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**Crime Watch**
Burglary arrest.
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**Rent aid**
City programs help with the application process.
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# Council discusses homelessness committee and car show on Pier



Matthew Hall

**HOMELESS: Council has chosen a three member group to study solutions.**

**CLARA HARTER**
SMDP Staff Writer

City Councilmembers brought forward a variety of discussion items in an Aug. 24 meeting, on topics ranging from a new committee on homelessness to tattoo parlors, and from a vintage car show to commission consolidation.

A proposal for City Council to form an ad hoc committee dedicated to the City's mission to combat homelessness was the most heated discussion item.

The suggestion was put forth by Mayor Sue Himmelrich and Councilmembers Kristin McCowan and Christine Parra who want to form a group that can put more attention on creating action around solutions to homelessness, outside of the confines of busy Council meetings and the Brown Act.

"We are not flexible or as you would say nimble enough to really get our heads around this problem and do something about it," said Himmelrich. "I think with a smaller group that is doing the work and not just the talk, I think it will make a difference."

Councilmember Brock voiced a desire to serve on this ad hoc committee and Councilmember McCowan said she would be willing to have Brock take her proposed spot as recent events in her personal life have left her feeling overextended. Mayor Himmelrich was not in favor of this suggestion.

"Councilmember Brock some of your ideas about how we handle homelessness have appeared to me not legal, not constitutional," said Himmelrich. "I think you need to reassure me that you understand that homeless people live here, right, we are not moving them to the Valley."

Councilmember Brock said he took umbrage with Mayor Himmelrich's response and detailed the many actions he has taken to visit the city's various housing facilities and homeless services providers.

"I've been in Turning Point. I've been in Samoshel. I challenge anybody in the last six months that I've been on the Council, who has done more to outreach and learn about the situation, and

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 2

# Interim City Attorney George Cardona to step down Sept. 30

**CLARA HARTER**
SMDP Staff Writer

Interim City Attorney George Cardona announced his resignation on Aug. 27, becoming the latest in a series of pandemic-era leadership departures that include two city managers, a fire chief, police chief, library director and transportation chief.

Cardona will be exiting his role to become Chief Trial Counsel leading the Office of Chief Trial Counsel for the State Bar of California. City Council will consider an interim appointment at an upcoming meeting and will then begin a formal recruitment process for a permanent attorney.

"We are grateful for Interim City Attorney George Cardona's leadership and public service over the last year and a half," said Mayor Sue Himmelrich. "He is an incredibly talented lawyer who we will miss."

In his new position, Cardona will prosecute disciplinary matters and have an annual salary of $284,000,

SEE **ATTORNEY** PAGE 11

# GOP's Larry Elder looks for shock win in California recall

**MICHAEL R. BLOOD**
AP Political Writer

California's next governor could be a Black conservative who would erase state vaccine and mask mandates, is critical of gun control, disputes the notion of systemic racism in America and opposes the minimum wage because he says it tramples the free market.

The rapid ascent of Republican Larry Elder in the Sept. 14 recall election that could remove Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom is a striking turn in a state regarded as a Democratic fortress and national showcase for liberal policies on climate change, immigration and health care.

Elder is a talk radio host who Newsom identifies as his biggest threat in an election widely acknowledged as tight. Elder is promising to reverse California's progressive drift that he blames for an unrelenting homeless crisis, high taxes, spiking crime rates and government creep into people's lives and livelihoods — from "anti-science" coronavirus mandates to regulations he says slow-walk housing construction.

There is a saying that the future happens first in California, and Elder's potentially historic victory could have broad implications, coming on the threshold of 2022 elections that will decide control of Congress.

An Elder win would also trigger a power struggle with Sacramento's Democratic state legislative majority over everything from government appointments to how to spend billions of taxpayer dollars.

In California "young families are leaving, the taxes are going up on gasoline and this governor is either incompetent or indifferent," says Elder, who would become the first Black governor of the nation's most populous state. "He's got to go."

In another year, the charismatic Elder's candidacy in heavily Democratic California might be a footnote — the GOP hasn't won a statewide race since 2006 and Democratic voters outnumber Republicans by nearly 2-to-1. Former President Donald Trump lost the state to Joe Biden last year by more than 5 million votes.

But the unusual math that

SEE **RECALL** PAGE 7



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## DAILY FIRE LOG

### SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 39 CALLS ON AUGUST 29

Traffic Collision With Injury Stewart St / Pico Blvd 12:03 a.m.
EMS 2000blk 20th St 1:11 a.m.
EMS 500blk Pico Blvd 2:52 a.m.
EMS 600blk Wilshire Blvd 5:24 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1600blk 11th St 6:27 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 7:01 a.m.
Broken Water Main 2400blk Oak St 8:20 a.m.
EMS 800blk 11th St 8:32 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk Ocean Ave 9:19 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1100blk 4th St 9:42 a.m.
EMS 1300blk Pearl St 9:46 a.m.
EMS 00blk Village Pkwy 11:30 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 11:38 a.m.
EMS 800blk Ocean Ave 12:15 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 2nd St 12:28 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Wilshire Blvd 1:43 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1900blk 6th St 3:14 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 26th St 3:30 p.m.
EMS Main St / Ocean Park Blvd 5:25 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 5:27 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 5:42 p.m.
EMS 1600blk Ocean Ave 6:37 p.m.
EMS 3100blk Colorado Ave 7:10 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Berkeley St 7:14 p.m.
EMS 1300blk San Vicente Blvd 7:21 p.m.
Odor Of Natural Gas 2400blk Oak St 7:23 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 7:27 p.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 500blk Wilshire Blvd 10:41 p.m.
EMS 1700blk Cloverfield Blvd 11:43 p.m.

## COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

care about the situation," said Brock.

Ultimately, Himmelrich decided to support Brock, and Council unanimously voted to create a committee staffed by Councilmembers Parra, Negrete and Brock. The ad hoc committee will work with the Social Services Commission and make recommendations for strategic investments to fight homelessness.

In a separate discussion item, Councilmembers talked about potentially consolidating several of the City's commissions in the name of greater inclusivity and alleviating strain on a resource-strapped City Hall.

One proposal was to merge the commissions on the status of women, disabilities, social services and older Americans into a broader Diversity Commission.

"We don't have the capacity to make enough standalone commissions to be as inclusive as we would like to be, and we don't have the staff and resources to support the commissions, in all honesty, at their current level," Councilmember Gleam Davis.

Councilmembers discussed the merits and drawbacks of a potential consolidation and emphasized that it is the will of Social Services Commissioners to remain an independent group. No action was taken on this item during the meeting.

Councilmembers did however, take action on two remaining discussion items: zoning ordinance changes for tattoo parlors and funding for a car show on the Pier.

The revised zoning ordinance eliminates a costly $7,000 modified use permit and will make it easier for tattoo parlors to open in the City.

"The difficulty of opening a tattoo shop is sort of a vestige of the day when people with tattoos were in the margin," said Davis. "We need to come into the 21st century and our recognition of that, in all honesty, I think is part of cultural equity."

The annual Santa Monica Classic Car Show will take place on Sept. 11 at the Pier from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and will be a free event for the entire community. The show is presented by the Pico Youth and Family Center and intended to enhance Latino/Hispanic heritage month.

"Long-term residents of the City are so proud of their lowrider, their classic Chevrolet, their classic Pontiac," said Brock. "It's a great way for these car clubs to gather to show solidarity, to talk to their friends, talk to their neighbors as part of Hispanic Heritage Month."

Councilmembers agreed to allocate $5000 in discretionary funds for the event, while the Pier Corporation has agreed to waive its $15,000 rental fee for use of the Pier parking lot.

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 AUGUST 29, AT ABOUT 3:20 A.M.,

Santa Monica Police Department (SMPD) Officers were dispatched to a residence in the 600 block of 7th Street regarding an in-progress burglary. According to the call, the resident was able to see a male inside the detached garage through one of the garage's windows. When officers arrived on scene, they established a perimeter around the property and quickly detained a male coming out. The suspect, Edgar Alexis Matias, a 27-year-old male of Santa Monica, was positively identified by the resident. He was arrested and booked for 459 PC – Burglary. A criminal history check revealed Matias had prior theft related arrests which include an arrest related to a burglary that occurred in Santa Monica on August 13, 2021. Anyone with additional information pertaining to this incident is encouraged to contact the Criminal Investigations Division at 310-458-8451 or Santa Monica Department Watch Commander (24 hours) at 310-458-8427.

## DAILY POLICE LOG

### SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 239 CALLS ON AUGUST 29

Traffic Collision - No Injuries Stewart St / Pico Blvd 12:03 a.m.
Loud Music 1500blk Berkeley St 12:15 a.m.
Juvenile Annoying Investigation 17th St / Arizona Ave 12:31 a.m.
Loud Music 800blk Grant St 12:45 a.m.
Loud Music 2600blk Main St 12:46 a.m.
Loud Music 3rd Street Prom / Santa Monica Blvd 12:46 a.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public Neilson Way / Bay St 12:54 a.m.
Loud Music 900blk Ocean Ave 1:10 a.m.
Loud Music 1900blk Ocean Way 1:42 a.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation Ocean Ave / California Incline 1:45 a.m.
Loud Music 2000blk Ocean Ave 1:45 a.m.
Party Complaint 1300blk Grant St 1:46 a.m.
Loud Music 900blk Ocean Ave 1:55 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 2600blk Pico Blvd 2:11 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 17th St / Expo Line 2:26 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 5th St / Santa Monica Blvd 2:39 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 700blk Wilshire Blvd 3:07 a.m.
Burglary Now 600blk 7th St 3:19 a.m.
Loud Music 1200blk 14th St 4:08 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1000blk 7th St 4:08 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2500blk Ocean Front Walk 7:00 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 2600blk Barnard Way 8:10 a.m.
Encampment 14th St / Georgina Ave 8:40 a.m.
Lewd Activity 900blk 10th St 8:49 a.m.
Silent Burglar Alarm 1400blk 4th St 8:55 a.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 1000blk 10th St 9:07 a.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 2000blk Ocean Ave 9:10 a.m.
Bike Theft Report 2500blk 5th St 9:34 a.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 1600blk Wilshire Blvd 9:51 a.m.
Battery Now 2000blk Ocean Ave 9:54 a.m.
Encampment 1900blk The Beach 9:56 a.m.
Encampment 1300blk San Vicente Blvd 10:10 a.m.
Lost Property 1500blk 6th St 10:36 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 400blk 19th St 10:45 a.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 400blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:11 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 600blk Pico Blvd 11:20 a.m.
Overdose 1100blk The Beach 11:56 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 500blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:06 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 12:48 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 3000blk Airport Ave 12:50 p.m.
Loud Music 1500blk 6th St 12:52 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1500blk 7th St 1:04 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred Ocean Ave / Wilshire Blvd 1:45 p.m.
Assault Just Occurred 500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 2:02 p.m.
Encampment 1300blk San Vicente Blvd 2:23 p.m.
Fraud Report 1400blk Franklin St 2:25 p.m.
General Parking Problem 400blk Pacific Coast Hwy 2:36 p.m.
Stolen Vehicle Lincoln Blvd / Ocean Park Blvd 2:39 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 900blk 19th St 2:42 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1200blk 9th St 2:48 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 800blk Montana Ave 2:54 p.m.
Burglary Report 1200blk 6th St 3:12 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 3:14 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:17 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 300blk Broadway 3:21 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1500blk 14th St 3:38 p.m.
Bike Theft Report 25th St / Georgina Ave 3:54 p.m.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered 2400blk Euclid St 4:04 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1600blk Ocean Ave 4:16 p.m.
Loud Music 1500blk 6th St 4:26 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:46 p.m.
Lewd Activity 100blk Pacific St 4:52 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 100blk Alta Ave 4:53 p.m.
Person Down Main St / Ocean Park Blvd 5:25 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 2500blk Main St 5:25 p.m.
Critical Missing Person 1500blk The Beach 5:39 p.m.
Person With A Gun 3100blk Wilshire Blvd 5:54 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 2400blk Olympic Blvd 6:01 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1000blk 18th St 6:17 p.m.
Bike Theft Report 1200blk Berkeley St 6:36 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 2nd St / Arizona Ave 6:46 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 700blk Broadway 6:51 p.m.
Burglary Report 600blk California Ave 6:52 p.m.
Loud Music 900blk Ozone Ave 6:53 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 3200blk 17th St 7:13 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1100blk Ocean Front Walk 7:14 p.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 1300blk Ocean Ave 7:15 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 300blk Santa Monica Pier 7:23 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 7:53 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 2nd St / Colorado Ave 8:23 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation Main St / Hollister Ave 8:51 p.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 700blk Marine St 10:10 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper Just Occurred 1100blk 2nd St 10:10 p.m.
Found Property 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 10:16 p.m.
Loud Music 2600blk Ocean Front Walk 10:29 p.m.
Encampment 1300blk 7th St 10:34 p.m.
Assistance Call 3000blk Airport Ave 10:51 p.m.
Arson 500blk Wilshire Blvd 10:54 p.m.
Party Complaint 600blk San Vicente Blvd 11:01 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1400blk 5th St 11:07 p.m.
Loud Music 2700blk Main St 11:42 p.m.

# As districts insist on vaccines, some teachers push back

**GILLIAN FLACCUS AND BOBBY CAINA CALVAN**
Associated Press

Some of the biggest school systems in the U.S. are taking a hard line with teachers and staff members who are not yet vaccinated against COVID-19: Get a jab or lose your job.

Most teachers already are vaccinated, and national teachers' unions have endorsed vaccine mandates, but the policies have sparked protests from educators and, in some cases, pushback from local district leaders who fear large numbers of departures.

In Oregon, where school staffers statewide are required to be fully vaccinated by Oct. 18, the board for the 7,500-student district of Redmond last week passed a resolution protesting the mandate and mandatory mask-wearing in schools after "significant" opposition.

"This could do serious damage to the other mandate that we have, which is to provide excellent education to the children and the families of our district," board member Michael Summers said. "We're attempting to speak for people."

Teachers in many school districts with vaccine requirements can opt out as long as they submit to regular testing for the coronavirus, but New York City, Philadelphia, Chicago and St. Louis are among a growing list of places that are limiting exemptions to bona fide medical and religious reasons. Washington and Oregon have adopted similarly strict vaccination policies statewide.

As a new school year begins, governments are taking a harder line on vaccinations to ward off the highly contagious delta variant, which has sent children to hospital intensive care beds in record numbers. Many students are too young to get the vaccine, which is available only to those 12 and over.

"This is to ensure that the children we all cherish are safe, that their families are reassured," New York Mayor Bill de Blasio, a Democrat, said last week.

Underscoring the risks of classroom infections, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention presented a case study in its weekly report Friday detailing how an unvaccinated teacher in Marin County, California, spread the virus to 22 of the instructor's 24 students at school. The CDC said the teacher sometimes read aloud to the students while unmasked.

Some school staff members who have held off on getting vaccinated say they would leave their jobs before taking the shots.

Marlene Washington, an elementary school teacher in New York City, said as she protested de Blasio's order outside City Hall last week that she is considering retirement after two decades in the classroom. She said she questions the long-term safety of the vaccines.

"I'm still undecided about what to do," said Washington, 62. "But I do know that I'm not taking the vaccine."

Kiara Coleman, a food service worker for Philadelphia schools, said she isn't budging despite uncertainty over the consequences of refusing a vaccine.

"I'll just have to cross that bridge when I find out more details of the mandate. I would hate to throw away all that time I have with the schools," said Coleman, who also has concerns about potential effects of vaccines.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration last week gave full approval to Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine, citing months of real-world evidence that serious side effects are extremely rare.

Philadelphia parent Rebecca Smith, who has daughters in the third and sixth grades, said she should not have to worry about school employees making them sick.

"School employees are tasked with caring for some of the most vulnerable members of our society — our children under 12, who right now are the ONLY group who can not get a vaccine to protect themselves," she said in written testimony to the school board.

While teachers unions including the United Federation of Teachers, which represents New York City teachers, have supported the no-opt out rules for vaccines, they also advocate on behalf of dissenting members in negotiations with the city. Some of those talks focus on severance packages for those who leave their jobs and leaves of absences that could allow some teachers to return once the public health crisis passes.

"We will represent them and we will protect their interests. But there is a deep disagreement here," said Randi Weingarten, the president of the American Federation of Teachers, the parent organization of the New York City teachers union.

"At the end of the day, employers have the right to impose these kinds of vaccination policies and they will do that," she said.

At least 72% of the 75,000 public school teachers in New York City have gotten at least one shot of a vaccine.

Protesters gathered in Olympia, Washington, when Gov. Jay Inslee, a Democrat, announced teachers would have until Oct. 18 to be fully vaccinated or face firing. A protest on Saturday attracted hundreds of state employees, from ferry workers to teachers, who rallied against the vaccine mandate.

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown, a Democrat, moved toward mandatory vaccinations as COVID-19 hospitalizations have surged nearly 1,000% since early July.

About 700 teachers have contacted the Freedom Foundation, a right-wing legal organization that has represented businesses cited for violating COVID-19 restrictions in Oregon and elsewhere.

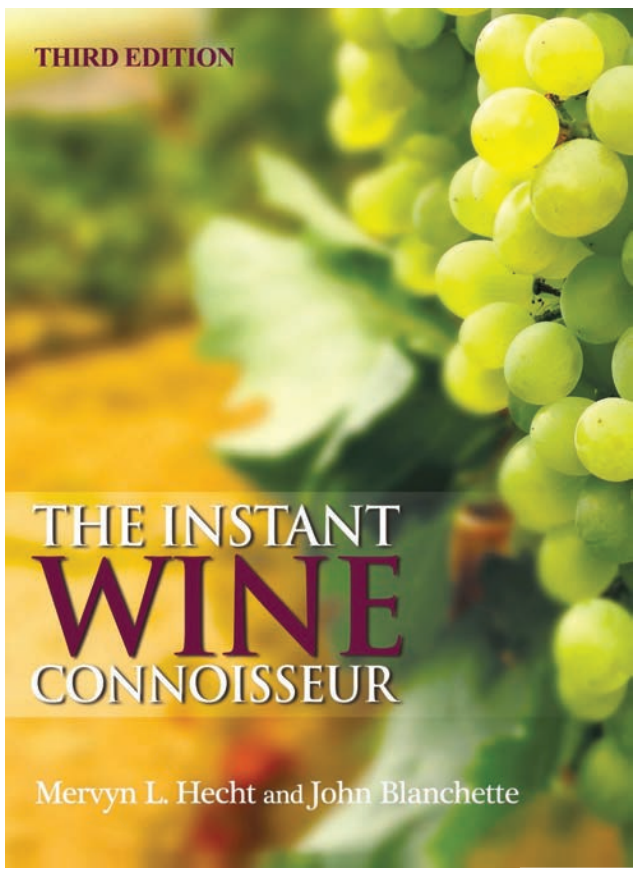
"We've been telling everybody to make the school fire you," said Jason Dudash, the group's Oregon director. "Don't quit. If they're going to do this, make them do it."

SEE **TEACHER** PAGE 11






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




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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

**Citywide**

### Santa Monica Offers Help for Residential Tenants and Landlords Applying for State Rental Assistance

Help is available now for all Santa Monica residential tenants and landlords who need support in applying for $5.2 billion in rental assistance and $2 billion in utility assistance from the State of California through the CA COVID-19 Rent Relief program (also commonly called "Housing is Key").

Residents interested in applying can call 311 or email 311@santamonica.gov to schedule appointments to get help with barriers to obtaining state rental assistance. Appointments can be in-person, online, or by phone. Help is available with the following issues:

Questions about the application process
Help filling out applications
Assistance tracking completed applications
Access to computers and internet
Help scanning or copying documents
Assistance in languages other than English
Support for tenants and landlords with disabilities

"City staff and community volunteers are here to assist you in accessing state funds for rent and utilities before the funds are depleted," said Santa Monica Mayor Sue Himmelrich. "If your income was impacted by COVID-19, please consider applying. This program is unique in that it covers a wider range of incomes than other state and federal housing programs."

Tenants and landlords should apply to the rental assistance program as soon as possible. The statewide eviction moratorium protecting tenants from nonpayment of rent expires on September 30, 2021. More than $10 million in state rental assistance has been distributed to over 650 households in Santa Monica so far. For the latest figures, visit bit.ly/3zgCG6r.

While the rent relief is targeted toward low-income tenants and their landlords, if tenants have been impacted by COVID-19, have unpaid rent or utilities, or need help with future rent and utilities, they may qualify. The state will calculate an applicant's income eligibility when the person applies, and will base income eligibility on whether the tenant's household income meets a specified percentage of the Area Median Income ("AMI"). Applicants will need a proof of ID, income, residence or lease agreement, and a rent ledger (showing how much is owed) to complete the application process.

The City of Santa Monica launched an outreach program in August to ensure equitable access to the state rental funds for the most vulnerable members of our community. The City's goal is for every tenant and landlord who may be eligible to apply for the state rental funds. The outreach plan includes mailers, flyers, door-hangers, social media, email, and more. Similarly, the application support is targeted toward tenants and landlords who haven't applied because of disability, or lack of access to technology or internet service.

Santa Monica residents can call 311 or email 311@santamonica.gov to schedule an appointment for assistance. Tenants and landlords can also contact the state Housing is Key program directly at housing.ca.gov or (833) 430-2122.

SUBMITTED BY CONSTANCE FARRELL, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

**LOS ANGELES**

### Former chairman gets prison for stealing $11M from church

The former chairman of the board of a Los Angeles church was sentenced Monday to nearly 11 years in federal prison for stealing more than $11 million in church funds, prosecutors said.

Charles Thomas Sebesta, 56, pleaded guilty last year to wire fraud and bank fraud, the U.S. Attorney's Office said in a news release. He's been in federal custody since his arrest in August 2019.

A judge on Monday also ordered Sebesta to pay nearly $11.5 million in restitution to his former employer, the Fifth Church of Christ, Scientist, of Los Angeles.

The church hired Sebesta in 2001 as its facilities manager. He joined the church four years later and ultimately served as chairman, giving him control over financial assets and operations, including bank accounts.

Prosecutors said Sebesta made payments to bank accounts in the name of fictitious companies he created, as well as to accounts he held in his own name and in the names of his family members and a female companion.

After he oversaw the sale of church property for approximately $12.8 million, prosecutors said Sebesta stole a significant majority of the proceeds for his personal use. At one point he purchased a home with more than $2 million in cashier's checks drawn from church bank accounts, prosecutors said.

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AWARD WINNER
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WINNER

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# Thousands rush to flee Lake Tahoe resort city as fire nears

SAM METZ AND JANIE HAR
Associated Press/Report for America

Thousands of people rushed to leave South Lake Tahoe as the entire resort city came under evacuation orders and wildfire raced toward Lake Tahoe, a large freshwater lake straddling California and Nevada.

Evacuation warnings issued for the city of 22,000 on Sunday turned into orders Monday. Vehicles loaded with bikes and camping gear and hauling boats were stuck in traffic, stalled in hazy, brown air that smelled of campfire. Police and other emergency vehicles whizzed by.

"This is a systematic evacuation, one neighborhood at a time," South Lake Tahoe police Lt. Travis Cabral said on social media. "I am asking you as our community to please remain calm."

The new orders came a day after communities several miles south of the lake were abruptly ordered evacuated as the Caldor Fire raged nearby.

South Lake Tahoe's main medical facility, Barton Memorial Hospital, proactively evacuated 36 patients needing skilled nursing and 16 in acute care beds Sunday, sending them to regional facilities far from the fire, public information officer Mindi Befu said. The rest of the hospital was evacuating following Monday's expanded orders.

The Lake Tahoe area in the Sierra Nevada mountains is a recreational paradise for San Francisco Bay Area locals looking for a weekend getaway, as well as a national destination. The area offers beaches, water sports, hiking, ski resorts and golfing.

South Lake Tahoe, at the lake's southern end, bustles with outdoor activities, with casinos available in bordering Stateline, Nevada.

South Lake Tahoe Mayor Tamara Wallace prepared to leave with her husband, youngest child, dogs and items given to them from their deceased parent — objects that can't be replaced.

She thought the Caldor Fire would stay farther away. Fires in the past did not spread so rapidly near the tourist city.

"It's just yet another example of how wildfires have changed over the years," she said. "It's just a culmination of 14 to 18 more years of dead trees, the droughts we've had since then, those kinds of things."

The region faces a warning from the National Weather Service about critical fire weather Monday and Tuesday.

The fire destroyed multiple homes Sunday along Highway 50, one of the main routes to the lake's south end. It also roared through the Sierra-at-Tahoe ski resort, demolishing some buildings but leaving the main buildings at the base intact.

Fire churned through mountains just a few miles southwest of the Tahoe Basin, where thick smoke sent visitors packing at a time when summer vacations would usually be in full swing ahead of Labor Day weekend.

There were reports of cabins burned in the unincorporated community of Echo Lake, where Tom Fashinell has operated Echo Chalet with his wife since 1984. The summer-only resort offers cabin rentals, but was ordered to close early for the season by the U.S. Forest Service due to ongoing wildfires.

Fashinell said he was glued to the local TV news. "We're watching to see whether the building survives," he said.

The last major blaze in the area took South Lake Tahoe by surprise after blowing up from an illegal campfire in the summer of 2007. The Angora Fire burned less than 5 square miles but destroyed 254 homes, injured three people and forced 2,000 people to flee.

The Caldor Fire has scorched 277 square miles since breaking out Aug. 14. After the weekend's fierce burning, containment dropped from 19% to 14%. More than 600 structures have been destroyed, and at least 20,000 more were threatened.

It's among nearly 90 large blazes in the U.S. Many are in the West, burning trees and brush sucked dry by drought. Climate change has made the region warmer and drier in the past 30 years and will continue to make the weather more extreme and wildfires more destructive, according to scientists.

In California alone, more than 15,200 firefighters are fighting more than a dozen large fires. Flames have destroyed about 2,000 buildings and forced thousands to evacuate this year while blanketing large swaths of the West in unhealthy smoke.

In Southern California, a section of Interstate 15 closed Sunday after winds pushed a new blaze, the Railroad Fire, across lanes in the Cajon Pass northeast of Los Angeles.

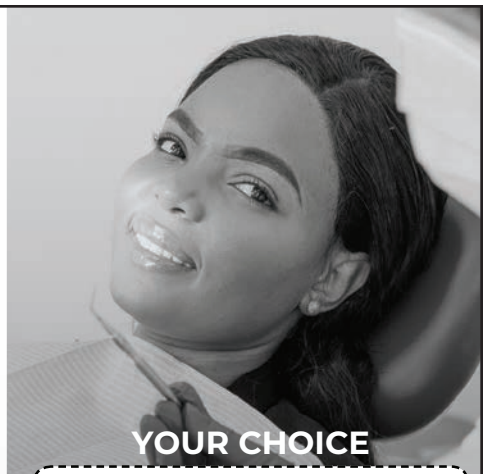
Farther south, evacuation orders and warnings were in place for remote communities after a wildfire ignited and spread quickly through the Cleveland National Forest on Saturday. A firefighter received minor injuries, and two structures were destroyed in the 2.3-square-mile Chaparral Fire burning along the border of San Diego and Riverside counties, according to Cal Fire. It was 13% contained Monday.

Meanwhile, the Dixie Fire, the second-largest in state history at 1,205 square miles, was nearly halfway contained about 65 miles north of the Lake Tahoe-area blaze. Nearly 700 homes were among almost 1,300 buildings that have been destroyed since the Dixie Fire began in early July.

Containment increased to 26% on the French Fire, which covered nearly 40 square miles in the southern Sierra Nevada. Crews protected forest homes on the west side of Lake Isabella, a popular recreation area northeast of Bakersfield.

The U.S. Department of Defense is sending 200 Army soldiers from Washington state to help firefighters in Northern California, the U.S. Army North said in a statement Saturday. Eight Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve C-130 aircraft capable of dropping thousands of gallons of fire retardant also have been sent to fight wildfires in the West.

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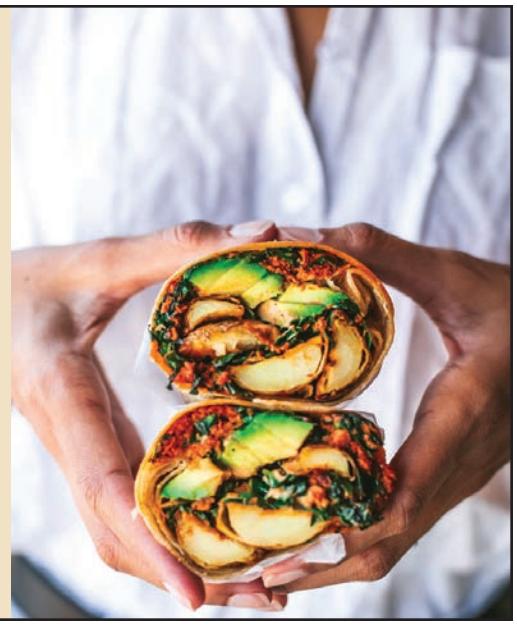
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## Strictly Business

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# Carvana really is the nirvana of buying a car

I'm in the last stage of dealing with the fender bender that totaled out my Lexus LS400. Yes, literally the fender, the headlight and one front wheel were damaged and the insurance company is calling it a total loss because of its age. Well, since they're gonna give me a decent size check for it, I'm sending my beloved LS400 to the trash heap of some salvager who will part it out for thousands of dollars.

With the loss of that car, I had to start looking at my options. I haven't really looked at buying a car since 2002 when I bought my first Lexus, the second one I bought from my law partner's mother-in-law, so it's a whole new world for me of car shopping. Much like how the dating world has radically changed with technology and gone mostly online, the car shopping experience has undergone a wholesale revision in what to expect.

I started out at Usedcars.com to pare down the choices and see what was available. My attitude towards cars is this, there are 'daily drivers' - they're just transportation to get me to the store, the gym and the courthouse. I don't marry my ego and my self-esteem with the cars I drive. In law school I had beaters that were ungodly eyesores, one didn't even have a passenger seat! But they got me from Burbank to Rosemead to Inglewood reliably and they were paid for.

Then there are cars that one buys for show and/or personal enjoyment. My first boyfriend managed to buy back the 1965 Ford Mustang convertible he drove in high school and is rebuilding it with his father, down to the chassis. That's a passion project and if I could buy back the 1964 ½ Ford Mustang that I had, I would move Heaven and earth to do so.

So looking at cars online, I had the opportunity to see what I would like. Of course at 54 (almost 55 – next month!) there was the cliché of getting a convertible sports car two seater. Which is exactly what I rented from Hertz on Santa Monica Blvd when I first had the accident. I must say that it's definitely fun to have a convertible, and this Ford Mustang is a nice ride, but really if I was going to do it, I'd need the biggest engine they make because this rental lacks the oomph of a true Mustang. I realized pretty quickly though, that they're more work than I want to deal with in a daily driver. I like being able to get in and out easily (did I mention I was 54?), dealing with the convertible top was mildly annoying and so I decided that the answer really is that I should just rent one for the weekend when I want to go topless.

Having looked around, I decided on the tried and true Lexus brand. The selection on the open market of used Lexus' was more than enough for me to find one that I wanted. I stopped by a used-car lot and test drove a couple of different models just to make sure of what type of car I was getting. Did I want the IS the sporty entry level, or the higher end ES. I knew that I didn't want to go full on LS again because it was more than I wanted to spend for a daily driver.

The salesman was excellent, friendly and super knowledgeable. I liked him and my experience with them was excellent.

And then I bought the exact car I wanted from Carvana.com.

Why, you may ask, if you liked the local dealer so much? Well it's simple. I found the car online with every option I wanted, it had full 360 degree pictures showing me exactly what the car had and what condition it was in. The price was reasonable, and I was pre-qualified by them for financing in literally less than 5 minutes.

The thought of having to go sit with a dealer, and do that obnoxious, painful, insulting, infuriating dance of price negotiation, no matter how nice the salesperson is, was just not worth it to me. I deal with negotiations all day long with lawyers and crazy divorce clients and custody parent with unreal expectations. I did not want to waste 4-6 hours being played by the car guys in their quest to make a quota and upsell me into something that's all profit and no benefit.

Did I pay more than I could have? Maybe. Was it worth it? Yes.

With Carvana I accepted my selection, and began the buying process clicking Yes and picking a delivery time. Then Carvana confirmed my information, asked me to upload pictures of my driver's license and two pieces of mail that confirmed my home address. A phone call later to answer one question they had about my work and I was approved for a loan that was a full percentage point and a half lower than my credit union offered me.

On Sunday morning at 8 a.m. I received a couple of texts from Fernando that he was arriving with my car 30 minutes early. The fact that he was super handsome even with a mask on was just a bonus as he unloaded my 2016 Lexus. I did a walk around, showed him the insurance binder that allowed me to go for a test drive and 15 minutes I was back in my parking lot signing my name a few times for my seven day test drive. The car was exactly as shown on the website, and as I told Fernando, the only thing wrong with this entire experience was that the car's clock was not set to Pacific time. Frankly, I think I can overlook that.

SEE **STRICTLY BUSINESS** PAGE 11

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## RECALL

FROM PAGE 1

underlies the rare, late-summer recall election could upend the expected.

For years, Republicans have envisioned that a confluence of crises might result in a pendulum swing in leadership in a state that was home to — and voted for — Republican Presidents Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan.

Mail-in ballots went out in mid-August. They are being returned at a time when COVID again is spiking and many voters are angry and looking for someone to blame.

The recall was driven by weariness over Newsom's whipsaw pandemic rules that closed businesses and schools, but it's buttressed by grievances that range from frustration with sprawling homeless encampments to soaring housing costs.

The GOP's chances rest in the atypical rules of the recall election.

There are two questions on the ballot: First, should Newsom be removed, yes or no? If a majority agrees to oust him, his successor is whoever gets the most votes on the second question. With 46 candidates, the winner could get 25% or less.

It's a rare opportunity for the GOP in a state where Democrats hold every statewide office and dominate the Legislature and congressional delegation. Republicans account for only 24% of registered voters, but the dynamics of the recall have allowed Elder and other conservative candidates to target their campaigns at right-leaning voters who could provide a sufficient winning edge.

Elder quickly overshadowed a field of GOP rivals that include businessman John Cox, state Assemblyman Kevin Kiley, former San Diego mayor Kevin Faulconer and former Olympian and reality TV personality Caitlyn Jenner.

Newsom was successful in keeping prominent Democrats off the ballot, though YouTube personality Kevin Paffrath has emerged as a potential contender within Newsom's party.

At 69, Elder is a latecomer as a first-time candidate and he's far from a household name. However, he's been a celebrity within conservative circles for years through his provocative radio show that for many stations is part of lineup of conservative voices that includes Elder's mentor, Dennis Prager. Elder has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and counts nearly 2 million followers on social media.

The self-styled "Sage of South Central" — a reference to the rough Los Angeles neighborhood where he grew up — is taut with energy that belies his age. When arguing points, he can talk with the rapid-fire certitude of the lawyer that he is — Elder is a 1977 graduate of the University of Michigan Law School, and received an undergraduate degree from Brown University.

Arguably Elder's biggest headline since entering the race July 12 was an unwelcome one – a former fiancee, Alexandra Datig, alleged he was emotionally abusive and showed her a gun during an argument in 2015, a claim Elder denies.

However, the allegations do not appear to have slowed his campaign's trajectory. He rolled out endorsements last week that included GOP national Committeeman Shawn Steel and former Democratic state Senate leader Gloria Romero, who favors charter schools, as does Elder.

His political views reflect a libertarian mindset that would elicit cringes among progressive voters — he believes government has grown too big, too intrusive, too costly.

He stands opposed to what he sees as government overreach, hence his opposition to sweeping mask mandates and the minimum wage. He's been critical of Roe v. Wade, the landmark 1973 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that legalized abortion nationwide, arguing that such restrictions should be left to states.

To Elder, climate change is real but he also warns against a "war on oil and gas" and shifting too quickly into a renewable-energy economy, which he says would cost jobs and fail to keep the lights on.

His views on race often have put him at odds with other Blacks. Elder is critical of the Black Lives Matter movement, and he has called racial quotas "a crutch and a cop-out." He opposes efforts to "defund" police. In a 1995 interview with The Orange County Register he said, "We have to stop bitching and moaning and whining and crying and blaming the white man for everything."

Black Democratic leaders recently held an event to denounce his views on race.

"He may look like us, he may talk like us, but he is not one of us," said Malia Cohen, a member of the California State Board of Equalization, which oversees collection of state taxes.

The embattled Newsom has called Elder "more extreme than Trump in many respects."

From the start, Democrats have sought to link the recall effort to the former president, who is widely unpopular in the state outside his conservative base.

Elder rejects the notion that he's a mirror image of Trump, noting that he's broken with him on trade — Elder disagreed with tariffs and other restrictions imposed by the former president — and also thought Trump erred by cutting Afghanistan troop levels.

Newsom's steady focus on Elder isn't a surprise, says Democratic pollster Ben Tulchin. It allowed the governor to recast the race from a referendum on his own tenure by "putting a face on the alternative."

"Without a clear alternative, it was hard for Gavin and the Democrats to say, 'Oppose the recall,' because it's such an amorphous thing," Tulchin said. "Now, he can hold up Elder to define the race on partisan terms."

With mail-in ballots already being returned, the contest remains heavy with unknowns, including who will bother to vote in an election scheduled in what is normally an off-election year.

Elder might benefit from little-noticed wrinkles in state voting patterns. California has a liberal tilt, but not always.

Voters in 2020 rejected an organized labor-backed attempt to partially dismantle the state's decades-old cap on property taxes, as well as reinstate affirmative action, while Republicans ousted Democrats in four U.S. House seats.

Elder says he considers the race a longshot, given Newsom's ability to raise unlimited funds. But he believes he's the only Republican likely to deliver a stunning surprise next month.

"I don't think anybody can win except for me," he says.



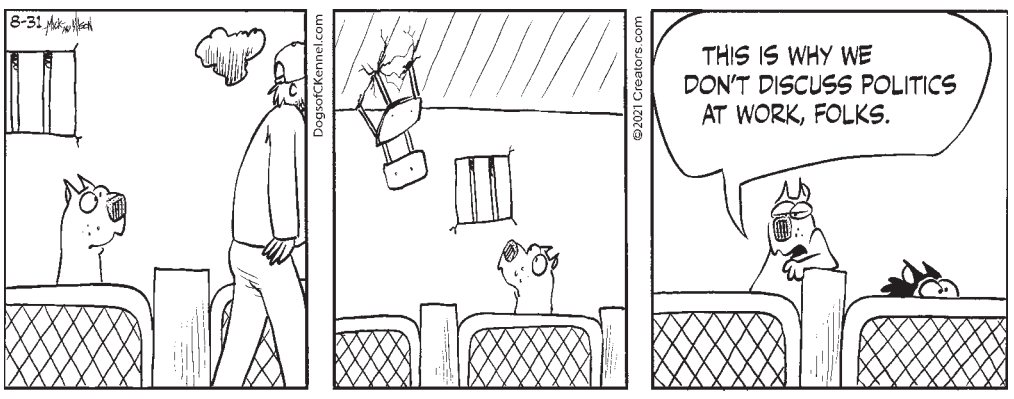
## Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



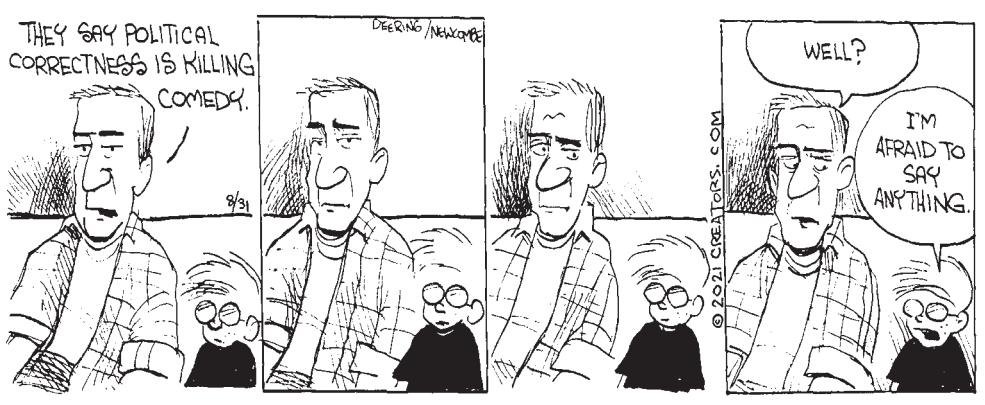

## Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



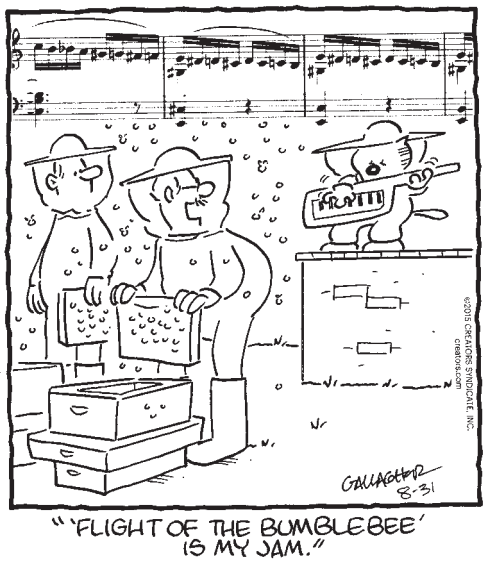

## Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE




## Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER




## Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING







## SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 65.7°

TUESDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft Thigh to waist high
Little SW swells lingers. Small wave gear required, especially with the tide holding around 3'+ all day.

WEDNESDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft Thigh to waist high
NW swell mix trends up a touch as SW swell lingers. There's a mid to higher tide all day, so look for the spots that can handle the extra water/lack of swell to be best.

## WEATHER

**Tuesday:** Patchy fog. Otherwise, cloudy, with a high near 72.
**Tuesday Night:** Patchy fog before 11pm. Otherwise, cloudy, with a low around 63.
**Wednesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 71.

| Date | Day | Time (LST/LDT) | Predicted (ft) | High/Low |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2021/08/31 | Tue | 12:22 AM | 1.25 | L |
| 2021/08/31 | Tue | 08:17 AM | 3.40 | H |
| 2021/08/31 | Tue | 10:46 AM | 3.31 | L |
| 2021/08/31 | Tue | 5:14 PM | 4.74 | H |
| 2021/09/01 | Wed | 01:13 AM | 0.82 | L |
| 2021/09/01 | Wed | 08:28 AM | 3.65 | H |
| 2021/09/01 | Wed | 12:11 PM | 3.18 | L |
| 2021/09/01 | Wed | 6:14 PM | 5.05 | H |
| 2021/09/02 | Thu | 01:50 AM | 0.43 | L |
| 2021/09/02 | Thu | 08:43 AM | 3.86 | H |
| 2021/09/02 | Thu | 1:01 PM | 2.91 | L |
| 2021/09/02 | Thu | 7:03 PM | 5.42 | H |
| 2021/09/03 | Fri | 02:22 AM | 0.10 | L |
| 2021/09/03 | Fri | 09:00 AM | 4.06 | H |
| 2021/09/03 | Fri | 1:40 PM | 2.57 | L |
| 2021/09/03 | Fri | 7:44 PM | 5.79 | H |
| 2021/09/04 | Sat | 02:51 AM | -0.15 | L |
| 2021/09/04 | Sat | 09:18 AM | 4.27 | H |
| 2021/09/04 | Sat | 2:15 PM | 2.21 | L |
| 2021/09/04 | Sat | 8:21 PM | 6.09 | H |
| 2021/09/05 | Sun | 03:19 AM | -0.31 | L |

## DAILY LOTTERY

**POWERball**
Draw Date: 8/28
12 22 26 46 59
Power#: 26
Jackpot: 332 M

**MEGA MILLIONS**
Draw Date: 8/27
1 10 44 47 56
Mega#: 23
Jackpot: 306 M

**SuperLotto PLUS**
Draw Date: 8/28
6 17 29 30 45
Mega#: 5
Jackpot: 13 M

**Fantasy 5**
Draw Date: 8/29
1 5 10 28 31

**Daily 3**
Draw Date: 8/29
EVENING: 2 0 2
Draw Date: 8/29
MIDDAY: 1 0 0

**Daily Derby**
Draw Date: 8/29
1st: 02 - Lucky Star
2nd: 08 - Gorgeous George
3rd: 09 - Winning Spirit
Race Time: 1:44.32

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at http://www.calottery.com

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## TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (AUGUST 31)

Instead of imagining what others see when they look at you, you endeavor to know it for sure. You measure your results, test them on loved ones and strangers, tape yourself and gather input of all kinds so you can give your very best to the world. You'll be paid, promoted and made so proud of what you produce. Sagittarius and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 4, 44, 1 and 7.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). A project drags on. As arduous as this seems right now, it's important to get to the end and finish with a bang. You may have to reach deep to drum up enthusiasm for the last leg of the journey.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your adaptive nature gives you a competitive advantage now as the game changes before your very eyes. The way it worked in the past is not the way it works now. The future will bring even more changes.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). New situations heighten your senses. You'll notice what others who have grown used to the situation cannot see. Let the strangeness wear off before you decide whether — and how — a thing fits into your life.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You prefer decisions to limbo, action to inertia and resolution to mystery... and yet today offers exceptions to challenge your bias. Limbo can buy time; inertia allows for recovery; and so lovely is the mystery.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You feel your work is unfinished, but if you don't show it now, the chance may not come again. Keep in mind how incompletion invites collaboration, which will add energy to the endeavor.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll never know the sweetness of your attention. The questions you ask aren't meant to flatter people; though it happens. Even if you accidentally brush up against sore subjects, people are complimented by your interest.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You tell yourself what to do; then, when the moment arises, you may not feel so inclined. This is the human condition. It is superhuman to nudge, trick or encourage yourself into compliance with your own good intentions.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Energy vampires avoid confident people and narcissists dodge the self-assured. Your strong sense of self-worth is repellant to any who would take advantage of you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Between the public and private self is a gap, the size of which varies from person to person. It's a red flag if the gap is a chasm, and a good sign if the gap is small enough to bridge with a hop.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Desire clouds vision. Awareness is strongest when you don't want or need anything from the situation. Neutrality allows you to see the truth of interpersonal dynamics.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The empathy you offer others costs you nothing and gives them more than money can buy. Take it further with action and a system of accountability.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Opportunities cannot present themselves; they need hosts. Prospects come in the form of people who need and want things. To seize opportunity is to serve people.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P | A | N | D | A | ■ | L | I | A | M | ■ | I | D | E | A |
| L | U | A | U | S | ■ | E | T | R | E | ■ | M | E | A | L |
| E | D | G | E | S | ■ | G | A | I | T | ■ | P | E | S | O |
| D | I | S | S | I | M | I | L | A | R | ■ | O | R | E | O |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | G | E | T | ■ | ■ | I | T | S | E | L | F |
| A | M | O | U | N | T | ■ | Y | M | C | A | S | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| D | E | A | N | ■ | A | R | E | A | ■ | T | I | T | H | E |
| A | S | T | A | R | ■ | I | L | L | ■ | A | B | H | O | R |
| M | A | Y | B | E | ■ | F | L | E | A | ■ | L | E | E | R |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | R | I | S | E | S | ■ | S | T | E | E | D | S |
| S | P | R | I | N | T | ■ | ■ | B | I | O | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| H | E | A | D | ■ | A | N | T | I | S | O | C | I | A | L |
| R | A | N | G | ■ | P | O | O | R | ■ | B | U | R | R | O |
| U | R | G | E | ■ | L | O | A | D | ■ | A | T | O | M | S |
| B | L | E | D | ■ | E | N | D | S | ■ | D | E | N | 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

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

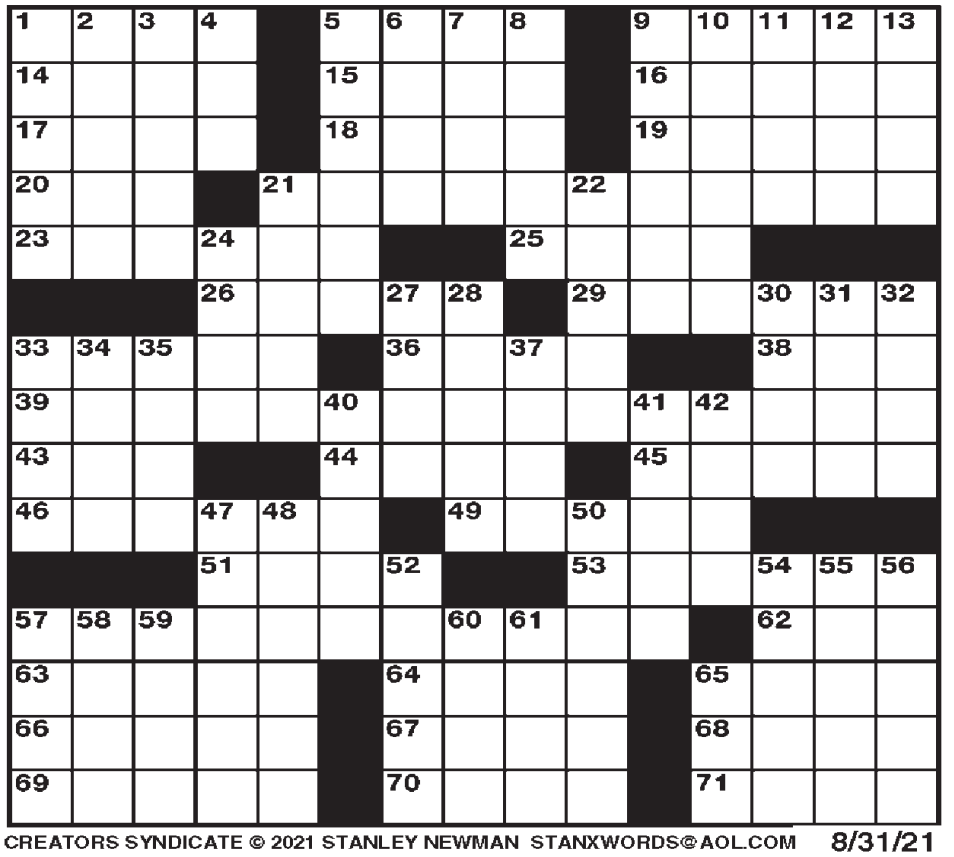
| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 6 | | 1 | | | 2 | | |
| | | 3 | | | 8 | | | |
| | 5 | | 2 | | | 7 | | 6 |
| 3 | | | | 4 | 1 | | | 9 |
| | 4 | 6 | | | | 5 | 7 | |
| 7 | | | 5 | 8 | | | | 1 |
| 4 | | 8 | | | 2 | | 3 | |
| | | | 8 | | | 4 | | |
| | | 2 | | | 7 | | 1 | 5 |

## Newsday Crossword

**AROUND THE POOL** by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

**ACROSS**
1 For each, informally
5 Female pigs
9 Donkeys
14 Fixes dishonestly
15 Resign
16 March 17th honoree, for short
17 Seasoning in a shaker
18 Food safety org.
19 Self-assurance
20 Smallest till bill
21 Swimming pool's purifier
23 98.6 degrees, for body temperature
25 Kingly title
26 Aviator
29 Past and present, for verbs
33 Dads
36 Formal decree
38 Wedding vow
39 Seat for relaxing in a pool
43 Dove's call
44 Fawns' moms
45 Pasta similar to ziti
46 Stern about rules
49 Person using oars
51 Layer of paint
53 Batting next
57 Springy device for jumping into a pool
62 Guy
63 Taken __ (very surprised)
64 Difficult burden
65 Act boldly
66 Charming Southern woman
67 Network junction point
68 Female opera star
69 Spirited horse
70 The Emerald Isle
71 Kid's vehicle on snow

**DOWN**
1 Fire-setting crime
2 Baby grand, for example
3 Person who stares
4 W. Coast winter hours
5 Sudden storm
6 Remove from office
7 Broad-ranging
8 Has the lead role
9 Have lofty goals
10 Illegally obtained
11 Rotisserie rod
12 Make less burdensome
13 Suffix for prank or gang
21 What a belt encircles
22 __ be tied (furious)
24 Film rating org.
27 __ importance (trivial)
28 Striped big cat
30 Give an autograph
31 Genesis paradise
32 Achy
33 NCO's subordinates
34 Loads and loads
35 Way below average
37 "Not to mention . . ."
40 Baggage attachment
41 Tip over
42 Tech-support type
47 Spike of frozen water
48 Bopped on the head
50 Become less good
52 "Letter-shaped" steak
54 Online message
55 Slice, as a turkey
56 Manipulate, as bread dough
57 Bits of paint
58 Skeptical comment
59 Poetic low-lying land
60 __ about (approximately)
61 German car
65 Cavity filler's deg.



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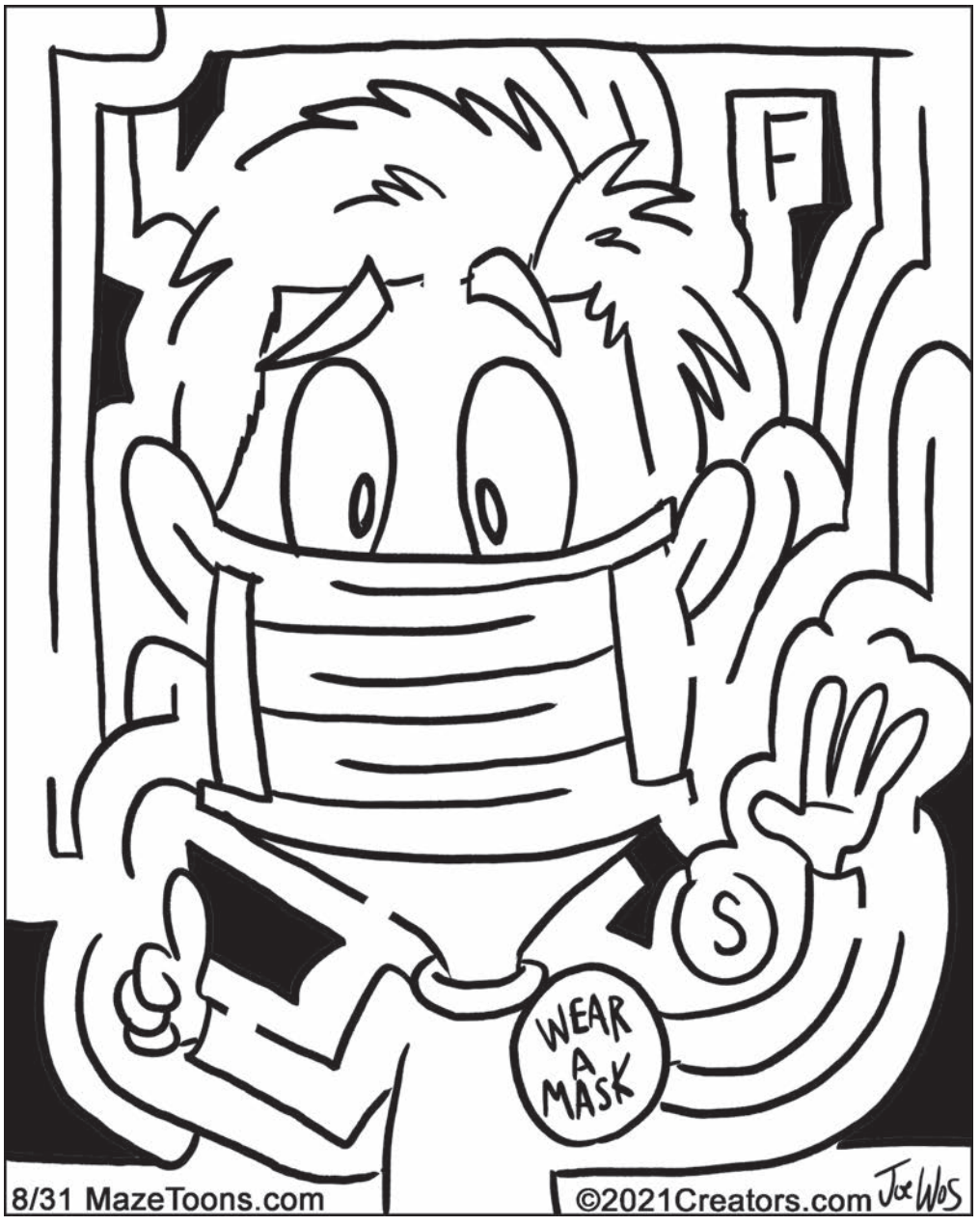
## Binary Puzzle

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

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 1 | | | | | | | | 1 |
| 0 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | 0 |
| | | 1 | | 0 | | | | | 0 | 0 | |
| 1 | | | | | | 0 | | 1 | | | |
| | | 0 | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| | | | | 0 | | 1 | | | | | |
| | | 0 | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| | 0 | | | 1 | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | | 0 | | 1 | | | |
| | | 0 | 0 | | | | | 1 | | 0 | 0 |
| | | 0 | | 1 | 1 | | | | | 0 | 0 |




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

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# FIND THE WORDS

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

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## Tassie holiday

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

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Apples | Devil | Oaks | Snug |
| Apsley | Eagle | Ocean | Surf |
| Boats | Fish | Ouse | Swell |
| Cafe | Flora | Paper | Targa |
| Canoe | Franklin | Parks | Tours |
| Climb | Gretna | Peak | Trek |
| Cold | Heka | Penitentiary | Views |
| Conifers | History | Rail | Walk |
| Cool | Lodge | Ravines | Wild |
| Cox Bight | Miena | Risks | Yachts |
| Cruise | MONA | Rocks | Zeehan |
| Cygnet | Nala | Ross | |
| Dams | Nile | Rugged | |

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
**Not entirely accurate**

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## ATTORNEY

FROM PAGE 1

which is not significantly different from his current pay rate.

"The Board strongly supports George, and we look forward to working with him as we continue efforts to strengthen the discipline system, ensuring that the State Bar fulfills its public protection mission effectively and fairly," said Board Chair Sean SeLegue. "George has devoted his career to public service and brings significant prosecutorial and management experience, legal talent, and a reputation for absolute integrity to this critical role."

Cardona took over the position of Interim City Attorney in April 2020, when then City Attorney Lane Dilg was appointed the position of Interim City Manager following Rick Cole's resignation. Dilg exited her role as Interim City Manager in June and John Jalili is holding the position on an interim basis until David White takes over on Oct. 11.

Prior to becoming Interim City Attorney, Cardona served as the City's Special Counsel/ Chief of Staff for three years. Before coming to the City of Santa Monica, Cardona held leadership positions for almost two decades in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California.

He will be bringing his combination of prosecutorial skills at both the federal and municipal level to his new position at the California State Bar.

"I am humbled and honored to join the Office of Chief Trial Counsel at this important time," said Cardona. "When people need help with a legal issue, they place their trust in their attorney's competence and ethics. The State Bar's mission is to safeguard that trust, and I can think of no job more important than that."

Cardona has been connected with the California Bar Association for several years, having served as a member of its Rules Revision Commission from 2015 through 2018. During this time he helped create revision recommendations for the Rules of Professional Conduct that were later adopted by the Supreme Court.

Cardona received his B.A. in Physics from Yale in 1982 and his J.D. from Yale Law School in 1986. He has been a faculty member at UCLA Law School since 2000 and currently teaches Criminal Trial Advocacy.

Clara@smdp.com

## TEACHER

FROM PAGE 3

A 675-student district in central Oregon delayed the start of school three weeks until Sept. 20 to deal with the fallout from the vaccine mandate, Culver School District Superintendent Stefanie Garber said in a letter to families.

She said her district will comply but feels state officials are threatening unreasonable penalties, including the possible loss of a district's liability insurance and the revocation of teachers' licenses.

In another small, rural town, a district-sponsored vaccine clinic set up after Brown's vaccine mandate attracted fewer than 10 teachers and there is concern about staffing if some decide to leave rather than get the shots, said Lebanon Community School District Superintendent Bo Yates.

Yates estimated that between 50% and 60% of the teachers and staff in his 4,000-student district are vaccinated. Several dozen teachers and their supporters protested the mandate when it was announced earlier this month.

"In a certain sense, I empathize with them because some of the people that are protesting have been our superstars during this COVID period. They've been the food service workers that have been feeding our community on a nonstop basis or our bus drivers," Yates said. "But we've got to follow the mandates that we're given or we'll be swimming in this sea forever."

In Redmond, Oregon, the school board resolution protesting the vaccine mandate passed on a 3-2 vote. The district will comply with the vaccine mandate as it fights to regain local control of decisions around mask-wearing and vaccines in schools, board members said.

One board member who voted against the resolution, Liz Goodrich, noted COVID-19 is surging in central Oregon and only 57% of eligible residents in Redmond are fully vaccinated.

"To me, local conditions are not good and we have heard over and over," she said, "that the spike of this delta variant is not done."

Calvan reported from New York. Associated Press reporters Claudia Lauer in Philadelphia and Rachel La Corte in Olympia, Washington, contributed to this report.

## STRICTLY BUSINESS

FROM PAGE 6

While I did not want to be in an accident, and I did not want to take on new debt in buying a car, the fact is I had to. So in the world of things that I have to do that I don't like, buying a car from Carvana was the absolute standout awesome experience they say it will be, and I can unequivocally recommend them and this process.

This is the future of business – find the path of least resistance for your customers if you want to adapt to the new reality.

David Pisarra is a Los Angeles Divorce and Child Custody Lawyer specializing in Father's and Men's Rights with the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or 310/664-9969. You can follow him on Twitter @ davidpisarra

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