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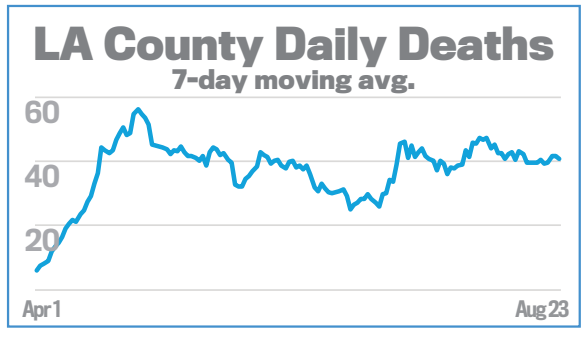
$40 Million donation
Money will help fund brain research.
Page 2

Weather Forecast
What's the temperature?
Page 8

CORONAVIRUS DEATH RATE

SANTA MONICA	LA COUNTY	CALIFORNIA	USA	WORLDWIDE
5.2%	2.4%	1.8%	3.1%	3.5%

SMDP Graphic - Data from Johns Hopkins, WHO, LA County Public Health



Santa Monica schools avoid nationwide Zoom failure

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

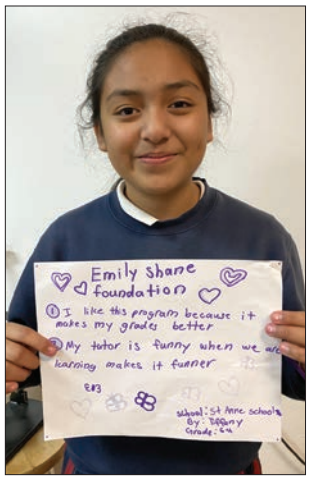
After weeks of around-the-clock planning for the start of distance learning, teachers and students woke up yesterday to a problem no one had prepared for — a nationwide Zoom outage. While schools and companies across the East Coast and middle America lost hours scrambling for alternative ways to connect, SMMUSD was able to start the school year smoothly as the issue was resolved by 8:30 a.m. PDT.

Even in the face of the crisis administrators had a plan. While the Zoom.us webpage was down, it was quickly discovered that meetings could be accessed through links on the teacher-provided syllabi and SMMUSD shared this information with families by email, social media, and an alert on the SMMUSD website.

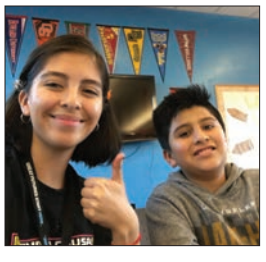
"We were made aware of the issue about 6:30 a.m.," said Gail

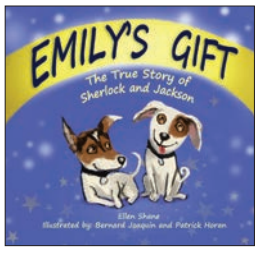
SEE **ZOOM** PAGE 11

"Emily's Gift" stops students from falling through the cracks











Courtesy photos

BOOK: A book about a pair of dogs is raising money to support local youth through mentoring programs.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Ellen Shane's children's book with a purpose "Emily's Gift: The True Story of Sherlock and Jackson" hit the shelves earlier this month and will help fund mentoring programs for local students in need of one-on-one learning support. The author, Ellen Shane never had any intention of writing a children's book or launching a foundation that has served over 700 students, until a catastrophic day in 2010 that changed the course of her life

SEE **BOOK** PAGE 11









Brennon Dixson

FIRE: The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to a structure fire near the 1400 block of the Third Street Promenade. Responders said a pizza oven had sent smoke up into an attic but flames absent in the area and nobody was injured.

COVID trends have health officials hopeful

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

Los Angeles County Health Department officials said residents and businesses could possibly return to school and in-person dining experiences if transmission rates continue to decrease as they have in recent weeks.

During a conference held Monday, Los Angeles County Health Officer Muntu Davis detailed how the county's data has shown positive trends since in-person dining experiences and

SEE **COVID** PAGE 4





Citywide

Red Hen Press Poetry Hour: The Poetics of Climate Change.

Nature is all around us, but what is its true impact and influence on the creation of art?

Panelists include poet/naturalist Elizabeth Bradfield, whose recent book Towards Antarctica offers a unique view of "The Last Continent" through photographs and prose, and science journalist/playwright Alanna Mitchell, whose play Sea Sick, tells the tale of her 13 oceanic journeys in 3 years to observe the vast chemical changes at the hand of man and why that matters (Sea Sick comes to The Edye at The Broad Stage in April 2021).

The Poetics of Climate Change will also feature readings by critically acclaimed poet Natalie Diaz, member of the Gila River Indian Tribe and born and raised in the Fort Mojave Indian Village in Needles, California on the banks of the Colorado River; 2014 Los Angeles Poet Laureate Luis J. Rodriguez, founding editor of Tia Chucha Press and co-founder/president of Tia Chucha's Centro Cultural & Bookstore in the San Fernando Valley; and Poet Laureate of Utah Paisley Rekdal.

The second installment of the Red Hen Press Poetry Hour will stream live at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 27!

You can visit https://facebook.com/thebroadstage for updates.

SUBMITTED BY BERNIE FABIG

Citywide

Will & Cary Singleton Donate $40 Million to Pacific Neuroscience Institute's Brain Health Center for Alzheimer's Treatment & Research

A $40 million donation from Will and Cary Singleton will support the Pacific Neuroscience Institute Brain Health Center at Providence Saint John's Health Center in its pursuit of novel and effective treatments for patients with Alzheimer's disease and related memory and cognition disorders.

"The Singleton gift is the largest single donation we've ever received and is a testament to the caliber of research, clinical care and medical talent that resides on our campus. The Singleton family has been supportive of Saint John's for generations now and we hope their gift will inspire other philanthropists to join our campaign. We are immensely grateful for this transformative gift," said Saint John's Health Center Foundation President and CEO Bob Klein.

The generous donation will be counted as part of the Power of Partnership Campaign to raise $200 million for Providence Saint John's Health Center and its affiliate institutes, including PNI and John Wayne Cancer Institute.

"At PNI, we have a long track record in advancing novel approaches and conducting innovative clinical trials across the neurosciences. The Singleton gift will greatly accelerate our efforts to transform clinical data into discovery, and develop new standards of care for Alzheimer's and related disorders," says PNI founder and director, Daniel Kelly, M.D.

The Singletons said they are impressed with this program and wanted to help advance the research that will lead to a cure.

"PNI and Saint John's Health Center have very innovative programs. They're able to move quickly with clinical trials, attract top-notch talent and they're collaborative. We're confident that this investment will produce results in areas of medical research and treatment that to-date have proven difficult to solve," says Will Singleton.

Already, PNI clinicians have used leading-edge quantitative diagnostic tools to implement personalized lifestyle medicine treatments in hundreds of patients. They are conducting an ongoing clinical trial assessing the impact of a cognitive fitness regimen for patients with early stage Alzheimer's disease in collaboration with the Institute of Systems Biology, an affiliate of Providence.

The PNI team of clinician researchers aim to improve early detection and profiling the "at-risk" population using a combination of state-of-the-art neuroimaging, genomic data and blood biomarkers, while also refining targeted lifestyle interventions to slow or even reverse cognitive decline. They will also assess the impact of novel interventions such as stem cells and repurposed drugs for patients already in the grip of dementia. Given the likely long-term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the team aims to further optimize telehealth platforms and remote care models for dementia patients, their family members and caregivers.

David Merrill, M.D., Ph.D., Geriatric Psychiatrist and Director of PNI's Brain Health Center, emphasizes that, "Given the huge numbers of patients globally succumbing to Alzheimer's and the tsunami of at-risk patients on the horizon, we want our methods and findings to be translatable and applicable to the wider population, in essence, to develop best practices to help clinicians everywhere alter the trajectory of the disease, from diagnosis to treatment, and the entire cascade of related ailments such as depression, anxiety and caregiver distress."

Cary Singleton added, "We looked at Alzheimer's and thought, 'who's going to solve this problem?' After evaluating programs across the country, we are convinced that PNI and Saint John's have the right approach, the right people and the necessary spirit of innovation to make significant progress in this critical fight."

SUBMITTED BY PATRICIA AIDEM



DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 287 CALLS ON AUGUST 23

Vehicle Parked In Alley 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 12:18 a.m.
Lewd Activity 1200blk Wilshire Blvd 12:27 a.m.
Party Complaint 1800blk Montana Ave 12:29 a.m.
Party Complaint 1100blk Maple St 12:33 a.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper In Progress 400blk Hill St 12:37 a.m.
Party Complaint 1200blk Ocean Park Blvd 12:50 a.m.
Party Complaint 1900blk Cloverfield Blvd 12:52 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1900blk 3rd St 2:06 a.m.
Party Complaint 1700blk Appian Way 2:31 a.m.
Prowler There 600blk Grant St 2:56 a.m.
Public Intoxication 24th St / Ocean Park Blvd 3:47 a.m.
Violation Of Restraining Order In Progress 2200blk Colorado Ave 3:53 a.m.
Battery 2400blk Virginia Ave 4:37 a.m.
Found Property 900blk 10th St 4:40 a.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 1900blk Ocean Way 4:45 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 900blk 18th St 7:33 a.m.
Petty Theft 1500blk The Beach 7:35 a.m.
Battery 1400blk Ocean Ave 8:26 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2100blk Ocean Ave 8:35 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1400blk Ocean Ave 8:45 a.m.
Battery 2600blk 4th St 8:49 a.m.
Battery 1600blk Ocean Ave 9:00 a.m.
Loud Music 3000blk Ocean Front Walk 9:11 a.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 9:32 a.m.
Missing Person 1100blk 7th St 10:05 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 18th St / Santa Monica Blvd 10:39 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 26th St / Santa Monica Blvd 10:39 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold Main St / Ocean Park Blvd 10:41 a.m.
Construction Noise 700blk Pier Ave 10:52 a.m.
Petty Theft 200blk Wilshire Blvd 10:58 a.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation Appian Way / Pacific Ter 11:01 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 400blk Idaho Ave 11:06 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 500blk Wilshire Blvd 11:21 a.m.
Indecent Exposure 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 11:33 a.m.
Public Intoxication 400blk Broadway 11:43 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1500blk Lincoln Blvd 11:56 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1200blk Palisades Beach Rd 12:37 p.m.
Public Intoxication 1400blk Montana Ave 12:44 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1500blk Lincoln Blvd 1:23 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1900blk 3rd St 1:44 p.m.
Fraud 2400blk 34th St 1:47 p.m.
Burglary 200blk 22nd St 2:02 p.m.
Petty Theft 1700blk Ocean Park Blvd 2:10 p.m.
Petty Theft 1700blk 19th St 2:19 p.m.
Person With A Gun Ocean Ave / Broadway 2:27 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 500blk San Vicente Blvd 2:29 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 3400blk Ocean Park Blvd 2:32 p.m.
Petty Theft 200blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:00 p.m.
Indecent Exposure 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 3:05 p.m.
Battery 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 3:10 p.m.
Abandoned Vehicle 1000blk Ashland Ave 3:26 p.m.
Battery 2900blk Pico Blvd 3:44 p.m.
Found Property 2000blk Ocean Ave 3:48 p.m.
Identity Theft 1600blk Cloverfield Blvd 3:48 p.m.
Public Intoxication 700blk Broadway 3:51 p.m.
Public Intoxication 500blk Broadway 4:07 p.m.
Petty Theft 1300blk 9th St 4:13 p.m.
Drinking In Public 200blk Santa Monica Pier 4:16 p.m.
Public Intoxication 700blk Broadway 4:24 p.m.
Valet Zone Violation 1300blk Ocean Ave 5:11 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1300blk Centinela Ave 5:23 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 5:36 p.m.
Found Property 2200blk Virginia Ave 5:44 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 3000blk Margaret Lane 5:45 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2300blk Wilshire Blvd 5:52 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 4th St / Interstate 10 5:59 p.m.
Death Investigation 800blk Stanford St 6:07 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2200blk Colorado Ave 6:12 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 2nd St / Broadway 6:18 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 5th St / Broadway 6:20 p.m.
Burglary 1000blk Yale St 7:03 p.m.
Battery Barnard Way / Wadsworth Ave 7:13 p.m.
Critical Missing Person 300blk Santa Monica Pier 7:17 p.m.
Critical Missing Person 00blk Sea Colony Dr 7:19 p.m.
Found Senile Person 100blk Ocean Park Blvd 7:19 p.m.
Battery 100blk Santa Monica Pl 7:34 p.m.
Burglary 3100blk 3rd St 7:39 p.m.
Fight 2500blk Main St 7:49 p.m.
Battery Ocean Ave / Arizona Ave 8:01 p.m.
Panhandling 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 8:33 p.m.
Out Of Order Traffic Signals Lincoln Blvd / Interstate 10 8:42 p.m.
Petty Theft 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 8:47 p.m.
Encampment 1200blk 5th St 9:12 p.m.
Fight 4th St / Broadway 9:29 p.m.
Person Down 1600blk Ocean Ave 9:51 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation Ocean Ave / Idaho Ave 10:05 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 900blk Pacific Coast Hwy 10:09 p.m.
Party Complaint 2400blk Oak St 11:04 p.m.
Assault 500blk Broadway 11:12 p.m.
Encampment 1200blk 5th St 11:22 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 14th St / Pico Blvd 11:46 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 29 CALLS ON AUGUST 23

EMS 2200blk 31st St 1:10 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 20th St 2:03 a.m.
EMS 300blk Olympic Dr 2:36 a.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Santa Monica Blvd 2:40 a.m.
EMS 1400blk Ocean Ave 3:28 a.m.
EMS 4th St / Bay St 3:53 a.m.
EMS 2300blk Ashland Ave 7:54 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 7:58 a.m.
EMS 800blk Ocean Ave 9:23 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 21st St 9:47 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2400blk Hill St 10:25 a.m.
EMS 20th St / Santa Monica Blvd 11:54 a.m.
EMS 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 12:54 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 4th St 1:22 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Ocean Ave 2:35 p.m.
EMS 400blk Pico Blvd 2:46 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Main St 3:33 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 3rd St 3:39 p.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 600blk 22nd St 5:11 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 6th St 5:32 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200blk 7th St 5:48 p.m.
EMS 400blk Euclid St 6:28 p.m.
EMS 2700blk 2nd St 6:59 p.m.
Haz Mat - Level 1 300blk Olympic Dr 7:41 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 100blk Wilshire Blvd 8:52 p.m.
EMS 1500blk San Vicente Blvd 9:08 p.m.
EMS 1600blk Ocean Ave 9:51 p.m.
EMS 2300blk Ocean Park Blvd 11:42 p.m.
EMS 3300blk Barnard Way 11:45 p.m.

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City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals forr

RFP: # 269 SANTA MONICA FIRE DEPARTMENT PROVIDER AGENCY MEDICAL DIRECTOR SERVICES.

- **Submission Deadline is September 17, 2020 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **City's Online Vendor Portal.** The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is:
Planet Bids (http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm) or ProcureNow (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca. There is no charge for the RFP package.

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Letter to the Editor

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Why We Decided to Withdraw from the Race for City Council and Support the Pro-Resident Slate

BY ANDREW BROWNING AND DOMINIC GOMEZ

After much thought, the two of us have decided to withdraw from the race for Santa Monica City Council. We withdrew because it became clear that the best way to affect change in Santa Monica was to consolidate the number of candidates challenging the incumbents, incumbents who have overseen the rapid decline of our city.

We feel our time and energy is better spent supporting the slate of Santa Monicans for Change: Christine Parra, Oscar de la Torre, Phil Brock and Mario Fonda-Bonardi. We believe these candidates share our goals of:

- Electing a City Council that is accountable to residents NOT special interests
- Improving public safety
- Ensuring that public spaces are safe and inviting
- Eliminating overdevelopment that displaces renters
- Demanding fiscal responsibility

Go anywhere in Santa Monica and ask yourself: Is our city safer, cleaner, more livable and more affordable than it was 5 or 10 years ago? We are plagued with significant problems compared to other coastal cities because we have a City Council that is dismissive of resident concerns. We feel the time for CHANGE is NOW. Because we withdrew after the City's withdrawal deadline, our names will still appear on the ballot. We regret any confusion and urge you to vote for the pro-resident slate Santa Monicans for Change: Christine Parra, Oscar de la Torre, Phil Brock, and Mario Fonda-Bonardi.

COVID

FROM PAGE 1

other business services were forced to close, after being allowed to reopen, back in July.

As he announced 13 additional deaths reported Monday, which brings the total COVID-related death toll to 5,558, and the 232,893 cases that have occurred in Los Angeles County to date, Davis said the average number of deaths reported each day has returned back to where it was two months ago and nearly all of the county's recovery metrics have shown improvement.

"While no number of deaths is acceptable, we're seeing this number going the right direction," Davis said. "If we can maintain this lower transmission, it means that we could begin to think about more businesses reopening on someday moving their operations back indoors," he added. But cautious reopening would not mean that residents return to living just as they did before COVID; it means the county would take to heart the lessons that were learned from the increased caseloads of July proceed to make infection control practices a new normal part of daily living for the foreseeable future.

"I'd like to stress the importance of all of us learning from our recent past, and the spikes in cases, hospitalizations as well as deaths in our community that we experienced in July. As we continue our journey of recovery, we must all proceed with caution," Davis said, sharing everybody has a role in the recovery efforts.

"Together, we must all take our role seriously and be diligent. It is everyone's goal to get to a place where we are safe for reopening, but community transmission rates must continue to decrease if we are to get to this place," Davis said prior to the conclusion of his remarks.

"This has been an extraordinarily difficult time," and so many have lost loved ones or friends while others across the county have also lost jobs or been forced to close their businesses in recent months, according to Davis. "Workers continue to do their job every day with incredible bravery and skill. Parents and children are navigating so much in terms of returning to school with distance learning. This understandably takes a toll, and I want to remind all of you that if you're stressed and worried — you're not alone and help is available. There is crisis and emotional wellness resources at the Department of Mental Health helpline," which are available by calling 1-800-854-7719.

"I encourage you to reach out to resources for help," Davis said. "And I want to remind you that we are seeing improvement, and if this continues we can continue our recovery journey," and be closer to getting back to the way of life that everybody is accustomed to.

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COVID-19 is 'a crisis within a crisis' for homeless people

MOLLY BOHANNON, KATIE SURMA, AUSTIN FAST, NINO ABDALADZE, MEGAN LUPO, JAMIE FIELDS AND SANJANA GARG
Howard Center for Investigative Journalism

Nearly 200 tents stand inches apart on the scorching gravel lots, many covered in blankets for an extra layer of relief from the desert sun. Outside, their occupants sit on hot ground or in folding chairs, nearby palm trees providing no shade. Despite 12-foot-square sections painted in the gravel, there is little social distancing for Phoenix's homeless population.

Created by local officials in late April as a temporary solution for some of the estimated 3,700 unsheltered homeless, the fenced-in lots on the edge of downtown promised round-the-clock security, social distancing and access to water and toilets. But residents complain that hygiene supplies have become scarce, and measures meant to contain the spread of COVID-19 are not enforced.

"We have been, like, ignored," said 61-year-old Elisheyah. "There's no safety, nothing to guarantee you can be safe out here."

Homeless people are one of the most vulnerable populations in the COVID-19 pandemic, yet they're largely invisible victims of the crisis. Very little is known about how they are faring in part because the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development -- the main federal agency overseeing homeless programs -- has not required its national network of providers to gather information on infections or deaths. That's despite the fact that unlike other high-risk, congregate-living groups, such as nursing home residents or prisoners, homeless people interact more with the public.

At the start of the pandemic, researchers warned that at least 1,700 of the country's estimated 568,000 homeless people could eventually die of COVID-19. The administration's homelessness czar told Congress in July there had been just 130 homeless deaths, noting that was "significantly lower than had been originally projected."

However, the Howard Center for Investigative Journalism tracked at least 153 homeless deaths in the same time period in just six areas with large homeless populations -- San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York City, Washington, D.C., Seattle and Phoenix -- and found at least 206 deaths nationwide by early August.

"This country for a long time has written off the lives of people experiencing homelessness," said Dr. Margot Kushel, a nationally recognized homelessness expert and medical professor at the University of California, San Francisco. "And now it is literally the thing that is really going to make it very difficult to control this pandemic."

Kushel called the pandemic "a crisis within a crisis," noting that most homeless people are usually in poorer health and, with widespread closures, had lost access to services providing food, water and shelter.

The Howard Center spent three months investigating COVID-19's impact on homeless people, analyzing data to predict which homeless populations around the country would be most vulnerable. It identified 43 counties that would likely struggle in the pandemic, several of which, such as Imperial in California and Maricopa in Arizona, went on to develop some of the highest infection rates in the country. Reporters also interviewed more than 80 professionals working in homelessness, epidemiology and public health, as well as homeless people in hot-spot areas, who described their daily struggles. And because homelessness is typically a problem left to local communities to address, reporters filed 140 public records requests to the vulnerable counties and their major cities to learn more about their responses to the crisis.

Congress allocated more than $4 billion for homeless-specific programs as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act and made billions more available at the discretion of federal and state officials.

But more than four months after passage of the CARES Act, the Howard Center found HUD had given communities access to less than one-third of the money allocated, and even those with access to funds were still waiting on federal guidelines on how to spend the money. Cities and counties can access the funds directly or seek reimbursement for approved expenditures after signing grant agreements with HUD.

When the money does arrive, not all of it may be used to help homeless people. Some homelessness professionals fear local governments will direct the majority of the money to homeless prevention, helping people stay in their homes.

Ann Oliva, HUD's former deputy assistant secretary for special needs, said it was "politically and operationally easier to focus on eviction prevention for people who are in housing, and who are, unfairly, often seen as more worthy of assistance than people who are experiencing homelessness." But, she added, "We have to do both."

HUD did not respond to Howard Center questions about the delays, including on spending guidelines.

A PATCHWORK RESPONSE

Many have criticized the federal government for not providing a coordinated response to the pandemic's impact on homeless people, as well as more resources for testing and tracing. Some have also advocated for racially equitable COVID-19 responses. By early August, people of color, who represent about 24% of the general population, comprised about 61% of all COVID-19 infections and 50% of all deaths, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"We have been left county by county, city by city, to cobble together a public health response to something that is on par with the Spanish flu in terms of its infectiousness and potential lethality," said Marc Dones, executive director of the National Innovation Service, a public policy organization focused on racial equity. "To simply step out of the role, to step out of the responsibility in this moment feels like a fundamental abdication of the purpose of government."

At the start of the pandemic, the Howard Center found, some communities quickly responded, forming working groups to

SEE **HOMELESS** PAGE 11

SIMPLE CLOTH FACE MASKS CAN HELP SLOW THE SPREAD.



covid19.ca.gov

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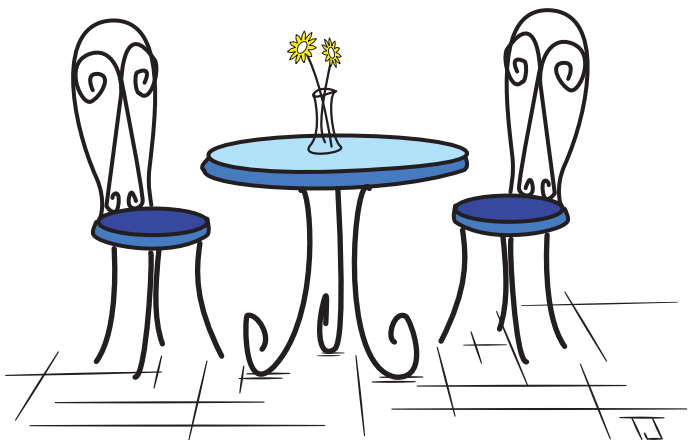
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California unemployment agency not answering 60% of calls

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

California's unemployment agency is not answering 60% of the calls it receives for help as the overwhelmed department struggles to work through a backlog of more than 1 million pending claims five months into the pandemic.

Employment Development Department Director Sharon Hilliard told a panel of frustrated state lawmakers on Monday that the agency is on pace to have 3,700 people working in its call center by January, up from the 350 employees prior to the pandemic.

Hilliard indicated the agency was not prepared to handle the unprecedented surge in unemployment claims prompted by the coronavirus. She said the industry standard is to answer about 80% of calls, but even before the pandemic hit, when California's booming economy led to record low unemployment, the agency was only answering 54% of calls.

"I think we were all surprised to see that number," said Assemblywoman Cottie Petrie-Norris, a Democrat from Laguna Beach. "That raised a big red flag for me."

Hilliard blamed low funding for the problem

"With record low unemployment comes record low staffing levels. Our funding decreases with the unemployment rate," Hilliard said. "It's shameful. Nationally, none of the states are in good shape when it comes to answering calls."

California has processed more than 10.6 million unemployment claims since March, paying $67 billion in benefits. Hilliard said Monday those claims involve about 6 million people. She told lawmakers the state had just over 1 million pending claims as of last week.

In April, when the agency was receiving about 14 million calls a week, the state was only answering a dismal 2% of calls. Now, the agency gets about 6.7 million calls a week and answers 40%.

"We've been improving every single month," Hilliard said. "I'm very excited about that."

Hilliard said improvements are coming next month, including a partnership with San Francisco-based DocuSign to let people submit employment documents electronically, which she hopes will speed up the process.

The agency is also working with a "strike team" appointed by Gov. Gavin Newsom to come up with recommendations on improving the system. It's led by Yolanda Richardson, secretary of the Government Operations Agency.

"It isn't as simple as getting new software loaded or more people answering the phones," Richardson said.

Assemblyman Adrin Nazarian, a Democrat from North Hollywood, questioned why the agency didn't learn lessons from the Great Recession a decade ago, the last time the state saw huge numbers of people filing for unemployment benefits.

Hilliard said the agency has made great strides since then, noting "the only reason we are surviving is everything we had done in the last 10 years."

"Were we ready to be hit by a pandemic? No. But who was?" she said. "What we've been able to accomplish has been quite incredible. But it's not good enough. We know that."



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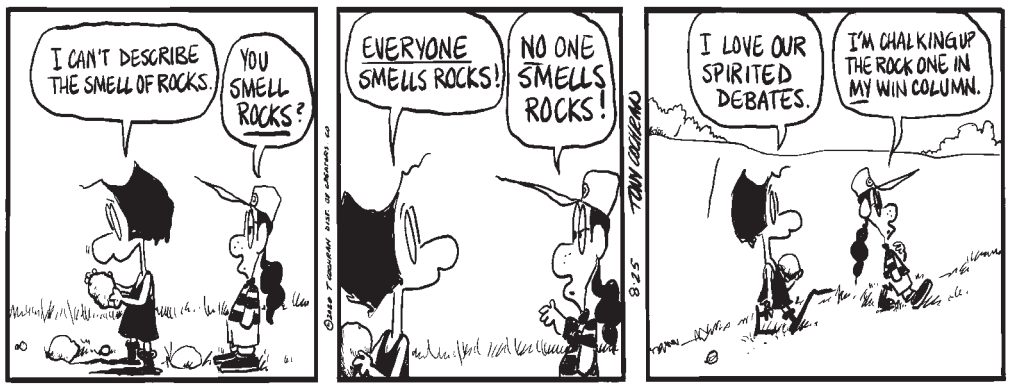
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Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



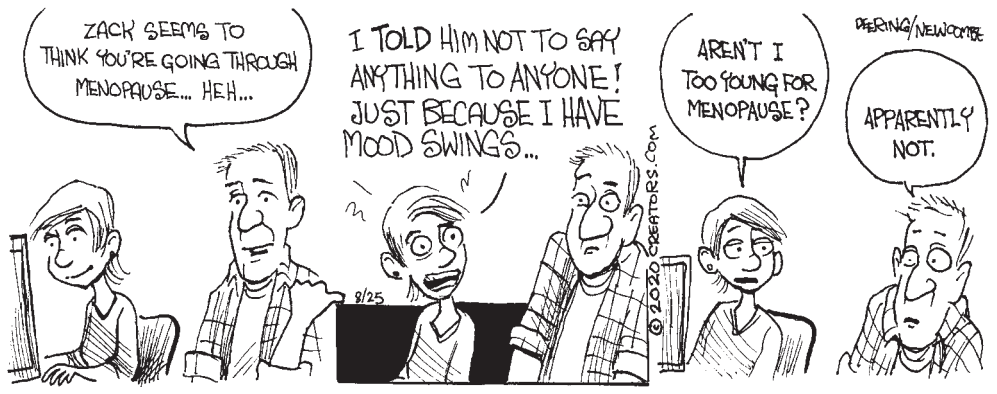
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



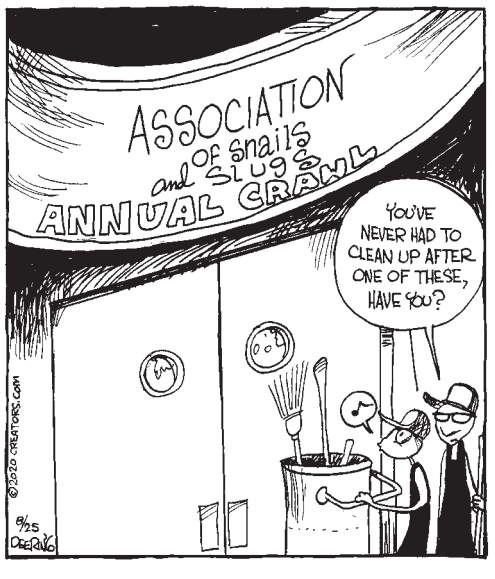
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



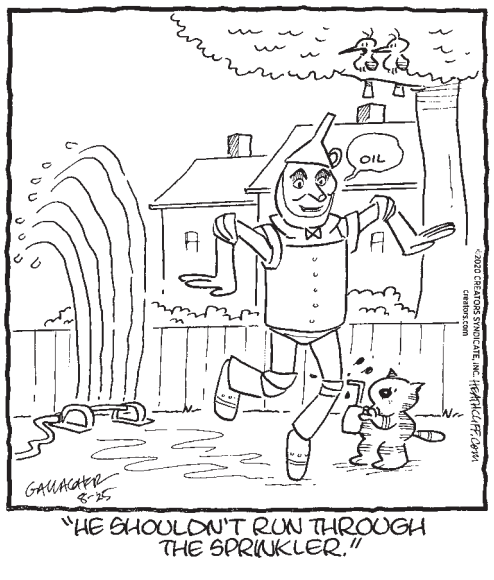
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 63.1°

TUESDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high
Small blend of SW swell and NW windswell. Looking like the smallest day of the week.

WEDNESDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft Thigh to waist high
Modest new SSW swell. NW windswell up slightly. Cleanest early before W/WNW winds build for the afternoon. Tides are pretty full all day.

WEATHER

Tuesday: Gradual clearing, with a high near 78. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

Tuesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, increasing clouds, with a low around 68. West southwest wind 10 to 15 mph becoming light and variable after midnight. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

Wednesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, cloudy through mid morning, then gradual clearing, with a high near 78.

2020/08/25	Tue	03:27 AM	3.48	H
2020/08/25	Tue	08:24 AM	2.19	L
2020/08/25	Tue	3:24 PM	5.44	H
2020/08/25	Tue	11:02 PM	0.81	L
2020/08/26	Wed	05:31 AM	3.34	H
2020/08/26	Wed	09:47 AM	2.68	L
2020/08/26	Wed	4:38 PM	5.53	H
2020/08/27	Thu	12:21 AM	0.34	L
2020/08/27	Thu	07:10 AM	3.61	H
2020/08/27	Thu	11:24 AM	2.84	L
2020/08/27	Thu	5:48 PM	5.70	H
2020/08/28	Fri	01:21 AM	-0.07	L
2020/08/28	Fri	08:07 AM	3.94	H
2020/08/28	Fri	12:39 PM	2.71	L
2020/08/28	Fri	6:49 PM	5.91	H
2020/08/29	Sat	02:09 AM	-0.35	L
2020/08/29	Sat	08:45 AM	4.21	H
2020/08/29	Sat	1:34 PM	2.46	L
2020/08/29	Sat	7:41 PM	6.08	H
2020/08/30	Sun	02:48 AM	-0.47	L
2020/08/30	Sun	09:16 AM	4.41	H

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date:08/22
19 30 36 42 66
Power#: 14
Jackpot:37 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 08/21
11 15 31 42 63
Mega#: 14
Jackpot: 57 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 08/22
20 24 28 35 37
Mega#: 22
Jackpot: 17 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 08/23
4 7 15 28 31

Daily 3
Draw Date: 08/24
Midday: 9 6 2
Draw Date: 08/23
Evening: 6 7 4

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 08/20
1st: 5-CALIFORNIA CLASSIC
2nd: 4-BIG BEN
3rd: 6-WHIRL WIN
RACE TIME: 1:41.86

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (AUGUST 25)

There has been and will continue to be much that was out of your control, and yet your deft handling of circumstances will put you in power. You will lead a group and do so in the spirit of hope and justice. Make a play for unlikely prizes in the new year because you'll be exceptionally lucky. February brings a financial boon. Libra and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 40, 39, 3 and 22.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Just when you think you know what you care about, you discover feelings you didn't even know were there for people, places or things. In short, you'll be amazed at your own passion.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). How do you care for a person who doesn't need your care? That's easy: You do what's fun. As you follow your own curiosity and joy, it sparks the same in others.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Many will be attracted to your kindness, including orphans, strays, wounded souls and kindred spirits. You'll be open to all types and learn a little something from each person you interact with.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You are inspired by encouragement and support. You're also inspired by criticism and competition. Neither way is better than the other. Take motivation wherever you can get it, no judgment.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Some of your resources are not readily apparent. They are like underwater springs. Like the ancients who used a sacred stick to find water underground, apply your intuition to divine your way to the good stuff.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The flow of energy through a location matters even more than the location itself today. Bad organization leads to unnecessary stress. Arrange things so you can easily move through.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Love isn't always wise, but it is unwise indeed to shun love. Open yourself to love from wherever it may come, and accept as much of it as you are given.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Don't hold out for magic. Make it happen. Align yourself with powerful forces to bring about a certain result, or learn the smoke-and-mirrors tricks that create an effect. Magic is within your ability.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The last word goes to the one who is the most stubborn, not the most correct. Either way, it is a childish prize to fight for unless you are a parent teaching respect and manners to a child.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). In dedicating yourself to being more effective, you will have the bonus of being more powerful. With power comes responsibility. You'll be deciding, realistically, if you really want it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The new person entering your life is neither entirely familiar nor entirely strange. There is some old Karma to work out here. No need to ask too may questions, though... feel your way through it.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Much will be sorted out in 15 silent, thoughtful minutes. Those breaks during which you retreat to the sanctuary of your own mind will recharge you and open you to wonderful ideas.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

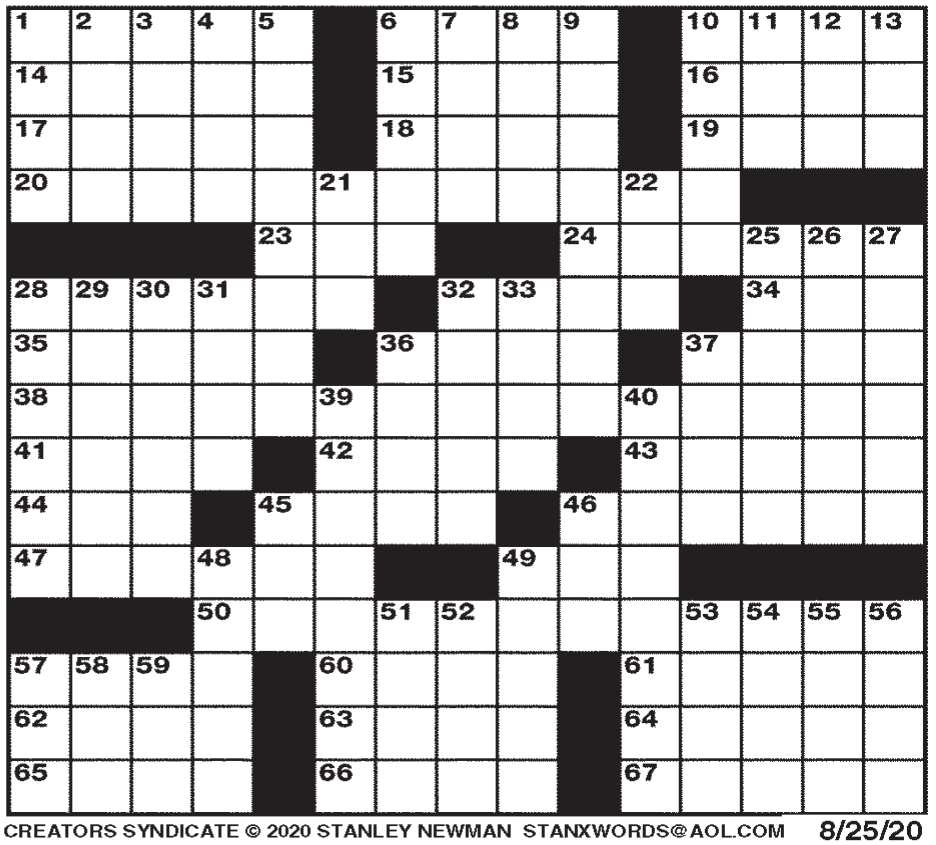
7			1	8		9	6	
	9				5			8
4						5		
6	2		5					9
		4				6		
3					4		2	5
		7						3
2			9				4	
	4	5		6	1			7

Newsday Crossword

PAUSE PERIODS by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Look bad when worn together
6 Actor Baldwin
10 Cooler than hot
14 "__ hesitates is lost"
15 Uproar
16 Neck of the woods
17 Traditional Arctic home
18 First guy in the Bible
19 Impose, as a tax
20 A rescheduling for later
23 Secret agent
24 People who snooze
28 Measures of gem weight
32 "Don't rub __"
34 Filmmaker Brooks
35 Worship
36 Des Moines' state
37 Pet protection org.
38 "Do tomorrow" strategy
41 Frames of eyeglasses
42 Arrange for in advance
43 Qualify for
44 "Don't mind __ do!"
45 Enemies
46 Fights off
47 Commits robbery
49 Rower's blade
50 Delaying a decision
57 Sleep in a tent
60 Scottish girl
61 Lake boat
62 Milky-colored gemstone
63 Otherwise
64 Without a companion
65 Say no to
66 Mail-drop opening
67 Uncool people

DOWN
1 Crunchy potato snack
2 Brand of toy bricks
3 Hole-punching tools
4 Photographed
5 Basketball player, informally
6 __ rate (nevertheless)
7 Vein of ore
8 Dutch wax-coated cheese
9 Joke-telling entertainer
10 Ballroom dance in three-quarter time
11 "__ you listening?"
12 Gun, as an engine
13 Spring month
21 Covert activities, for short
22 Prefix for sense
25 __ State (New York's nickname)
26 Pull back in fear
27 Tilts slightly
28 Women's calf-length pants
29 Floating aimlessly at sea
30 Apartment sharer, slangily
31 Rainbow shapes
32 Tiny bits
33 Small bed size
36 Cruise stop
37 Rung of a ladder
39 Last Supper attendees
40 From Austin or Boston
45 Winter bug
46 Cloth scrap
48 Spread on, as makeup
49 Initial stage
51 With 53 Down, improbable story
52 "This __ sudden!"
53 See 51 Down
54 __ about (approximately)
55 Sweet, as a farewell
56 Service charges
57 New England fish
58 Orangutan, for one
59 Grown-up boy



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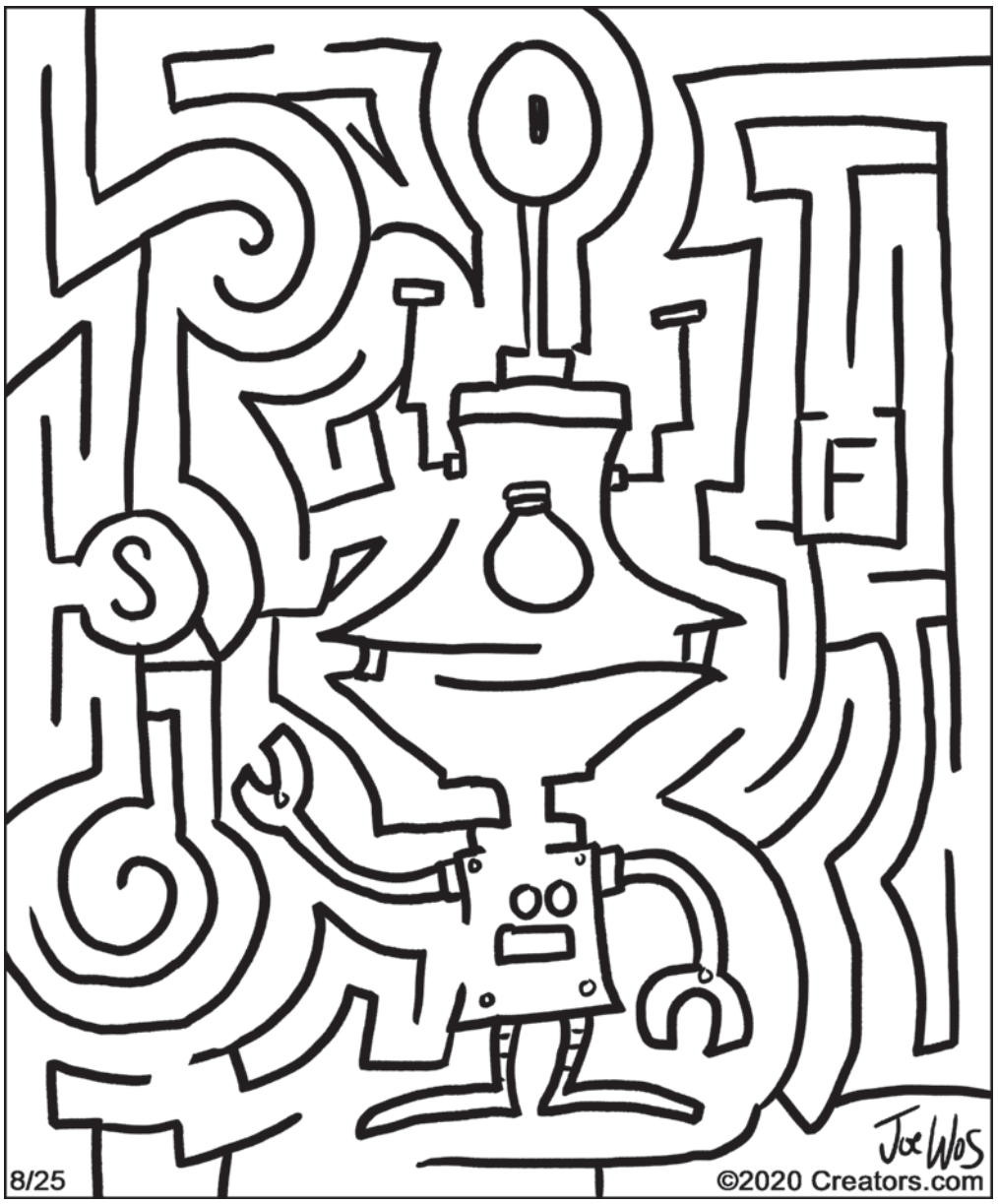
Binary Puzzle

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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



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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 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 4850

On the beach

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

Ball games	Film	Mozzies	Sand
Bask	Friends	Oars	Snooze
Beach	Golf	Ocean	Sorbet
Bikini	Gulls	Park	Sport
Breeze	Hats	Picnic	Sunny
Burn	Heat	Pool	Surf
Clouds	Hospitality	Radio	Swim
Cover	Humid	Rest	Thongs
Drive	Ideal	Rocks	Towel
Enjoy	Lawnmowing	Sail	Waves
Eski	Monsoon	Salt	Zinc

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Getting some fresh air

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BOOK

FROM PAGE 1

forever.

On April 3, 2010, 13-year-old Emily Shane was fatally struck by a car that drove off the PCH. From this place of immense tragedy, her mother Ellen Shane built the Emily Shane Foundation, which is dedicated to mentoring students like Emily who struggled in the mainstream classroom. Last year the foundation served 113 students including 33 students across three different sites in Santa Monica.

Two years after Emily's death, a complete vision for the book "Emily's Gift" appeared to Shane in a dream. In 2020, Shane transformed that vision into a printed product and will use the book's proceeds to fuel her passion for helping struggling students achieve their full potential.

"In the dream it was almost like a message to me because I literally saw the entire book. The title said 'Emily's Gift: The True Story of Sherlock and Jackson' in a yellow banner, and then I turned the pages and read the full story," said Shane. "I immediately woke up and turned to my husband, who was pretty much still sleeping and I said, 'oh my goodness I have to write a book.'"

"Emily's Gift" tells the true story of how Emily helped adopt two adorable dogs, Jackson and Sherlock, and through much persistence, loyalty, and love taught her previously pet-less parents about the joys of pet ownership. The book, like the foundation, celebrates many of Emily's wonderful characteristics, which included a sincere desire to help any living person or creature.

"Emily was really all about helping other people, so I wanted to do something that would have been very meaningful to her," said Shane. "The thing she struggled with most was her academics because she had dyslexia and processing issues. She fell in this grey area where she didn't need any kind of special education, yet she struggled in mainstream classes."

Shane tried a whole range of educational specialists to help Emily with her schoolwork before discovering that a local college student was best able to relate to and support Emily. The foundation's Successful Educational Achievement Program is built upon this model and pairs struggling students with university students or recent graduates for learning support. These mentors provide a service that extends beyond basic tutoring by also helping students with organizational strategies, study skills, and confidence building.

"Sometimes these kids have no one in their lives telling them 'you can do this, or I believe in you, or you're terrific'. I know that this program gives them that confidence and makes them feel like they can do that," said Shane.

In Santa Monica the SEA program serves the John Adams Middle School, St. Anne School and the Santa Monica Boys & Girls Clubs, where students may be from Lincoln Middle School or Paul Revere Middle School.

When distance learning began in the spring, the foundation adapted to an online mentoring model. In several cases the mentors worked closely with families to help them set up and learn to manage their remote learning technology. In these cases, students were not attending their school's distance learning prior to the mentor's intervention, according to Shane, who seeks to expand the Zoom mentoring programs in the fall.

"We have twelve sites this year all over LA and Ventura County, and have helped around 700 kids to date. I wish it could be more. I feel frustrated at times because there are so many more kids who could use this, but I'm limited by the resources I have and I operate on a really limited budget," said Shane.

The proceeds from "Emily's Gift" are one way Shane hopes to increase funding for the foundation after her largest in-person fundraiser had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. People can purchase the book from the children's books section of KP Publishing's website or by going to bit.ly/emilysgift.

More information on the foundation can be found at emilyshane.org and people seeking to join the mailing list, provide a donation or volunteer as a mentor can email: info@emilyshane.com

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ZOOM

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Pinsker, a spokesperson for the District. "I'm not hearing of any challenges related to the start of school due to this issue. We are having a debrief late this afternoon and we will hear from Principals during that time as to any challenges for the first day of school."

Today was the first day thousands of students across Santa Monica and Malibu began the District's new model of distance learning with required live instruction and a block schedule. While technological challenges limited the success of distance learning in the spring, most students narrowly escaped the effects of yesterday's outage and were able to successfully start the school year.

"My class started at 9:00, so I missed the window of time when it was out. I had no issues attending the class," said Lilly Chertock, a student at Samohi.

"I had all six of my classes on Zoom until 12:15 when we went to lunch. Then I was back on Zoom at 1 p.m. for a meeting. No issues!" said Barbara Ransom, a math teacher at John Adams Middle School.

Zoom did not disclose why the webpage was down for several hours or why many users were unable to host or join scheduled meetings.

At 10:39 a.m. Eric Yuan, the CEO of Zoom, tweeted "Today @zoom_us had a service disruption that affected many of our customers. We know the responsibility we have to keep your meetings, classrooms & important events running. I'm personally very sorry & we will all do our best to prevent this from happening in the future."

Zoom's stock fell by 3% during trading and sent waves of fear across schools, governments and businesses who now rely entirely on Zoom for many of their operations. Before the pandemic Zoom was a new and fairly popular platform, but is now an essential service worldwide.

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HOMELESS

FROM PAGE 5

address both the housing and health needs of their homeless populations, and securing emergency housing, such as hotels, trailers and even convention centers, to prevent communal spread.

In early March, for example, the homelessness prevention and response coordinator in Colorado Springs, Colorado, arranged cross-departmental meetings with public health and nonprofits and, in just three weeks, an emergency isolation shelter with 100 beds was constructed.

San Diego opened its convention center as an emergency shelter, testing site and meal distribution hub on April 1 and, by early August, had sheltered 2,780 homeless people. Internal records show the city spent approximately $2.8 million a month on the makeshift shelter, and expects to spend $3 million a month through the end of the year.

Others were slow or failed to respond.

The city manager in Sanger, California, opposed housing homeless people possibly infected with COVID-19 in emergency trailers in his town before he was ordered to take them by the county public health department, records show. Before the trailers arrived, city manager Tim Chapa appealed to the City Council. He said the city's shelter "may not have the capacity to provide adequate medical support service to identified COVID + homeless," he recounted in an April 17 email to a county official. Chapa said the trailers would be better in Fresno, where they ended up later that day.

In Daytona Beach, Florida, efforts to convert an old building into permanent housing for homeless residents failed, despite the project having funding and county support. Jeff White, executive director of Volusia/Flagler County Coalition for the Homeless, Inc., and another nonprofit leader argued that using COVID-19 funds to develop "permanent supportive housing" was better than paying for hotel rooms, which would be "basically burning money." White told the Howard Center he moved on to another plan after city officials gave him "kind of a non-response" that didn't show support for the project.

Leaders in El Centro, the main city in California's Imperial County, repeatedly but unsuccessfully sought the county's help with a testing program. "As to the homeless population, they are not going to enact anything unless there are any positive results within the population. They are not doing any preemptive activities," Adriana Nava, El Centro's community services director, wrote to her colleagues on March 19.

Overall, records showed, localities faced two major problems in addressing the pandemic's impact on their homeless populations: a lack of readiness to work across departments dealing with both housing and health and insufficient data and testing to know who was getting sick and where.

"All states have been at a disadvantage in their response to C-19 because the federal government has failed to adopt a unified, nationwide strategy. In fact, the national strategy seems to be 'let states handle it,'" Barbara DiPietro, senior policy director for the National Health Care for the Homeless Council, said in an email. "This is the least efficient, most wasteful way to approach a crisis."



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