smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

WEDNESDAY
08.11.21
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Vaccines continue to protect against Covid-19.
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Sharks' swim meet






Jorge Devotto

WATER: Santa Monica Sharks swimmers got together on their first meet of the year. Masks mandate and distancing in place while waiting for their swim heats and lanes. All Sharks meets had been suspended since the Covid-19 pandemic. This meet was held at Santa Monica Swim Center and counted with swimmers from Crossroads, Manhattan Beach and Santa Monica Sharks club on Sunday, August 08.

Education efforts afoot to help Santa Monicans claim rent relief

MATTHEW HALL
SMDP Editor

The Rent Control Board (RCB) could kick in $10,000 towards efforts to educate Santa Monica tenants and landlords about eviction protections pending discussions at this Thursday's meeting.

Eviction moratoriums are currently a complicated web of overlapping rules at the local, state and federal level but Santa Monica has proposed a $55,000 plan to inform everyone of the resources available to keep people housed and pay necessary bills.

After a federal eviction moratorium was allowed to lapse recently, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued a new moratorium at the federal level on evictions that would last until Oct. 3.

The new moratorium aims to keep millions in their homes and like all anti-eviction efforts passed during the pandemic, seeks to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. The order cites the fact that there are lower vaccination rates in areas most at risk for eviction. The moratorium also give states additional time to get out nearly $47 billion in rental assistance, most of which has yet to be distributed to tenants and landlords.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the State of California has in place its own tenant protections through a law called the COVID-19 Tenant Relief Act. The protections provided under the Act are in addition to protections that have been provided by other federal, state, and local landlord-tenant laws, including the partial eviction moratorium that was issued by the CDC.

In Santa Monica, the city has also passed hyper-local rules that in addition to eviction protections for nonpayment of rent, extended prohibitions on no-fault termination of tenancy or occupancy (except for a limited exception for owner-occupancy evictions in single-family homes), unauthorized occupants/ unauthorized pets and nuisance until September 30.

"Housing is a human right. And while we have a long way to go to make available and affordable housing a reliable reality in California, we do have some important protections for those who have been impacted by the financial repercussions of COVID-19," said California Attorney General Bonta on Tuesday. "Know your

SEE **RENT** PAGE 11

Indoor vaccination mandates are a rapidly growing phenomenon

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

With Delta variant COVID cases continuing to surge, the County's voluntary approach to vaccination is demonstrating its limitations and there is a growing push towards indoor vaccination mandates.

Taking cues from Mayor Bill de Blasio's recent mandate for New York City, both L.A. City Council and the Board of Supervisors are considering requiring proof of vaccination to enter indoor establishments such as bars, restaurants and fitness centers.

At a state level, the California Department of Public Health has mandated that starting Aug. 11, all hospital visitors show proof of vaccination or proof of a negative result on a Covid-19 test administered within 72 hours prior to their visit.

At a local level, some businesses are voluntarily instituting indoor vaccination policies.

For example, starting Aug. 16 the Rustic Canyon Family, which operates nine local restaurants, will require guests wishing to dine indoors show proof of full vaccination or a negative test result taken within the past 72 hours. All guests are welcome to continue dining outdoors regardless of their vaccination status.

The restaurant group is spending 10 days sharing information about their upcoming policy, adding messaging to their reservation system, and mounting posters with a QR code that allows diners to access the state vaccination passport system.

"We feel we have a responsibility to really be leaders and pioneers within our industry to ensure that the customers who are come in are safe as well as our employees," said Rustic Canyon Family President Joel Dixon, adding that the company already has a vaccination requirement for its employees in place.

Dixon said he was inspired by seeing such policies used effectively at restaurants in Seattle, by New York City's new mandate, and by mandates voluntarily enacted by fellow restaurateurs such as Danny Meyer. Dixon hopes more businesses

SEE **VACCINE** PAGE 11


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Hospitals run low on nurses as they get swamped with COVID

TERRY SPENCER, JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER AND ANDREW SELSKY
Associated Press

The rapidly escalating surge in COVID-19 infections across the U.S. has caused a shortage of nurses and other front-line staff in virus hot spots that can no longer keep up with the flood of unvaccinated patients and are losing workers to burnout and lucrative out-of-state temporary gigs.

Florida, Arkansas and Louisiana all have more people hospitalized with COVID-19 than at any other point in the pandemic, and nursing staff is being stretched thin.

In Florida, virus cases have filled so many hospital beds that ambulance services and fire departments are straining to respond to emergencies. Some patients wait inside ambulances for up to an hour before hospitals in St. Petersburg, Florida, can admit them — a process that usually takes about 15 minutes, Pinellas County Administrator Barry Burton said.

One person who suffered a heart attack was bounced from six hospitals before finding an emergency room in New Orleans that could take him in, said Joe Kanter, Louisiana's chief public health officer.

"It's a real dire situation," Kanter said. "There's just not enough qualified staff in the state right now to care for all these patients."

Michelle Thomas resigned as a manager of the emergency department of a Tucson, Arizona, hospital three weeks ago after hitting a wall.

"There was never a time that we could just kind of take a breath," Thomas said Tuesday. "I hit that point … I can't do this anymore. I'm so just tapped out."

She helped other nurses cope with being alone in rooms with dying patients and holding mobile phones so family members could say their final goodbyes.

"It's like incredibly taxing and traumatizing," said Thomas, who is unsure if she will ever return to nursing.

Miami's Jackson Memorial Health System, Florida's largest medical provider, has been losing nurses to staffing agencies, other hospitals and pandemic burnout, Executive Vice President Julie Staub said. The hospital's CEO says nurses are being lured away to jobs in other states at double and triple the salary.

Staub said system hospitals have started paying retention bonuses to nurses who agree to stay for a set period. To cover shortages, nurses who agree to work extra are getting the typical time-and-a-half for overtime plus $500 per additional 12-hour shift. Even with that, the hospital sometimes still has to turn to agencies to fill openings.

"You are seeing folks chase the dollars," Staub said. "If they have the flexibility to pick up and go somewhere else and live for a week, months, whatever and make more money, it is a very enticing thing to do. I think every health care system is facing that."

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott on Monday directed state officials to use staffing agencies to find additional medical staff from beyond the state's borders as the delta variant overwhelms its present staffing resources. He also has sent a letter to the Texas Hospital Association to request that hospitals postpone all elective medical procedures voluntarily.

Parts of Europe have so far avoided a similar hospital crisis, despite wide circulation of the delta variant, with help from vaccines.

The United Kingdom on Monday had more than 5,900 COVID-19 patients in hospitals, but the latest surge has not overwhelmed medical centers. As of Tuesday, the government said 75 percent of adults have been fully vaccinated.

The same was true in Italy, where the summer infections have not resulted in any spike in hospital admissions, intensive care admissions or deaths. About 3,200 people in the nation of 60 million were hospitalized Tuesday in regular wards or ICUs, according to Health Ministry figures.

Italian health authorities advising the government on the pandemic attribute the relatively contained hospital numbers to the nation's inoculation campaign, which has fully vaccinated 64.5% of Italians 12 years of age or older.

The U.S. is averaging more than 116,000 new coronavirus infections a day along with about 50,000 hospitalizations, levels not experienced since the winter surge. Unlike other points in the pandemic, hospitals now have more non-COVID patients for everything from car accidents to surgeries that were postponed during the outbreak.

That has put even more burden on nurses who were already fatigued after dealing with constant death among patients and illnesses in their ranks.

"Anecdotally, I'm seeing more and more nurses say, 'I'm leaving, I've had enough,'" said Gerard Brogan, director of nursing practice with National Nurses United, an umbrella organization of nurses unions across the U.S. "'The risk to me and my family is just too much.'"

COVID-19 hospitalizations have now surpassed the pandemic's worst previous surge in Florida, with no signs of letting up, setting a record of 13,600 on Monday, according to the Department of Health and Human Services. More than 2,800 required intensive care. At the height of last year's summer surge, there were more than 10,170 COVID-19 hospitalizations.

At Westside Regional Medical Center in Plantation, Florida, the number of COVID-19 patients has been doubling each week for the past month, wearing down the already short staff, said Penny Ceasar, who handles admissions there.

The hospital has converted overflow areas to accommodate the rise in admissions. Some staffers have fallen ill with COVID-19.

"It's just hard. We're just tired. I just want this thing over," Ceasar said.

Associated Press writers Jennifer Kelleher, Freida Frisaro, Kelli Kennedy and Melinda Deslatte contributed to this report.

Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

Big win for $1T infrastructure bill: Dems, GOP come together

LISA MASCARO
AP Congressional Correspondent

With a robust vote after weeks of fits and starts, the Senate approved a $1 trillion infrastructure plan for states coast to coast on Tuesday, as a rare coalition of Democrats and Republicans came together to overcome skeptics and deliver a cornerstone of President Joe Biden's agenda.

"Today, we proved that democracy can still work," Biden declared at the White House, taking note of the 69-30 vote that included even Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell.

The approval provides momentum for the first phase of Biden's "Build Back Better" priorities, now heading to the House. It also sets the stage for a much more contentious fight over his bigger $3.5 trillion package that is next up in the Senate — a more liberal undertaking of child care, elder care and other programs that is much more partisan and expected to draw only Democratic support. That debate is expected to extend into the fall.

A sizable number of lawmakers showed they were willing to set aside partisan pressures for now, eager to send billions to their states for rebuilding roads, broadband internet, water pipes and the public works systems that underpin much of American life.

Infrastructure was once a mainstay of lawmaking, but the weeks-long slog to strike a compromise showed how hard it has become for Congress to tackle routine legislating, even on shared priorities.

"We can still come together to do big things, important things, for the American people.," Biden said.

There was Republican praise, too, though less exuberant.

"This infrastructure bill is not the perfect bill," said Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, one of the negotiators. She said the senators kept at it, believing, "It's better to get some of what our constituents want rather than none of it."

Tuesday's Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act started with a group of 10 senators who seized on Biden's campaign promise to draft a scaled-down version of his initial $2.3 trillion proposal, one that could more broadly appeal to both parties in the narrowly divided Congress, especially the 50-50 Senate.

It swelled to a 2,700-page bill backed by the president and also business, labor and farm interests. It drew an expansive alliance of senators and a bipartisan group in the House.

In all, 19 Republicans joined all Democrats in voting for Senate passage. Vice President Kamala Harris, as presiding officer, announced the final tally.

While liberal lawmakers said the package doesn't go far enough as a down-payment on Biden's priorities and conservatives said it is too costly and should be more fully paid for, the coalition of centrist senators was able to hold. Even broadsides from former President Donald Trump could not bring the bill down.

The measure proposes nearly $550 billion in new spending over five years in addition to current federal authorizations for public works that will reach virtually every corner of the country — a potentially historic expenditure Biden has put on par with the building of the transcontinental railroad or interstate highway system.

There's money to rebuild roads and bridges, and also to shore up coastlines against climate change, protect public utility systems from cyberattacks and modernize the electric grid. Public transit gets a boost, as do airports and freight rail. Most lead drinking water pipes in America could be replaced.

Sen. Rob Portman of Ohio, the lead Republican negotiator, said the work "demonstrates to the American people that we can get our act together on a bipartisan basis to get something done."

The top Democratic negotiator, Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, said rarely will a piece of legislation affect so many Americans. She gave a nod to the late fellow Arizona Sen. John McCain and said she was trying to follow his example to "reach bipartisan agreements that try to bring the country together."

Drafted during the COVID-19 crisis, the bill would provide $65 billion for broadband, a provision Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, negotiated because she said the coronavirus pandemic showed that such service "is no longer a luxury; it is a necessity." States will receive money to expand broadband and make it more affordable.

Despite the momentum, action slowed last weekend when Sen. Bill Hagerty, a Tennessee Republican allied with Trump, refused to speed up the process.

Trump had called his one-time Japan ambassador and cheered him on, but it's unclear if the former president's views still carry as much sway with most senators. Trump issued fresh complaints hours before Tuesday's vote. He had tried and failed to pass his own infrastructure bill during his time in the White House.

Other Republican senators objected to the size, scope and financing of the package, particularly concerned after the Congressional Budget Office said it would add $256 billion to deficits over the decade.

Rather than pressure his colleagues, Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky stayed behind the scenes for much of the bipartisan work. He allowed the voting to proceed, and may benefit from enabling this package in a stroke of bipartisanship while trying to stop Biden's next big effort. He voted for passage on Tuesday.

Unlike the $3.5 trillion second package, which would be paid for by higher tax rates for corporations and the wealthy, the bipartisan package is to be funded by repurposing other money, including some COVID-19 aid.

The bill's backers argue that the budget office's analysis was unable to take into account certain revenue streams that will help offset its costs — including from future economic growth.

Senators have spent the past week processing nearly two dozen amendments, but none substantially changed its framework.

The House is expected to consider both Biden infrastructure packages together, but centrist lawmakers urged Speaker Nancy Pelosi to bring the bipartisan plan forward quickly, and they raised concerns about the bigger bill in a sign of the complicated politics still ahead.

After the Senate vote, she declared, "Today is a day of progress ... a once in a century opportunity."

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 319 CALLS ON AUGUST 9

Party Complaint 17th St / Georgina Ave 12:55 a.m.
Petty Theft Now 1100blk 12th St 1:22 a.m.
Party Complaint 2500blk 5th St 1:36 a.m.
Petty Theft 2500blk California Ave 2:15 a.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 800blk 18th St 2:56 a.m.
Petty Theft 1600blk Ocean Ave 3:08 a.m.
Grand Theft Now 500blk Hill St 3:58 a.m.
Grand Theft Now 2600blk 6th St 3:59 a.m.
Burglary 800blk 21st St 5:13 a.m.
Encampment 2600blk The Beach 5:47 a.m.
Encampment 2500blk Ocean Front Walk 5:55 a.m.
Identity Theft 600blk Idaho Ave 6:41 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 6:43 a.m.
Burglary 900blk 3rd St 7:13 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1300blk 4th St 7:35 a.m.
Encampment 1700blk Ocean Front Walk 7:38 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1600blk 11th St 7:47 a.m.
Burglary 1500blk 6th St 8:23 a.m.
Petty Theft 1400blk 2nd St 8:29 a.m.
Smoking Violation 1400blk Olympic Blvd 9:05 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1200blk 4th St 9:17 a.m.
Burglary 2700blk Washington Ave 9:34 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1500blk 5th St 9:37 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1600blk Ocean Ave 9:47 a.m.
Encampment 500blk Arizona Ave 9:52 a.m.
Fraud 2400blk 34th St 10:00 a.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 1100blk 16th St 10:03 a.m.
Harassing Phone Calls 100blk Wilshire Blvd 10:04 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1000blk 7th St 10:09 a.m.
Fraud 1500blk 11th St 10:09 a.m.
Petty Theft 1400blk Colorado Ave 10:17 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1600blk Broadway 10:21 a.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 1600blk Appian Way 10:28 a.m.
Burglary 800blk The Beach 10:31 a.m.
Found Senile Person 1500blk 4th St 10:32 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 3rd Street Prom / Arizona Ave 10:43 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2100blk Wilshire Blvd 10:47 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1100blk Harvard St 10:48 a.m.
Lewd Activity 4th St / Adelaide Dr 10:57 a.m.
Petty Theft 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 11:26 a.m.
Assault 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:11 p.m.
Missing Person 2600blk The Beach 12:23 p.m.
Grand Theft 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 12:30 p.m.
Petty Theft 200blk Santa Monica Pl 12:43 p.m.
Encampment 3200blk 21st St 1:08 p.m.
Encampment 2100blk Dewey St 1:26 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1500blk 6th St 1:38 p.m.
Battery 1500blk Palisades Park 1:44 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1700blk Lincoln Blvd 2:01 p.m.
Identity Theft 500blk Wilshire Blvd 2:09 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 7th St / Marguerita Ave 2:10 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 19th St / Colorado Ave 2:21 p.m.
Battery 700blk Wilshire Blvd 3:28 p.m.
Battery 700blk Wilshire Blvd 3:41 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1000blk 4th St 3:44 p.m.
Auto Burglary 2600blk 28th St 3:46 p.m.
Petty Theft 1300blk 17th St 3:55 p.m.
Assault 700blk Hill St 4:04 p.m.
Found Property 300blk Olympic Dr 4:11 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 900blk 16th St 4:17 p.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 4:26 p.m.
Stalking 300blk Olympic Dr 4:26 p.m.
Elder Abuse 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 4:30 p.m.
Fight Lincoln Blvd / Ocean Park Blvd 4:30 p.m.
Encampment 1300blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:38 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1800blk Wilshire Blvd 4:42 p.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 1100blk 16th St 4:49 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2400blk Cloverfield Blvd 5:10 p.m.
Public Intoxication 26th St / Wilshire Blvd 5:15 p.m.
General Parking Problem 2000blk Ocean Ave 5:16 p.m.
Battery 1400blk 21st St 5:27 p.m.
Petty Theft 1400blk 2nd St 5:28 p.m.
Burglary 800blk 21st St 5:44 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 800blk Pico Blvd 5:49 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1900blk 18th St 5:51 p.m.
Petty Theft 1500blk 6th St 5:55 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Ocean Ave / Olympic Dr 5:55 p.m.
Burglary 200blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:08 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1000blk 11th St 6:12 p.m.
Encampment 800blk Palisades Park 6:14 p.m.
Found Property 700blk 22nd St 6:34 p.m.
Fight 4th St / Colorado Ave 7:39 p.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 1000blk 14th St 7:54 p.m.
Petty Theft 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 7:58 p.m.
Indecent Exposure 1900blk Ocean Ave 8:17 p.m.
Public Intoxication 600blk Wilshire Blvd 8:37 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 900blk Lincoln Blvd 9:23 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1700blk 15th St 10:00 p.m.
Party Complaint 2100blk 6th St 10:24 p.m.
Auto Burglary Now 2700blk Lincoln Blvd 10:51 p.m.
Public Intoxication 300blk Santa Monica Pier 10:55 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 10:57 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 10:57 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 900blk Ocean Ave 11:15 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 24 CALLS ON AUGUST 9

EMS 800blk 2nd St 2:20 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 18th St 4:45 a.m.
EMS 2000blk 4th St 6:33 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 1600blk 11th St 7:47 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 19th St 8:09 a.m.
Public Assist 2900blk 3rd St 8:39 a.m.
EMS 1700blk Cloverfield Blvd 8:55 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 5th St 10:22 a.m.
EMS 300blk Olympic Dr 10:23 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1000blk Wilshire Blvd 11:06 a.m.
EMS 1100blk Wilshire Blvd 12:37 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2800blk Neilson Way 12:58 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Broadway 1:37 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300blk 7th St 1:44 p.m.
EMS 200blk Ocean Ave 2:07 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 12th St 2:31 p.m.
EMS 1800blk Wilshire Blvd 4:33 p.m.
EMS 1700blk Maple St 4:39 p.m.
EMS 2900blk Neilson Way 5:41 p.m.
EMS Longfellow St / Ozone St 5:45 p.m.
EMS 19th St / Wilshire Blvd 6:05 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Olympic Blvd 8:32 p.m.
EMS 300blk Olympic Dr 9:05 p.m.
Odor Investigation 900blk 2nd St 11:25 p.m.

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS CALLING FOR BIDS
DISTRICT: SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
BID#: 072621SF Athletics Events Charter Transportation

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named California Community College District, acting by and through its Board of Trustees, hereinafter "the District" will receive up to, but not later than the below-stated date and time, Bid Proposals for the Project generally described as: Athletics Events Charter Transportation.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF BID PROPOSALS: 08/18/21 2:00p.m.

Bid Documents may be obtained by logging onto the District bidding website at: https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=13721#.

Bid Security- Each bid shall be accompanied by bid security in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the total bid amount. Bid security must be in the form of a Bid Bond executed by a California Admitted Surety Insurer, or certified or cashier's check payable to Santa Monica College.

All Bid Proposals shall be submitted in accordance with requirements set forth by the District. Bid must conform with and be responsive to the Bid Documents, copies of which may be obtained as set forth above. Only bid responses submitted to the District prior to the date and time set forth and in the manner prescribed shall be considered.

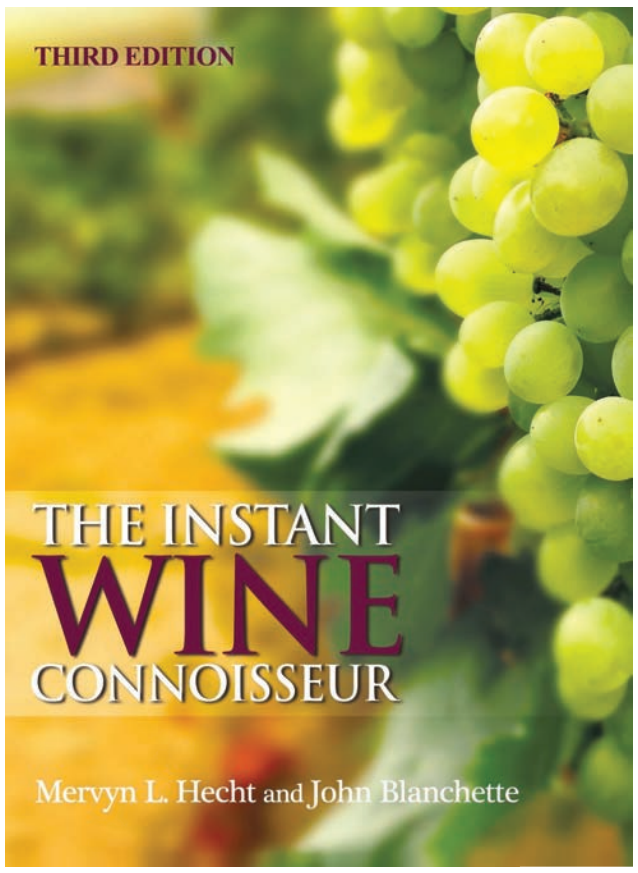
SMC reserves the rights to cancel this IFB without liability, reject any and all bids, waive any and all irregularities, and to award in whole or in part. Bids may be withdrawn by written notice provided such notice is received at the office of SMC's Procurement Department prior to the date/time set as the closing time for receiving bids. Bids shall be open and valid for a period of 60 days following the submission closing date. Any interpretation, addition, deletion, or any other corrections to the bid document, will be issued as written addenda by SMC. It is the sole responsibility of the potential Bidders to periodically check the SMC bid website to ensure that all available information has been received.

Post dates: 08/04/21 & 08/11/21

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Daily Press Food &Wine Columnist Merv Hecht takes you on an delightful tour of the world of wine. A fun way to increase your appreciation and knowledge of wine.

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The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 8,200 on weekdays and 8,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

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Sustainable Quality Awards
WINNER

Groups make own drugs to fight high drug prices, shortages

LINDA A. JOHNSON
AP Medical Writer

Impatient with years of inaction in Washington on prescription drug costs, U.S. hospital groups, startups and nonprofits have started making their own medicines in a bid to combat stubbornly high prices and persistent shortages of drugs with little competition.

The efforts are at varying stages, but some have already made and shipped millions of doses. Nearly half of U.S. hospitals have gotten some drugs from the projects and more medicines should be in retail pharmacies within the next year as the work accelerates.

Most groups are working on generics, while at least one is trying to develop brand-name drugs. All aim to sell their drugs at prices well below what competitors charge.

"These companies are addressing different parts of the problem and trying to come up with novel solutions" to produce cheaper medicines, said Stacie Dusetzina, a Vanderbilt University health policy professor. "People should be able to access the drugs that work for them without going broke."

While some of the projects are solving supply problems and reducing medication costs for hospitals, drug price experts are split on how much consumers will benefit.

Dusetzina said the efforts could bring needed price competition, at least for some drugs.

Dr. Aaron Kesselheim, a Harvard Medical School researcher and price expert at Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston, thinks for some drugs these projects "can lower patients' out-of-pocket costs ... absolutely."

But David Mitchell, founder of the independent consumer group Patients for Affordable Drugs, said the projects are workarounds that help in niches, but are "not enough to fix a broken system."

Civica Rx was started three years ago by a hospital consortium. It now provides over 50 generic injectable medicines in chronic shortage to more than 1,400 hospital members and the Veterans Affairs and Defense departments. It already has sold enough medication to treat 17 million people, including many hospitalized with COVID-19.

Now it's expanding to help patients directly, said chief executive Martin VanTrieste. Its new partnership with Anthem and Blue Cross health plans, CivicaScript, is picking six or seven expensive generic drugs to start. It will have contract manufacturer Catalent start producing those drugs to sell at 50,000 retail pharmacies starting in 2023.

Other "alternative drugmakers" include:

—Two enterprises, from Premier Inc. and Phlow Corp., focused on providing their hospital members with affordably priced generics that are chronically scarce.

— NP2, which is about to start producing cheaper generic IV cancer medicines.

— EQRx, which is creating brand-name drugs for cancer and inflammatory disorders to sell at "radically lower prices" than rival brands.

Walmart recently added insulin to its in-house brand of products for people with diabetes. It's selling its own version of the mealtime insulin NovoLog, in partnership with manufacturer Novo Nordisk, for less than half NovoLog's price.

Even entrepreneur Mark Cuban has jumped in, giving his name and money to a public-benefit company aiming to provide cheap alternatives to high-cost generic drugs at 15% above manufacturing costs, no insurance needed.

In January, Mark Cuban Cost Plus Drug Co. launched its first medication, a pill for parasitic worm infections that it sells through independent pharmacies for about $40 per two-dose treatment, said founder and CEO Dr. Alex Oshmyansky. The company is building a factory in Dallas but paying other manufacturers for now and aims to launch up to 100 more drugs by year's end.

Vanderbilt's Dusetzina sees Cuban's company as best positioned to cut out-of-pocket costs.

"It's a really nice project to go after products where there's little competition — and price gouging," she said.

Brand-name drugs get monopolies lasting up to two decades under U.S. patent law, so most of the alternative drugmakers are targeting certain off-patent medicines whose prices have risen dramatically in recent years.

Generics are usually cheap. But as buyers pushed for barely break-even prices on these drugs over the last couple decades, generic manufacturers consolidated. With fewer factories making certain generics, even temporary plant closures triggered lasting shortages. And the reduced competition led to big price hikes, often forcing doctors to try costlier, less-effective alternatives and hospital pharmacists to spend long hours seeking alternatives for drugs in shortage.

Those years-long shortages spurred Civica's formation. It also led a top hospital group purchasing organization, Premier Inc., to launch a program that has contractors making more than 60 products for about 850 member hospitals, said its chief pharmacy officer, Jessica Daley. The two groups say they've gotten numerous drugs off national shortage lists.

Phlow Corp., a public benefit drug manufacturer largely funded by government grants, partnered in March with 11 top children's hospitals to address shortages by making generic medicines in child-size doses for cancer and other life-threatening conditions. Phlow and Civica are building neighboring factories in Petersburg, Virginia.

Such efforts have been helping hospitals stock crucial drugs — sedatives, painkillers, antibiotics and respiratory medicines — needed for COVID-19 patients.

The alternative drugmakers are hiring U.S. contract manufacturers whenever possible and getting drug ingredients here or in Europe, to diversify supply chains heavily reliant on China and India, which limited exports of drugs and ingredients early in the pandemic. The Biden administration also is working to increase domestic production of

SEE **DRUGS** PAGE 7

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Countywide

Vaccinated People Remain Well Protected from Severe COVID-19 Illness

As COVID-19 hospitalizations continue to increase, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) highlights data showing that vaccinated people remain exceptionally well protected from severe COVID-19 illness.

There are 1,503 people with COVID-19 currently hospitalized and 23% of these people are in the ICU. In late July, about 94 people newly admitted to a hospital each day were positive for COVID-19; of these 88%, were unvaccinated.

Among the more than 5.1 million fully vaccinated people in L.A. County, Public Health identified less than 1% or 15,628 people fully vaccinated who tested positive for COVID-19 as of August 3. Of those who tested positive, 446 were hospitalized. This translates to 0.009% of all fully vaccinated people ending up hospitalized. Deaths in this group are also very low at 0.0008%, representing 41 people fully vaccinated that tragically passed away. This compelling evidence shows that fully vaccinated people remain at low risk for becoming infected and even lower risk for having a bad outcome if they are infected.

Now is a particularly critical time to increase vaccination uptake given the high level of community transmission.

Healthcare workers have been among the County's highest-risk populations for COVID-19 infections since the beginning of the pandemic. As PPE became more widely available and vaccinations increased among healthcare workers, their infection rates declined earlier this year. However, the County is now seeing transmission rise in this group: Between July 25 and July 31, 268 healthcare workers and first responders tested positive for COVID-19.

Healthcare workers are not uniformly vaccinated, and while consistent use of respirators and PPE reduces the likelihood of transmission within healthcare settings, unvaccinated workers are still at higher risk for being infected in their communities when community transmission is high. Because many healthcare workers have close contact with very vulnerable patients, it is therefore of particular importance to prevent infection in healthcare workers: the better protected they are, the safer it is for the vulnerable people they care for, and the easier it is to ensure that healthcare facilities are able to remain fully staffed during the pandemic.

Given the need to protect healthcare workers and the populations they care for, Los Angeles County will issue a Health Officer Order to align with State Orders that mandate vaccinations for healthcare workers by September 30. The County Order will also include three additional groups of healthcare workers: emergency medical technicians and paramedics, home healthcare workers, and dental practice employees. Over the coming weeks, the County will work collaboratively and closely with healthcare and labor partners to develop an effective education and implementation strategy.

Public Health has confirmed 22 new deaths and 2,622 new cases of COVID-19. Of the 22 new deaths reported today, five people who passed away were over the age of 80, five people who died were between the ages of 65 and 79, five people who died were between the ages of 50 and 64, five people died were between the ages of 30 and 49, and two people who died were between the ages of 18 and 29. To date, Public Health identified 1,331,859 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County and a total of 24,805 deaths.

Testing results are available for nearly 7,530,000 individuals with 16% of people testing positive. Today's test positivity rate is 4.6%.

"We share our deepest condolences with all those who are grieving the loss of friends, loved ones, and family, and we wish you healing and peace," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "We favor COVID-19 vaccination for everyone eligible because of the mounting evidence that these vaccines are effective and safe and provide the most powerful tool for ending the pandemic. That is why we work so hard to ensure barrier free access to vaccinations. This is also why we favor targeted vaccination mandates, since this is the tool that offers us the most protection from spread of COVID-19. High rates of vaccination allow us to remain fully open and protect those not yet eligible or able to get vaccinated."

On, Wednesday, August 11, at 6 p.m., Public Health will host a Virtual Town Hall on COVID-19. Join the town hall to get the latest updates on COVID-19. The town hall will be streamed live on Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube @lapublichealth. For more information and to submit a question, visit: TinyURL.com/LACountyTownHall.

If you are eligible for COVID-19 vaccine but have not yet been vaccinated, consider getting vaccinated now. L.A. County continues to offer vaccines at many different sites across the county to make it as easy as possible for eligible L.A. County residents to get vaccinated. Vaccinations are always free and open to eligible residents and workers regardless of immigration status.

Anyone 12 and older living or working in L.A. County can get vaccinated against COVID-19. 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.

SUBMITTED BY PUBLIC HEALTH

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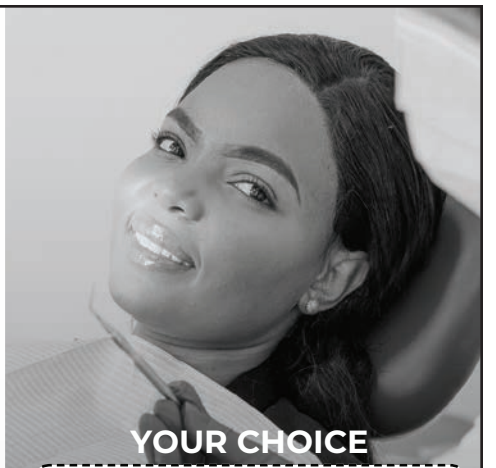
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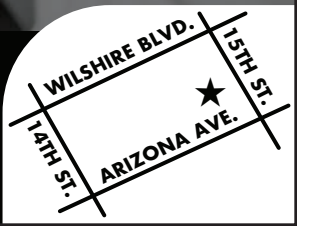
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Curious City

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Closure Doesn't Solve Problems

MAIN STREET NEEDS REAL SOLUTIONS

Poor Main Street, for all its changes and growth and decline over the three and a half decades I've lived nearby, is in pretty bad shape now. But that was the case for a while, even before COVID lockdowns.

I love Main Street. It used to be a great place to stroll, to window shop or people watch, on a balmy beach day. Not too many years ago it was a cornucopia of diverse storefronts, from artists collectives to electric bikes, stationary to shoe repair, to shops whose merchandise you couldn't describe, you just had to take friends there, and watch them get lost in delight like children. Great restaurants, small specialized eateries, more caffeine dispensers per block than just about anywhere. Many with charming outdoor seating areas, hidden out back or sometimes out front.

I don't want to see anyone lose their business, that they have put so much time, money and heart into. Too many that I really liked and patronized on Main Street now sport empty insides and for lease signs on their forlorn windows. It's sad, and disheartening. Something needs to be done, but what?



Charles Andrews

MAIN: The Spread on Main Street.

NOT THAT

The Main Street Closure, a four-weekend once-a-month "pilot program" ballyhooed to try to revitalize Main Street businesses, is a transparent sham. For what reason, we don't know yet. It seems to be aimed to mostly benefit restaurants and bars, but that may not be the ultimate explanation either. The first one July 24-25, from what I could see and from what people told me, especially Main Street business owners and neighborhood residents, barely benefited those bars and restaurants, if at all, and sure did no favors for all the other businesses on Main Street, several of which reported less business than they should have, all factors considered.

A sham? I've got eyes and ears and a logical brain, and that's all it takes. If it's not a sham and a scam it's such a failed effort that should be a scandal too. All this work, and $70,000 of our tax money from City Council, and when I visited last weekend it seemed busier than during the "Closure," with more street energy. Well, there are three more weekends, this was just the wobbly start, let's see how it goes.

Yeah, tight, just kidding. We don't need three more weekends to prove this is not addressing the advertised intent, in any meaningful way. So why was it pushed so hard?

WHO PUSHED?

OPA, the Ocean Park neighborhood association that does not act like any other of our six neighborhood associations, and some think they should have long ago just come clean and merged with the Main Street Business Improvement Association.

Certainly Main Street is a major, valued element of Ocean Park, and of Santa Monica. We all want to see a healthy Main Street. But there are people and organizations who will take advantage of any desperate situation for their own agenda and greed, and when I see a situation that doesn't make sense, that isn't explained by the story being put out, cynical me starts to suspect something fishy.

If you are trying to revitalize all the businesses on Main Street, why did you take away almost all the street parking? (And BTW, how much meter revenue lost to the city does that add up to?) A few food and beverage businesses like Jameson's and Chinois on Main may be destinations, but most of those other shop owners depend on strolling foot traffic, people who didn't know those shops were there but peeked in the window and wandered in, perchance to buy. When you limit nearby parking — and no, the lots you cite will not substitute, people don't want to walk four or five blocks to get to the place where they want to wander four or five blocks — you kill a lot of the foot traffic that is the lifeblood of those businesses.

NOT TO MENTION

That the "Closure" closed off three private lots with 70 spaces. 70. Not only does that really cut back on potential customers for most Main Street businesses, is it legal to seize someone's property like that, even for a weekend? Wouldn't permission and compensation be required?

Maybe not. I don't see anyone in our city government worried about that issue when it comes to restaurant and bar tables and chairs on our sidewalks. (They didn't have any problem giving that public property away to scooter and bike companies, either.) Aren't those sidewalks public property? Didn't you and I pay for them? For our use? What kind of fiscal management is that? If you are going to give public property to private for-profit companies, at least get something for it.

Our former Mayor Kevin McKeown as much as admitted it was a violation, a few

SEE CURIOUS CITY PAGE 7

CURIOUS CITY

FROM PAGE 6

months ago in an OPA zoom meeting, when he brushed aside, with great disdain, the suggestion that the city should enforce the law against Jameson's, who has had their table settings on our public sidewalks for months now. (More important than the giveaway is the logjam it created there: you couldn't walk down the sidewalk after you got to Jameson's without being six inches on either side of an infectious gauntlet of their diners and drinkers, unmasked during the raging height of COVID infections.

McKeown's response to this suggestion from a naive citizen? "Well, you see, you have to actually catch someone breaking an ordinance before you can do anything." Which you could have done any day for the last year or so by simply sending a code enforcement officer over there any evening between 5:30 and midnight. Other City Council members also heard this complaint come up multiple times at those OPA zooms, but there's Jameson's, still at it, worse than ever. They certainly seem to get special treatment from our City government, to the detriment of nearby businesses and to residents, and I wonder why.

I received a plaintive email from an Ocean Park resident a couple of weeks ago, a lifelong resident of SM, in her 80s, who reported that she has always enjoyed taking part of her daily walk, with her walker, along Main Street, but now, with the scooters, bikes and other sidewalk obstructions, she is afraid to go there.

Just who is the Ocean Park Association working for? Not her.

Charles Andrews has lived in Santa Monica for 34 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

DRUGS

FROM PAGE 4

essential generic drugs.

Harvard's Kesselheim foresees the new generic manufacturers helping to boost supply and lower prices, but he thinks developing new brand-name drugs — as EQRx is trying to do — is tougher.

EQRx is currently testing 10 novel drugs that it licensed the rights to, for cancers and immunologic disorders like rheumatoid arthritis. One already in final-stage testing could launch within three years.

The company expects to start work on another 10 patented drugs in ultra-expensive categories in the next year and is collaborating with Exscientia, a firm that uses artificial intelligence to design drugs and speed up testing.

Insurers are among EQRx's early investors, said the company's president, Melanie Nallicheri. They expect the company to turn a profit, but they also support plans to price medicines at up to two-thirds off rival brand-name drugs, she said.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Consumer Warning: Stolen Vehicles Being Fraudulently Sold Online as Used Cars

The California Department of Motor Vehicles is alerting Californians to be on the lookout for unscrupulous used car sellers who are luring unsuspecting consumers into buying stolen vehicles online. This warning comes after DMV investigators report an increase in this type of illegal activity, which is fueled by a shortage of new vehicles for sale, and consumers willing to pay more for used ones.

Criminals exploiting the vehicle shortage steal a vehicle, alter the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), create a fraudulent certificate of title (commonly known as a pink slip), and advertise the car for sale online through sites such as Facebook Marketplace or Offer Up. The car thieves use several tactics to encourage the buyer to take quick action, including listing the stolen vehicles well below market value, discounting the sale by thousands of dollars without negotiation, and telling potential buyers they have received several offers.

"With an increase in stolen vehicles being sold online, we are reminding consumers that if something seems too good to be true, it probably is," said DMV Director Steve Gordon. "Californians planning to make a large cash purchase of a vehicle from someone they do not know should proceed with caution."

Consumers can take several steps to avoid inadvertently purchasing a stolen vehicle:

Obtain an online VIN history report or ask the seller to provide you with a report and compare the information to the vehicle being offered for sale.

Compare the name of the owner on the title (pink slip) to the name of the seller.

Insist on meeting the seller at a local DMV field office to complete the sale and vehicle transfer.

Meet at a local law enforcement location to verify the vehicle before the transaction.

As with all sales, buyers should take note of the seller's car and attempt to confirm their identity.

DMV investigators protect consumers and improve public safety through investigation of complaints that often result in criminal or administrative actions. Consumers who believe they may have purchased a stolen vehicle with a fraudulent certificate of title are urged to contact DMV Investigations at (661) 836-2291.

The DMV reminds customers that legitimate title transfers and many other DMV activities can be accomplished online at dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv-online/.

SUBMITTED BY THE DMV



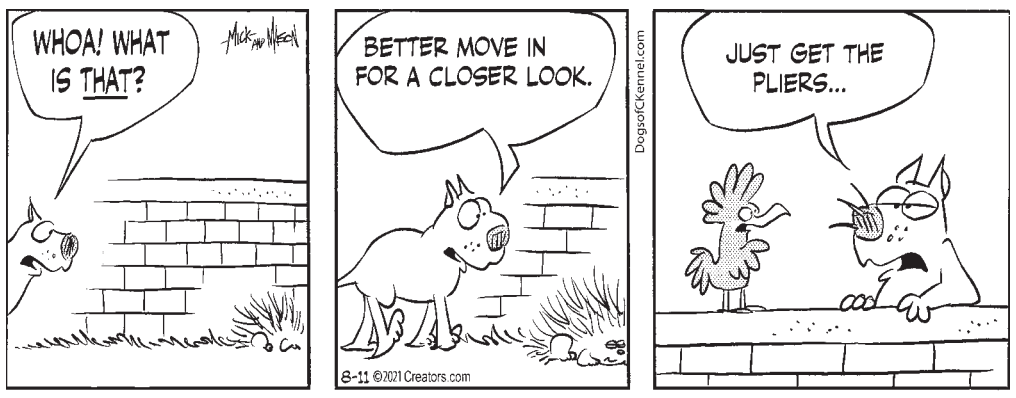
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



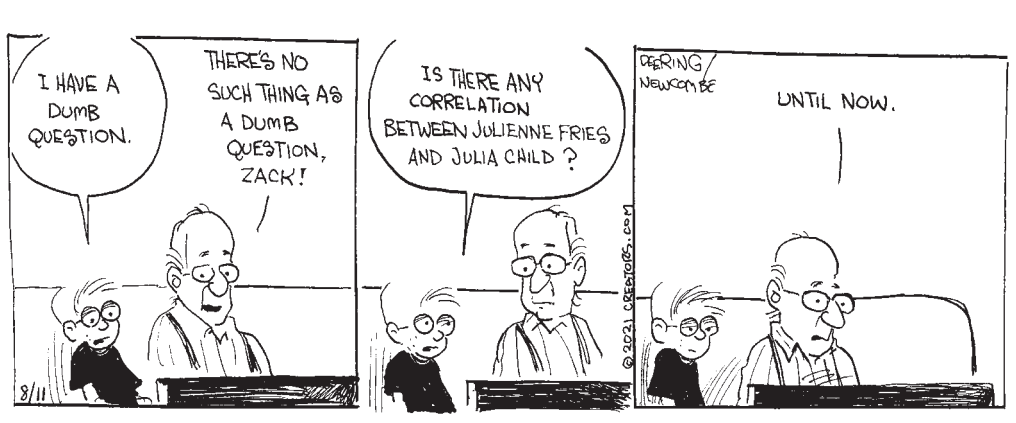
Dogs of C-Kennel

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: 64.6°

WEDNESDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high
Clean morning with a decent tide push. Modest S swell lingers along with minor NW swell mix.

THURSDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft Waist to stomach high
Light winds, decent tide push in the AM. Refresh of S/SSE swell for exposures west of Pt Dume. SW pulse joins in. Trace NW swell mix. Tropical SSE swell fills in – stay tuned.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 64.
Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, then gradually becoming sunny, with a high near 74.
Thursday: Mostly clear, with a low around 65. West wind 5 to 10 mph.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/08/11	Wed	05:58 AM	-0.10	L
2021/08/11	Wed	12:24 PM	4.65	H
2021/08/11	Wed	5:53 PM	1.84	L
2021/08/11	Wed	11:49 PM	5.38	H
2021/08/12	Thu	06:29 AM	0.33	L
2021/08/12	Thu	1:00 PM	4.84	H
2021/08/12	Thu	6:51 PM	1.78	L
2021/08/13	Fri	12:40 AM	4.69	H
2021/08/13	Fri	07:02 AM	0.87	L
2021/08/13	Fri	1:42 PM	5.03	H
2021/08/13	Fri	8:02 PM	1.69	L
2021/08/14	Sat	01:46 AM	3.94	H
2021/08/14	Sat	07:37 AM	1.48	L
2021/08/14	Sat	2:32 PM	5.21	H
2021/08/14	Sat	9:35 PM	1.46	L
2021/08/15	Sun	03:22 AM	3.32	H
2021/08/15	Sun	08:23 AM	2.07	L
2021/08/15	Sun	3:33 PM	5.40	H
2021/08/15	Sun	11:13 PM	0.96	L
2021/08/16	Mon	05:29 AM	3.14	H
2021/08/16	Mon	09:35 AM	2.56	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERball
Draw Date: 8/7
7 24 36 54 60
Power#: 23
Jackpot: 241 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 8/6
9 18 40 46 69
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: 208 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 8/7
2 9 12 20 39
Mega#: 5
Jackpot: 7 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 8/9
2 6 9 12 15

Daily 3
Draw Date: 8/9
EVENING: 1 2 9

Draw Date: 8/9
MIDDAY: 6 0 0

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 8/9
1st: 06 - Whirl Win
2nd: 02 - Lucky Star
3rd: 01 - Gold Rush
Race Time: 1:44.77

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (AUGUST 11)

It's a year of daring. You'll move outside your pattern and attract both scrutiny and extraordinary good fortune. You'll get serious about fun and put some money into it – an investment that will pay in ways you never would have expected. Reunions are featured. A life-changing meeting will go down at the turn of the year. Aquarius and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 20, 3, 19, 44 and 8.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your energy revs high and dips low. While it's high, try new things. Your experiments will be most fortunate! The lows allow your subconscious to integrate all you've learned.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You are someone's favorite. You don't have to work to maintain your position, and that's precisely why you should put forth efforts. The number one rule for maintaining "favorite" status is to never take it for granted.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You start with a vague idea. Your clever mind whirs to build a case for it. Emotions kick in with intensity. Suddenly, this vague idea seems like a do-or-die quest. It's in your ability to dial the feelings up or down at any time.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Information is only as useful as it is accurate. Check the facts before you act. Also, the sources have sources, which will be even more important to investigate.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Though many parts of your life seem uncertain now, you can trust in your ability to figure out the next right move. You'll survey the scene, draw a straight line to the goal and then walk it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Some situations are black holes of need. No matter what you throw in to help the situation, all will be consumed and more will be demanded — no chance of fulfillment in sight. Recognize the signs. Avoid at all costs.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). What's ordinary to one person is mind-blowing to someone not of that world. There's new vitality to tap by sharing a part of your life with someone who wouldn't normally encounter it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). A relationship has become cumbersome. New social tactics will serve it well. Levity and brevity are needed — or maybe just space. Nothing is quite as weightless or brief as nothing at all.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Remember when you misunderstood who was in charge? Titles never do tell the whole story. Power is often wielded from lower ranks. Now, you'll tune your senses to more subtle cues.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The sacredness of doors will be a theme. Doors are introductions, escape hatches, memory erasers, preludes, prison and privacy essentials. Things change with the opening and closing of doors.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). As salespeople know, however valuable an item may be, it's not worth much if no one buys it. Profits are only made when inventory moves. You have an extra sense about what people want.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You may not be trying to win someone's affection, but your genuine interest in what they do makes them feel important; the sort of feeling that kindles fondness and motivates planning for future togetherness.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

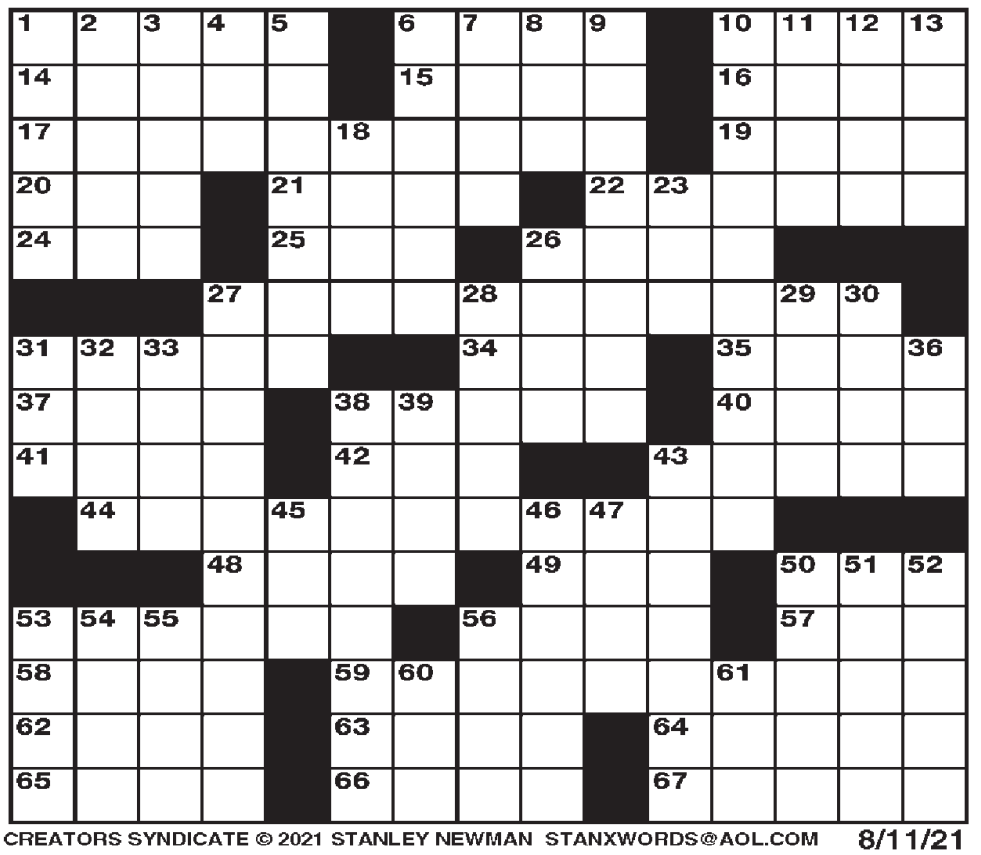
	8	4				3		7
			4		1		8	
	2			8			6	
	4				5			
5		8		3		6		9
			8				5	
	3			4			9	
	5		1		7			
9		7				2	4	

Newsday Crossword

STARTER HOMES by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Online birthday greeting
6 London fellow
10 Former home-furnace fuel
14 Madame Curie
15 Bar mitzvah dance
16 Off course
17 Written aids for test cheaters
19 Toy brick brand
20 Eden woman
21 Don't stop at
22 Betrayed by squealing
24 Electrified fish
25 Insect in a colony
26 Impolitely abrupt
27 Does a prospector's work
31 Script memorizer
34 Tell false tales
35 Restaurant serving
37 Snow-clearing vehicle
38 Places for beards
40 A big fan of
41 Be entitled to
42 Leave in a hurry
43 Beginning stage
44 IRA, for example
48 Carton sealer
49 Teddy's Rushmore neighbor
50 Infection-protection gear: Abbr.
53 Come out of hiding
56 Chills with cubes
57 Smoked salmon
58 Butcher scale button
59 Overdo it, listing one's qualifications
62 Diva's tune
63 Got mellower
64 Soda-bottle size
65 Mushroom morsel
66 Aroma detector
67 Wintry coating

DOWN
1 Game-show host
2 Turn into a jack-o'-lantern
3 Disney mermaid
4 Barbecue bit
5 Hopelessness
6 Treasure holders
7 Weed-chopping tools
8 Curator's concern
9 Places to graze
10 Evoke
11 Not yet repaid
12 Oscar film directed by Affleck
13 French home to Interpol
18 Install on a wall
23 Nonprofit's URL ender
26 Piggy bank deposit
27 Current's direction
28 Throw with force
29 Camera component
30 Fruit from a palm tree
31 Gorilla, for example
32 Big family
33 Ripped out
36 Land parcel
38 Type of skillet
39 Enormous
43 Make __ scarce (hide)
45 Luggage attachment
46 Superficial appearance
47 Lyft's ridesharing rival
50 Dwarf planet beyond Neptune
51 Apples and pears
52 Apply, as influence
53 Timetable stats.
54 Mini-__ (convenience store)
55 Lake beside Ohio
56 "Beware the __ of March"
60 Before now
61 Lancelot or Galahad



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2021 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 8/11/21

Binary Puzzle

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

											I
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				I		O		O			



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

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FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 19 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5203

Imaginative play

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

Aladdin	Genie	Menfolk	Sinbad
Animals	Giant	Nose	Swan
Ariel	Gnomes	Ogre	Text
Ball	Goblin	Peri	The Three Bears
Crying	Grimm	Pixy	
Dark	Hansel	Puck	Tom Thumb
Disney	Hare	Rapunzel	Trolls
Dormouse	Hero	Read	Weird
Elves	Hobbit	Recite	Witch
Fable	Imps	Rumpelstiltskin	
Frog	Lost	Sadness	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Veterinary practice

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RENT

FROM PAGE 1

rights, and take advantage of the resources that California has made available for you."

City Hall has proposed a plan to educate local renters and property owners about their share of the federal aid.

"The Rent Control Agency and City staff are coordinating an outreach program to educate the Santa Monica community about California's rental assistance program, which has more than $7 billion in federal funds available to help landlords and tenants impacted by COVID-19," said the RCB staff report. "Along with the statewide eviction moratorium, the rental assistance program is designed to keep families housed, shield tenants from eviction, and help both landlords and tenants recover from the economic impacts of COVID-19. The statewide 'CA COVID-19 Rent Relief Program' (commonly referred to as 'Housing is Key') is available to help income-eligible households with 100 percent of unpaid rent and utilities, for both past and future amounts owed."

According to the Housing is Key website, only $243 million has been distributed to about 132,076 applications by the first week of August.

Santa Monica households have filed 1,250 applications requesting $20,327,062 in funds so far. According to officials, 458 households had been served with $7,535,516 in paid assistance, averaging $16,453 per household.

Santa Monica has proposed a $55,000 plan to increase awareness of the aid available.

The plan calls for postcards to be mailed to every household in Santa Monica (approximately 55,000) in four languages, follow-up postcards mailed to residents of approximately 27,000 rent controlled units and 4,000 property owners (at 2,000 mailing addresses), door hangers distributed to specific groups - mainly long-term rent controlled tenants (approximately 7,000) and residential buildings in specific areas, postcards to be distributed to clients of the Disability Community Resource Center (DCRC), Meals on Wheels, and other potentially vulnerable communities, information at targeted businesses and institutions (for example: food banks, grocery stores, laundromats, gas stations/convenience stores, thrift stores, banks/cash checking stores, places of worship, parks, community centers, libraries, and clinics), media outreach, and information given to community organizations.

"Given the availability of the federally financed rental relief funds, the extreme urgency of keeping tenants housed, and the desire to ensure landlords are made whole for unpaid rent and utilities, staff recommends that the Rent Control Board authorize an expenditure of up to $10,000 as the Agency's financial contribution to the outreach program," said the staff report. "This effort is potentially a win-win for landlords and tenants and will allow City funds to be leveraged for a broad campaign reaching property owners and tenants of rent-controlled units, some multiple times. A contribution of this amount will ensure planned efforts are sufficiently funded."

RCB will meet virtually on Thursday, August 12 at 7 p.m. The meeting will be available on the City's website and for more information, visit https://www.smgov.net/rentcontrol or call (310) 458-8751. Additional information about the rental aid can be found at www.smgov.net or https://housing.ca.gov/.

editor@smdp.com

VACCINE

FROM PAGE 1

will follow suit, while Santa Monica awaits a decision at a political level.

If the respective indoor vaccination measures being considered by L.A. City Council and the Board of Supervisors pass, they will only apply to the City of LA and unincorporated areas of the county. Santa Monica, like the other 87 cities in the county, would have to approve its own indoor vaccination mandate for the rules to apply locally.

If the County Department of Public Health were to pass a version of an indoor vaccination mandate, it would automatically apply to all areas of the county with the exception of Long Beach and Pasadena as these cities have their own health departments.

When the Director of Public Health Barbara Ferrer was asked whether she is considering such a mandate during an Aug. 5 media briefing, she expressed support for the policy but did not clarify whether the department will enact it.

"I want to applaud the cities that are considering this measure and all of the businesses that are considering this measure," said Ferrer. "I know that there are conversations that we're having with both the Board of Supervisors, businesses and labor partners about what are sensible practices that the county can support."

The Board of Supervisors is still several weeks away from potentially enacting such a policy. On Tuesday the Board approved a motion created by Sup. Janice Hahn to have staff produce a report in two weeks about what the county's policy would look like.

L.A. City Council President Nury Martinez and Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell introduced a motion last week that would require eligible individuals to demonstrate that they've received at least one vaccination dose to visit indoor restaurants, bars, retail stores, gyms, spas, movie theaters, stadiums and concert venues. Council will discuss this mandate and vote on whether to direct City Attorney Mike Feuer to draft an ordinance on Aug. 11.

There is some debate over what indoor establishments should fall under this vaccination mandate. In an Aug. 10 press conference Feuer expressed strong support for a mandate and said he believes it should apply to a broad range of voluntary activities, but not necessities like grocery stores.

"I'm here today to urge officials at every level of government to take firm specific action when it comes to vaccination methods," said Feuer. "We should be requiring proof of vaccination to enter what I call optional locations, locations that are not necessary, but nonetheless, are popular: restaurants, bars, gyms and performance venues."

In this press conference, Feuer also called for vaccine mandates for all public employees and for everyone boarding flights to L.A. County airports. He expressed little patience or understanding for those who have not elected to receive the vaccine, calling their behavior "breathtakingly irresponsible."

Santa Monica officials said they would follow any mandates imposed by the Public Health Department.

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SENIOR CONSULTANT sought by Consol Partners in Santa Monica, CA to upskill company on AI (Artificial Intelligence) technology area and market. Resumes: HR, Consol Partners, 1409 3rd St Promenade, Ste. A, Santa Monica, CA 90401.

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