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Santa Monica Daily Press

WEDNESDAY
09.23.20
Volume 19 Issue 162

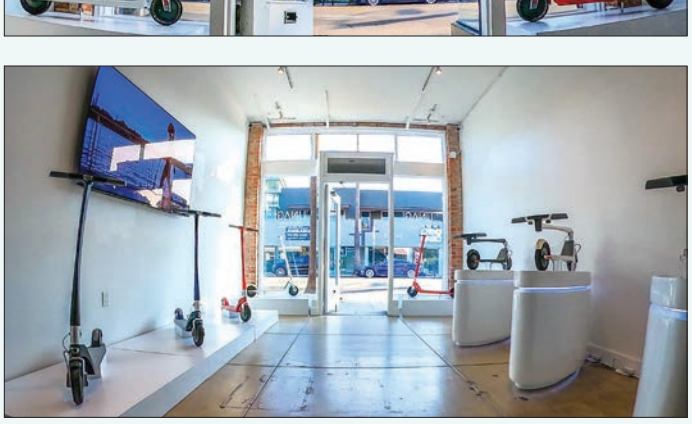
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California reopens
Case counts are declining.
Page 11

Crime Watch
Stolen vehicle recovered.
Page 7

E-scooter startup Unagi launches storefront in Bird's backyard







Courtesy photo

FOR SALE: **Some scooter companies are moving away from shared devices and into the retail marketplace.**

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica has a heated history with e-scooter companies, which while beloved by many are often accused of causing litter, injuries, and lawsuits. David Hyman, the CEO of e-scooter startup Unagi, believes the launch of an Unagi storefront on Abbot Kinney marks a new chapter in the Westside's relationship with these popular scooters. The store, which opens today in competitor company Bird's backyard, will allow customers to buy or purchase a subscription to its lightweight foldable scooters.

Given the rise in complaints against dockless e-scooters and the hygiene concerns of the pandemic, more people are opting to buy their own devices over using scooter-sharing apps. The opening of Unagi's storefront comes on the heels of a Sunday announcement that Santa Monica-based Bird will start selling its new Bird Air scooter online and at Target.

"L.A. has always been a big

SEE **UNAGI** PAGE 11

Beach vendor brawl ends with umbrella assault

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica Police Department has arrested a street vendor after a fight ended with a man being cut on the neck with an umbrella.

According to SMPD, officers were called to the 1600 block of the beach at about 4:20 p.m. on Sunday for an assault with a deadly weapon. Initial reports described a fight between two men that involved a knife.

When officers arrived they found both men and determined they were both vendors of beach items and toys.

One vendor accused the other of intruding on his perceived territory and the verbal dispute became physical with the aggressor attempting to punch the other vendor several times. The fight escalated and while no knife was used, the second vendor used his umbrella to strike and cut the attacker.

Oscar Hernandez, from Los Angeles, was booked for assault with a deadly weapon for cutting the other man's neck.

editor@smdp.com

SMC to remain online through June 2021

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Santa Monica College announced on Monday night that it has made the decision to remain online through June 2021, with the exception of select lab classes deemed essential by the California Governor's office. While classrooms will stay closed, the college continues to support students and the community through Chromebook lending, telehealth services, COVID-19 testing, and free meal drives.

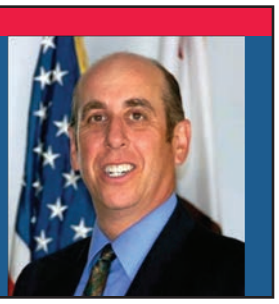
"The SMC Emergency Operations Team is constantly monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic and trends/news, as well as keeping tabs on guidelines for higher education institutions from LA County Public Health and the CDC. It is unlikely that a safe, widely available vaccine will be available to allow for a return to on-ground classes this academic year. The college weighed all the information and facts available to make the decision at this time," said Grace Smith, SMC Public Information Officer.

While it is unclear exactly when a vaccine will make a campus return safe for all students, SMC decided to make this decision now to give students and staff ample time to

SEE **ONLINE CLASSES** PAGE 11

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CITY OF SANTA MONICA

The City of Santa Monica announces it has committed housing trust funds in the amount of $11,742,234 to Laurel EAH NC LLC for the development of supportive, affordable housing at 1413 Michigan Avenue targeted to persons experiencing homelessness. More information about this funding commitment is available at: https://www.santamonica.gov/housing-trust-funds.

CITY OF SANTA MONICA

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION
VIA TELECONFERENCE
Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20 Issued by Governor Gavin Newsom

SUBJECT: 19ENT-0430 (Development Review Permit)
1404-1408 3rd Street Promenade

APPLICANT: Blatteis & Schnur, Inc. dba Kenza Promenade, LLC
PROPERTY OWNER: Kenza Promenade, LLC

A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission to consider the following request:

A Development Review Permit application to construct a new Tier 2 three-story, 55-foot high, approximately 20,000 square-foot commercial/retail building above a partial basement on a 7500 square-foot lot.

DATE/TIME: **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2020, AT 5:30 PM**

LOCATION: In an effort to reduce the risk of spreading Coronavirus (COVID-19), members of the Planning Commission and City Staff will participate via teleconference. The meeting will be broadcast on CityTV Channel 16 and streamed on the City's website as normal but participants may also join the teleconference via https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/epwzcydd or by dialing in at 1-415-466-7000 (PIN: 9765041 #).

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Those wishing to give public comment must make that request via email to planningcomment@smgov.net. Written information received prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Planning Commission prior to the meeting and posted online. Written information received after 12 p.m. October 7th will be read aloud at the meeting for a total of three minutes.

Address your comments to: Rathar Duong, Associate Planner
Re: 19ENT-0430

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file and plans, please contact Rathar Duong at rathar.duong@smgov.net. The Zoning Ordinance is available at the Planning Counter during business hours and on the City's web site at www.smgov.net .

For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. Every attempt will made to provide the requested accommodation. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request.

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

Santa Monica Daily Press office **(310) 458-7737**

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 32 CALLS ON SEPTEMBER 21

EMS 500blk San Vicente Blvd 12:21 a.m.
EMS 2100blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:29 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 4th St / Olympic Blvd E 1:34 a.m.
EMS 1100blk Colorado Ave 2:09 a.m.
Ladder Request Lincoln Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 3:56 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 300blk Civic Center Dr 5:36 a.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 200blk Palisades Park 6:19 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 6:32 a.m.
EMS Chelsea Ave / Arizona Ave 7:33 a.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Idaho Ave 7:50 a.m.
EMS 300blk San Vicente Blvd 8:52 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 9:32 a.m.
EMS 1000blk 11th St 11:09 a.m.
EMS 900blk Centinela Ave 12:06 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 5th St 12:16 p.m.
EMS 2700blk 11th St 1:00 p.m.
EMS 400blk 19th St 1:19 p.m.
EMS 22nd St / Arizona Ave 1:44 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 2:01 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 9th St 2:32 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 9th St 3:27 p.m.
EMS 500blk Olympic Blvd W 3:29 p.m.
EMS 22nd St / Arizona Ave 4:26 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Physical Rescue Neilson Way / Pier Ave 4:51 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 9th St 5:03 p.m.
EMS 4th St / Pico Blvd 5:45 p.m.
EMS 300blk San Vicente Blvd 6:24 p.m.
EMS 900blk 20th St 6:35 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Cloverfield Blvd 8:11 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 21st St 8:22 p.m.
EMS 200blk San Vicente Blvd 8:38 p.m.
Carbon Monoxide Alarm 2200blk Colorado Ave 10:19 p.m.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Expanded COVID-Safe Outdoor Opportunities; Eviction Moratorium and Local Emergency Orders Extended to December 31

The City of Santa Monica's latest emergency supplement expands access to COVID-safe outdoor opportunities for residents and extends the City's eviction moratorium and local emergency orders to December 31, 2020. The twenty-sixth supplement comes as Governor Newsom and Los Angeles County leaders provide greater certainty and stability about what will and will not be permitted in the months to come as we all continue to do our part to limit community spread of COVID-19 by wearing face coverings, washing our hands, and not gathering with those outside our households.

"This latest supplement reflects the City's continued commitment to provide a safety net to the community and to safely allow access to recreation and activities that promote wellbeing and enrich our lives," said Interim City Manager and Director of Emergency Services Lane Dilg. "We are here for residents and will keep looking at ways to bring us together through this crisis."

Here are the ways the twenty-sixth supplement expands outdoor recreation opportunities permitted by the LA County Department of Public Health and allows for some socially distanced events and programs:

Permits some events, activities, programs, and gatherings scheduled in City facilities by permit or license if they are allowed by and will be conducted in accordance with all requirements of the LA County Health Officer Orders. This supersedes and replaces Section 1 of the Ninth Supplement.

Authorizes the Director of the Community Services Department to implement guidelines and regulations to permit the use of City sites for drive-in movie theaters, vehicle-based parades, concerts, and other events to the extent allowed by and conducted in accordance with all requirements of the County Safer at Home Order.

Authorizes the Director of the Community Services Department to promulgate regulations and issue permits for gym and fitness establishments to engage in commercial fitness activities at City parks, City park parking lots, and City beaches.

To continue to protect residents from losing their housing due to the economic effects of a COVID-19 impact and assist small businesses whose operations remain limited by COVID-19, the twenty-sixth supplement does the following:

Extends the City's moratorium on evictions of residential tenants for reasons other than nonpayment of rent through December 31, 2020. The City's moratorium on evictions of residential tenants for nonpayment of rent due to the financial impacts of COVID-19 was previously extended to September 30, 2020. A state law, AB 3088, precludes further extension of the City moratorium for nonpayment of rent, but implements a statewide moratorium on evictions for nonpayment of rent due to COVID-19 financial distress effective through January 31, 2020.

Extends the eviction moratorium for nonpayment of rent by commercial tenant 1s (as defined in the Fifth Revised First Supplement and explained in this press release) through December 31, 2020, subject to the requirement that for rent due after September 30, 2020, except for rent due for periods in which the commercial tenant 1's business remains closed because the County Safer at Home Order requires it to remain closed, the commercial tenant 1 must pay at least 50% of the rent due in accordance with the terms for payment set out in the tenant's lease.

Additionally, the supplement suspends all penalties related to business licenses and business improvement district assessments for fiscal year 2019-2020 through October 31, 2020. Penalties related to business licenses for fiscal year 2020-2021 will begin to accrue as of September 1, 2020 unless an extension application was timely filed pursuant to the Third Revised Eighteenth Supplement. Penalties related to business improvement district assessments for fiscal year 2020-2021 are not suspended and will begin to accrue if the assessments are not timely paid. This supersedes and replaces Section 5 of the Revised Fifth Supplement.

For the latest information, please visit santamonica.gov/coronavirus, or call the City's Coronavirus Hotline at (310) 458-8400.

SUBMITTED BY CONSTANCE FARRELL, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 286 CALLS ON SEPTEMBER 21

Exhibition Of Speed 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 12:05 a.m.
Living In A Vehicle 2100blk 16th St 1:32 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 4th St / Olympic Blvd E 1:34 a.m.
Petty Theft 1200blk Lincoln Blvd 1:52 a.m.
Party Complaint 300blk California Ave 3:43 a.m.
Arson 200blk Palisades Park 6:20 a.m.
Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 100blk Pier Ave 6:27 a.m.
Construction Noise 1500blk Ocean Ave 6:37 a.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 2200blk Delaware Ave 7:16 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 900blk 10th St 7:52 a.m.
Petty Theft 500blk Olympic Blvd 8:06 a.m.
Burglary 1300blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:20 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 800blk Pine St 8:21 a.m.
Burglary 2300blk Main St 8:32 a.m.
Harassing Phone Calls 600blk Marine St 8:35 a.m.
Found Property 1400blk Olympic Blvd 8:39 a.m.
Burglary 1400blk Marine St 8:39 a.m.
Bike Theft 00blk Pico Blvd 8:57 a.m.
Burglary 1500blk 6th St 9:04 a.m.
Death Investigation 300blk San Vicente Blvd 9:08 a.m.
Bike Theft 2100blk Oak St 9:15 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 18th St / Wilshire Blvd 9:22 a.m.
Stalking 500blk Broadway 9:22 a.m.
Grand Theft 600blk Pier Ave 9:48 a.m.
Petty Theft 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 10:00 a.m.
Petty Theft 700blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:06 a.m.
Grand Theft 1200blk 14th St 10:20 a.m.
Petty Theft 2000blk 20th St 10:20 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2200blk 28th St 10:46 a.m.
Burglary 1000blk 17th St 10:54 a.m.
Harassing Phone Calls 1300blk Berkeley St 10:55 a.m.
Bike Theft 1200blk Ozone Ave 10:55 a.m.
Petty Theft 500blk Olympic Blvd 11:03 a.m.
Rape 1300blk 2nd St 11:27 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 3000blk Colorado Ave 11:30 a.m.
Harassing Phone Calls 1200blk 9th St 11:39 a.m.
Out Of Order Traffic Signals 17th St / Ocean Park Blvd 11:39 a.m.
Silent Robbery Alarm 500blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:16 p.m.
Burglary 500blk Arizona Ave 12:16 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1000blk 12th St 12:39 p.m.
Found Property 1600blk Ocean Ave 12:39 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 100blk Hollister Ave 12:47 p.m.
Bike Theft 2000blk Oak St 1:00 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 2000blk Ocean Ave 1:05 p.m.
Petty Theft 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 1:23 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2800blk Exposition Blvd 1:31 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1800blk San Vicente Blvd 1:44 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 700blk Ozone St 1:46 p.m.
Fraud 1300blk Ocean Ave 1:58 p.m.
Battery 900blk 4th St 2:07 p.m.
Grand Theft 3000blk Wilshire Blvd 2:14 p.m.
Battery Now 1600blk Ocean Ave 2:32 p.m.
Burglary 900blk 4th St 2:45 p.m.
Public Intoxication 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 3:20 p.m.
Auto Burglary 900blk 10th St 3:29 p.m.
Identity Theft 300blk Olympic Dr 3:59 p.m.
Petty Theft Now 800blk Pacific St 4:04 p.m.
Burglary 1900blk Euclid St 4:13 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 22nd St / Arizona Ave 4:28 p.m.
Burglary 1000blk 5th St 4:51 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Neilson Way / Pier Ave 4:51 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Neilson Way / Pier Ave 4:51 p.m.
Overdose 1200blk 9th St 5:03 p.m.
Bike Theft 500blk Ashland Ave 5:22 p.m.
Bike Theft 1100blk Pico Blvd 5:51 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 14th St / Montana Ave 5:53 p.m.
Petty Theft 1300blk 20th St 5:56 p.m.
Municipal Code Violation 3000blk Ocean Front Walk 6:15 p.m.
Municipal Code Violation 2600blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:34 p.m.
Identity Theft 1500blk Euclid St 6:48 p.m.
Harassing Phone Calls 1600blk Ocean Ave 6:49 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1300blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:55 p.m.
Bike Theft 2400blk Ocean Front Walk 7:19 p.m.
Fight 00blk Pico Blvd 7:27 p.m.
Covid 1100blk 17th St 7:34 p.m.
Fight 1600blk Ocean Ave 7:54 p.m.
Found Person 300blk Santa Monica Pier 8:07 p.m.
Encampment 2200blk Pico Blvd 8:10 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1900blk Cloverfield Blvd 8:16 p.m.
Fight 100blk Pacific St 8:28 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2200blk Main St 8:36 p.m.
Construction Noise 1900blk Euclid St 8:40 p.m.
Found Property 2200blk Virginia Ave 8:57 p.m.
Petty Theft 1500blk Ocean Ave 9:01 p.m.
Identity Theft 2400blk Arizona Ave 9:07 p.m.
Stolen Vehicle 800blk 7th St 9:21 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2200blk Main St 9:54 p.m.
Found Senile Person 300blk Olympic Dr 10:13 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1900blk Pico Blvd 10:25 p.m.
Burglary 900blk Colorado Ave 10:48 p.m.
Encampment 900blk Lincoln Blvd 11:15 p.m.
Found Senile Person 300blk Olympic Dr 11:23 p.m.
Party Complaint 1300blk 11th St 11:25 p.m.
Party Complaint 900blk Palisades Park 11:53 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 14th St / Santa Monica Blvd 11:54 p.m.

Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

RFP: #266 LEASED FALLBACK DMR SYSTEM

• Submission Deadline is October 22, 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

CITY OF SANTA MONICA

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION VIA TELECONFERENCE Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20 Issued By Governor Gavin Newsom

SUBJECT: 19ENT-0468 (Conditional Use Permit)
19ENT-0469 (Conditional Use Permit)
1600 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD

APPLICANT: 7-Eleven, Inc.
PROPERTY OWNER: Village Square Partners, LLC

A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission to consider the following request:

The applicant requests an expansion of an existing convenience market to a neighboring existing tenant space subject to approval of a Conditional Use Permit (19ENT-0468) with a Type 20 (Off-sale) ABC license. The existing convenience market currently offers alcoholic beverage sales under a Type 20 (Off-Sale Beer and Wine) but does not have a Conditional Use Permit. The expanded convenience market (7/Eleven) will continue to have alcoholic beverages sales under a Type 20 (Off-Sale Beer and Wine) alcohol license within the General Commercial (GC) District, which requires a Conditional Use Permit pursuant to Sections 9.11.020 and 9.31.040(E)(1)(a) as an expansion of a legal non-conforming use.

DATE/TIME: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2020 AT 5:30 PM

LOCATION: In an effort to reduce the risk of spreading Coronavirus (COVID-19), members of the Planning Commission and City Staff will participate via teleconference. The meeting will be broadcast on CityTV Channel 16 and streamed on the City's website as normal but participants may also join the teleconference via https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/epwzcydd or by dialing in at 1-415-466-7000 (PIN: 9765041 #).

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Those wishing to give public comment shall email comments to planningcomment@smgov.net. Comments received prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Planning Commission prior to the meeting and posted online. Comments received after 12 p.m. October 7, 2020 will be read aloud at the meeting for a total of three minutes.

Address your comments to: Gina Szilak, Associate Planner
Re: 19ENT-0468 and 19ENT-0469

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Gina Szilak at regina.szilak@smgov.net. The Zoning Ordinance is available on the City's web site at www.smgov.net. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.



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Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Will City Council Cave to Another Big Developer?

Development Agreements known as DAs give a lot of latitude to a developer and a city in negotiating a massive project like the Miramar Hotel; a project that will be higher and denser than that neighborhood's current zoning. There are, however, certain fundamentals for any DA. In exchange for allowing a developer greater profits by building a bigger project, there must be greater community benefits to offset the increased burdens the community will bear should the project move forward.

In negotiating a DA, a city shouldn't compromise its standards in a way which greatly reduces the quality of life for residents in the surrounding neighborhood. Nor should the City negotiate community benefits that are far less than what the City is entitled to.

Yet sadly, that's what may be happening with this proposed Miramar project.

This project doesn't give the commensurate level of community benefits to justify approving its DA as opposed to approving a smaller project under current zoning standards. The 48 units of affordable housing are not nearly enough. It also doesn't mitigate the known community burdens that will be caused by eliminating the existing Wilshire entrance and adding new entrances on neighboring streets ill-designed to accommodate the increased traffic.

And what about meaningful open space as a community benefit to link the project to the adjacent Palisades Park? No, that open space is restricted as "publicly accessible," which means it will primarily be for the use of hotel guests and operated as such.

The Miramar project also calls for almost 200,000 square feet of new condo units on the upper floors. These luxury condos represent a give-away of our most precious asset — a world class view of the ocean — by restricting it to the uber rich. And the revenue from these condo sales will largely go to the developer instead of generating hotel bed taxes to the City. Worse, building these high-end condos will accelerate gentrification and the loss of diversity in our community and along Ocean Avenue. With this DA as a precedent, older buildings on Ocean will become prime bait to be torn down and replaced with ultra-luxury housing. What's at stake here is building a city increasingly for the wealthy and enriching the developer at the expense of our city's livability.

How did this failure of adequate community benefits and poor planning occur? After all, the developer cites more than a hundred meetings to engage the community on its plans.

But it's not the number of meetings you hold: It's what community benefits you subsequently agree to deliver and whether you work to solve the real neighborhood problems the project, as massively designed, creates.

This isn't just a failure by the developer: It's a failure of a feckless planning department to negotiate a DA with community benefits that are reasonable given the project's massive size. Residents are increasingly frustrated with the city's "how can we help big developers?" attitude while turning a deaf ear to unacceptable environmental burdens for the community.

It's also not whether the developer is perceived as "community-friendly" — one who has cultivated support for this project by making donations to arts and education foundations and other good causes. These things, while admirable, don't make up for the failure of the DA to deliver the necessary level of community benefits, or the mitigation of this project's massive height along Second Street, or its circulation problems.

In a week we'll see whether our City Council cares about redressing the lack of commensurate community benefits and the unacceptable neighborhood burdens this project will create. Council must not use the pandemic or our economic downturn to run roughshod over neighboring residents, and to approve this give-away to a billionaire hotel owner. If it happens in this neighborhood in can happen in yours. Santa Monica residents will be watching.

Diana Gordon and Victor Fresco are Co-Chairs of the Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City.

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AWARD WINNER

AWARD WINNER

Sustainable Quality Awards WINNER

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Los Angeles

Public Health Reports 40 New Deaths and 810 New Positive Cases of Confirmed COVID-19 in Los Angeles County

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) has confirmed 40 new deaths and 810 new cases of confirmed COVID-19. To date, Public Health has identified 262,133 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County and a total of 6,401 deaths.

Public Health is closely monitoring the number of daily hospitalizations related to COVID-19. Unlike the daily number of cases, which reflects the number of people tested in L.A. County, the number of hospitalizations is a stable indicator representing the number of people who are seriously ill from COVID-19. During the pandemic we have seen increases in the numbers of hospitalizations three to four weeks after an event where there was widespread transmission of COVID-19, including after holiday weekends or sector re-openings.

The County continues to see the number of daily COVID-19 hospitalizations decline from the July 20 peak of a 3-day average of over 2,200 hospitalizations. There are 745 people currently hospitalized with COVID-19 and 28% of these people are in the ICU. Even in the last month, since the end of August, there has been a significant decrease from an average of 1,200 daily hospitalizations to the average this past week of under 800 hospitalizations per day. We are hoping that we do not see an increase in the number of daily hospitalizations in the upcoming weeks associated with activities that occurred over the Labor Day holiday.

It is important for all L.A. County residents to remember that COVID-19 is responsible for many people becoming seriously ill. Throughout this pandemic thousands of people have had long hospital stays and many may still be feeling the effects of their sickness weeks or even months later. People of all ages have underlying health conditions, like asthma, heart disease, diabetes, and conditions that weaken a person's immune system, and are at greater risk of having serious illness if infected with COVID-19. For this reason, it is crucial that all residents continue to assume the people around them may have an underlying health condition and to use all the tools we have for protecting others from the virus: keep physical distance of at least 6 feet and wear a cloth face covering whenever outside your home and around others; wash or sanitize hands frequently; get tested if you are having symptoms of COVID-19; isolate if you are positive for the virus; and quarantine if you have been a close contact of someone who has tested positive.

According to the State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy, Los Angeles County has met the metric thresholds for Tier 2 (Substantial risk level). Per the State guidelines, Los Angeles County must continue to meet these metric thresholds for two consecutive weeks before moving into Tier 2. The State also announced that counties may now make their own determination to allow nail salons to resume indoor operations. Public Health will be consulting with the Board of Supervisors to determine the timing of adopting changes to the County Health Officer Order that would allow nail salons to resume modified indoor operations.

"Our hearts go out to all who are mourning loved ones and friends who have passed away from COVID-19," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "Public Health is heartened that Los Angeles County has met the thresholds that may allow us in the near future to move into Tier 2 of California's Blueprint for a Safer Economy. We plan to closely monitor our data to understand how effectively we are slowing the spread of COVID-19 after the Labor Day holiday and the impact of re-opening schools for high need students and re-opening hair salons for indoor operations. We thank Los Angeles County residents, workers, and businesses who have continued to take the steps needed to slow the spread, including wearing their face coverings, physically distancing, and not gathering with people outside their household."

Of the 40 new deaths reported today, 15 people that passed away were over the age of 80 years old, 12 people who died were between the ages of 65 and 79 years old, seven people who died were between the ages of 50 and 64 years old, four people who died were between the ages of 30 and 49 years old, and one person who died was between the ages of 18 and 29 years old. Twenty-seven people who died had underlying health conditions including eleven people over the age of 80, nine people between the ages of 65 and 79 years old, and four people between the ages of 50 and 64 years old, and three people between the ages of 30 to 49 years old. One death was reported by the City of Pasadena.

Testing results are available for more than 2,563,000 individuals with 9% of all people testing positive.

Ninety-two percent of the people who died from COVID-19 had underlying health conditions. Of those who died, information about race and ethnicity is available for 6,022 people (99 percent of the cases reported by Public Health); 51% of deaths occurred among Latino/Latinx residents, 23% among White residents, 15% among Asian residents, 10% among African American/Black residents, less than 1% among Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander residents and 1% among residents identifying with other races. Upon further investigation, 123 cases and five deaths reported earlier were not L.A. County residents.

The Reopening Protocols, COVID-19 Surveillance Interactive Dashboard, Roadmap to Recovery, Recovery Dashboard, and additional things you can do to protect yourself, your family and your community are on the Public Health website, www.publichealth.lacounty.gov.

Santa Monica has 854 cases.

SUBMITTED BY THE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

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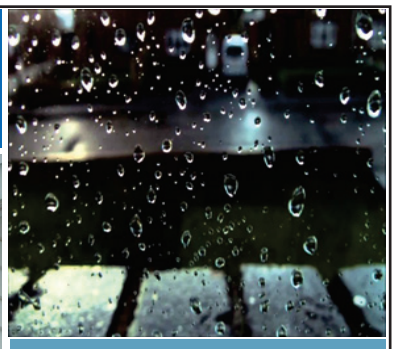
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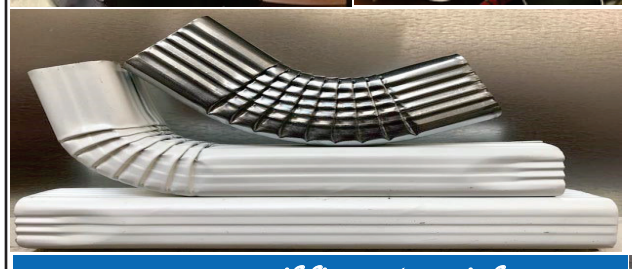


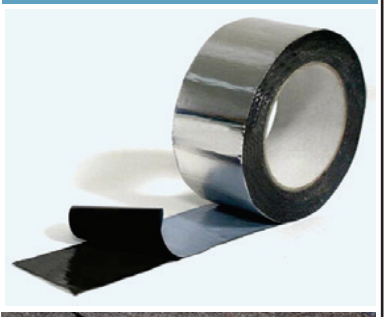


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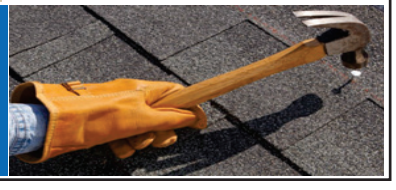








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Curious City

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Time To Open Up The Club

MY APOLOGIES TO OUR CITY COUNCIL

For all the times I drew a parallel between their political actions and those of The Donald, and Moscow Mitch's GOP.

They're amateurs. Not even in the DC wrecking crew's league. But they are learning, it seems.

We've all seen that flat out denying the facts — works. Look people in the eye and ask, what elephant in the room? What are you going to believe, me, or your lying eyes?

What crime? That's the line our incumbents are taking, denying there is a problem and even asserting that things are improving. Hmmm. What do you think?

In the recent Santa Monica Democratic Club's candidates forum, that's what we heard. When challenger Phil Brock, running on a slate with Mario Fonda-Bernardi, Oscar de la Torre and Christine Parra against the four incumbents, raised the issue of safety and crime, it was amazing to see all the incumbents look us in the eye and declare, what crime?

Councilmember Gleam Davis admonished Brock, "You can cherry pick stats but compared to 10, 15, 20 years ago, Santa Monica is a much safer city than what it was." (She must be talking about gang murders being down. That's it.) Tell me, do you feel safer here now than five years ago? Two years? A year?

WELLBEING

"For me," Davis continued, "public safety involves being a place where everyone can thrive. So for me, we need to become a city of wellbeing." Try that line on the next guy who sticks a gun in your ribs and relieves you of your purse, or car. Or the mentally unstable guy who sucker punches you as you take your daily stroll. Hey! You just broke my wellbeing!!

Cherry picking stats is exactly what the incumbents did, to deny we have a crime and safety issue here. It can be a confusing issue — on paper, not on our streets — because there are so many agencies reporting crime figures. And which time periods are you comparing? I looked in a lot of places and the consensus is that no matter how you slice it, SM is one of the least safe cities in California. Right near the bottom. The last reported years are 2017 and '18, and Santa Monica's violent crime rate far exceeds that for CA as a whole. Where would you say responsibility for that lies?

"SANTA MONICA COUNCILMEMBER"

Interesting that in the candidates information for this election, only one of the four incumbents running for another four-year term, Gleam Davis, lists their occupation as "Santa Monica Councilmember." Ted Winterer, Terry O'Day and Ana Jara do not. I think that speaks volumes, don't you? Everyone knows that being the incumbent is worth a ton of votes. Usually. Voters who don't know the situation will vote to keep the same crew because "everything seems pretty good." So if three incumbent City Councilmembers don't lead with that, well, it would seem they're not so proud of what they've done (or not done) and don't want to remind voters that they're the ones responsible. It would indicate their assessment that being an incumbent, this time, is a big minus.

I would have to agree. And in 34 years here, I have never seen such widespread, very strong dissatisfaction with the incumbents, among all residents.

IT'S A CLUB

"And you're not in it," George Carlin used to say. Our City Council is a club with rules for entry. First, you must be endorsed by Santa Monicans for Renters Rights (SMRR). Only Bobby Shriver (Kennedys don't need any endorsements) and Herb Katz got elected without that, maybe Ruth Ebner (one term), probably Asha Greenberg (even SMRR founders have trouble recalling for certain).

But before that anointing, you must buddy up to the other members and prove to them that you love what they stand for and will get right in line. 7-0 votes is what they're looking for, no less. They even have a standard process for voting one way in front of the public, then changing that vote on the record after the meeting. Unanimous!

ONLY ONE GOT ELECTED

To first take their seat on the Council, of the four incumbents running this year. Ted Winterer. The other three all were appointed first, to a vacancy, then elected running with the huge advantage of incumbency.

It's a recent tactic, for the most part. Except for Alan Katz in the mid-'80s, you have to go back to the late '60s and early to mid-'70s to find anyone appointed first, not elected. And SMRR wasn't founded until 1978. Recent appointee Kristin McCowan was appointed last July and is now running... as an incumbent. I have not mentioned her because she is running unopposed for a two-year term. But so far she seems to fit into the club just fine.

OTHER ENDORSEMENTS

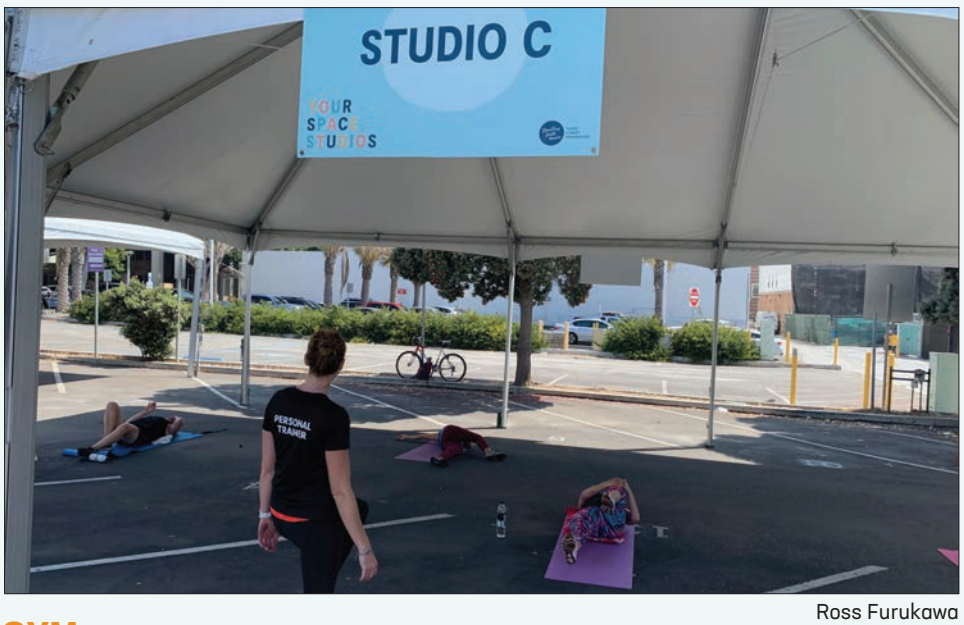
That's a whole other topic. Let's just note that it is a small board, maybe even only one or two officers, not the rank and file who make an endorsement, and that for some organizations a "contribution" will get it for you, a little extra, please, for all our mailers and phone calls, thank you! But I found this interesting story from the LA Times, just before the1992 election, on that subject:

"The issue this year is not rent control," said Ron Wirtz, president of the Santa Monica Firefighters Assn. "We're committed to battling the myth raised by Santa Monicans for Renters Rights that rent control would be endangered without a SMRR majority on the council."

[Ken] Genser is the only SMRR-supported candidate who has also won the police and fire unions' backing. The unions have also endorsed challengers Weston, Asha Greenberg and Anthony Blain.

In past elections, Wirtz said, people have voted for the rent control slate and wound up

SEE **CURIOUS CITY** PAGE 11



Ross Furukawa

GYM: Johanna Kracke, Wellness Coordinator for the Santa Monica Family YMCA, reaches a class in the newly opened Studio space at 5th and Arizona. Fitness studios from all over Santa Monica will be using the space to host safe, outdoor fitness classes. Sign ups are through each individual fitness studio.

Vanessa Bryant sues LA sheriff over helicopter crash photos

STEFANIE DAZIO
Associated Press

Vanessa Bryant, the widow of basketball star Kobe Bryant, has filed a lawsuit against the Los Angeles County sheriff claiming deputies shared unauthorized photos of the crash that killed her husband, their 13-year-old daughter and seven others.

After the Jan. 26 crash, reports surfaced that graphic photos of the victims were being shared. Vanessa Bryant was "shocked and devastated" by the reports, the lawsuit states.

The suit seeks damages for negligence, invasion of privacy and intentional infliction of emotional distress.

"This lawsuit is about accountability and about preventing this disgraceful behavior from happening to other families in the future who have suffered loss," Vanessa Bryant's attorney, Luis Li, said in a statement. "The department formally refused Mrs. Bryant's requests for information saying it was 'unable to assist' with any inquiry and had no legal obligation to do so. It's now for a court to tell the department what its obligations are."

The victims died when the helicopter crashed into a hillside in Calabasas, northwest of Los Angeles, during cloudy weather. They were traveling to a youth basketball tournament at Bryant's sports facility in Thousand Oaks. The National Transportation Safety Board has not concluded what caused the crash on the outskirts of Los Angeles County but said there was no sign of mechanical failure in the Sikorsky S-76. helicopter.

Sheriff Alex Villanueva previously told news media that eight deputies took or shared graphic photos of the scene and he ordered the images deleted. The sheriff said the department has a policy against taking and sharing crime scene photos, but it does not apply to accident scenes.

"That was my No. 1 priority, was to make sure those photos no longer exist," Villanueva previously told NBC News. "We identified the deputies involved, they came to the station on their own and had admitted they had taken them and they had deleted them. And we're content that those involved did that."

Vanessa Bryant's lawsuit alleges the sheriff's actions constituted a "cover-up" of the misconduct. The suit claims the photos could still exist.

"Mrs. Bryant feels ill at the thought of strangers gawking at images of her deceased husband and child and she lives in fear that she or her children will one day confront horrific images of their loved ones online," the lawsuit states.

California Gov. Gavin Newsom has not yet signed a bill that would make it a misdemeanor for first responders to take unauthorized photos of deceased people at the scene of an accident or crime. The legislation was prompted by the crash photos.

A statement from the sheriff's department Tuesday incorrectly said such actions are now criminal. The bill has not yet been signed into law.

"Shortly following this tragic crash, Sheriff Villanueva sponsored legislation which now makes it a crime for public safety personnel to take and share non-official pictures of this nature," the statement said. "Due to the pending litigation, we are unable to offer further comment."

The Los Angeles Times first reported the allegations that the graphic photos had been taken and disseminated in February.

Bryant previously filed a claim, a precursor to a lawsuit, in May. The suit was filed Thursday.

Separately, Vanessa Bryant has also filed a lawsuit alleging the helicopter's pilot, Ara Zobayan, was careless and negligent to fly in the fog and should have aborted the flight.

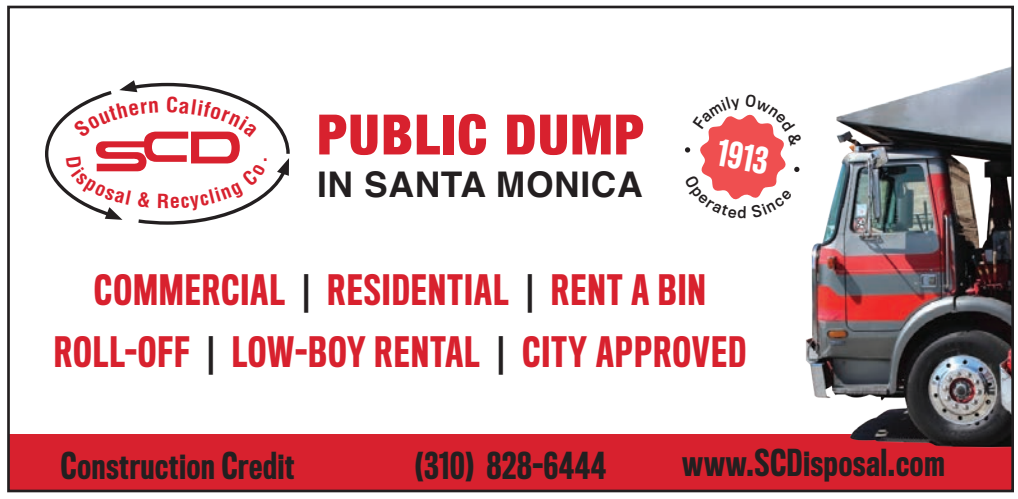
The brother of the pilot has said in a court filing that Bryant knew the risks of helicopter flying and his survivors aren't entitled to damages from the pilot's estate, while the helicopter company, Island Express, says it is not responsible for damages, calling the crash, among other things, "an act of God" and "an unavoidable accident" that was beyond its control.

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 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 AT APPROXIMATELY 7:30 P.M.

LAPD requested assistance from SMPD in retrieving a stolen vehicle that had been taken during a hot prowl. A Suspect had entered a home In the Los Angeles area while the owner of the vehicle was sleeping, taken the car keys, and stole the victim's vehicle. Using GPS technology, LAPD located the vehicle near the 1100 block of Berkeley. Several SMPD officers assisted in completing a high-risk felony stop. Upon further inspection, the driver of the vehicle appeared to be asleep. Upon awaking he complied to officers' commands and was booked for 10851 (A)-CVC-Stolen Vehicle. Peter Donkorth Jr. was booked for stealing the vehicle and it was returned to its rightful owner.





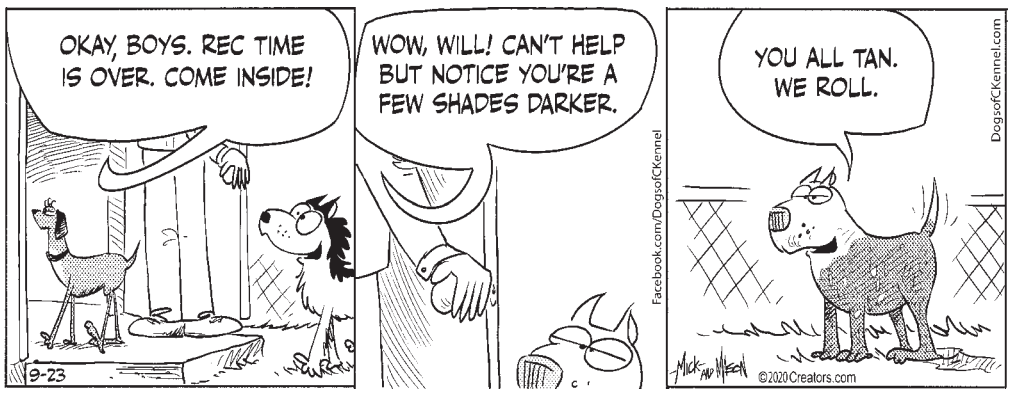
Agnes

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: 66.3°

WEDNESDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high occ. 5 ft
Fresh SSW swell tops out and holds. Small NW swell in the mix. AM wind looking more favorable across the board.

THURSDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high
SSW swell starts to ease as next pulse of SW-SSW swell builds underneath.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Patchy fog. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 74.
Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 62.
Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 74.
Thursday Night: Clear, with a low around 63.
Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 72.
Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 62.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2020/09/23	Wed	03:54 AM	3.45	H
2020/09/23	Wed	07:52 AM	2.84	L
2020/09/23	Wed	2:43 PM	5.31	H
2020/09/23	Wed	10:41 PM	0.43	L
2020/09/24	Thu	05:55 AM	3.63	H
2020/09/24	Thu	09:53 AM	3.18	L
2020/09/24	Thu	4:13 PM	5.16	H
2020/09/24	Thu	11:59 PM	0.21	L
2020/09/25	Fri	07:07 AM	4.00	H
2020/09/25	Fri	11:44 AM	3.00	L
2020/09/25	Fri	5:35 PM	5.22	H
2020/09/26	Sat	12:57 AM	0.00	L
2020/09/26	Sat	07:48 AM	4.33	H
2020/09/26	Sat	12:51 PM	2.60	L
2020/09/26	Sat	6:40 PM	5.38	H
2020/09/27	Sun	01:43 AM	-0.09	L
2020/09/27	Sun	08:19 AM	4.58	H
2020/09/27	Sun	1:39 PM	2.18	L
2020/09/27	Sun	7:31 PM	5.52	H

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date:09/19
11 14 23 47 57
Power#: 14
Jackpot:22 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 09/18
26 29 41 52 64
Mega#: 11
Jackpot: 22 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 09/19
4 5 13 22 23
Mega#: 24
Jackpot:11 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 09/21
3 21 31 32 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 09/21
Evening: 9 6 5
Draw Date: 09/21
Midday: 1 8 1

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 09/21
1st: 04 - BIG BEN
2nd: 06 - WHIRL WIN
3rd: 11 - MONEY BAGS
RACE TIME: 1:47.69

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 (SEPTEMBER 23)

First comes the overwhelming sense that you were meant for something, and then the discovery of just what. Your ancestors planted the tree. This solar journey, you sit beneath it having vivid dreams that weave their wishes and intentions into your own. You'll shine in a way they couldn't, fulfilling a destiny. Cancer and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 9, 31, 5 and 16.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Hands off! You've done all you can and brilliantly so. Everyone will take away something different from today's scene, and there's nothing you need to do to improve the experience.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The stars indicate a weak force becoming powerful or a meek person coming into a position of authority. There will be a reckoning. Those who would take advantage of the small will now have something big to deal with.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Expressing emotions changes them. Many feelings cannot live the same way out in the open. They only had power when they were contained. Free reign dissipates them.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). To stick to what's right while encountering difficulty takes a strong character. To stick to what's right while tempted with ease takes an even mightier character.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Take an idea, mix in some emotion, and, suddenly, it all feels very alive, special and real. But that doesn't make it so. Stay aware that sometimes our egos trick us into thinking things are more important than they really are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Novelty and discovery are the orders of the day, especially in regard to people you've known a while now. You'll be amazed at how new situations and relationships bring out different sides of people.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You may not realize it, but you're starting to pay attention to different things than before. This is the beginning of a new interest, a fresh tangent, and one that will wind and curl around many opportunities.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You need a system for going back through your work. You've missed a few gems. Maybe the timing wasn't right back then, but now you could mine these with great success.

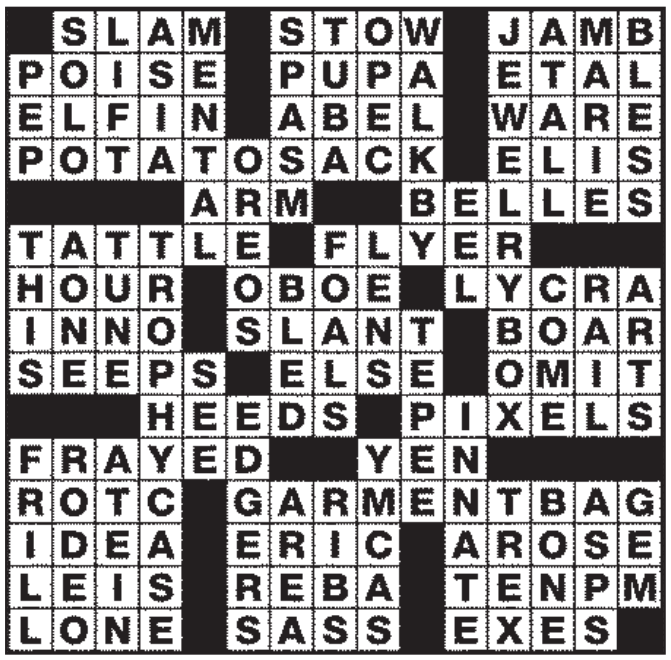
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The idea that life should be, at least some of the time, amusing is a relatively modern one. With so much available to amuse you today, the best things around are still two eyeballs looking back into yours.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). This long wait will get tedious. When you're not feeling patient, it's hard to force yourself into the virtue. Perhaps, it will help you to reframe this period as one of "anticipation" instead. There really is something to savor here.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You have plenty of initiative, and yet it is still possible to become bored, especially when you're a bit trapped. A secret part of you longs for escape — that's the part that can block imagination.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Create your own reality. You don't need any special license to do this, and yet you forget to exercise the right. Inspiring people in your environment will help you remember.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD



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

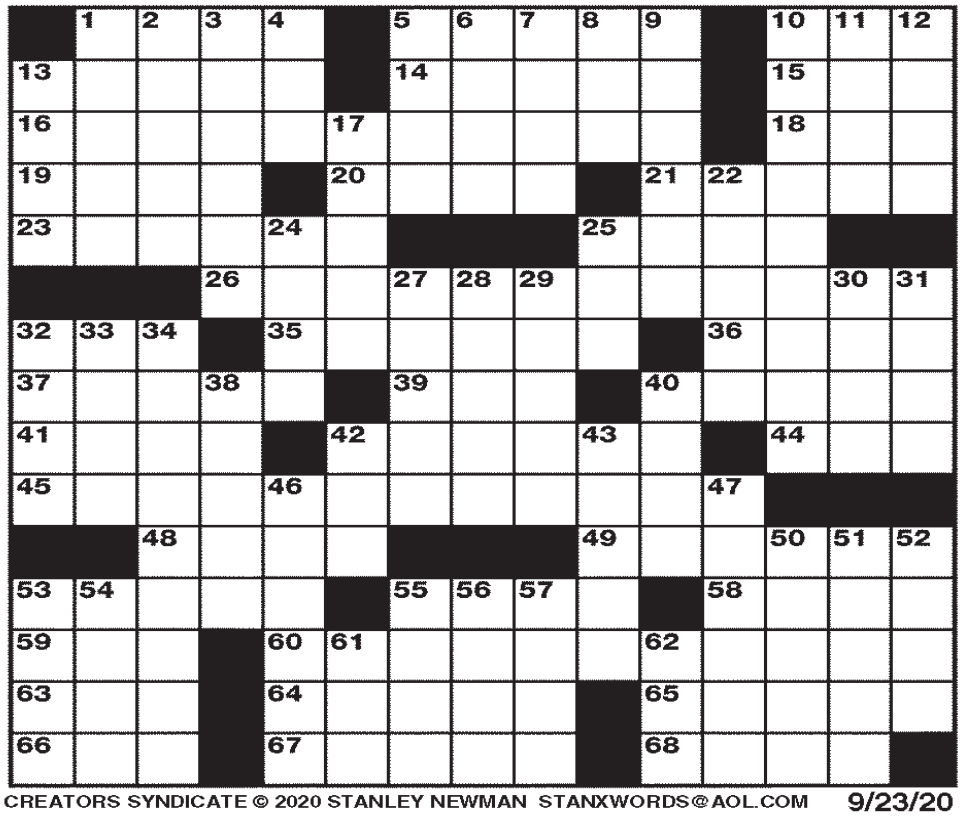
2			1				5	
	9			2		4	8	
6					9		7	
	7	5				1		
3								5
		6				2	3	
	6		5					4
	5	3		4			6	
	1				6			3

Newsday Crossword

LET'S PLAY POKER by Adrian Kabigting
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Nervously walk back and forth
5 Made upset
10 Dance club VIPs
13 Ram of the zodiac
14 Egypt's capital
15 Written promise to pay
16 Wrap Old Glory into a triangle
18 Sixth sense, for short
19 Strongly assert
20 Regarding, in a memo
21 Cuts, as a TV's sound
23 "Call again" phone feature
25 Free ticket
26 Exercise one's authority
32 Cul-de-___ (dead end)
35 Stand on two legs, as a horse
36 Revise for publication
37 Flower associated with the Netherlands
39 Scottish hat
40 Very upset
41 Barbell metal
42 Harmonious agreement
44 Absorb, with "up"
45 Protest loudly
48 Religious offshoot
49 Comrades
53 "Same here!"
55 Users of scratching posts
58 Actress Watson or Thompson
59 Imitate
60 Do a car maintenance task
63 Driveway material
64 Sound out of a speaker
65 Sharp, as eyesight
66 YouTube video interruptions
67 Clarinets and oboes
68 Big Apple sluggers

DOWN
1 Show to be true
2 Wasn't feeling well
3 Comedian called "The Entertainer"
4 DC winter hrs.
5 Tops with frosting
6 Inflatable boat
7 Measure of 2+ pounds
8 Chapter of history
9 Religious doctrines
10 Low-cal beverages
11 San ___ (Silicon Valley city)
12 Has an evening meal
13 At a great distance
17 Oscar actress Berry
22 Theater aisle worker
24 Interest group for seniors
25 ___ talk (coach's encouragement)
27 Gate-closing device
28 Slight remnant
29 Bookstore section with joke books
30 Puente of Latin jazz
31 Short walking distance
32 Mix with a straw
33 Subtle glow
34 Keeps secluded
38 Hawaii map, in a US map
40 Singing competition series, for short
42 Bar assoc. member
43 Beef cooked in an oven
46 "Green" vehicle
47 Sheep's coat
50 *Shark Tank* turndown
51 Casts forth
52 Big word in a store window
53 Facts and figures
54 Brand of tablet computers
55 Formally relinquish
56 Corrosive chemical
57 Stopped fights, in brief
61 Palette selection
62 Omelet tidbit



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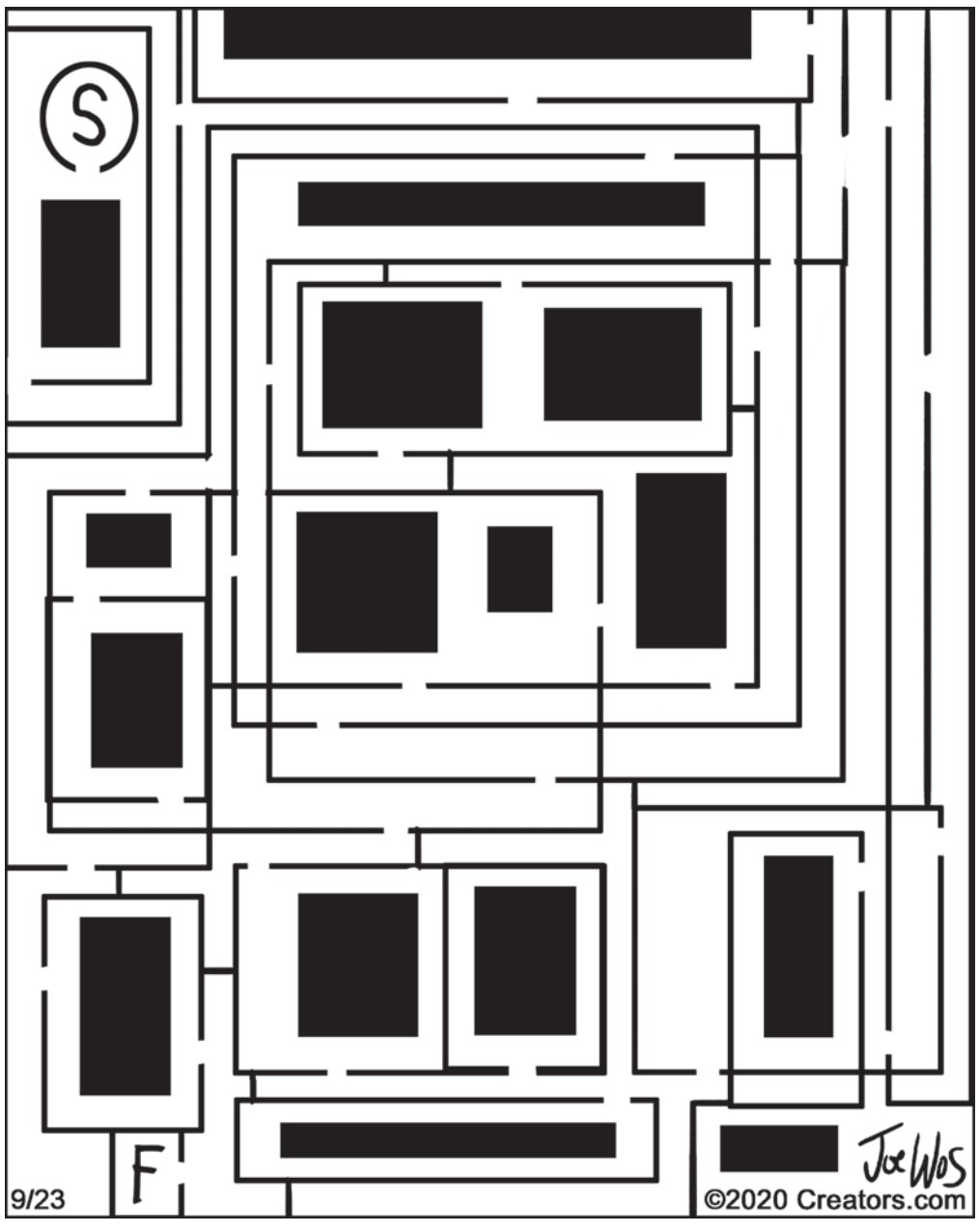
Binary Puzzle

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

O											
								I			
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	O		O	O		O	O			I	
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I	O		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

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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 17 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 4880

Medicine chest

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

Access	Chest	Fluids	Mend	Spasm
Arms	Colic	Gauze	Nerve	Spleen
Baby	Coma	Hand	Nurse	Surgeon
Beds	Cost	Heart attack	Pelvis	Tissue
Benign	Cure	Insulin	Radio	Tube
Bones	Cuts	Intern	Ribs	Ulcer
Break	Desert	Iron	Save	Vein
Bruise	Doses	Knee	Scar	Ward
Burns	Drip	Legs	Sense	X-ray
Buzzer	Ease	Lift	Skill	
Campus	Eyes	Medical	Skull	
Cast	Fever		Smash	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
You may now kiss the bride

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UNAGI

FROM PAGE 1

market for us. I think it's ground zero epicenter for electric scooter culture and Abbot Kinney is my favorite street in the United States of America," said David Hyman, the CEO of Unagi.

The Bird Air retails at $599 while Unagi's scooters sell for $840 for the single-engine model and $990 for the two-engine model. Unagi scooters are also available for a $34 a month yearly subscription or a $39 a month monthly subscription. The Unagi store is located a mere ten minute drive from Bird's headquarters in Santa Monica and from the Santa Monica storefront that Lime, another e-scooter competitor, opened and subsequently closed in 2018.

"Unagi is built to another standard. We charge a lot more for them but you get what you pay for. Our scooters are made out of carbon fiber and magnesium. It's incredibly lightweight for the power and the power that we have is double that of a Bird Air. If you want torque to go up any hill or real acceleration we are the best game in town," said Hyman.

The brick and mortar store will give customers the opportunity to try out the scooters before purchasing a device or a subscription. If subscribers encounter any mechanical issues Unagi will provide a replacement scooter within 24 hours. The subscription service also includes insurance against theft.

The pandemic has provided a big boom to the e-scooter market and many new personal scooter models are popping up in addition to Unagi and the Bird Air.

"Bird Air was born out of the groundswell of support we've seen this year for modeshift and micromobility as individuals increasingly demand sustainable, socially-distant transportation alternatives for their active lifestyles," said Scott Rushforth, Chief Vehicle Officer at Bird, in a Sept. 20 press release.

Unagi scooters have been on the market since 2018, but sales have skyrocketed in recent months. U.S. sales tripled between the first and second quarter of 2020 and international sales increased by 590% between Q2 in 2019 and 2020.

"We think that the global scooter market will be about a $35 billion dollar market by 2025," said Hyman. "We believe that one-third of that market will be from scooters that are purchased and owned, one-third of the market will be subscription, and one-third of the market will be ride sharing rentals on the street."

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ONLINE CLASSES

FROM PAGE 1

prepare for the upcoming semesters. Students will begin registration in October for the Winter Intersession and Spring terms that will offer over 700 and 2,800 online courses respectively.

"So far the student response has been generally positive. While most students share the same sentiment of disappointment of being 'bummed', they also recognize the diligence that went into making this decision and appreciate the care the college is showing for its students," said student Board of Trustees member, Joshua Elizondo. "As a community, we are in this together; and as a student population, whether in-person or remote, we are always #proudtobeSMC."

SMC's enrollment is down by 5 percent compared to last fall, which indicates it is faring better than many of its sister colleges that have experienced double-digit declines in enrollment. Residential enrollment has increased slightly, suggesting that some students are selecting to enroll in online classes at SMC over online classes at a more expensive four-year university.

"I think different students and different faculty have different responses to being online. For some students, it is a huge advantage and they are taking classes remotely and asynchronously that they would have been unable to take on the ground at a given time. Other students are really missing the human interaction and the beautiful environment. The same is true for our faculty," said Louise Jaffe, a Board of Trustees member.

During these challenging times, SMC has doubled down on the support and services it provides to the community. SMC's Airport Arts Campus has been transformed into a COVID-19 testing center that has completed over 10,000 tests since opening in late March. The College has also loaned free Chromebooks to its students and launched a robust food security program including a weekly drive-thru pantry and a free home food delivery service.

"We have increased access to online and virtual counseling services and made sure the campus life such as clubs, workshops and events can all be accessed in a virtual space," said Elizondo. "As a student, while nothing can take the place of the in-person experience, the virtual isn't as bad as I thought it was going to be and I appreciate the efforts the college is making to create a holistic experience."

The online format this fall has made SMC's fall offerings even more accessible and flexible than in the past. SMC offers 75 degree and certificate options, including 40 noncredit career development and college prep classes. It has been the top transfer college to the University of California system for 29 years.

"Our faculty have done an extraordinary job of making all coursework available remotely, turning on a dime, and the college has made and is making huge efforts to provide appropriate professional development and tech tools to all faculty and counselors," said Jaffe. "These herculean efforts are very successful and commendable."

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California reopens more widely as infections hit lowest rate

BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press

More of California was cleared to reopen additional businesses Tuesday, including most of the San Francisco Bay Area and one of Southern California's largest counties, as coronavirus infection rates have fallen to their lowest level of the pandemic.

Dr. Mark Ghaly, the state health secretary, also said nail salons could resume operations with restrictions statewide, though he cautioned that California's reopening must remain "slow and stringent" and residents cannot let their guard down as flu season arrives and cases rise in Europe and other parts of the U.S.

The lifting of some restrictions in counties that have shown improvement comes as California tries for a second time to recover from the devastating impact COVID-19 has had on business. An earlier effort to reopen more quickly backfired with a surge in cases and hospitalizations in late spring and early summer.

That forced a second shutdown that was punishing for business owners, but helped bring the infection rate to 2.8% for the last week. Hospitalizations dropped to a level not seen since the first week of April. The state has had more than 790,000 confirmed cases, the most in the country. It's more than 15,000 deaths ranks fourth nationwide, according to a tally by Johns Hopkins University.

The state's more conservative approach to reopening is based on the percentage of positive tests and per capita new cases in each of the 58 counties. Each of the four tiers for reopening include ranges for those categories and a county must meet both for two consecutive weeks before advancing to a higher tier.

If they fail on one or both counts for two weeks, they are bumped to a more restrictive tier that could force closures or restrict indoor operations.

That majority of counties are now out of the most restrictive tier, meaning that places of worship, restaurants, gyms and movie theaters can resume limited indoor operations.

No county has a double-digit infection rate and even the state's largest — Los Angeles, which has had a disproportionately large number of cases and deaths — is now poised to move out of the most restrictive tier next week.

While about two dozen counties remained in that category, no county was forced to revert to stricter rules. San Diego, which had a spike in cases tied to an outbreak at San Diego State University that has affected about 850 students, narrowly avoided new restrictions on businesses.

San Diego County Supervisor Jim Desmond said that staying in the same tier was no cause for celebration.

"There is no business plan for a gym to operate at 10% capacity or a restaurant to operate at 25% capacity," Desmond tweeted. "It's ridiculous that churches continue to be limited to a 100 person capacity while marijuana shops remain open."

Under the changes announced Tuesday, the Bay Area counties of Alameda, San Mateo and Solano, and San Luis Obispo and Riverside counties in Southern California moved from the most restrictive tier.

El Dorado, Lassen and Nevada counties improved from substantial to moderate. Mariposa County improved to the minimal category.

If improvement trends continue, Ghaly said he anticipates restrictions will be eased for more counties next week.

Business owners, however, remain frustrated that their efforts to get back on their feet are being throttled by the state.

Hundreds of people protested Monday outside Fresno City Hall vowing to reopen Oct. 1 regardless of whether the county has curbed its infection rate.

About 20 people rallied at the Draft Republic restaurant in Carlsbad, north of San Diego, to promote a petition titled "Open California Now," urging Gov. Gavin Newsom to allow a quick return to normal operations.

Cohn Restaurant Group, which owns Draft Republic and 23 other restaurants in Southern California and Hawaii, said it laid off 1,800 of its 2,000 employees in the San Diego area after the pandemic hit. The 200 who stayed made meals for families of the workers who lost their jobs.

Josh D'Amaro, chair of Disney parks, experiences and products, urged California officials to provide guidelines for theme parks to reopen.

"I encourage you to treat theme parks like you would other sectors," he said in a video presentation on Tuesday, adding that tens of thousands of jobs are tied to Disneyland's operations in California. "The longer we wait, the more devastating the impact will be."

CURIOUS CITY

FROM PAGE 6

with a council that favors social services at the expense of public safety and other basic services. [My emphasis.]

Given the SMRR dominance of the council, the unions are taking a risk in facing the rent control issue head on, and Wirtz said it will be interesting to see if voters respond. "If the voters are happy with the way the community is, the incumbents will be reelected, won't they?"

Some things never change. But — sometimes they do. When people get up off their couches, get informed, organize, and vote. Blue. No GOP, no incumbents. In overwhelming numbers. It's all we've got, folks, but there is nothing in a democracy stronger than the vote, and so far, last I checked, we do still have a democracy.

FINAL WORD: today, 200,000. Deaths, of Americans, from coronavirus. Never forget: according to almost all medical experts, at least 180,000 of them could have been prevented by a quick, national response, as in most other countries. Those deaths are at Trump's feet. The horror.

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



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