415 Pacific Coast Hwy.

DOWNTOWN SANTA MONICA WALKING TOUR
Discover downtown Santa Monica's architecture, history and culture with one of our highly engaging docents. The walking tour covers about 6 blocks in 2 hours and begins at the city's first landmark, the 1875 Rapp Saloon. Reservations recommended at https://smc.givecloud.co/dwt. Open to all ages. $10.

SUNDAY JULY 31

TOURS OF THE MARION DAVIES GUEST HOUSE
Santa Monica Conservancy docents share the rich history of the Beach House site from the 1920s onward. Free 20-minute visits docent tours are available on a walk-up basis, for groups of up to six people on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 12pm – 2pm. Just head to the Marion Davies Guest House where you will be greeted by a docent. Please note masks are required while indoors. Schedule subject to change, check the website calendar or call 310-458-4904 to confirm dates and hours. 12 - 2 p.m.

MONDAY AUGUST 1

CANCELED: ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD MEETING
Santa Monica Conservancy docents share the rich history

TUESDAY AUGUST 2

HEAL THE BAY AQUARIUM: PROTECT WHAT YOU LOVE
Learn about the importance of the ocean ecosystem and food web, and how pollution reaches our coast with a reading of All the Way to the Ocean. Discover which marine animals found in the Santa Monica Bay through Marine Animal Exploration, featuring gray whale bones, shark jaws, and seashells. Register here: bit.ly/YouthProgramSignUps. Main Library, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 3

PLANNING COMMISSION
Established in 1946, the Planning Commission envisions Santa Monica as a city of wellbeing, sustainability, and equity, and seeks to balance the many needs and priorities within our community in accordance with the City's General Plan and Specific Plans. The Commission acts through open and civil discourse that is informed by public input, impartial analysis, and best practices in land use and planning. https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Planning-Commission/. 5:30 p.m.

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



SURF REPORT

WATER TEMP: **64.4**

FRIDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:** 2-3ft Thigh to waist	Smaller mix of SSW and NW swells. Clean morning but a drained out tide first thing that you'll probably want to let come up a bit.
SATURDAY *POOR TO FAIR*	**SURF:** 1-2ft Knee to thigh	New, long-period SW swell creeps in but lully. Clean in the morning with tide push by mid/later morning.

WEATHER

Friday: Cloudy, then gradually becoming mostly sunny, with a high near 71.
Friday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 64.
Saturday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 72.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 65.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2022/07/29	Fri	04:59 AM	-0.39	L
2022/07/29	Fri	11:28 AM	3.94	H
2022/07/29	Fri	4:06 PM	2.38	L
2022/07/29	Fri	10:14 PM	6.04	H
2022/07/30	Sat	05:27 AM	-0.29	L
2022/07/30	Sat	11:57 AM	4.03	H
2022/07/30	Sat	4:43 PM	2.33	L
2022/07/30	Sat	10:47 PM	5.82	H
2022/07/31	Sun	05:55 AM	-0.10	L
2022/07/31	Sun	12:26 PM	4.14	H
2022/07/31	Sun	5:25 PM	2.31	L
2022/07/31	Sun	11:22 PM	5.46	H
2022/08/01	Mon	06:22 AM	0.19	L
2022/08/01	Mon	12:57 PM	4.29	H
2022/08/01	Mon	6:12 PM	2.29	L
2022/08/02	Tue	12:00 AM	4.96	H
2022/08/02	Tue	06:49 AM	0.58	L
2022/08/02	Tue	1:30 PM	4.46	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: 7/27
1 25 44 55 57
Power#: 26
Jackpot: 170 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 7/26
7 29 60 63 66
Mega#: 15
Jackpot: 1 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 7/27
2 8 11 13 21
Mega#: 21
Jackpot: 11 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 7/27
3 13 25 30 31

Daily 3
Draw Date: 7/27
EVENING: 5 8 5
Draw Date: 7/27
MIDDAY: 4 5 2

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 7/27
1st: 07 - Eureka
2nd: 11 - Money Bags
3rd: 06 - Whirl Win
Race Time: 1:49.87

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