smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

FRIDAY
08.27.21
Volume 20 Issue 246

@smdailypress @smdailypress Santa Monica Daily Press smdp.com

Retail Rewards Program
New effort to help local businesses.
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Crime Watch
When the grass is greener, try to steal it.
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Youth sports are at the center of school Covid-19 outbreaks in L.A.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

As millions of children mask up and head to school across the County, Covid-19 outbreaks are inevitable, and so far youth sports are proving to be the leading culprit.

Of all the school outbreaks that occurred in August, half were associated with school sports. According to County Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer, sports pose heightened risk of transmission as students travel together for competitions, come in close contact with each other, and breathe heavily due to physical exertion.

"At the level of high community transmission where we are now in L.A. County, the CDC actually recommends canceling or holding high risk sports and extracurricular activities virtually unless all of the participants are fully vaccinated," said Ferrer.

High risk sports are defined as those with close contact and particularly those that are indoors, such as volleyball or basketball. Moderate risk sports such as soccer have less contact and are more likely to be outdoors, whereas low risk sports include built-in outdoor distance such as baseball or cross country. Regardless of the risk ranking, Ferrer said all youth sports pose the possibility of transmission.

There's pretty much no team sport at this point in L.A. County where we haven't had an exposure," said Ferrer. "Some of it is on the field, some of it is off the field. It's really hard for us to ensure compliance with a set of rules about how people comport themselves, how much distancing, etc."

Most districts are reluctant to cancel in-person sports seasons as they had long been planning for as close to normal of a school year as possible. SMMUSD, is continuing all of its sports seasons, but is mandating masks be worn at all times except for water sports, and requiring frequent

SEE **COVID-19** PAGE 5

Council passes emergency weapons ordinance

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Four months after voting against a proposed ordinance banning certain weaponizable items at public gatherings, City Councilmembers changed their tune in light of an upcoming protest that could lead to violence between alt-right and alt-left groups.

The emergency ordinance passed six to one, with Councilmember Davis submitting the sole no vote, and prohibits 19 types of weaponizable items during community events or public assemblies. The temporary ordinance has a 180 day sunset clause, during which time Council is expected to discuss and vote on a potential permanent ordinance.

The measure passed at the behest of the Santa Monica Police Department, which is seeking to take a proactive approach to prevent conflict at an upcoming anti-vaccination protest at the Pier on Aug. 29. According to SMPD,



Courtesy photo

PROTEST: Council has banned items like tactical jackets and poles.

the protest is expected to draw members of alt-right groups as well as counter protesters from antifa and anarchist groups.

Violence has been sparked at

SEE **PROTEST** PAGE 11

California advances 2 zoning bills to promote scarce housing

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

Spurred by an affordable housing shortage, spiking home prices and intractable homelessness, California lawmakers on Thursday advanced the second of two measures designed to cut through local zoning ordinances.

The measure promoted by Senate leader Toni Atkins and supported by Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon, both Democrats, would make it easier to build smaller second units on what are now single-family properties. That could include up to four units, such as duplexes or homes with attached living units, if the lot is split into two equal parcels under the bill.

The goal is "opening the door for more families to pursue their version of the California Dream," said Atkins, "whether that means building a home for an elderly parent to live in, creating a new source of income, buying that first house, or being welcomed into a new neighborhood."

The measure largely skirts local approval, though Atkins earlier added ways for local governments to block construction that might imperil public safety or public health or is done by housing speculators. Those applying for the lot splits would have to swear that they intend to occupy one of the housing units as their principal residence for a minimum of three years.

It cleared the 80-member Assembly on a bipartisan 45-19 vote.

The bill "will accelerate duplexes and lot splits in areas zoned for single-family housing," objected Republican Assemblywoman Janet Nguyen, who said she would have voted no but is quarantined after testing positive for the coronavirus.

The Assembly on Monday passed a related bill by Sen. Scott Wiener that would make it easier for local governments to rezone neighborhoods near mass transit for up to 10 housing units.

That bill squeaked out on a 41-9 vote, with no votes to spare, despite supporters noting it was recently amended to make it optional for local governments.

"Legalizing small apartment buildings near transit and in urban infill areas reduces environmental impacts and slashes climate pollution," Brian Hanlon, chief executive of the advocacy group California YIMBY, said in a statement.

The advocacy group California Community Builders argued the measures will narrow an "ever-growing racial wealth gap in California," where more than 60%

SEE **HOUSING** PAGE 4

just the facts

2020 Census Data

	Population	Change vs. 2010
USA	331,449,281	7.4%
California	39,538,223	6.1%
LA County	10,014,009	2.0%
Los Angeles	3,898,747	2.8%
Santa Monica	**93,076**	**3.7%**
Culver City	40,779	4.8%
Beverly Hills	32,701	-3.6%
Malibu	10,654	-15.7%

Source: US Census Bureau


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DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 41 CALLS ON AUGUST 25

EMS 100blk Wilshire Blvd 12:15 a.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 1900blk Pico Blvd 12:40 a.m.
EMS 2200blk 4th St 1:45 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 400blk Pico Blvd 2:31 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 15th St 6:40 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 100blk Winnett Pl 7:16 a.m.
Wires Down 2300blk Kansas Ave 7:33 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 20th St 7:50 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:02 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:04 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Interstate 10 / Lincoln Blvd 9:12 a.m.
EMS 4th St / Colorado Ave 9:25 a.m.
EMS 16th St / Wilshire Blvd 9:37 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1900blk Colorado Ave 9:51 a.m.
EMS 15th St / Broadway 10:03 a.m.
EMS 1700blk Pine St 10:47 a.m.
EMS 1000blk 20th St 11:12 a.m.
EMS 900blk Palisades Park 11:17 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 11:18 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 12:23 p.m.
EMS 1300blk Harvard St 12:27 p.m.
EMS 700blk Raymond Ave 12:39 p.m.
EMS 500blk Olympic Blvd W 1:26 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 2:13 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 2:17 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 500blk 9th St 2:18 p.m.
EMS 700blk Broadway 2:23 p.m.
EMS 600blk Ashland Ave 2:35 p.m.
EMS Lincoln Blvd / Pier Ave 3:04 p.m.
Odor Investigation 300blk Civic Center Dr 3:06 p.m.
Wires Down 300blk Montana Ave 3:49 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 4:48 p.m.
EMS 400blk Broadway 4:51 p.m.
EMS 4th St / Interstate 10 6:02 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Euclid St 6:38 p.m.
EMS 800blk Pico Blvd 9:03 p.m.
EMS 100blk Hart Ave 9:32 p.m.
EMS 3100blk 4th St 9:41 p.m.
EMS 1800blk 21st St 9:50 p.m.
EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 11:02 p.m.
EMS 400blk 18th St 11:32 p.m.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that bids will be received by the City of Santa Monica until 3:00 p.m. on the date indicated at which time they will be opened and posted for:

BID #4415 COMPREHENSIVE URBAN FOREST MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Submission Deadline is September 14, 2021 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Bids must be submitted on forms supplied by the City of Santa Monica. Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the **City's Online Vendor Portal.** The website for this Notice of Inviting Bids and related documents is: ProcureNow (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for bid package and specifications.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit sealed bids for the:

Pico Boulevard Pedestrian Safety Improvements Project

SP2648

Bids will only be accepted through the CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL, ProcureNow or https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca. They must be received by the specified date and time. Late bids will not be accepted. Please allow sufficient time for uploading of documents. The bid opening will be electronic, all submitted bids will be viewable by the public via ProcureNow immediately after bid close time.

MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK: N/A
PROJECT ESTIMATE: $1,350,000
CONTRACT DAYS: 180 Calendar Days
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $1,800 Per Calendar Day

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca. The Contractor is required to have a Class A license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 316 CALLS ON AUGUST 25

Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 1000blk 16th St 12:50 a.m.
Party Complaint 800blk Grant St 12:54 a.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 900blk Marine St 1:00 a.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 1800blk 14th St 1:42 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2nd St / Santa Monica Blvd 2:33 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2nd St / Santa Monica Blvd 2:49 a.m.
Panic Alarm 1100blk Georgina Ave 3:54 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 1400blk 2nd St 3:55 a.m.
Petty Theft 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:37 a.m.
Out Of Order Traffic Signals 6th St / Broadway 4:45 a.m.
Encampment 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 5:10 a.m.
General Parking Problem 3rd Street Prom / Arizona Ave 6:15 a.m.
Vehicle Cite & Tow (Parking Problem) 1300blk 2nd St 6:19 a.m.
Vehicle Cite & Tow (Parking Problem) 1300blk 2nd St 6:21 a.m.
Vehicle Cite & Tow (Parking Problem) 2200blk Ocean Park Blvd 6:30 a.m.
Attempt Burglary Report 800blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:39 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 11th St / Wilshire Blvd 6:54 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1500blk 15th St 7:08 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 800blk 4th St 7:09 a.m.
Panic Alarm 100blk Winnett Pl 7:14 a.m.
Strongarm Robbery 500blk Wilshire Blvd 7:51 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 600blk Lincoln Blvd 8:04 a.m.
Burglary Report 1100blk 12th St 8:05 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 900blk Franklin St 8:13 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 300blk San Vicente Blvd 8:17 a.m.
Burglary Report 1100blk 12th St 8:56 a.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 200blk Bicknell Ave 9:02 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:07 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2400blk Michigan Ave 9:12 a.m.
Lost Property 4th St / Arizona Ave 9:26 a.m.
Identity Theft Unknown 9:38 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 2nd St / Santa Monica Blvd 9:40 a.m.
Burglary Report 700blk Ocean Ave 9:41 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 2600blk Pico Blvd 9:48 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 800blk Maple St 9:50 a.m.
Burglary Report 200blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:56 a.m.
Found Property 2300blk 3rd St 9:59 a.m.
General Parking Problem 2300blk 3rd St 10:03 a.m.
Encampment 2500blk Ocean Front Walk 10:24 a.m.
General Parking Problem 2600blk 28th St 10:41 a.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1000blk Broadway 10:43 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1300blk 4th St 10:51 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:22 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1100blk 3rd St 11:32 a.m.
Expired Registration 2400blk 34th St 11:33 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2600blk Barnard Way 11:36 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 2500blk 17th St 11:42 a.m.
Stolen Vehicle 200blk California Ave 11:49 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Ocean Ave / California Ave 11:50 a.m.
Fraud Report 300blk Olympic Dr 11:51 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 1300blk 4th St 11:57 a.m.
Expired Registration 2300blk 34th St 12:04 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1200blk Idaho Ave 12:13 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1000blk Princeton St 12:25 p.m.
Domestic Violence Report 2200blk 22nd St 12:27 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1600blk 6th St 12:32 p.m.
Red Zone Violation 1700blk 11th St 12:35 p.m.
Identity Theft 1400blk Centinela Ave 12:36 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Ocean Ave / Olympic Dr 12:51 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1300blk 2nd St 12:51 p.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 1:10 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1200blk Princeton St 1:16 p.m.
General Parking Problem 2500blk 5th St 1:25 p.m.
Petty Theft 2200blk 21st St 1:30 p.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 2500blk 17th St 1:40 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1200blk 19th St 1:59 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 600blk 26th St 2:01 p.m.
Fraud Report 1300blk 12th St 2:14 p.m.
Overdose 700blk Broadway 2:22 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 800blk 11th St 2:27 p.m.
General Parking Problem 300blk California Ave 2:32 p.m.
Death Investigation 600blk Ashland Ave 2:34 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2600blk Barnard Way 2:35 p.m.
Petty Theft 2400blk Pico Blvd 2:40 p.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 900blk Idaho Ave 2:50 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 600blk 18th St 3:13 p.m.
Assault 500blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:28 p.m.
Construction Noise 2600blk 4th St 3:29 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2100blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:47 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1400blk 12th St 3:49 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1300blk Michigan Ave 4:01 p.m.
Petty Theft 4th St / Broadway 4:15 p.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 1600blk Broadway 4:26 p.m.
Construction Noise 2600blk 4th St 4:28 p.m.
Indecent Exposure 2000blk Ocean Front Walk 4:29 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 700blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:44 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 500blk Wilshire Blvd 4:49 p.m.
Petty Theft 2900blk The Beach 4:52 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Centinela Ave / Pico Blvd 5:34 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 6:50 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Euclid St / Wilshire Blvd 7:00 p.m.
Fraud Suspect There 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 7:27 p.m.
Burglary Report 1200blk 14th St 7:36 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 1600blk Lincoln

SEE **POLICE LOG** PAGE 5

California looking to pay drug addicts to stay sober

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

Frustrated by out-of-control increases in drug overdose deaths, California's leaders are trying something radical: They want the state to be the first to pay people to stay sober.

The federal government has been doing it for years with military veterans and research shows it is one of the most effective ways to get people to stop using drugs like cocaine and methamphetamine, stimulants for which there are no pharmaceutical treatments available.

It works like this: People earn small incentives or payments for every negative drug test over a period of time. Most people who complete the treatment without any positive tests can earn a few hundred dollars. They usually get the money on a gift card.

It's called "contingency management" and Gov. Gavin Newsom has asked the federal government for permission to use tax dollars to pay for it through Medicaid, the joint state and federal health insurance program for the poor and disabled that covers nearly 14 million people in California.

Meanwhile, a similar proposal is moving through California's Democratic-controlled Legislature. It's already passed the Senate with no opposition and is pending in the Assembly, where it has a Republican co-author.

"I think there is a lot in this strategy for everyone to like," said state Sen. Scott Wiener, a Democrat from San Francisco and author of the bill. "Most important of all, it works."

How much it would cost depends on how many people participate. A program covering 1,000 people could cost as much as $286,000, a pittance in California's total operating budget of more than $262 billion.

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation, a nonprofit agency, runs a small, privately-funded contingency management program. It's where Tyrone Clifford, who was addicted to meth, enrolled because they promised to pay him for every negative test over 12 weeks.

His first payment was $2. That increased slightly with each subsequent negative test for a total of about $330.

"I thought, I can do 12 weeks. I've done that before when my dealer was in jail," he said. "When I'm done I'll have 330 bucks to get high with.'"

Clifford did make it through the program without a positive test. But instead of using the money to buy more drugs, he bought a laptop computer so he could go back to school. He says he hasn't used methamphetamine in 11 years and now works as a counselor at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, helping people who had the same addiction problems he did.

Clifford, 53, said earning the money didn't matter much. Unlike some who struggle with drug addiction, Clifford always had a job and a house and was never much in danger of losing either. But he said watching his account grow with each negative test motivated him more than any other treatment program did.

"You watch those dollar values go up, there is proof right there that I am doing this," he said. "By no means is anyone getting rich off this program."

There is "clear and convincing evidence" that the treatment works to keep people sober from drugs like methamphetamine and cocaine, according to an analysis by the California Health Benefits Review Program. However, while research shows it is effective in keeping people sober during the program, the effect doesn't last much beyond six months after treatment concludes.

Clifford acknowledged the program doesn't work for everybody, but added his treatment included extensive group and individual counseling sessions that kept him accountable and made him feel part of a community.

Clifford said he considers the treatment a success even if people don't make it without a positive test.

"They are trying something," he said.

If California starts paying for contingency management treatment through Medicaid, Clifford said he thinks it would mean an explosion in similar programs across the state.

California, like most of the country, has struggled with opioid abuse, including drugs like prescription painkillers and heroin. But overdose deaths from stimulants in California nearly quadrupled between 2010 and 2019, and the problem has gotten even worse since.

Preliminary data from the first nine months of 2020 — when much of the state was locked down because of the coronavirus— shows stimulant overdose deaths jumped 42% compared to 2019.

While opioids have several pharmaceutical treatments available to help people get sober, there are none for stimulants like methamphetamine and cocaine, often leaving people to their willpower to kick the habit.

"There is a clear kind of hole in regards to treatment services for individuals who have a stimulant use disorder," said Jacey Cooper, director of California's Medicaid program. "At this point (contingency management) is the only thing people are pointing to that has been effective."

Contingency management is not widely used because it's not clear if state and federal law allow Medicaid money to pay for it. California has a law prohibiting people from profiting or receiving "kickbacks" from treatment programs. Wiener's law would clarify contingency management is legal under state law.

Whether it violates federal law is still a question.

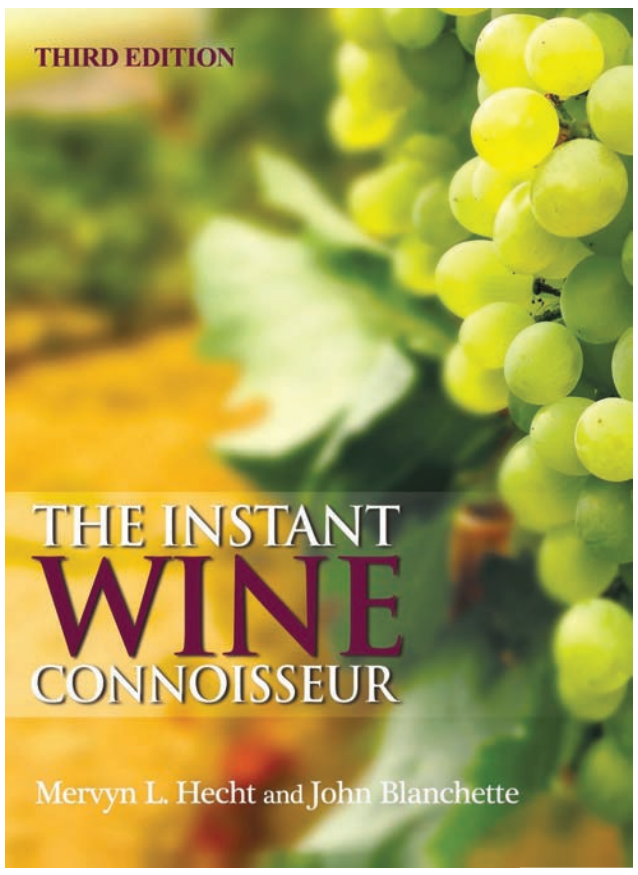
"We don't think it does," Wiener said, noting the Biden administration has signaled its interest in the treatment.

Wiener's bill would require California's Medicaid program to pay for the treatment while Newsom's plan would let counties choose whether to participate.





★★★★★ A light-hearted fun read.
★★★★★ Well written, particularly useful, instantly accessible.
★★★★★ ...Hecht has a joyful eye and fabulous taste



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.

available at amazon

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra,
Matthew King,
Kimberly Jaffe.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com
Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

AWARD WINNER

STAFF WRITERS
Clara Harter
clara@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING AND PARTNERSHIPS
Jenny Rice
jenny@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com
Diana Corona
diana@smdp.com
Julio Davalos
julio@smdp.com

AWARD WINNER

Santa Monica Daily Press

1640 5th Street, Suite 218
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Santa Monica launches new retail rewards program

As merchants and businesses look for new ways to incentivize customers to shop and dine locally, the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce is rolling out the first-ever Santa Monica Rewards, a new mobile shopping promotions marketplace backed by Visa, Mastercard, and American Express. The program is designed to drive customers back to shopping and dining at local businesses.

Santa Monica Rewards will help Santa Monica merchants create promotions, cashback rewards, and other customer incentives to aid in retail recovery. Created by Saltwater Loyalty, the online platform is the first marketing platform in the U.S. designed for destinations to unify their merchants under a branded, best-in-class loyalty rewards program.

Businesses that sign up with Santa Monica Rewards will have access to simple-to-use, easily customizable promotional rewards to help attract customers. Promotions can also be easily scheduled to run concurrently with other marketing campaigns in progress. There are no fees for local merchants to sign up.

According to Laurel Rosen, CEO of the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce, the program will kick-start local commerce:

"We are thrilled to offer this loyalty rewards platform to our restaurants and retail establishments. By combining a modern, robust loyalty program with an authentic, grass-roots connection to customers, it is a perfect fit for our city."

Andrew Arrospide, co-founder of the Santa Monica eatery Alfalfa, has already signed up:

"Alfalfa is incredibly excited to be part of the Santa Monica Rewards Program. We're very grateful to have a dedicated program supporting local businesses. This program will ensure increased customer loyalty to our business and provide an excellent perk to the local community."

The program, which is already live in Malibu, CA as Malibu Rewards, is proving to be effective for local merchants and businesses alike:

"We've been proudly serving Malibu locals for over 20 years. Now, using Malibu Rewards, we can express our gratitude to all our guests. This new customer loyalty program allows us to easily feature promotions to our new and returning customers." Howdy Kabrins, owner of Howdy's Café.

Santa Monica Rewards will run in parallel with the existing Buy Local Santa Monica program. According to Jennifer Taylor, Economic Development Manager at City of Santa Monica and Chair of the Buy Local Santa Monica Committee, the collaboration is a natural partnership:

"The Buy Local Santa Monica Committee is proud to partner with the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce to enhance our current merchant offering by supporting the new Santa Monica Rewards city-wide mobile web app. This program is the embodiment of our 'Shop Local, Eat Local, Play Local' initiative with many enhancements. For example, all participating merchants in the SM Rewards will receive robust customer data/analytics, marketing support, and branded collateral, which will help to support the economic resiliency of our local businesses."

The program is currently accepting merchants and businesses as a part of its pre-launch initiative.

To sign up as a merchant, please contact: Dennis Chen, 408-691-4815, dennis.chen@saltwaterware.com. More information can be found at www.SantaMonicarewards.com/business.

SUBMITTED BY JENNIFER TAYLOR

Colorado

Stephanie Boorstin Among Students at Rocky Vista University College of Osteopathic Medicine

Rocky Vista University College of Osteopathic Medicine (RVUCOM) is pleased to announce the matriculation of student doctor Stephanie Boorstin of Santa Monica, California. Boorstin was one of 216 students selected to matriculate at RVUCOM out of an applicant pool of over 3,900 candidates.

Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine are fully licensed physicians who practice a "whole person" approach to medicine. Osteopathic physicians focus on preventive health care and receive extra training in the musculoskeletal system.

Boorstin is the daughter of Lesslie Casasola and Steve Boorstin. She is a graduate of Pacific Palisades Charter High School. She attended San Francisco State University where she received her Bachelor of Science degree.

SUBMITTED BY CATHERINE LEWIS SAENZ

HOUSING

FROM PAGE 1

of whites own their homes compared to 35% of Blacks and about 40% of Latinos.

But several Sacramento neighborhood groups said the bills "encourage large financial organizations ownership of residential property, with an increasing percentage of lower- and middle-class citizens becoming perpetual renters."

The measures undermine both local control and environmental protections, they contend.

Both bills head back to the Senate for final votes before the Legislature adjourns for the year on Sept. 10.

Sacramento's City Council is moving to make the capital city one of the nation's first to eliminate traditional single-family zoning. The cities of Portland, Oregon, and Minneapolis have passed similar ordinances in recent years. The state of Oregon passed a law eliminating traditional single-family zoning statewide.

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters to the Editor can be submitted to letters@smdp.com. Receipt of a letter does not guarantee publication and all content is published at the discretion of the paper. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content. All submissions must include the author's name, address and phone number for the purposes of verification.

Letter to the Editor

Mikke Pierson — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Open letter to the SM-MUSD:

As a lifelong Malibu resident and parent of students who attended SM-MUSD schools who has advocated for an independent Malibu school district for many years, I am saddened, confused and outraged at the video you released recently. Why would you do this and what do you hope to gain?

We've been asking you to come back and negotiate with us and had not heard back from you in months until this highly inappropriate and inflammatory attack. Is this what the leadership of SM-MUSD looks like? Do you believe that this is the way to treat members of the community that feel they have legitimate reasons to form their own independent school district to serve their children's educational needs?

Your actions, at all times, define you. You can't walk this back. And your actions will always be part of your legacy. And in my opinion, this is a horrible look for your School Board and for each of the Board Members personally, except Craig Foster, the only representative on the Board from Malibu. From my perspective, it seems you've lost your way and all the video did was galvanize people against you.

You've said publicly that you agree that Malibu and SM-MUSD need to separate and that we just need to come to equitable terms. Your actions do not reflect this. Instead, you do not reply when we reach out. Instead, you attack. Instead, you waste more time and taxpayer money and resources, including that of Malibu parents, which should be spent educating our children and improving our facilities.

I've had brief talks in the past with several of you and a couple of you said you would contact me so that we could talk. But to this day, the only time I've heard from any of you is when you were seeking an endorsement for your election campaign. My offer still stands to talk, but I suspect it will be a more difficult conversation now. True leaders would continue to work together. You have my phone number. The next move is up to you.

Mikke Pierson is a Malibu Councilman

COVID-19

FROM PAGE 1

testing.

Ferrer noted that the Delta variant is the key cause of disruption in many schools' anticipated vision for the fall semester and is causing the Public Health Department to alter some of its guidance. For example, the Department now advises negative test results for all student athletes and staff within 72 hours of an inter-team competition.

"I do join with you in wishing that it was a lot simpler and that rules didn't need to change, but the virus has changed and we all need some flexibility to adapt to this more dangerous variant," said Ferrer.

In more positive news, school age children continue to be at low risk of health complications from Covid-19, even as the number of cases increase as the majority of students are now back on campus.

"The hospitalization rate for unvaccinated children is about one hospitalization for every 100,000 children," said Ferrer. "Nevertheless, this is much higher than the virtually nonexistent hospitalizations among the vaccinated children."

During the week of Aug. 13 to 22, L.A. County schools reported a total of 3,186 new cases among students and staff. The majority of sites only reported one case and no further spread, while 63 sites reported two cases and 123 sites reported three or more cases.

"In all of these instances where there are three or more cases our team is hard at work on determining whether this is an outbreak and if it is an outbreak in a school setting, we work closely with the school community to make sure that we're mitigating appropriately," said Ferrer, adding that she does expect an uptick in outbreaks in the coming weeks as more students have returned to campus.

SMMUSD began its testing program this week and is requiring all students and staff to be tested weekly regardless of their vaccination status.

Clara@smdp.com

POLICE LOG

FROM PAGE 2

Blvd 7:38 p.m.
Vehicle Cite & Tow (Parking Problem) 900blk Euclid St 7:39 p.m.
Grand Theft 2600blk Ocean Park Blvd 8:35 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1100blk 16th St 8:49 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 100blk Broadway 9:23 p.m.
Bike Theft Report 1500blk 2nd St 9:40 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 700blk Pico Blvd 9:41 p.m.
Battery Lincoln Blvd / Ocean Park Blvd 9:42 p.m.
Lost Property 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 9:54 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 600blk Wilshire Blvd 9:56 p.m.
Party Complaint 800blk 11th St 10:47 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1300blk 7th St 11:10 p.m.

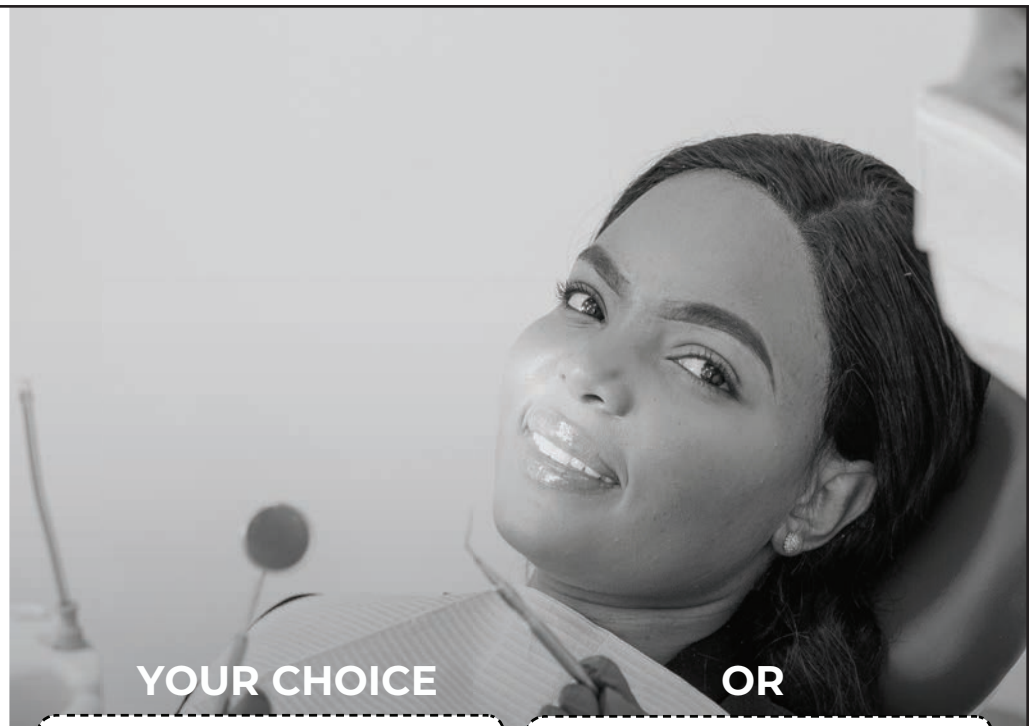
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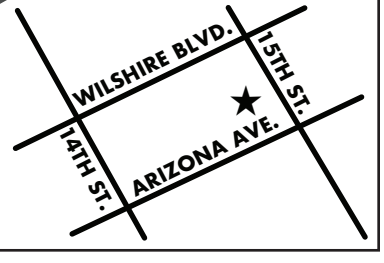


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Kelly, UCLA look to snap non-conference skid against Hawaii

JOE REEDY
AP Sports Writer

Chip Kelly has a win over Southern California and two victories over ranked teams during his tenure at UCLA. What he doesn't have is a win over a nonconference opponent.

If the Bruins want to show signs of a turnaround, that will need to change Saturday at the Rose Bowl against Hawaii.

Kelly, who begins his fourth season in charge, has a 10-21 record in Westwood, including 0-6 in nonconference games. Those aren't the results UCLA fans were hoping for when he signed a five-year, $23.3 million contract after being hired in December 2017.

For all the talk about Kelly needing to win this season, he has remained consistent in preaching about focusing on each practice and not looking ahead or behind.

"We'll take care of business on the field, and the rest of it will take care of itself," Kelly said.

UCLA (3-4 last season) returns 20 starters — 10 on each side of the ball — including quarterback Dorian Thompson-Robinson, who is aware of the pressure this season for the Bruins to post their first winning season since 2015.

"This is what we've been building toward," Thompson-Robinson said. "We've been talking about rebuilding the program. We've gotten through that rebuilding process, and we've built up something special here."

Even though the Bruins are 17 1/2-point favorites, according to FanDuel Sportsbook, Hawaii remains a formidable opponent. The Rainbow Warriors return 18 starters from a squad that was 5-4 last season.

Todd Graham's program also has a chance to get a national stage with the game being broadcast on ESPN.

"You work hard to have that opportunity. We know how much it means to us," he said. "I like we are playing the best team on our schedule Week 1. Good, that makes you better."

Here is what else to watch as the Rainbow Warriors make their second trip in five seasons to the Rose Bowl:

PAC-12 VS. MOUNTAIN WEST

Two of Kelly's nonconference losses have been at home to Mountain West teams. The Bruins lost to Fresno State in 2018 and then San Diego State the following year.

Hawaii is 4-12 in its last 16 games against Pac-12 opponents, with all the wins at home.

ON THE RUN

UCLA's running game averaged 203.6 yards in seven games last season, which was 12th in the nation. Demetric Felton graduated, but Brittain Brown averaged 6.6 yards per carry and he's now the lead back. Michigan transfer Zach Charbonnet, who made nine starts for the Wolverines the past two seasons, is also expected to see plenty of carries.

Hawaii allowed 211.7 rushing yards per game, which was seventh-worst in the nation among teams that played seven or more games last season.

THE OTHER QB

Hawaii's Chevan Cordeiro is just as much of a dual-threat quarterback as Thompson-Robinson.

The junior had 21 touchdowns last season (14 passing, seven rushing) and led the team in rushing yards. Cordeiro had three carries over 50 yards last season and had the Rainbow Warriors' four longest rushes.

TURNOVER BATTLE

Hawaii's secondary returns intact after leading the Mountain West Conference in interceptions last season. UCLA committed 13 turnovers last season, with opponents converting all but two into points (10 touchdowns, one field goal).

KEEP AN EYE ON

Hawaii's Calvin Turner Jr. The senior all-purpose back enters the season as the nation's leading returner in career all-purpose yards (4,359 yards) and scored 11 touchdowns last season.

Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737



Virus surge breaks hospital records amid rising toll on kids

SUDHIN THANAWALA AND JAY REEVES
Associated Press

Kentucky and Texas joined a growing list of states that are seeing record numbers of hospitalized COVID-19 patients in a surge that is overwhelming doctors and nurses and afflicting more children.

Intensive care units around the nation are packed with patients extremely ill with the coronavirus — even in places where hospitalizations have not yet reached earlier peaks.

The ICU units at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital in Georgia typically have room for 38 patients, and doctors and nurses may have only two or three people who are very sick, said Dr. Jyotir Mehta, medical director of the ICU. On Wednesday, the ICU had 50 COVID-19 patients alone, roughly half of them relying on ventilators to breathe.

"I don't think we have experienced this much critical illness in folks, so many people sick at the same time," Mehta said.

He said talking to family members is difficult. "They are grasping for every hope and you're trying to tell them, 'Look, it's bad,'" he said. "You have to tell them that your loved one is not going to make it."

In New Mexico, top health officials warned Wednesday that the state is about a week away from rationing health care. The number of coronavirus patients needing care at hospitals jumped more than 20% in a day.

"We're going to have to choose who gets care and who doesn't get care," state Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. David Scrase warned. "And we don't want to get to that point."

In Idaho, state leaders called on residents to volunteer to help keep medical facilities operating.

Texas and Kentucky on Wednesday reported more COVID-19 patients in their hospitals than at any other time since the pandemic began, 14,255 and 2,074, respectively. The Texas record is based on U.S. Department of Health and Human Services data.

At least six other states — Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Hawaii, Mississippi and Oregon — have already broken their hospitalization records.

In Texas, nearly 47% of the population is fully vaccinated — below the national average of almost 52% — and Republican Gov. Greg Abbott has banned mask and vaccine mandates. Many counties and school districts have defied his mask ban.

In Kentucky, just under 48% of the population is fully vaccinated, and public health officials have blamed the lag in part for the state's surge. Democratic Gov. Andy Beshear's COVID-19 restrictions expired in June, and the GOP-controlled legislature has blocked him from issuing new mask requirements or capacity limits.

Nationwide, COVID-19 deaths are running at more than 1,100 a day, the highest level since mid-March, and new cases per day are averaging over 152,000, turning the clock back to the end of January. As of early this week, the number of people in the hospital with the coronavirus was around 85,000, a level not seen since early February.

The surge is largely fueled by the highly contagious delta variant among people who are unvaccinated. In areas where vaccination rates are particularly low, doctors have pleaded with their communities to get inoculated to spare overburdened hospitals.

They have also sounded the alarm about the growing toll of the variant on children and young adults.

Children now make up 36% of Tennessee's reported COVID-19 cases, marking yet another sobering milestone in the state's battle against the virus, Health Commissioner Lisa Piercey said Wednesday. She said the state had 14,000 pediatric cases in the last seven days — a 57% increase over the previous week.

In South Carolina, students will again be required to wear masks on school buses starting Monday as COVID-19 cases among children and students rise rapidly.

Nearly 30% of new cases in South Carolina in the past two weeks have been in people 20 and under. During the same time in 2020, about 17% of cases were in children and teens, according to state officials.

Anderson Lopez Castillo, a nurse who cares for seriously ill COVID-19 patients at UAB Hospital in Birmingham, Alabama, said treating people as young as 16 in critical care has become an additional strain on top of a nearly yearlong ordeal that left him questioning his choice of a profession.

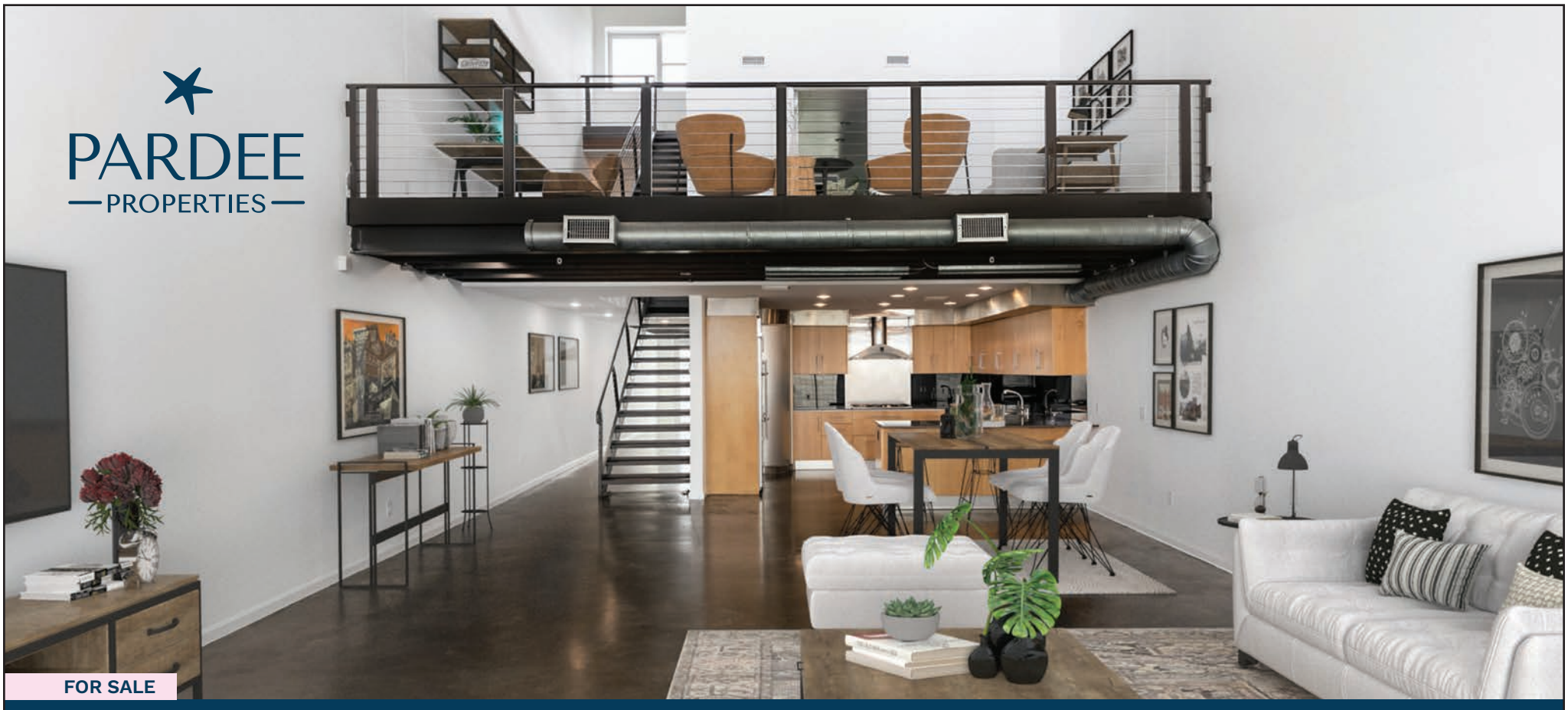
"Initially we saw a lot of older people getting it. It was like, 'OK, we can tackle this. Even if it is stressful, even if it's a dangerous virus, it'll probably not be that bad on us as nurses taking care of these older patients,'" he said.

Castillo, 24, said he now sees the virus making young people very sick, and it makes him and other young nurses think of their own mortality.

"There's definitely a little subconscious thought in the back of all of our heads going, 'You know, that could be us,'" he said.

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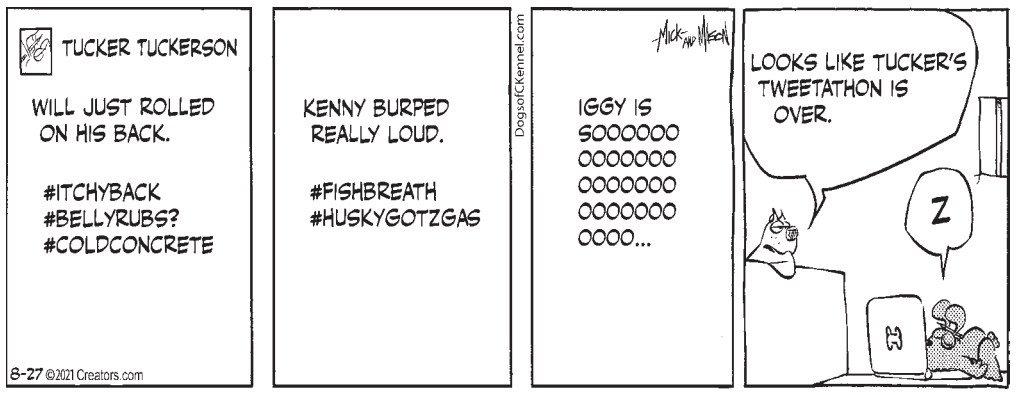
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



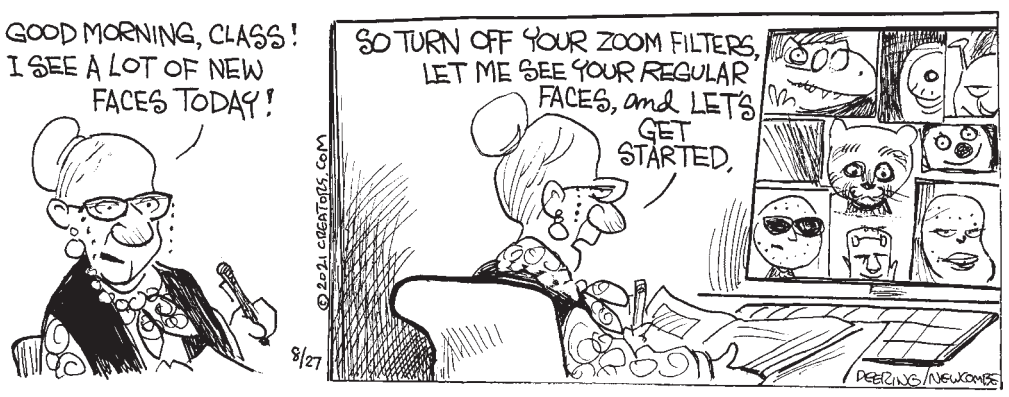
Dogs of C-Kennel

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: 64.9°

FRIDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high
Small combo of swells with light wind in the early morning. Worth a look on the small wave gear as modest SW swell lingers, NW swell mix is up slightly.

SATURDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft Waist to stomach high
Modest new pulse of SW/SSW swell shows, likely keeping enough energy in the water to get a groveller going at better summer spots. NW swell mix comes down.

WEATHER

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 81. Light and variable wind becoming southwest 5 to 10 mph.
Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 65. South southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 76. Light and variable wind becoming southwest 5 to 10 mph.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2020/12/18	Fri	12:36 AM	3.82	H
2020/12/18	Fri	04:59 AM	2.62	L
2020/12/18	Fri	11:06 AM	5.55	H
2020/12/18	Fri	6:35 PM	-0.48	L
2020/12/19	Sat	01:38 AM	3.84	H
2020/12/19	Sat	06:04 AM	2.81	L
2020/12/19	Sat	11:58 AM	4.87	H
2020/12/19	Sat	7:27 PM	0.03	L
2020/12/20	Sun	02:42 AM	3.95	H
2020/12/20	Sun	07:32 AM	2.89	L
2020/12/20	Sun	1:01 PM	4.19	H
2020/12/20	Sun	8:22 PM	0.51	L
2020/12/21	Mon	03:39 AM	4.15	H
2020/12/21	Mon	09:30 AM	2.67	L
2020/12/21	Mon	2:26 PM	3.62	H
2020/12/21	Mon	9:18 PM	0.93	L
2020/12/22	Tue	04:25 AM	4.40	H
2020/12/22	Tue	10:57 AM	2.16	L
2020/12/22	Tue	4:01 PM	3.28	H
2020/12/22	Tue	10:09 PM	1.29	L
2020/12/23	Wed	05:03 AM	4.67	H

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERball
Draw Date: 8/25
27 39 54 56 59
Power#: 24
Jackpot: 322 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 8/24
17 18 26 52 67
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 288 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 8/25
2 6 21 39 47
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 12 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 8/25
10 19 23 25 30

Daily 3
Draw Date: 8/25
EVENING: 5 0 7
Draw Date: 8/25
MIDDAY: 6 4 1

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 8/25
1st: 10 - Solid Gold
2nd: 03 - Hot Shot
3rd: 04 - Big Ben
Race Time: 1:49.06

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (AUGUST 27)

Your craving for excitement will be satisfied repeatedly. You won't have to go far to find a new world; there's one behind every door you come to. At the turn of the year, you'll devote yourself to a single purpose. Publicly declare your intentions to gain the focus, motivation and support necessary to make them real. Cancer and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 5, 22, 18 and 12.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Because there is always more to learn, you're seldom bored. The exception is the case in which circumstances disallow you to follow your curiosity. A restriction will lift -- hooray!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll find yourself in a fascinating position. The next 48 hours are marked by boldness and unpredictability. Because no one, not even you, is sure how this will go, all eyes are on you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). If you martyr yourself in the name of friendship, you'll only end up resenting your friend. The best reason to make a sacrifice is for how it defines you to yourself.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It's hard to see the value of an opportunity on its face. You must proceed down the winding corridor in hopes it actually leads somewhere good. Even if you have to turn around and go back, at least your curiosity will be satisfied.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You've a keen instinct for when to get in and out of things. If you're in it, it's because you want to be. To stick with something because of the sunken costs would be a prideful mistake.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It takes boldness and self-awareness, but if you dare ask for what you want, you'll save yourself from countless hours of struggle and frustration. If they can't do it, you'll know quick. If they can... satisfaction!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). In today's endeavor, you cannot have both perfection and practicality. Pick one. Hint: happiness is choosing options existing within the realm of possibility.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). There is a purpose behind your communication and behavior, though not everyone will understand it. Spell it out and get the support you need.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Social scientists suggest most untrained people do not read emotional expressions as accurately as they think they can. It's worth it for you to make special efforts to tune yourself into the feelings of others.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When others around you don't acknowledge the reality you are experiencing, question it. Maybe they are afraid. Maybe they are waiting for the leader. Say what's on your mind; speak the truth you see.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). In the case of incompatible desires or mutually exclusive agendas, no amount of persuasion will alter the course. You know where you stand. What you encounter is not worth bending for.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Efforts are rewarded, though not always by their reciprocation. An attempt to connect will result in something positive, regardless of whether the connection actually takes place.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

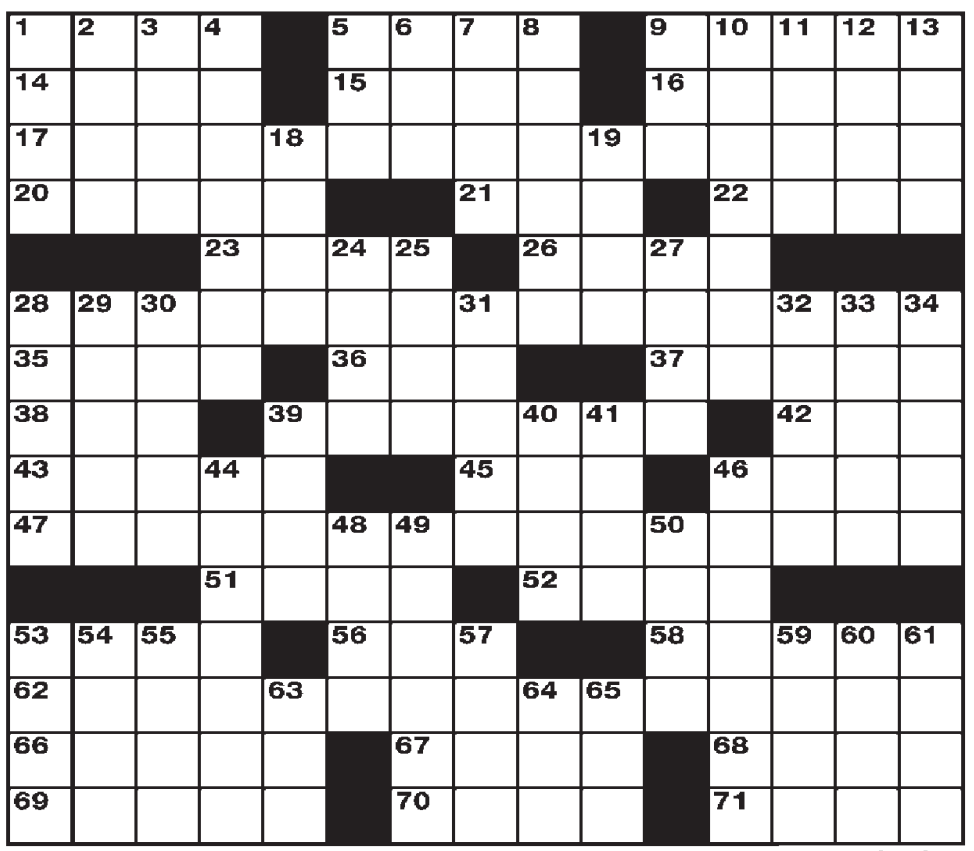
		8	9			4		6
				7	8		2	
	2		6		3	9		
8	4		3					5
		7		1		6		
5					9		4	7
		4	1		6		3	
	6		8	3				
9		3			2	8		

Newsday Crossword

MIDDLE (ACCENT) AMERICA by S.N.
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Be right for
5 Provoke
9 "You win!"
14 Nullify
15 Scotch water
16 Electrical unit named for an English physicist
17 WISCONSIN, KANSAS
20 Diamond ploy
21 Small cardinal
22 Overflow
23 Airedale's ancient ancestor
26 Traditional snake dancers
28 ILLINOIS, OHIO
35 Slugfest
36 Hoedown participant
37 Longtime Reagan aide
38 Testing venue
39 WISCONSIN
42 The other side
43 Steve Jobs' first employer
45 Poetic conjunction
46 Like Edison's recordings
47 OHIO, WISCONSIN
51 Ibsen Museum city
52 Gloomy
53 Switch designations
56 One wearing a Y
58 "Stifle yourself!"
62 ILLINOIS, MISSOURI
66 Rubbish
67 Super-secure carrier
68 Attack electrically
69 Pipsqueak
70 Certain CD or sedan
71 Jam flavour for Brits

DOWN
1 Basic math
2 Cohesive group
3 Serving no purpose
4 Haul off
5 Ray preceder
6 Good to go
7 Refreshing-sounding rapper
8 Rock opera *Tommy* band
9 Airborne enigma
10 Daycare break
11 A Northwest Territories official language
12 Dammed spot
13 Cracker topper
18 Profusely
19 Labor saver
24 Racer's vehicle
25 NFL great Tarkenton
27 Deer stalker
28 C neighbor
29 Poetic muse
30 Conspiracy
31 Terry, for example
32 Keep from viewing
33 "Good old" place
34 Make welcome
39 Isn't serious
40 Outbuilding
41 Freight car passenger
44 Come up again
46 Orpheus and Apollo
48 Cassini of fashion
49 Relied on just oneself
50 Taverna beverage
53 *Eins* more than *Sieben*
54 Eat, with "down"
55 Water barrier
57 Seagirt spot
59 What the bell tolls
60 __ facto
61 For whom the bell tolls
63 Acoustic accessory
64 Floppy topper
65 Onetime *Idol* judge



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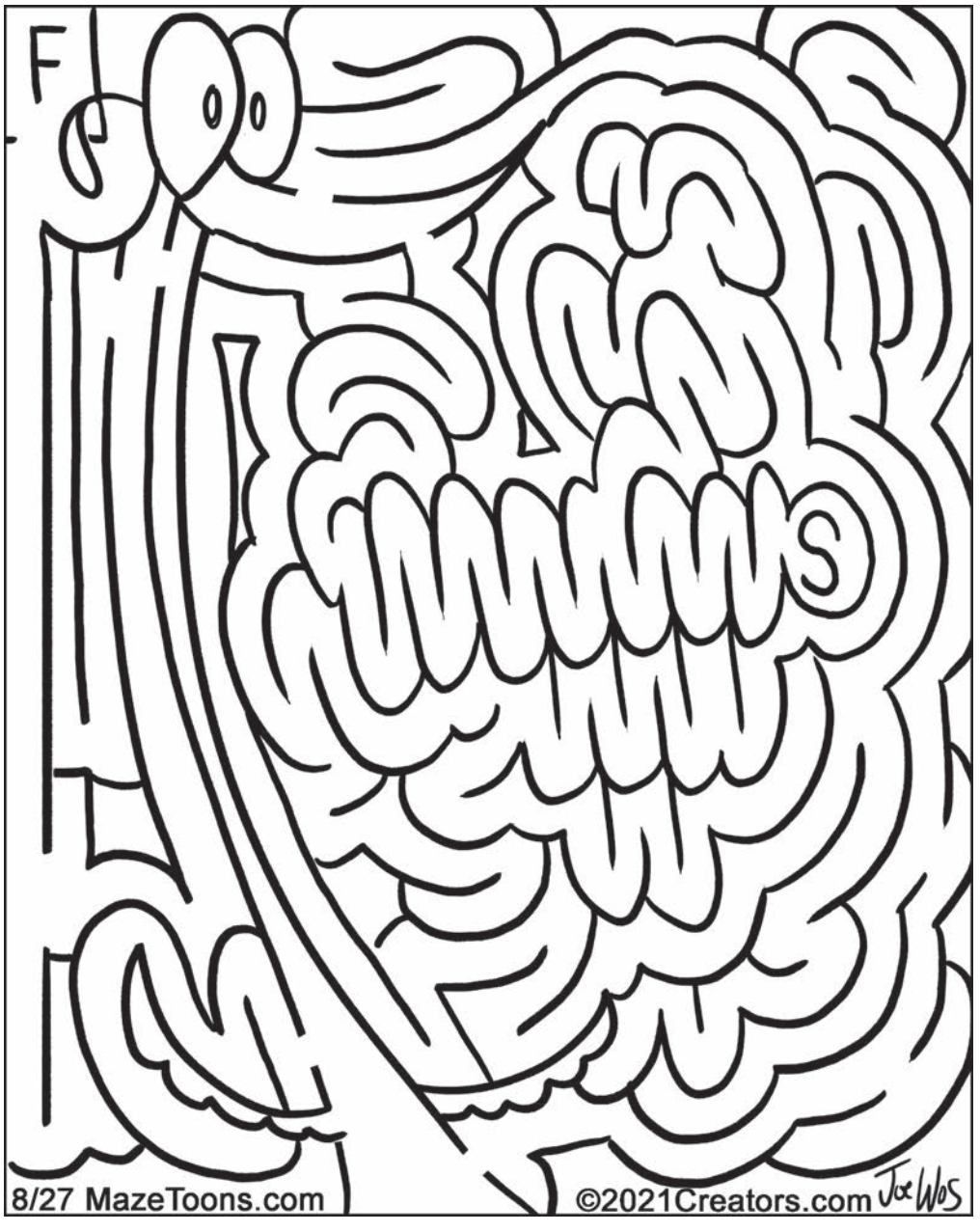
Binary Puzzle

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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	I	I				I		I			
O		I		O		I				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 21 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

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Shoe shopping

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

Aglet
Backless
Boot
Brogue
Cheap
Clogs
Colourful
Corn
Derby
Eased
Elegant
Exclusive
Feet
Fins
Fitting
Galoshes
Heel
High
Hoof
Laces
Large
Limp
Loose
Mens
Original
Pumps
Sabot
Sale
Sandals
Shine
Sizes
Skis
Small
Sneakers
Socks
Soft
Sole
Spats
Stilts
Suede
Tennis shoe
Thong
Toes
Wedgies
Welt

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PROTEST

FROM PAGE 1

similar recent protests in Portland, Oregon and throughout California, in cities such as Berkeley, Laguna Beach, Long Beach, Los Angeles and Oakland.

"It's unfortunate that we are seeing the escalation of violence between these groups at the level that we are seeing and that's why we're here tonight to ask council to revisit the ordinance on prohibited items," said Captain Candice Cobarrubias.

The list of banned items includes clearly weaponizable items such as baseball bats, metal pipes, and knives as well as tactical clothing such as military vests, gas masks and even bike helmets. SMPD based this list off of similar policies enacted by the cities such as Modesto, Berkeley, and Los Angeles.

When the motion was first brought forward in April 2020, it was drafted following the events that occurred last summer, which included peaceful demonstrations by Black Lives Matter activists and the May 31 looting of Downtown. Councilmembers Davis, McCowan, McKeown and Himmelrich voted against the initial motion, saying existing laws already provide police with the ability to intervene if objects become weapons and citing concerns over enforcement.

This time Councilmembers still expressed concern about impinging on people's First Amendment Rights, but ultimately decided to stand behind the request of the police department and pass this temporary ordinance in response to an uncertain threat.

"I think we're faced in this case with a new circumstance. This is not like May 31. We basically have two armies converging on our city, who want to make war in front of the Pier," said Mayor Sue Himmelrich.

Both Councilmember McCowan and Davis voiced uncertainties about how effective this policy would be at preventing violence in practice.

"LA had their ordinance in place prior to the August 14 melee and a couple of people still ended up stabbed," said McCowan. "Does this ultimately change anything?"

Davis questioned SMPD's ability to logistically enforce the ordinance if hundreds of people show up to a protest and also voiced fears about the policy being enforced in a discriminatory manner.

"If you have 100 people and 100 of them have bear spray, and 50 percent of them are people of color and 50 percent of them are white, history tells us that the people of color with the bear spray are much more likely to get busted," said Davis. "I'm not saying that's what our police department does, but that's what history tells us."

SMPD Police Chief Jacqueline Seabrooks, who is Black, responded to Councilmember Davis' concerns by saying she believes the department will enforce the ordinance objectively and said officers are trained on anti-bias and implicit bias in policing. Seabrooks also said that while the ordinance may not allow officers to confiscate all items, it will still be a helpful tool to prevent the escalation of violence.

"We're just looking for a bit of assistance, that gives us some extra proactive ability to engage reasonably on those issues, so that we can make a safe environment for everybody, or as reasonably safe as it can be under the circumstances," said Seabrooks.

Several Councilmembers spoke strongly in support of the ordinance.

Councilmember Parra drew on her experience working in emergency preparedness and said that prevention measures, such as the weaponizable items bans, are an important tool in managing crises. Councilmember Negrete said the ban could help prevent crimes of opportunity from occurring while police are focusing on protests, referencing the destruction of her Downtown family business on May 31.

Councilmember McCowan suggested adding a sunset clause, so that Council and the police department could observe the effectiveness of the policy in action before creating a permanent ordinance. This was supported by Mayor Himmelrich and passed by a vote from all councilmembers except Davis, who stood by her concerns of First Amendment violations and a lack of efficacy in action.

On Aug. 26, Chief Seabrooks issued a warning to the community regarding the upcoming protest and urged residents to report anything suspicious they may see and register for the City's alert system at santamonica.gov/alerts. Seabrooks also said she supports local businesses if they wish to board up their stores in advance, but added that activity at recent protests would not indicate this is a necessary action.

"The most recent incidents of violence associated with these types of protests has largely involved protesters and counter protesters who primarily focused on each other," said Seabrooks. "Where there have been bouts of vandalism, such as graffiti or the burning of trash cans, there have not been any reported acts of looting."

Clara@smdp.com

CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Crime Watch is culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ON AUG. 26 AT ABOUT 7:18 A.M.

SMPD Officers were dispatched to the area of the 3000 block of Bentley Ct. to investigate and Assault With A Deadly Weapon. Comments of the call indicated a female suspect attempted to stab the victim with gardening shears. When officers arrived on scene they met with a victim who said he received a call from a neighbor about a female, later identified as Alison Marie Fogarty, 39, from Santa Monica, who was trying to steal his neighbor's plants. The victim approached Fogarty and exchanged some words with her. At some point during their interaction, Fogarty made several attempts to stab the victim. The victim was able to grab the shears and pull them away from Fogarty's grasp, inadvertently cutting his hand. Fogarty left and went into an apartment building nearby, however came back out when police arrived. She was taken into custody and booked for 245(a)(1) PC - Assault with a Deadly Weapon.

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