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Volume 19 Issue 157

Books and Music
Culture Watch and Noteworthy.
Pages 6 & 7

Accidental shooting and intentional shoplifting
Crime Watch.
Page 3.

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Man jumps to death from 3rd floor of mall



Clara Harter

SANTA MONICA PLACE: Police shut down the mall Wednesday to investigate a suicide.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

At 10:15 a.m. on Wednesday morning a man jumped from the 3rd floor of the interior courtyard of Santa Monica Place shopping mall and was pronounced dead on the scene, according to an SMPD officer.

Police arrived on the scene within five minutes and the mall was closed to the public. This incident is being investigated as a suicide and there is no evidence of foul play.

clara@smdp.com

Machete wielding man arrested after threatening resident

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

A machete wielding man was subdued and arrested this week after chasing a resident through an alley.

According to the Santa Monica Police Department, 53 year old Andre Joaquin Castille, possibly from West Los Angeles, was arrested on Sept. 13 after a resident saw Castille attempting to break into the back yard of a home on the 1400 block of 26th Street.

The resident reported Castille was armed with a machete and during the 911 call, Castille chased the resident through the alley.

Officers responded and found Castille with the blade and a pipe. Castille tried to avoid officers and enter a nearby residential street. As officers tried to stop him, Castille swung the pipe at them and officers deployed a Taser. Despite being hit with the Taser, Castille was able to get back to his feet and reengage the officers.



Courtesy photo
ANDRE JOAQUIN CASTILLE

Officers tackled Castille and were able to subdue him.

Castille was initially held on $50,000 bail but his bail was revoked after the District Attorney's office filed two counts of assault with a deadly weapon and one of resisting arrest with violence against him on Wednesday.

McKinnon replaced as Planning Commissioner

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica's Planning Commission will have a new member after longtime Commissioner Richard McKinnon failed to receive an appointment from local City Councilmembers Tuesday.

Established in 1946, the Planning

SEE **PLANNING** PAGE 7

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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 #4400 FIBER OPTIC UTILITY CONSTRUCTION

Submission Deadline is October 9, 2020 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: Planet Bids (http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm) or ProcureNow (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for bid package and specifications.

CITY OF SANTA MONICA

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

RFP: #262 WORKPLACE INJURY PREVENTION SERVICES

• Submission Deadline is October 15, 2020 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

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

CITY OF SANTA MONICA

NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS

HOUSING COMMISSION

ANNUAL APPOINTMENT

Housing Commission:
One seat available for a term ending June 30, 2024.
Applicants must be residents of the City of Santa Monica.

Applications due by noon, Tuesday, October 6, 2020.
Appointment to be made by City Council, Tuesday, October 13, 2020.

No Santa Monica City Employee may serve as a member of any Board or Commission.

The State Political Reform Act requires certain officeholders to disclose their interest and income which may be materially affected by their official action. The applicants appointed to serve in these positions will be required to file a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) upon assuming office, and annually thereafter.

Applications are available on-line at: www.smgov.net/boards
All current applications on file will be considered.

Disability related assistance and alternate formats of this document are available upon request by calling (310) 458-8211.

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

Trick-or-What? Pandemic Halloween is a mixed bag all around

LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

Roving grown-ups tossing candy at kids waiting on lawns. Drive-thru Halloween haunts. Yard parties instead of block parties and parades. Wider paths through corn mazes.

The family holiday so many look forward to each year is going to look different in the pandemic as parents and the people who provide Halloween fun navigate a myriad of restrictions and safety concerns.

Some were looking extra-forward to Halloween this year because it falls on a Saturday, with a monthly blue moon to boot.

Decisions are outstanding in many areas on whether to allow kids to go door to door or car trunk to car trunk in parking lots in search of candy, with Los Angeles first banning trick-or-treating, then downgrading its prohibition to a recommendation.

Other events have been canceled or changed, from California's Half Moon Bay to New York's legendary Sleepy Hollow — and points in between.

On a typical Halloween along Clark Avenue in the St. Louis suburb of Webster Groves, neighbors go all out to decorate their houses and yards with spooky skeletons, tombstones and jack-o'-lanterns as up to 1,000 people pack the blocked-off street to carry on an old tradition: Tell a joke, get a treat.

Not this year. There will likely be no warm bags of popcorn, cups of hot chocolate or cotton candy doled out in exchange for the laughs as residents figure out how to pivot.

"We plan to decorate the house as usual so families can feel the Halloween spirit on their evening walks," said Kirsten Starzer, mom to two kids, ages 11 and 15. "We will put up a sign that says, `See you next year!'"

Along the Pacific Coast about 25 miles south of San Francisco, this Halloween was meant to be a milestone for the Half Moon Bay Art & Pumpkin Festival. The two-day event, now canceled, usually draws up to 300,000 people from around the world to show off parade floats and school bands for the holiday.

"It was supposed to be our 50th year. I guess we'll have to celebrate that in 2021," said Cameron Palmer, a local business owner and president of the festival. "This year we have other things to worry about."

The kick-off event the week before, the Safeway World Championship Giant Pumpkin Weigh-Off, will carry on with no public spectators but plenty of humongous orange contestants as the judging goes virtual. With any luck, a potential world record-breaker from the U.K. will make it safely to Half Moon Bay. Its grower has a shot at $30,000 if he sets a new record.

There's still some Halloween fun to be had in Sleepy Hollow more than 200 years after Washington Irving published his classic story about the headless horseman who terrorized a hapless Ichabod Crane. But the undead, evil and insane who usually entertain at Philipsburg Manor won't be present for the annual walk-through horror attraction Horseman's Hollow.

It, too, is a pandemic casualty.

So is a popular festival in the Kansas City suburb of Shawnee, Kansas, in which children stuff straw into donated clothes to make their own scarecrows.

In North Kansas City, Missouri, the city's parks and recreation department canceled its Halloween in the Park event, instead inviting families to pick up a mystery box with candy and other surprises inside.

"The health and safety of our children and families are our priority during this time," the city explained on its website.

While the future is uncertain for trick-or-treating, Americans have been stocking up on candy. U.S. sales of Halloween-themed chocolate and candy were up 70% over 2019 in the four weeks ending Aug. 9, according to the National Confectioners Association.

Ferrara Candy Co., which makes a Halloween staple, Brach's Candy Corn, said most of its retail partners asked for early shipments of Halloween candy because of expected demand. Target, however, is reducing candy assortments in anticipation of less trick-or-treating. It will give away surprise Halloween bags to shoppers who drive up to its stores in October.

CVS Pharmacy said it has scaled back the number of large and giant bags of candy its stores will receive in favor of smaller bags for smaller outings and family gatherings.

Feeding the desire for safety, Walmart is bringing in more masks that can pull double duty as costume accessories, such as versions that feature the words "princess" or "queen." Walgreens has increased its assortments of indoor and outdoor Halloween decorations, and it stepped up offerings of beverage and snack options for entertaining at home.

Candy-getting scenarios are afloat on social media, with some planning treat tosses to stationary children in their yards so the young don't have to leave their pandemic bubbles. Others are considering long sticks with hooks for candy buckets at the end, offering social distance at collection time, or long chutes to send the candy through to dressed-up recipients.

Alina Morse, a 15-year-old candy entrepreneur outside Detroit, suggests fashioning a Halloween candy tree decorated with lights and treats so kids can pluck their own from a porch or yard.

"Selecting a treat from the tree makes the safe, self-serve experience much more fun, said Alina, who heads Zolli Candy.

None of that is enough for some parents wary about going door to door with their kids, while others are willing, with care, if their areas allow it.

In Chicago's Lincoln Park neighborhood, Jamie Bender said it all depends for her two kids, ages 3 and 5.

"If our neighbors are wearing masks when they open the door, we would let the kids trick-or-treat a few houses then do the obligatory wipe-down of candy wrappers,"

SEE **HALLOWEEN** PAGE 5

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 269 CALLS ON SEPTEMBER 15

Domestic Violence Now 400blk Washington Ave 12:08 a.m.
Critical Missing Person 1600blk Ocean Ave 12:13 a.m.
Battery 400blk Washington Ave 2:15 a.m.
Battery 800blk Colorado Ave 4:58 a.m.
Burglary 2400blk 14th St 6:25 a.m.
Identity Theft 900blk 14th St 7:04 a.m.
Burglary 2700blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:33 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1300blk 9th St 7:38 a.m.
Burglary 1300blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:22 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 900blk 9th St 8:26 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 20th St / Pico Blvd 8:27 a.m.
Petty Theft 500blk Wilshire Blvd 8:32 a.m.
Petty Theft 1200blk California Ave 8:39 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 10th St / Pico Blvd 8:53 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 900blk 9th St 8:57 a.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 1200blk 23rd St 9:23 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1400blk Berkeley St 9:25 a.m.
Burglary 1400blk 5th St 9:29 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 17th St / Ocean Park Blvd 10:12 a.m.
Petty Theft 2300blk Lincoln Blvd 10:15 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1300blk Grant St 10:22 a.m.
Burglary 500blk Arizona Ave 10:29 a.m.
Grand Theft 3100blk 4th St 10:33 a.m.
Encampment 1600blk 9th St 10:41 a.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 800blk Pico Blvd 11:15 a.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 11:22 a.m.
Burglary 900blk 25th St 11:31 a.m.
Assault 200blk Bay St 11:31 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2000blk Virginia Ave 11:33 a.m.
Elder Abuse 1100blk Euclid St 11:43 a.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 1500blk 14th St 12:47 p.m.
Petty Theft 1200blk 11th St 12:56 p.m.
Battery Now 1500blk 4th St 1:39 p.m.
Loud Music 700blk Ozone St 1:51 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2800blk Lincoln Blvd 2:01 p.m.
Battery 2500blk 2nd St 2:22 p.m.
Rape 11th St / Wilshire Blvd 2:32 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 2000blk 18th St 2:47 p.m.
Found Property Ocean Ave / Montana Ave 3:26 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 2000blk Ocean Ave 3:35 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 600blk San Vicente Blvd 3:51 p.m.
Battery 1600blk Cloverfield Blvd 4:17 p.m.
Petty Theft 900blk Palisades Beach Rd 4:19 p.m.
Stalking Suspect Just Left 2700blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:20 p.m.
Found Property 1200blk Colorado Ave 4:28 p.m.
Bike Theft 2300blk Schader Dr 4:30 p.m.
Battery 100blk Wilshire Blvd 4:32 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1500blk 6th St 4:34 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 500blk Pacific St 5:16 p.m.
Fight 2000blk Ocean Ave 5:26 p.m.
Person With A Gun 1400blk 7th St 5:42 p.m.
Burglary 100blk Strand St 5:52 p.m.
Lost Property Lincoln Blvd / Broadway 6:13 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:24 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1400blk Washington Ave 6:29 p.m.
Grand Theft 2000blk 6th St 6:30 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 6:49 p.m.
Found Property 100blk Colorado Ave 7:03 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1000blk 6th St 7:12 p.m.
Found Property 2900blk Neilson Way 7:22 p.m.
Bike Theft 300blk Colorado Ave 7:41 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 20th St / Santa Monica Blvd 7:44 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 5th St / Broadway 7:48 p.m.
Petty Theft 2200blk Virginia Ave 7:59 p.m.
Found Property 1400blk Marine St 8:12 p.m.
Party Complaint 1500blk 6th St 8:34 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 600blk Marguerita Ave 8:46 p.m.
Vehicle Cite & Tow (Parking Problem) 1100blk 11th St 8:48 p.m.
Encampment 1500blk The Beach 8:51 p.m.
Party Complaint 1500blk 6th St 9:05 p.m.
Encampment 2300blk Ocean Park Blvd 9:05 p.m.
Prowler There Now 1200blk 23rd St 9:06 p.m.
Silent Robbery Alarm 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 9:12 p.m.
Runaway 800blk 3rd St 10:07 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 10:43 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Ocean Ave / Broadway 10:45 p.m.
Petty Theft 1700blk 9th St 11:27 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 38 CALLS ON SEPTEMBER 15

EMS 500blk Broadway 12:08 a.m.
Structure Fire 500blk Wilshire Blvd 2:57 a.m.
EMS 1000blk Ocean Ave 4:48 a.m.
EMS 800blk Colorado Ave 5:01 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300blk 2nd St 6:07 a.m.
EMS 700blk Strand St 6:30 a.m.
EMS 200blk Ocean Ave 7:27 a.m.
EMS 10th St / Pico Blvd 8:53 a.m.
EMS 1500blk 17th St 9:00 a.m.
EMS 100blk Wilshire Blvd 10:23 a.m.
EMS 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 11:12 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 11:18 a.m.
EMS 100blk San Vicente Blvd 11:31 a.m.
EMS 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:37 p.m.
EMS 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:43 p.m.
EMS 500blk Olympic Blvd W 12:52 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 200blk 23rd St 1:03 p.m.
EMS 20th St / Wilshire Blvd 2:29 p.m.
EMS 3100blk Neilson Way 2:45 p.m.
EMS 21st St / California Ave 3:06 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 4:03 p.m.
EMS 100blk Ocean Park Blvd 4:11 p.m.
EMS 1600blk Cloverfield Blvd 4:16 p.m.
EMS 1300blk Grant St 4:28 p.m.
EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 4:31 p.m.
EMS 700blk Strand St 5:36 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 5:56 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 20th St 6:19 p.m.
EMS 1600blk Ocean Ave 6:42 p.m.
Structure Fire 600blk Broadway 6:45 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 4th St 7:02 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 800blk Broadway 7:06 p.m.
EMS 3200blk Pico Blvd 8:13 p.m.
EMS 1500blk Ocean Ave 8:31 p.m.
EMS Lincoln Blvd / Ocean Park Blvd 8:31 p.m.
EMS 900blk 6th St 9:35 p.m.
EMS 300blk Olympic Dr 10:41 p.m.
EMS 1700blk Maple St 10:50 p.m.

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 SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, AT APPROXIMATELY 1:39 A.M.

Officers responded to a Check the Status call on the 800 block of Pearl Street. According to Dispatcher notes, an accidental shooting had taken place inside the residence and there were two individuals inside. Officers determined that Kumasi Meeks was the sole occupant of the residence and found a pistol on his dresser with no magazine in the chamber. Officers detected a bullet impact point on a nearby table and gathered from neighbors that a single shot had been heard. Due to the potential of the discharged round causing injury or death to a neighbor, Meeks was arrested and later cited out for a 243.6(a) P.C. -Negligent Discharge of a Firearm, the firearm was booked as evidence.

ON MONDAY, AUGUST 31 AT APPROXIMATELY 1:30 P.M.

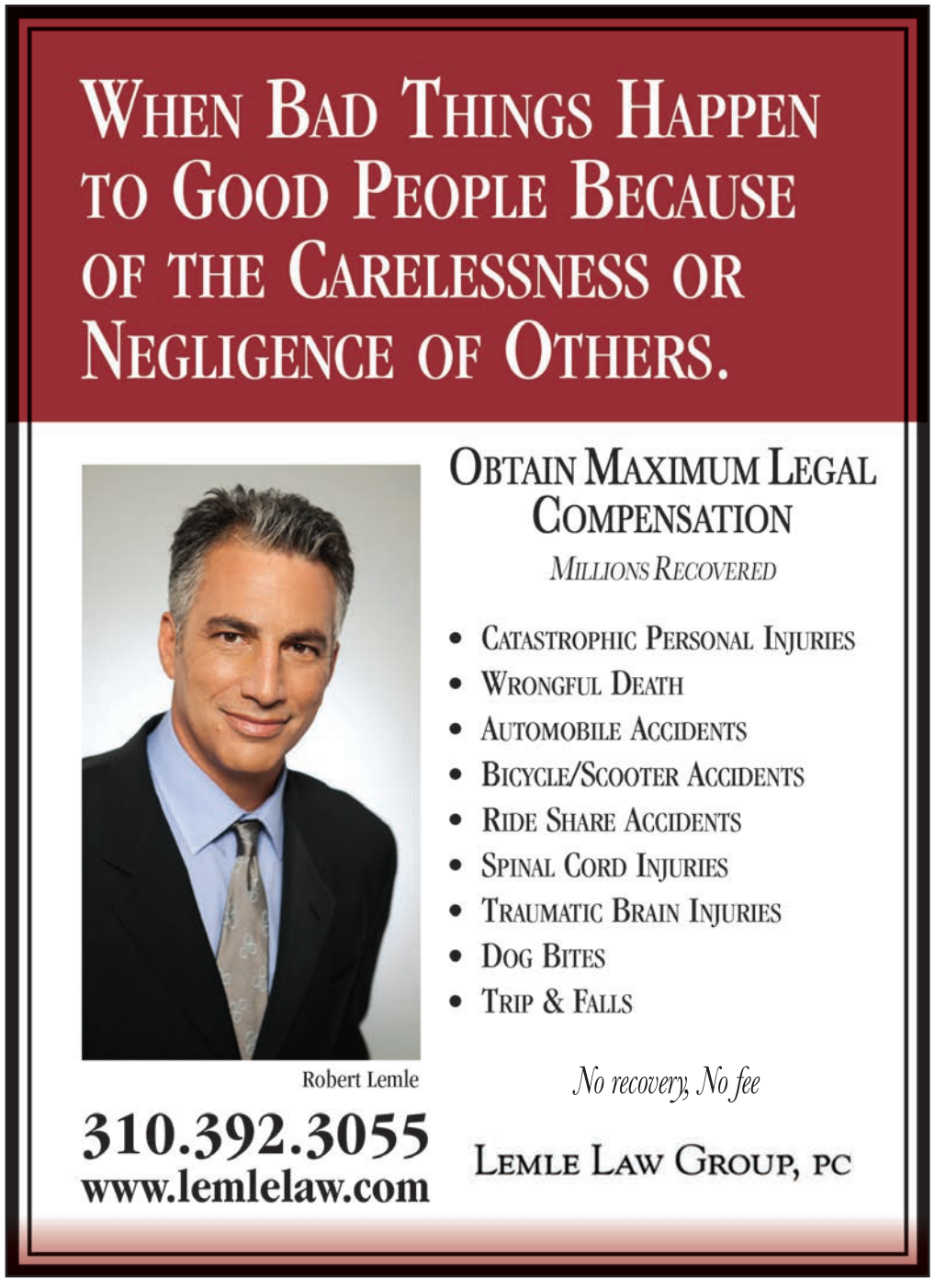
Officers were dispatched to the 600 block Wilshire Blvd. for a theft. Suspect, Aaron Castle, was accused of stealing candy and exiting the store without paying. Upon exiting Castle hit the store employee with a broom. Castle was charged with 211PC – Este Robbery and booked into the Santa Monica Jail. He is being held on $50,000 bail with a court date at the end of September.

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‘Nothing left in the bucket’: Wildfire resources run thin

JAMES ANDERSON AND MATTHEW BROWN
Associated Press

Justin Silvera came off the fire lines in Northern California after a grueling 36 straight days battling wildfires and evacuating residents ahead of the flames. Before that, he and his crew had worked for 20 days, followed by a three-day break.

Silvera, a 43-year-old battalion chief with Cal Fire, California’s state firefighting agency, said he’s lost track of the blazes he’s fought this year. He and his crew have sometimes been on duty for 64 hours at a stretch, their only rest coming in 20-minute catnaps.

“I’ve been at this 23 years, and by far this is the worst I’ve seen,” Silvera said before bunking down at a motel for 24 hours. After working in Santa Cruz County, his next assignment was to head north to attack wildfires near the Oregon border.

His exhaustion reflects the situation up and down the West Coast fire lines: This year’s blazes have taxed the human, mechanical and financial resources of the nation’s wildfire-fighting forces to an extraordinary degree. And half of the fire season is yet to come. Heat, drought and a strategic decision to attack the flames early combined with the coronavirus to put a historically heavy burden on fire teams.

“There’s never enough resources,” said Silvera, one of nearly 17,000 firefighters in California. “Typically with Cal Fire we’re able to attack — air tankers, choppers, dozers. We’re good at doing that. But these conditions in the field, the drought, the wind, this stuff is just taking off. We can’t contain one before another erupts.”

Washington State Forester George Geissler says there are hundreds of unfulfilled requests for help throughout the West. Agencies are constantly seeking firefighters, aircraft, engines and support personnel.

Fire crews have been summoned from at least nine states and other countries, including Canada and Israel. Hundreds of agreements for agencies to offer mutual assistance have been maxed out at the federal, state and local levels, he said.

“We know that there’s really nothing left in the bucket,” Geissler said. “Our sister agencies to the south in California and Oregon are really struggling.”

Demand for firefighting resources has been high since mid-August, when fire officials bumped the national preparedness level to critical, meaning at least 80% of crews were already committed to fighting fires, and there were few personnel and little equipment to spare.

Because of the extreme fire behavior, “you can’t say for sure having more resources would make a difference,” said Carrie Bilbao, a spokesperson for the National Interagency Fire Center. Officials at the U.S. government operation in Boise, Idaho, help decide which fires get priority nationwide when equipment and firefighters run scarce.

Andy Stahl, a forester who runs Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics, an advocacy group in Oregon, said it would have been impossible to stop some of the most destructive blazes, a task he compared to “dropping a bucket of water on an atomic bomb.”

But Stahl contends the damage could have been less if government agencies were not so keen to put out every blaze. By stamping out smaller fires and those that ignite during wetter months, Stahl said officials have allowed fuel to build up, setting the stage for bigger fires during times of drought and hot, windy weather.

That’s been exacerbated this year by the coronavirus pandemic, which prompted U.S. Forest Service Chief Vickie Christiansen to issue a directive in June to fight all fires aggressively, reversing a decades-long trend of allowing some to burn. The idea was to minimize large concentrations of firefighters by extinguishing blazes quickly.

Fighting the flames from the air was key to the strategy, with 35 air tankers and 200 helicopters being used, Forest Service spokesperson Kaari Carpenter said.

Yet by Aug. 30, following the deaths of some firefighters, including four aviators, and several close calls, fire officials in Boise warned that long-term fatigue was setting in. They called for a “tactical pause,” so fire commanders could reinforce safe practices.

Tim Ingalsbee, a member of the advocacy group Firefighters United for Safety, Ethics and Ecology, said the June directive from Christiansen returned the forest service to a mindset prevalent for much of the last century that focused on putting out fires as quickly as possible. He said allowing more fires to burn when they are not threatening life or property would free up firefighters for the most dangerous blazes.

With no end in sight to the pandemic, Ingalsbee worried the focus on aggressively attacking every fire could prove lasting.

“More crews, more air tankers, more engines and dozers still can’t overcome this powerful force of nature,” he said. “The crews are beat up and fatigued and spread thin, and we’re barely halfway through the traditional fire season.”

Cal Fire’s roughly 8,000 personnel have been fighting blazes from the Oregon border to the Mexico border, repeatedly bouncing from blaze to blaze, said Tim Edwards, president of the union for Cal Fire, the nation’s second largest firefighting agency.

“We’re battle-hardened, but it seems year after year, it gets tougher, and at some point in time we won’t be able to cope. We’ll reach a breaking point,” said Edwards, a 25-year veteran.

The immediate dangers of the fires are compounded by worries about COVID-19 in camp and at home.

Firefighters “see all this destruction and the fatigue, and then they’re getting those calls from home, where their families are dealing with school and child care because

SEE **RESOURCES** PAGE 11

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Jenny Rice
jenny@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Rose Mann
rose@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Brennon Dixson
brennon@smdp.com
Clara Harter
clara@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Cynthia Citron,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra,
Sarah A. Spitz

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Achling Holliday
ross@smdp.com
Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

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

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Sustainable Quality Awards
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Nuggets crash LA party, will face Lakers in West finals

Associated Press

Just about everyone had L.A. vs. L.A. written in for the Western Conference finals.

Then along came the resilient Denver Nuggets, who crashed the party.

Behind Jamal Murray and Nikola Jokic, the Nuggets advanced to the conference finals for the first time since 2009. They will face LeBron James and the Los Angeles Lakers starting Friday in Game 1.

But this was no ordinary road. The Nuggets fell behind 3-1 in their first-round series against Utah before bouncing back with three straight victories. Then they went down 3-1 to the Los Angeles Clippers in the second round before winning in Game 7 again.

They made history, too, becoming the first NBA team to rally from a 3-1 series deficit twice in the same postseason.

As expected, Denver is an underdog against the Lakers. Murray & Co. are used to it.

"Everybody counts us out. It's fun to silence everybody," Murray said. "We love it."

The last time the Nuggets were in the conference finals they faced the Lakers as well, losing in six games. That squad was coached by George Karl and boasted Chauncey Billups and Carmelo Anthony. The Lakers were led by the late Kobe Bryant and would go on to win the NBA title over Orlando.

This time, Denver features a play-making point guard in Murray and a center who thinks of himself as a point guard in Jokic.

Combined, they've helped the Nuggets go 6-0 in elimination games this postseason. Pressure doesn't bother them.

"It's just fun, the journey," Jokic said. "This is an interesting team. We don't have many superstars."

Actually, they have two burgeoning stars in Murray and Jokic. In the Game 7 win over the Clippers, Murray scored 40 points while Jokic finished with 16 points, 13 assists and 22 rebounds.

The Nuggets are playing with an abundance of confidence, no matter the deficit. They were down by double digits in Games 5, 6 and 7 but came back to win each time.

"We are not accepting that someone is better than us," said Jokic, whose squad beat San Antonio last season in Game 7 before losing to Portland in seven games. "They really need to beat us and need to play much better than us. ... When we start playing for each other and you see the ball is flowing and the defense and everybody has everyone's back, it's really fun."

Denver certainly quieted the noise around the Clippers, who hoped the additions of Kawhi Leonard and Paul George would lead them to their first-ever conference finals — and beyond. But LA's stars fell flat.

"It hurts. It hurts. But we move on," George said. "Year 1 together, first run together, of course we wanted to win this. But we've been very optimistic about us being together and building something going down the road."

After a quick celebration Tuesday — of the win and coach Michael Malone's 49th birthday — the Nuggets will be ready to get back to business.

"We know what we got," Murray said. "We're a top-four team in the league and we're trying to push to be No. 1. ... We've got a squad that we believe in each other and know we can go out there and win it."

HALLOWEEN

FROM PAGE 2

she said.

Halloween is Camille Maniago's 10th birthday. With Halloween on a Saturday, her family in Long Beach, California, was going to go big, but the pandemic put a stop to that.

"We're not sure what we'll do now, but it will probably involve a family costume and a small celebration with our immediate pod," said Camille's mother, Rachel Maniago. "I have friends who were thinking of planning Easter egg style candy hunts for their kids in their yards in costumes and finishing it with a movie night. Definitely not the same, but I think it has a festive element to it."

While many haunted houses and events indoors or in tight spaces aren't happening this year, the folks at the world record-holding largest temporary corn maze in Dixon, California, are pressing on, starting Sept. 27.

At 60 acres, the maze at Cool Patch Pumpkins now has widened paths. Visitors must walk through with live-in household members only, and masks are required when social distance can't be maintained.

On the Halloween haunts front, Brett Hays of the Haunted Attraction Association, said roughly half the attractions among his 800 or so members will not be able to run this year due to the pandemic.

"It's so uneven in terms of regulations right now," said Hays, the group's president. "Whatever local agencies have been put in charge of this really are clamoring to try to get a hold of what's going on and be able to handle it."

A few haunts have already opened, he said, "and they're having to really stay after people to keep them distanced and to get them to keep their masks on. It's a lot of babysitting the customers."

A few haunts have created drive-thru experiences, an approach Hays isn't a huge fan of, noting the potential danger of the startle reflex in drivers with their feet on gas pedals. Other attractions have gone to timed tickets. Many expect a 50 percent reduction in attendance in an industry that usually generates about $1.14 billion in annual ticket sales, primarily during Halloween season.

"Nobody's going to have a great year," Hays said. "There's no doubt about it."

Associated Press writers Dee-Ann Durbin in Detroit, Anne D'Innocenzio in New York and Heather Hollingsworth in Mission, Kansas, contributed to this report.

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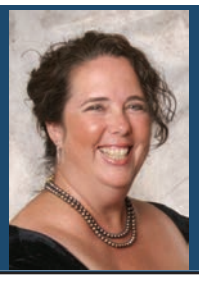


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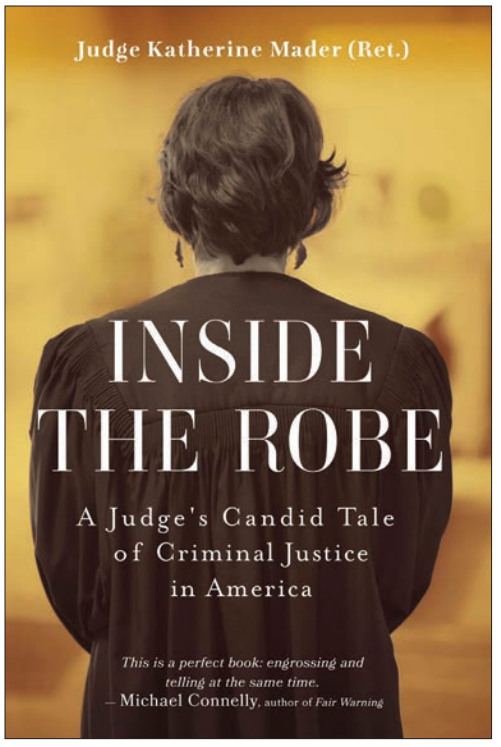
Culture Watch

By Sarah A. Spitz
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Inside the Robe: A Judge Tells All

Newly retired LA Superior Court Judge Katherine Mader, a long-time Santa Monica resident, is a woman who speaks in measured tones using considered words—something you might expect of someone whose job is to mete out justice. Her just-published book, "Inside the Robe: A Judge's Candid Tale of Criminal Justice in America," is a daily diary of events and cases in her courtroom over one year, 2016, documenting how complicated it is to just "follow the law."

Her choice of words is careful but honest, and if she believes something is wrong, she doesn't pull any punches. You're getting straight talk, well argued but delivered diplomatically, from a pro who shares the inner workings of the criminal justice system; from politics, power plays, and strategies used by lawyers to go to trial, win or settle; to the tactics ambitious lawyers use to get themselves considered for promotions, judgeships or just keep their jobs.



Courtesy photo

BOOK: Retired Superior Court Judge Katherine Mader; author of Inside the Robe: A Judge's Candid Tale of Criminal Justice in America.

FULL SPECTRUM EXPERIENCE

Katherine Mader, who raised three children while pursuing a full time career over 45 years (with help from her husband, whom she calls a "feminist before there even was feminism"), has been a defense attorney, a prosecutor, an investigator for a special DA unit that prosecuted police and public officials; she became the first LAPD Inspector General (overseeing LAPD's disciplinary system), and ultimately ran for election to Superior Court and won.

Her broad-ranging experience on both sides of the criminal justice system and as an investigator into police misconduct gave her unique insights into the many kinds of cases that came before her. Among other felony hearings and trials, she often heard cases about drug addicts, gang members and mentally ill homeless people. She tried her best to dispense justice.

Forever appended to her name will be the fact that as a defense attorney, she successfully saved Angelo Buono, one of two notorious serial rapist/murderers known as the Hillside Stranglers, from execution.

But that's really not what she wants to be known for. "Hopefully I'll be remembered as someone who tried to inject fairness into the criminal justice system," she said.

THE KINDNESS OF STRANGERS

Perhaps the happiest ending in her court involved a man named Kash Register (his real name), in prison for 34 years for a murder he did not commit, whose writ randomly landed in her court.

"I got many writs during the years; lots of times these requests to re-interview witnesses or review cases are routinely denied without a hearing. But I was impressed by the quality of the writing, and the fact that the witness offering testimony could prove that the eyewitness, who was her sister, had lied. Plus the prisoner had an alibi." She ordered a hearing.



A cascade of coincidences led that woman, now living in Texas, to look up Kash (because of his unusual name) in a criminal database, and discover that he'd been jailed. She was horrified because at the time of the murder, she worked for the police department and had told detectives not to believe her sister, who was a drug addict and thief. She assumed the case had been dropped. Instead the drug addict cut a deal for her testimony,

This stranger reached out to a law firm that previously worked on Kash's behalf. A

SEE **CULTURE WATCH** PAGE 11

Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews Send comments to editor@smdp.com

"New" Neil, But Old And Good



Courtesy photo

LANDSCAPE: The Sandia Mountains in Albuquerque New Mexico.

NICOLE RECOMMENDS:

LISTEN TO NEIL YOUNG, ZUKE & LACK — Say what you want about 2020, but it has given us some pretty great music:

Smiling with My Eyes: Songs About Covid-19 Safety is the debut EP by multi-instrumentalist brothers "Zuke & Lack" aka Zach (Dear Nora, iji, Mega Bog) and Luke (Dream Machines) Burba. Clocking in at just under 10 minutes, the EP is a whimsical, DEVO-meets-Yo Gabba Gabba, kid-oriented (but not for kids only) collection of songs about keeping safe ("Wear A Mask") with your friends outside ("Social Distancing," "Caring for My Community") and at school ("Virtual School"). Whether you have kids, know someone who does, or are a kid at heart, this album is bound to make you smile.

Purchase Smiling with My Eyes directly, or listen from anywhere you stream music: https://www.songsforteaching.com/store/zuke-and-lack-c-464.html

Neil Young's Homegrown is the gift I didn't know I needed but I'm sure grateful I got it. Young's 40th studio album was released in June of this year, but it consists of material recorded between 1974 and 1975, in between sessions for On the Beach and Zuma. He had two albums in the can at that time, Homegrown and Tonight's the Night. Playing these two back to back one night at a Chateau Marmont bungalow for some friends (John Belushi, The Band's Rick Danko and Richard Manuel, and a few members of Crazy Horse), the group consensus went in favor of Tonight's the Night.

On top of that, Homegrown was written during Young's painful split with Carrie Snodgress, and contains some of his most emotionally raw songwriting. He now describes the album as "the one that got away." With features by Emmylou Harris, Ben Keith, Robbie Robertson and Levon Helm, and album artwork by the late, infamous Tom Wilkes, Homegrown is a rare gift for any Neil Young fan. You can purchase or stream Homegrown on Neil Young Archives, or anywhere you stream music: https://neilyoungarchives.com/album?id=A_089

CHARLES COMMENTS: I was making one of my first scouting forays to LA's music biz scene from my home in Albuquerque, in late May 1975, anticipating my long-awaited and delayed move there. I made the rounds of all the record label execs I had been in contact with over the years, writing for my college daily The Lobo, the state's largest paper The Albuquerque Journal, and every underground rag that surfaced, and there were plenty of them. They paid me in albums and it added to my portfolio, but the best reason came out of left field.

I was sitting in the basement reading room of the famous Paradiso club in Amsterdam in '72 or '73 — EVERYone has played there — taking a break from the wonderful loud music upstairs, and as I shuffled through the underground papers spread across a table, lo and behold I spotted Astral Projection, a very strange, artsy, esoteric, mystical belle epoqueish oversized paper out of my hometown, and even bigger surprise, there inside was one of my reviews. It was a pretty awesome feeling that my words and opinions were here halfway across the world, being read perhaps by hip music fans from all over the world. Or even, Mick or Bob or Toots. You never know.

BACK TO LA

I managed to wangle an invitation to a listening party for the new, unreleased Neil Young album, Tonight's the Night, on my birthday no less, and was jazzed to maybe meet Neil, and also to hear a song on the album titled "Albuquerque."

(Local Note: he dubbed his musicians lineup on 9 of the 12 songs, "The Santa Monica Flyers.")

But don't count those chickens. If Neil was there I never saw him. My invitation did not include a pass to the back room drug party, I guess. And when I finally heard "Albuquerque" come on — I made a quick critical evaluation, that it was one of the worst songs I'd ever heard, sung as badly as even Neil Young could manage.

I figured that every studio recording I'd heard by Young up to that point had required 50 or 100 takes on the vocal, but this one was probably one take. There was no other explanation unless he was just trying to defame and embarrass us.

It's a long Spanish name that few can spell unless they grew up there. It's a rite of passage when, as a schoolkid, you do finally master it. Third grade, usually. High school, for some. It's got 11 letters and four syllables, but Neil decided to stretch it out to 9 or 10 syllables, or 14. I think it was an experiment to try to hit all the notes he'd never hit before. It was godawful and I didn't forgive him for years for using up Albuquerque's good name on a screeching piece of primal therapy.

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 11

COMMISSIONER

FROM PAGE 1

Commission is responsible for a number of duties that usually pertain to proposed public works projects throughout the city. The seven-member commission had two vacant seats to be had this year and eight total applicants vying for the positions.

The Planning Commission was one of the many entities to receive a new member during the council's appointment session last week but it was the only one to feature an incumbent who did not receive enough votes from City Council.

It takes four votes to reappoint somebody to a City Commission or Board, "but McKinnon is on his third term so he needs five votes," Councilmember Sue Himmelrich said Tuesday before fellow councilmembers nominated Leslie Lambert, Richard McKinnon and Ellis Raskin as potential appointees to the vital commission.

Lambert would easily win the first round of voting that occurred Tuesday night so she will retain her seat and serve another 4-year term on Santa Monica's Planning Commission.

In the second round of voting, McKinnon came close to achieving the super-majority he needed to secure his fourth term. With four votes in his favor, the Commissioner needed only one more vote but Mayor Kevin McKeown decided to cast his support for Ellis Raskin, who was nominated earlier in the process by Himmelrich.

"So, neither candidate receives the number of votes needed," McKeown said, which prompted a third round of voting for the commission's final seat. Only Raskin and Carl Hansen were nominated during the third go-round of voting, which Raskin would eventually win when after receiving unanimous support.

"Congratulations Ellis Raskin," McKeown added before Council moved to complete the remainder of the night's appointments.

brennon@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

East Los Angeles housing construction site ravaged by fire

A five-story apartment complex that was to provide housing for low-income veterans was ravaged by fire early Wednesday, just months before it was scheduled to open.

Some 150 Los Angeles County firefighters were dispatched to the blaze before dawn. The first to arrive around 1 a.m. found it fully engulfed in flames, according to Los Angeles County Fire Department spokesman Sean Ferguson.

The cause was not immediately known, but Ferguson said Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputies have detained a male juvenile for questioning.

Nobody was injured. However, residents of a nearby apartment building had to be evacuated and a 1920s-era theater that now houses a Dollar Store was badly damaged, Ferguson said.

At one point, the burning building's scaffolding collapsed, and Ferguson said that made extinguishing the fire difficult. Firefighters were still dousing hot spots more than eight hours after it erupted.

"This is a stubborn fire due to the barrier that the scaffolding presents to us," he said.

The building was planned as a 61-unit apartment complex mainly for low-income veterans and was scheduled to open later this year, Ferguson said. Construction on it began more than a year ago.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PASADENA

Wildfire kept away from historic California observatory

Firefighters have prevented a California wildfire from damaging the historic Mount Wilson Observatory, which played a pivotal role in confirming in the early 20th century that galaxies exist outside the Milky Way and that the universe is expanding.

The Bobcat Fire in the San Gabriel Mountains northeast of Los Angeles came within 500 feet of the observatory Tuesday, but efforts like controlled burns to clear fuel, water drops and clearing brush helped protect the facility, Angeles National Forest officials said in social media posts.

"While there is still much work to be done in southwest and in the northern sections of the fire, your firefighters did incredible work around Mt. Wilson today," they said overnight.

By early Wednesday, the blaze had burned more than 69 square miles and was largely uncontained, but the flames were calmer.

Mount Wilson rises to an elevation of more than 5,700 feet about 15 miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles.

The observatory was founded in 1904 by legendary astronomer George Ellery Hale, who sought to take advantage of Southern California's then-clear skies.

The observatory made solar observations before Hale set his sights on bigger things – first a 60-inch reflector telescope that began being used in 1908 and then a 100-inch telescope that saw first light in 1917. In their day, they were successively the world's largest telescopes.

In 1924, astronomer Edwin Hubble used the larger of the two telescopes to confirm theories that galaxies exist beyond the Milky Way and by 1929, was able to show, along with colleague Milton Humason, that the universe was expanding.

The famous telescopes and solar observation towers remain on the peak, along with modern astronomy instruments that are used now. Nearby, there is a forest of TV and radio broadcast towers serving the greater Los Angeles region.

More than 16,600 firefighters are battling over two dozen major California wildfires, while other crews work to beat back flames in Oregon and Washington state. The smoke from the fires is fouling air across the American West.

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Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



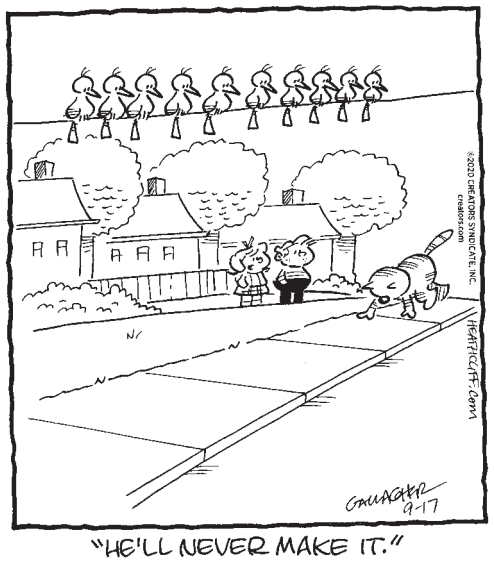
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



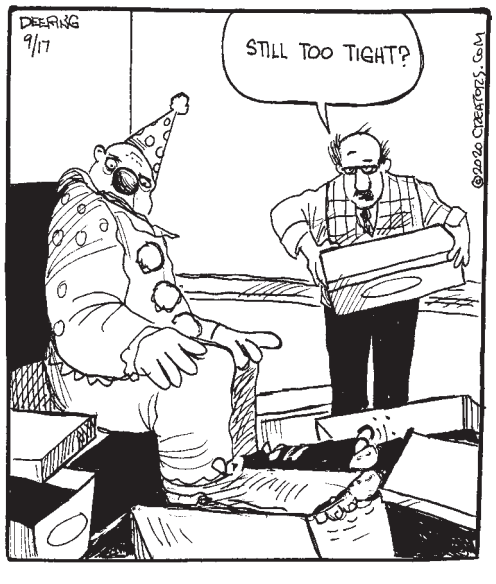
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 65.5°

THURSDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high
Playful combo for exposed areas. S tropical swell peaks. Small SSW/S swell lingers. NW swell-mix continues. Light AM wind expected.

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
Still playful. NW swell-mix holds. S tropical and SSW Southern Hemi swells fade. Light AM wind currently expected though more openly exposed spots west of Pt. Dume may see some texture first thing.

WEATHER

Thursday: Partly sunny, with a high near 75. East southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming southwest in the afternoon.
Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 66. South wind 5 to 10 mph becoming light and variable in the evening.
Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 75. East southeast wind 5 to 10 mph becoming west southwest 10 to 15 mph in the morning. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2020/09/17	Thu	03:50 AM	-0.46	L
2020/09/17	Thu	10:03 AM	5.45	H
2020/09/17	Thu	3:53 PM	0.67	L
2020/09/17	Thu	9:59 PM	6.26	H
2020/09/18	Fri	04:24 AM	-0.15	L
2020/09/18	Fri	10:36 AM	5.74	H
2020/09/18	Fri	4:42 PM	0.37	L
2020/09/18	Fri	10:47 PM	5.79	H
2020/09/19	Sat	04:59 AM	0.33	L
2020/09/19	Sat	11:12 AM	5.93	H
2020/09/19	Sat	5:35 PM	0.24	L
2020/09/19	Sat	11:40 PM	5.15	H
2020/09/20	Sun	05:34 AM	0.93	L
2020/09/20	Sun	11:52 AM	5.96	H
2020/09/20	Sun	6:33 PM 0	.26	L
2020/09/21	Mon	12:42 AM	4.43	H
2020/09/21	Mon	06:12 AM	1.59	L
2020/09/21	Mon	12:38 PM	5.85	H
2020/09/21	Mon	7:40 PM	0.39	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date:09/12
16 17 20 53 67
Power#: 4
Jackpot: 94 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 09/15
25 28 38 59 62
Mega#: 22
Jackpot: 20 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 09/12
3 8 19 23 32
Mega#: 20
Jackpot:9 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 09/15
11 17 21 22 30

Daily 3
Draw Date: 09/15
Evening: 1 0 1
Draw Date: 09/15
Midday: 6 1 8

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 09/15
1st: 11 - MONEY BAGS
2nd: 07 - EUREKA
3rd: 04 - BIG BEN
RACE TIME: 1:42.96

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (SEPTEMBER 17)

Of your many talents, the one that gleams at the top of this new cycle is your knack for finding and making mutually beneficial arrangements. You bring people together and create scenarios that only you could. An exciting breakthrough in your personal and financial life happens in January. Aquarius and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 39, 2, 50 and 13.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Competitive urges can be exciting to follow, but there's risk here, too. Some of your impulses will be to do dangerous things and you'll quickly rule them out or water them down to a more appropriate intensity.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). It's like you're waiting for something to happen, though you're not sure what since nothing has been ordered, planned or promised. This is your intuition turned all the way up.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). It seems counterintuitive, but coming across tremendous good fortune is generally not what makes people happy, unless they feel that the luck is earned. Small earned luck brings more gladness than big dumb luck.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll be very busy, and mainly it's your own fault. You are so vivacious, knowledgeable and attractive that everyone wants a piece of your time and attention.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Casual elegance, kindness, worldliness — these are qualities you are attracted to in others, you aspire to embody and you are credited with today, though maybe behind your back.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). People make decisions for the reasons that make sense to them. You'd love to know those reasons. Was a choice made out of desire or a lack of other options? You'll learn answers you can bank on.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Be careful what you acknowledge in others because you can count on getting more of it. Focus on the kindnesses you'd enjoy an abundance of. If you give lots of attention to bad behaviors, they will continue, too.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Today brings a suspenseful scenario, so enjoy the exquisite tension of mystery at play. You could guess 12 times and still not predict this one.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It will be the daily kindnesses — feeding someone, driving them, listening to them — that add up to the stuff of good relationships. Even so, you'll throw in the extras because it's so easy for you to give in that way.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There is no persuasion without observation, no influence without understanding the needs and wants of others. If all you do is open an inquisitive mind to the behaviors of others, you'll grow in influence.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It's like a wind-up toy: you turn the key, set it on the ground and release. It should be predictable, what happens next, but somehow it isn't. The same movement in a different environment changes the outcome.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It's the higher virtues that call to you today — courage, nobility, loyalty — the ones that work as well in the modern world as they did in more feudal times.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

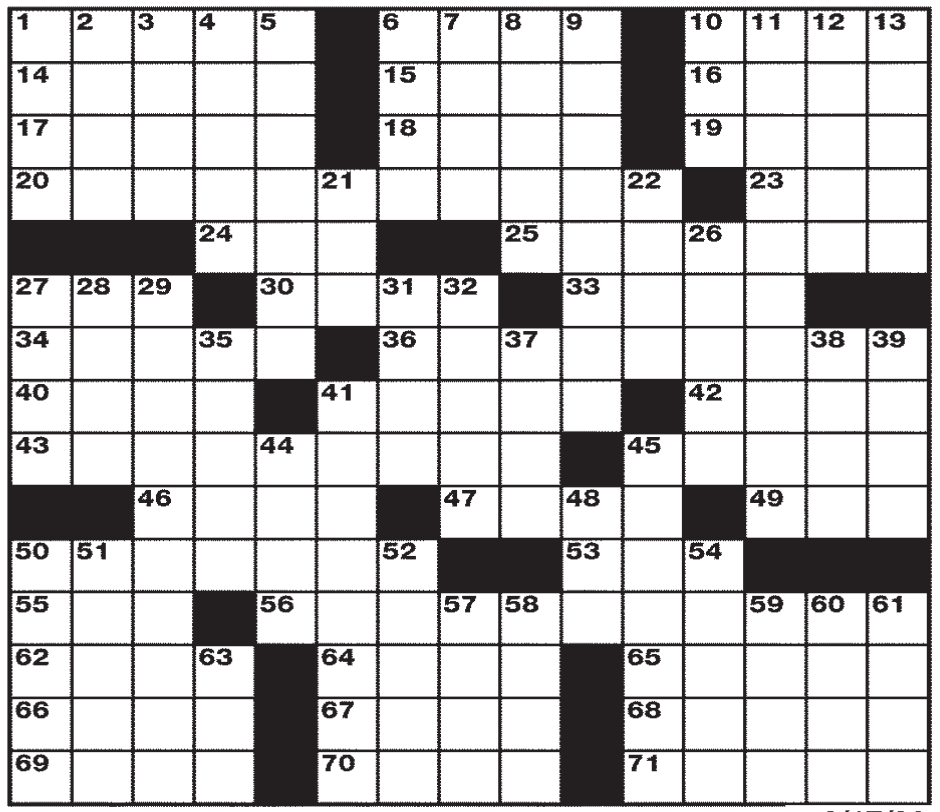
		4			3		2	
7	8			6			5	
		6		5	7	9		1
9		1		8				
	3	5	9		2	7	1	
				1		8		9
6		3	1	2		5		
	5			7			9	2
	7		5			1		

Newsday Crossword

PANTS POCKET by Gary Cee
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Rings of light
6 Fuzzy photo
10 River swimmer
14 Adhere to, with "by"
15 Top of the crop
16 Drained of color
17 It's squeezed into tea
18 Pear variety
19 Stake in a pot
20 Sunshine State's southernmost part
23 Common sitcom character
24 Common sitcom character
25 Cream-filled treats
27 Powdery residue
30 More than attentive
33 Farthest from the finish line
34 Earnest requests
36 Hexagonal pattern
40 Amigos
41 Submitted, as a return
42 Mango-shaped
43 Doubleheaders
45 Took a monetary beating
46 Scott of *Hawaii Five-0*
47 Leave gobsmacked
49 Patient attendants
50 Big to-dos
53 Blvd. crossers
55 Mobile software
56 Highway exit
62 Third-born boy
64 Final melodic line
65 *Cats* inspiration
66 What a drone might get caught in
67 Without an advantage
68 Renoir contemporary
69 Draw a salary
70 On its way, in a way
71 Round up

DOWN
1 30 minutes of football
2 Second-born boy
3 It may be a stretch
4 Signs of spoilage
5 Class of '21, in '21
6 ___ ghanouj (eggplant salad)
7 Be a rubberneck
8 Wipe from one's memory
9 New again
10 Pampering place
11 "I'll take that right now!"
12 Ceremonial spot
13 Noble acts
21 Key to solving some cold cases
22 Do in, as a dragon
26 Racecourse near Runnymede
27 Date, for short
28 Barbecue side
29 Airborne ambulance
31 Punxsutawney groundhog
32 Tunnel charges
35 "Kid stuff!"
37 Cozy retreat
38 Prevailing
39 Three-syllable sandwiches
41 Bankrolls
44 Exotic Indonesian isle
45 First-pitch precursors
48 L.A. campus
50 Careless urgency
51 "Grand" or "comic" performance
52 Ben Franklin's "hot" invention
54 Place for pampering
57 Where 62 Across and 2 Down never lived
58 Blow one's top
59 Sea traveler of 1492
60 Suffix for sea
61 Suffix for sermon
63 Brood bird



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

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



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

Locally owned, and committed to local news reporting since 2001.
smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 4874

How amusing

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

Arts
Aunty
Bask
Beach
Birds
Bowls
Canoes
City
Competitive
Concert
Dates
Dawn
Draw
Dunk
Event
Exercise
Expo
Flee
Golf
Hats
Hide and seek
Hose
Insects
Laps
Ludo
Lunch
Movies
National parks
Open
Outdoors
Phone
Pool
Replay
Scuba
Show
Snowboard
Specials
Success
Swim
Tonic
Trees
Visit
Wade
Wash
Weather

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Going to The Marriage of Figaro

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CULTURE WATCH

FROM PAGE 6

former fellow prisoner, who promised Kash if he got out that he would become a lawyer and defend him, happened to be interning there the day the call came in from the witness in Texas. He proceeded to interview her and then prepared the writ that Judge Mader received.

It was her role to appoint a lawyer for Kash, so she sent him to Laurie Levenson's Project for the Innocent at Loyola Marymount University. Kash won. And in Civil Court, famed attorney Barry Scheck (Innocence Project; OJ Simpson trial) helped him reached a settlement of $16 million for his 34 years in prison. He was found factually innocent and his record was expunged.

MOLDED EARLY ON

Judge Mader knows that judges are just human, equal parts brilliance and flaws, all trying to be "fair." But, she says, all judges are shaped by their personal experiences. "We come from a variety of backgrounds, from parents who worked the farm fields or came over as Vietnamese boat people. We all bring what we've experienced to our decisions." Her background includes being haunted by the loss of family members to The Holocaust.

She says she was "molded early on" by a case she defended in the 1970s in which, "Two honest police officers testified (on her defendant's behalf), and were subsequently hounded out of the Monterey Park Police Dept. That had an influence on me." As Inspector General at LAPD, she made a lot of powerful enemies. And before she could be fired, she resigned.

In this BLM moment, when calls for justice reform are being heard across the US, Katherine Mader says we should start with this: "Prohibit elected District Attorneys from taking Police Union money. And move prosecutions of officer shootings outside the DA's office to an independent agency that isn't beholden."

George Gascon, she told me, has already sworn off accepting any Police Union money and supports independent investigations. That's why she's supporting his campaign to become the next District Attorney.

As a judge she was careful to be neutral. Now that she's retired, and with her depth of knowledge about the inner workings of L.A's justice system, she feels strongly that it needs to be reformed.

After her 45 years in the field of justice, I trust her judgment.

Sarah A. Spitz is an award-winning public radio producer, retired from KCRW, where she also produced arts stories for NPR. She writes features and reviews for various print and online publications.

NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 7

AND THEN THERE WERE THE LYRICS

Most offensive: It begins, it leads off with, its opening words are, "Well, they say that Santa Fe/Is less than ninety miles away." OK, accurate I suppose; "less than a thousand miles away" would also be true, but something I thought everyone knew, or would at least have heard if they came to Albuquerque and wanted to drive to Santa Fe, was that it was 60 miles away. Depending on where you leave from and arrive to, but, 60 miles, Neil, that's what anyone would tell you. Did you ask some gas station attendant who just moved there from Florida the day before? About an hour's drive, unless you step on it, but you shouldn't because the desert and mountain scenery drifting by are worth a million bucks.

I know you think I'm being very parochial and prickly, but New Mexico has a culture, man, a real, amazing culture unlike anywhere else in the States, and you have to respect it. He didn't.

"And I got time to roll a number and rent a car. Oh, Albuquerque." Uh huh. Oh Albuquerque, love their rental car companies. Why didn't you just title the song "Santa Fe"?

"So I'll stop when I can/Find some fried eggs and country ham."

Neil, Neil, Neil, fried eggs and country ham? He really has no idea where he is, does he? Huevos rancheros, my man, as you can get them only in NM. Smothered with Hatch green chile, or maybe Christmas (red and green).

By the end of the song, I had little appreciation for the rest of the album. But he sure got one thing right, the last line of the song — "I'll find somewhere where they don't care who I am. Oh, Albuquerque, Albuquerque."

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 2,500 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 34 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

RESOURCES

FROM PAGE 4

of COVID. It's stressing them out, and we have to keep their heads in the game," he said.

The pandemic also has limited the state's use of inmate fire crews — either because of early inmate releases to prevent outbreaks in prisons or because many are under quarantine in those prisons, both Berland and Geissler said.

Aside from the human toll, the conflagrations in Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, and now California and the Pacific Northwest have cost hundreds of millions of dollars.

California alone has spent $529 million since July 1 on wildfires, said Daniel Berlant, assistant deputy director of Cal Fire. By comparison, the state spent $691 million the entire fiscal year that ended June 30. The U.S. government will reimburse most state costs for the biggest disasters.

Back in the field, Silvera and his crew saved two people at the beginning of their 26-day duty tour. The two hikers encountered the crew after the firefighters themselves were briefly trapped while trying to save the headquarters building at Big Basin Redwoods State Park.

"We got in a bad spot, and there were a few hours there we didn't know if we'd make it," Silvera said. "Those people found us, and we wouldn't have been in there."

"That's what you sign up for."





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City of Santa Monica