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Santa Monica Daily Press
WEEKEND EDITION
09.19.20 - 09.20.20
Volume 19 Issue 165

Crime Watch
In a knot over a pretzel.
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Plaza lawsuit
A lawsuit has been filed to prevent the project from proceeding.
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State expands financial protections

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

California on Friday created what supporters call its own nation-leading, state-level version of the federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau after critics said the Trump administration significantly weakened national protections.

The legislation that Gov. Gavin Newsom signed into law changes the existing Department of Business Oversight into the Department of Financial Protection and Innovation in what proponents said is the first such move by any state.

The current department regulates a significant part of the financial services industry, including banks and credit unions. But the expanded version will add oversight authority over debt collectors, debt settlement, credit repair and check cashing services, consumer credit reporting, retail sales financing and rent-to-own contracts.

"We need the state to lead as the federal government is pulling away from financial protection," Newsom said.

Proponents said the change will boost consumer protections by expanding the department's ability to require accountability and transparency in the state's financial system while increasing equal access to affordable credit.

Richard Cordray, who was the federal bureau's first director under former President Barack Obama from 2012 to 2017, said he and other consumer advocates began

SEE **AGENCY** PAGE 11

Tenants face mold, flooding, broken locks, and break-ins in rent-controlled unit







Clara Harter

DILAPIDATED: The building, located just blocks from the beach, is in disrepair according to tenants.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Laurie Searle loves Santa Monica, so much so that she has the City's logo tattooed on her wrist.

What she doesn't love is dealing with a broken front door lock, collapsed lobby ceiling, defective plumbing, flooding, breakins, and squatters in her rent-controlled building, which is under the management of Miller & Desatnik.

When Searle moved into 927 2nd St in 2008 she was thrilled to acquire a rent-controlled unit just one block from the beach, but that joy faded over the years as the building fell into disrepair, management became less responsive, and tenants started moving out. Today only six of fifteen units remain occupied as the security and hygiene issues grow more dire.

"Every tenant has been in the building for over a decade but the collapse of responsibility, especially during COVID, with such extreme emergencies like

SEE **TENANTS** PAGE 11

Santa Monica based healthcare company GoodRx goes public

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

Shares of Santa Monica-based healthcare company GoodRx soared 53% on the stock's first day of trading Wednesday and by week's end had a market capitalization of nearly $20 billion.

The company, whose app helps consumers save money on prescriptions and other healthcare services, raised a total of $1.3 billion in its initial public offering—$944 million from shares sold by the company and the remainder in shares held by pre-IPO investors.

GoodRx is an online platform that catalogs coupons, which consumers can use at pharmacies to lower the price of their prescriptions. GoodRx generates the vast majority of its revenue from the prescription coupons, which are available to use at more than 70,000 pharmacies across the country.

The company estimates that 18 million consumers could not have afforded to fill their prescriptions without the savings provided by GoodRx, according to its prospectus, which details the company's plan to use the lion's share of this week's IPO proceeds to support the growth of the business.

GoodRx was founded in 2011,

SEE **GOODRX** PAGE 11

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Largest California wildfire threatens marijuana growing area

Associated Press

California's largest wildfire is threatening a marijuana growing enclave, and authorities said many of the locals have refused to evacuate and abandon their maturing crops even as weather forecasters predict more hot, dry and windy conditions that could fan flames.

The wildfire called the August Complex is nearing the small communities of Post Mountain and Trinity Pines, about 200 miles (322 kilometers) northwest of Sacramento, the Los Angeles Times reported.

Law enforcement officers went door to door warning of the encroaching fire danger but could not force residents to evacuate, Trinity County Sheriff's Department Deputy Nate Trujillo said.

"It's mainly growers," Trujillo said. "And a lot of them, they don't want to leave because that is their livelihood."

As many as 1,000 people remained in Post Mountain and Trinity Pines, authorities and local residents estimated Thursday.

Numerous studies in recent years have linked bigger U.S. wildfires to global warming from the burning of coal, oil and gas, especially because climate change has made California much drier. A drier California means plants are more flammable.

The threatened marijuana growing area is in the Emerald Triangle, a three-county corner of Northern California that by some estimates is the nation's largest cannabis-producing region.

People familiar with Trinity Pines said the community has up to 40 legal farms, with more than 10 times that number in hidden, illegal growing areas.

Growers are wary of leaving the plants vulnerable to flames or thieves. Each farm has crops worth half a million dollars or more and many are within days or weeks of harvest.

One estimate put the value of the area's legal marijuana crop at about $20 million.

"There (are) millions of dollars, millions and millions of dollars of marijuana out there," Trujillo said. "Some of those plants are 16 feet (5 meters) tall, and they are all in the budding stages of growth right now."

Gunfire in the region is common. A recent night brought what locals dubbed the "roll call" of cannabis cultivators shooting rounds from pistols and automatic weapons as warnings to outsiders, said Post Mountain volunteer Fire Chief Astrid Dobo, who also manages legal cannabis farms.

Mike McMillan, spokesman for the federal incident command team managing the northern section of the August Complex, said fire officials plan to deliver a clear message that "we are not going to die to save people. That is not our job."

"We are going to knock door to door and tell them once again," McMillan said. "However, if they choose to stay and if the fire situation becomes, as we say, very dynamic and very dangerous … we are not going to risk our lives."

A firefighter was killed and another was injured on Aug. 31 while working on the fire. Diana Jones, a volunteer firefighter from Texas, was among 26 people who have died since more than two dozen major wildfires broke out across the state last month.

A memorial service was held Friday for a veteran firefighter, Charles Morton, 39, a squad boss with the Big Bear Interagency Hotshot Crew who died Sept. 17 while battling the El Dorado Fire in the San Bernardino National Forest east of Los Angeles.

"I know that Charlie was a very skilled, in fact extraordinary, firefighter and a fire leader," U.S. Forest Service Chief Vicki Christiansen told the gathering at The Rock Church in San Bernardino.

"He committed himself, often for weeks and months on end, to protecting lives, communities and natural resources all around this country in service to fellow Americans."

The Butte County Sheriff's Office on Friday released the identity of another of the 15 people killed in a rampaging forest fire earlier this month. The remains of Linda Longenbach, 71, of Berry Creek, were found on Sept. 10 in a roadway about 10 feet from an ATV, close to the body of a man previously identified as Paul Winer, 68.

A relative told investigators the victims were aware of the fire and chose not to evacuate.

Efforts to extinguish the wildfires have benefited recently from low winds and normal temperatures along with and moist air flowing inland from the Pacific. But forecasters said that weather pattern will reverse during the weekend as a ridge of high pressure boosts temperatures and generates gusty winds flowing from the interior to the coast.

In northern and central areas of the state the strongest winds were forecast to occur from Saturday night into Sunday morning, followed by another burst Sunday night into Monday.

The Pacific Gas & Electric utility was tracking the forecasts to determine if it would be necessary to shut off power to areas where gusts could damage the company's equipment or hurl debris into lines that can ignite flammable vegetation.

The utility posted a power cut "watch alert" for Saturday evening through Monday morning. If the shutoff happens, about 21,000 customers in portions of northern Butte, Plumas and Yuba counties would lose power, PG&E said.

When heavy winds were predicted earlier this month, PG&E cut power to about 167,000 homes and businesses in central and northern California in a more targeted approach after being criticized last year for acting too broadly when it blacked out 2 million customers to prevent fires.

PG&E equipment has sparked past large wildfires, including the 2018 fire that destroyed much of the Sierra foothills town of Paradise and killed 85 people.

In Southern California, meteorologists anticipate very hot and dry weather conditions with weak to locally moderate Santa Ana winds on Monday.

The U.S. Forest Service's Pacific Southwest Region announced Friday that it is extending the closure of all nine national forests in California due to concerns including fire conditions and critical limitations on firefighting resources. The closure orders are being re-evaluated daily, the service said.

Associated Press writer John Antczak in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

California governor signs law to grow mental health coverage

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a law on Friday that for the first time in California defines "medical necessity," a move aimed at requiring private health insurance plans to pay for more mental health and drug addiction treatments.

State and federal laws already require health insurance companies to handle mental health treatments the same as physical health treatments. The California Health Benefits Review Program says 99.8% of people enrolled in private health insurance plans have coverage for mental health and substance abuse disorders on par with other medical conditions.

But those laws don't define what is "medically necessary" to determine which treatments get covered. Because of that, advocates say private insurers often deny coverage for some mental health and drug abuse treatments based on their own restrictive definitions.

The law requires all private insurers to cover medically necessary mental health and drug addiction treatments. The law says when insurance companies decide whether a treatment is medically necessary, they must follow the most recent criteria and guidelines developed by nonprofit professional associations, like the American Society of Addiction Medicine.

State Sen. Scott Wiener, a Democrat from San Francisco and the author of the bill, said many insurance companies refuse mental health or drug addiction treatment for people "by saying it's not serious enough." He said that's like telling a stage one cancer patient they can't get treated until they are at stage four.

"We would never tolerate that with physical health. Yet we tolerate it with addiction," he said.

The California Association of Health Plans called it a "misconception" that private insurers wait until people are in crisis before they cover their treatment for mental health or drug addiction. They had asked Newsom to veto the bill, arguing it "recklessly defines medical necessity in a way that will undermine the ability of providers to determine what is clinically appropriate for their patients."

Newsom acknowledged that pressure during a virtual bill signing ceremony on Friday, saying "not everybody is happy with us."

"I got a lot of folks that wanted to pull the plug on this Zoom call today, but we're doing it because we're zooming into the future," Newsom said.

The new law takes effect Jan. 1, and it comes as Californians are dealing with a coronavirus pandemic, a reckoning over racial injustice and massive wildfires that have destroyed homes and businesses while turning the air toxic.

Arthur Evans, CEO of the American Psychological Association, says the group's annual "Stress in America" survey has shown the highest stress levels since the survey began in 2007.

"All of that really emphasizes the need to have access to not only adequate care but to really have access to excellent care just because we know the need is significant right now," he said.

Joe Parks, medical director for the National Council on Behavioral Health, called the law the first comprehensive reform in the country. He said he hoped it would "encourage other states to fill the gaps that they have with this legislation."

The bill was one of more than a dozen health-related measures Newsom signed on Friday. The bills included one authored by Sen. Jim Beall, a Democrat from San Jose, that sets standards for peer support specialists — people who have suffered from mental health or drug addiction and want to counsel others experiencing the same problems. The bill also authorizes the state's Medicaid program to seek permission from the federal government to cover peer support specialists.

Similar bills have been vetoed twice before by previous governors. It's one of the final bills authored by Beall to become law as the senator is leaving office this year because of term limits.

"The pandemic has really changed the public's view on this. We now have a pandemic of despair going on," Beall said, adding that the bill "adds proven mental health resources when we need it most."



DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 304 CALLS ON SEPTEMBER 24

Petty Theft 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:15 a.m.
Death Investigation 2000blk Ocean Ave 12:18 a.m.
Construction Noise 1700blk Pier Ave 1:07 a.m.
Living In A Vehicle 300blk 22nd St 1:59 a.m.
Auto Burglary 800blk Ashland Ave 5:00 a.m.
Petty Theft 2200blk Virginia Ave 5:33 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 700blk Pier Ave 5:37 a.m.
Burglary 1200blk 11th St 6:45 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 2100blk Idaho Ave 7:40 a.m.
Burglary 1200blk 4th St 7:45 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 600blk Wilshire Blvd 7:55 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1400blk 14th St 7:55 a.m.
Loud Music 1500blk 11th St 7:59 a.m.
Bike Theft 2500blk Lincoln Blvd 8:06 a.m.
Person Down 1000blk The Beach 8:09 a.m.
Burglary 800blk 4th St 8:25 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Lincoln Blvd / Olympic Blvd W 8:48 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 1900blk Euclid St 8:50 a.m.
Petty Theft 2nd St / Colorado Ave 8:52 a.m.
Battery 800blk Palisades Beach Rd 8:53 a.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 9:13 a.m.
Encampment 1000blk Palisades Park 9:26 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1000blk Maple St 9:31 a.m.
Missing Person 700blk 22nd St 9:45 a.m.
Fight Main St / Bay St 9:51 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 800blk 4th St 9:54 a.m.
Burglary 3000blk Wilshire Blvd 10:21 a.m.
Grand Theft 3200blk Nebraska Ave 10:21 a.m.
Identity Theft 800blk Pine St 10:33 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 300blk Montana Ave 10:50 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1800blk Wilshire Blvd 11:03 a.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 12th St / Santa Monica Blvd 11:09 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1300blk Pacific St 11:14 a.m.
Fraud 200blk 26th St 11:23 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1600blk Euclid St 12:13 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 600blk San Vicente Blvd 12:26 p.m.
Assault 1900blk Ocean Ave 12:28 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1600blk Euclid St 12:29 p.m.
Loud Music 2300blk 33rd St 12:42 p.m.
Petty Theft 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 1:07 p.m.
Petty Theft Lincoln Blvd / Pacific St 1:12 p.m.
Lewd Activity 600blk San Vicente Blvd 1:19 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 20th St / Olympic Blvd 1:39 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 17th St / Pico Blvd 1:40 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1000blk 10th St 1:50 p.m.
Drinking In Public 1200blk 7th St 1:50 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1000blk Grant St 1:52 p.m.
Public Intoxication 1200blk 7th St 2:00 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 2000blk 14th St 2:27 p.m.
Loud Music 800blk San Vicente Blvd 2:33 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1400blk 14th St 2:39 p.m.
Found Property Yale St / Arizona Ave 2:51 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries City Prop Involved Ocean Ave / Olympic Dr 3:02 p.m.
Burglary 2500blk Main St 3:16 p.m.
Prowler 1500blk Princeton St 4:00 p.m.
Burglary 800blk 4th St 4:20 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Neilson Way / Ocean Park Blvd 4:25 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation Ocean Ave / Pico Blvd 4:26 p.m.
Found Property 1400blk 4th St 4:27 p.m.
Fight 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 4:29 p.m.
Harassing Phone Calls 3100blk Highland Ave 4:33 p.m.
Battery 1900blk Cloverfield Blvd 4:39 p.m.
Indecent Exposure 3rd Street Prom / Santa Monica Blvd 5:19 p.m.
Fight Main St / Olympic Dr 5:19 p.m.
Rape 1200blk 16th St 5:32 p.m.
Encampment 2600blk Virginia Ave 6:09 p.m.
Rape 2200blk The Beach 6:12 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1000blk Maple St 6:14 p.m.
Battery 1400blk Ocean Ave 6:18 p.m.
Encampment 1100blk The Beach 6:22 p.m.
Missing Person 1800blk 16th St 6:28 p.m.
Smoking Violation 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 6:45 p.m.
Vehicle Cite & Tow (Parking Problem) 1900blk 18th St 6:57 p.m.
Battery 2400blk Virginia Ave 7:10 p.m.
Encampment 2000blk The Beach 7:18 p.m.
Petty Theft 2800blk Pico Blvd 7:20 p.m.
Petty Theft 2400blk Broadway 7:42 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:31 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 2300blk Virginia Ave 8:33 p.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 8:36 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 8:45 p.m.
Fight 2000blk Ocean Ave 9:02 p.m.
Loud Music 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 9:41 p.m.
Petty Theft 700blk Broadway 9:48 p.m.
Battery Main St / Ocean Park Blvd 10:11 p.m.
Construction Noise 800blk Montana Ave 10:27 p.m.
Grand Theft 17th St / Wilshire Blvd 11:45 p.m.

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DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 24 CALLS ON SEPTEMBER 24

Trash/Dumpster Fire Lincoln Blvd / Olympic Blvd E 2:04 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 7th St 2:59 a.m.
EMS 300blk Olympic Dr 3:04 a.m.
EMS 700blk Raymond Ave 5:13 a.m.
EMS 1600blk Arizona Ave 5:48 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 6:26 a.m.
EMS 1600blk Arizona Ave 7:49 a.m.
EMS 1300blk Pico Blvd 8:27 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 9:40 a.m.
EMS 800blk Franklin St 10:37 a.m.
EMS 300blk Santa Monica Pl 11:34 a.m.
EMS 1200blk Ocean Ave 11:43 a.m.
EMS 200blk San Vicente Blvd 12:37 p.m.
EMS 2200blk Wilshire Blvd 12:44 p.m.
EMS 4th St / Colorado Ave 1:13 p.m.
EMS 6th St / Arizona Ave 2:14 p.m.
EMS 1800blk Ashland Ave 2:53 p.m.
EMS 1000blk 3rd St 3:07 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 16th St 3:34 p.m.
EMS 3200blk Pico Blvd 4:25 p.m.
EMS 3rd Street Prom / Santa Monica Blvd 5:23 p.m.
EMS Barnard Way / Fraser Ave 6:37 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 300blk 25th St 8:39 p.m.
EMS 2200blk Colorado Ave 11:50 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 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, AT APPROXIMATELY 3:30 A.M.

SMPD officers responded to the Santa Monica Pier regarding a disturbance at a business. Upon arrival, officers located a visibly upset male subject matching the description provided by the reporting party. After a brief discussion, the suspect, later identified as Michael Lopes admitted to tipping over a pretzel cart out of anger. Damage to the cart was estimated at over $1,500 resulting in an arrest for violation of P.C. 594 (B)(1) - Felony Vandalism. Michael Lopes was booked at the Santa Monica Jail.

ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 AT APPROXIMATELY 1:48 P.M.

SMPD officers were dispatched to a person with a weapon call. Upon arrival, officers located Suspect Adrian Santiago near Ocean Ave and Broadway holding a metal stick. The reporting party indicated the suspect had been waiving the pole at him in a threatening matter resulting in fear that he would be attacked. After contacting Mr. Santiago, it was discovered he had a "no bail" warrant and was placed under arrest for 3056 PC - Parole Revocation. Mr. Santiago remains in the custody of the California Department of Corrections.



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Letters to the Editor

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Wear a mask

Editor:

I am a longtime Santa Monica resident. Friday evening (September 11, 2020) a neighbor and I were walking on the boardwalk at 5:30 p.m. from Ocean Park (where there is a blinking sign that says you have to wear a mask in Santa Monica or receive a $100 fine). We walked from there to Shutters hotel along the boardwalk and noticed that at least 80% of the people walking and riding bikes and skateboards around us were not wearing masks.

We also noted there were no code enforcement officers issuing tickets to all of these people.

One has to wonder why the city would pass a law that it cannot or is not enforcing. I understand there are budget restraints and there cannot be enforcement officers everywhere, but the beachside boardwalk on a Friday evening would seem like a high priority place to station officers.

The number of tickets that could have been written in the time we were on the boardwalk could easily have paid the salary of additional officers.

Please note I have included the emails of some of my neighbors who are as concerned as I am about the safety of Santa Monica residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important issue. I would appreciate a response that indicates what Council is doing to improve compliance of this important law at this time.

Darlene Haber, Santa Monica

Miramar – Why Condos?

Editor:

One of the things that puzzles me about the proposed Miramar Hotel expansion project is the insistence that they need the condos, which contribute to the height of the enormous 130-foot tall wall along 2nd Street, in order to pay for construction costs.

Paul Silvern from HR&A Advisors told the Planning Commission earlier this month that eliminating even 20% of the condos would make the project not "pencil out."

During the Santa Monica Airport Visioning process a few years ago, Paul Silvern initially reported that Santa Monica Airport generated $275 million in direct and indirect fiscal impact per year, but in that report he didn't seem to separate out aviation activity and non-aviation activity.

The City Manager at the time, Rod Gould, later walked that back and said that aviation activity at the Airport generated about the same amount of fiscal impact as a medium-sized strip mall.

(However, that hasn't stopped pilots from touting the $275 million figure ad nauseam as a reason to keep the Airport open.)

Meanwhile, Loew's Hotel was built without condos.

Le Merigot was built without condos.

Shutters was built without condos.

The Shore Hotel was built without condos.

The huge Proper Hotel at Wilshire and 7th was built without condos.

And the developer of the proposed Gehry-designed hotel at Ocean and Santa Monica has already offered to eliminate the condos from that project and shortened the main building from 22 to 12 stories.

So why is the Miramar different?

Zina Josephs, Santa Monica



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Transparency Project

Mary Marlow Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Miramar lawyers donating to incumbent candidates

The Santa Monica Transparency Project issues this Report today on just disclosed recent donations from the Miramar Hotel's lawyers and related family members to support the reelection of Councilmembers who will vote on the Miramar's proposed massive luxury hotel/retail/condominium project this Tuesday.

After reviewing recently filed Campaign Disclosure statements the Transparency Project has discovered a pattern of the law firm of Harding, Larmore, Kutcher & Kozal, lawyers for the Miramar Hotel in its proposed project, and some family members, making a series of contributions to City Council incumbents' campaigns as well as a PAC supporting them prior to Tuesday's vote.

TO SANTA MONICA FORWARD PAC which supports the reelection of all five incumbents:

The law firm of Harding, Larmore, Kutcher & Kozal (and Chris Harding's wife, Laurie Lieberman) donated $12,500 - 29% of the total received by this pro-developer PAC.

TO RE-ELECT GLEAM DAVIS FOR CITY COUNCIL 202O (who should be recused from the vote on Miramar because of a serious conflict of interest as her husband's boss owns the Miramar):

Six contributions, all for the maximum permitted of $340 each from Chris Harding, his wife Laurie Lieberman, his college attending son Peter, Jenny Harding, Paula Larmore and law partner Ken Kutcher. Total: $2,040.

TO RE-ELECT TERRY O'DAY FOR CITY COUNCIL 2020

Four contributions, all for the maximum permitted of $340 each from Chris Harding, Laurie Lieberman, Paula Larmore and Ken Kutcher. Total: $1,360.

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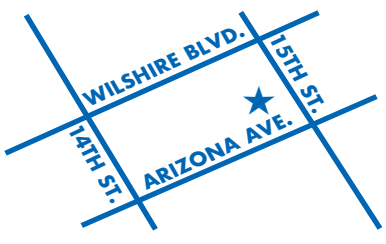
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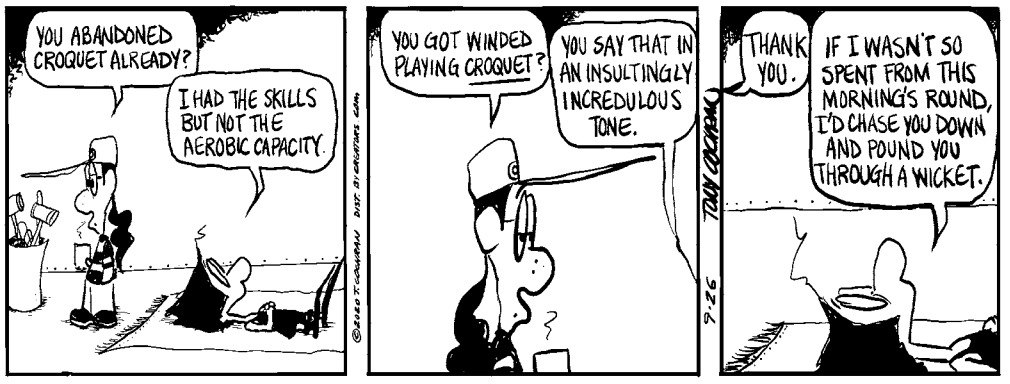
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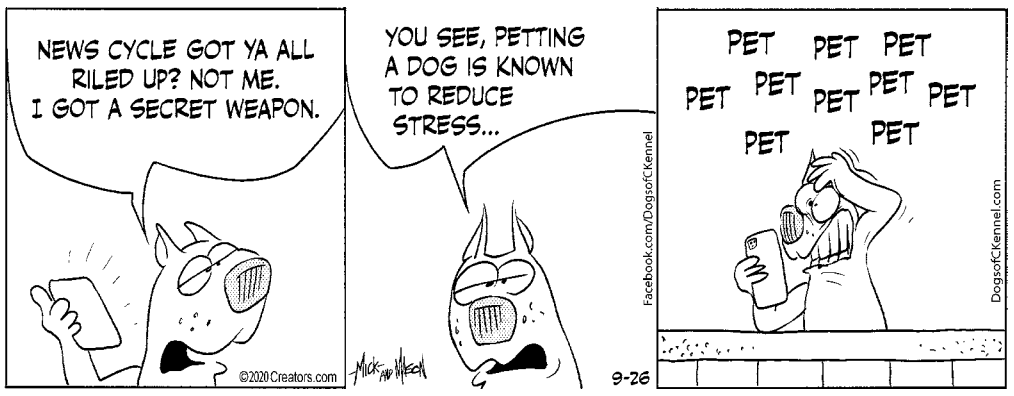
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



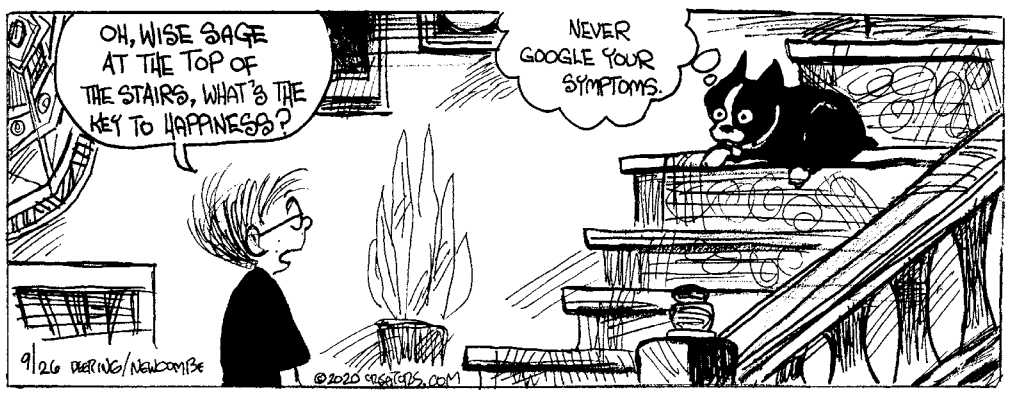
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



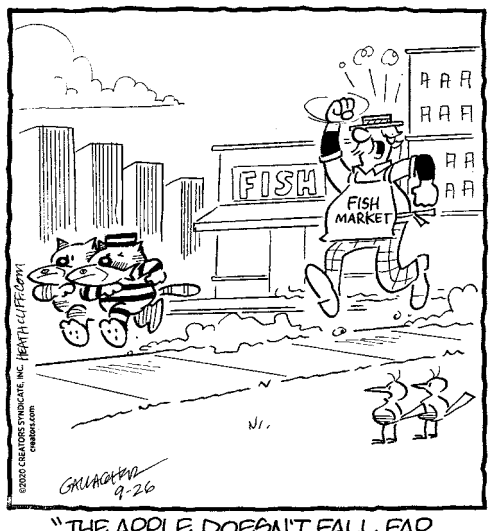
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

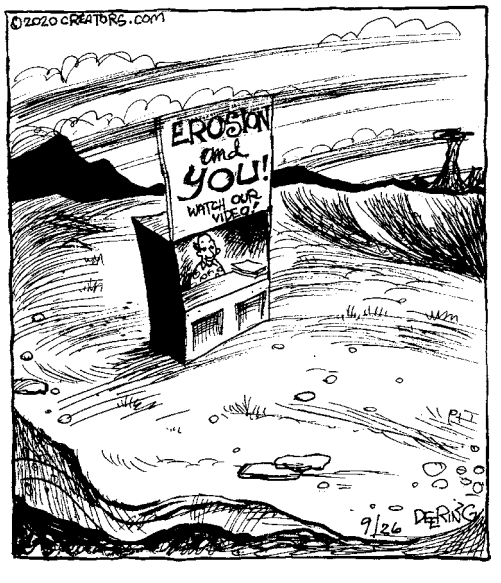
By PETER GALLAGHER



"THE APPLE DOESN'T FALL FAR FROM THE TREE."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 69.3°

SATURDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
Fun mix of swells continues. Holding NW swell. SW/SSW swell gets reinforcement. Tropical swell lingers.

SUNDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high
NW swell lingers. Modest SW swell.

WEATHER

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 73.
Saturday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 61.
Sunday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 76.
Sunday Night: Clear, with a low around 66.
Monday: Sunny, with a high near 79.
Monday Night: Clear, with a low around 65.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2020/09/28	Mon	02:19 AM	-0.07	L
2020/09/28	Mon	08:44 AM	4.78	H
2020/09/28	Mon	2:17 PM	1.79	L
2020/09/28	Mon	8:13 PM	5.57	H
2020/09/29	Tue	02:50 AM	0.06	L
2020/09/29	Tue	09:07 AM	4.94	H
2020/09/29	Tue	2:50 PM	1.47	L
2020/09/29	Tue	8:49 PM	5.51	H
2020/09/30	Wed	03:16 AM	0.27	L
2020/09/30	Wed	09:28 AM	5.07	H
2020/09/30	Wed	3:20 PM	1.20	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date:09/23
8 17 49 52 59
Power#: 1
Jackpot:25 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 09/22
36 43 44 55 68
Mega#: 12
Jackpot: 24 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 09/23
7 12 24 32 34
Mega#: 2
Jackpot:12 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 09/23
1 2 12 36 37

Daily 3
Draw Date: 09/24
Midday: 5 5 7
Draw Date: 09/23
Evening: 1 9 5

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 09/23
1st: 02 - LUCKY STAR
2nd: 12 - LUCKY CHARMS
3rd: 06 - WHIRL WIN
RACE TIME: 1:44.98

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 26)

Even though your dignified approach to most everything will be celebrated and imitated, your glory days are ahead. Your inner circle is tight but someone new will warm their way right into it by melting your heart. The finances get more organized, and you'll have more to put toward the things that matter. Sagittarius and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 12, 28, 40 and 9.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). There will be no shortage of ideas; some you generate, some drop in from the ether, some are presented to you on shiny platters, bite-sized and delicious. Those are the ones to start with.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). As nice as you are, it actually isn't so easy to give a good compliment. One will be required of you though, so start thinking about things to like. Best case scenario, you're genuinely moved, and then it's easy.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). The breezy way is not to dwell on exchanges that already happened or get too heavy into plans for the future. You'll love what unfolds from a playful, lighthearted moment.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). If you feel things are going nowhere, then you'll make a move in any direction because you can't stand the feeling of being trapped, stuck or frozen. Any which way you go will free up the flow.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You don't mind the feeling of want; in fact, it's a comfort when compared with related feelings, for instance the feeling of not knowing what to want or feeling that you should want what you don't.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your cycle of responsiveness will make a difference in how people treat you. If you're always there delivering on needs, you will certainly be taken for granted. Change it up. It's a good day to say "no."

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). It's not the first time you've said what the others are thinking, but you're a little bolder about it today. They'll either laugh — because the truth is hilarious — or they'll silently shuffle you right to their heart.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). When it's your turn to step out in front, just take it and get it over with. You'll feel you have nothing to contribute, but your presence and spirit of willingness are all that's required.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'd rather be a follower than a leader who doesn't know the way. This is why you'll get the map, read the book, talk to the locals and learn all you can about what's ahead.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Everything you're born with is a neutral phenomenon. There's nothing right or wrong about anything that came with the package. Winning belief of the day: All is ripe and ready to be what you make of it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Fear is a lot more useful than most of the other emotions, and yet it goes unappreciated. Fear keeps people safe. Sure, it often works harder than it needs to. It will be lucky to thank it anyway.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Unless you are in the medical field, there will be no need to fix anyone today, including yourself. A "let it be" attitude will carry you gently to the harbor.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

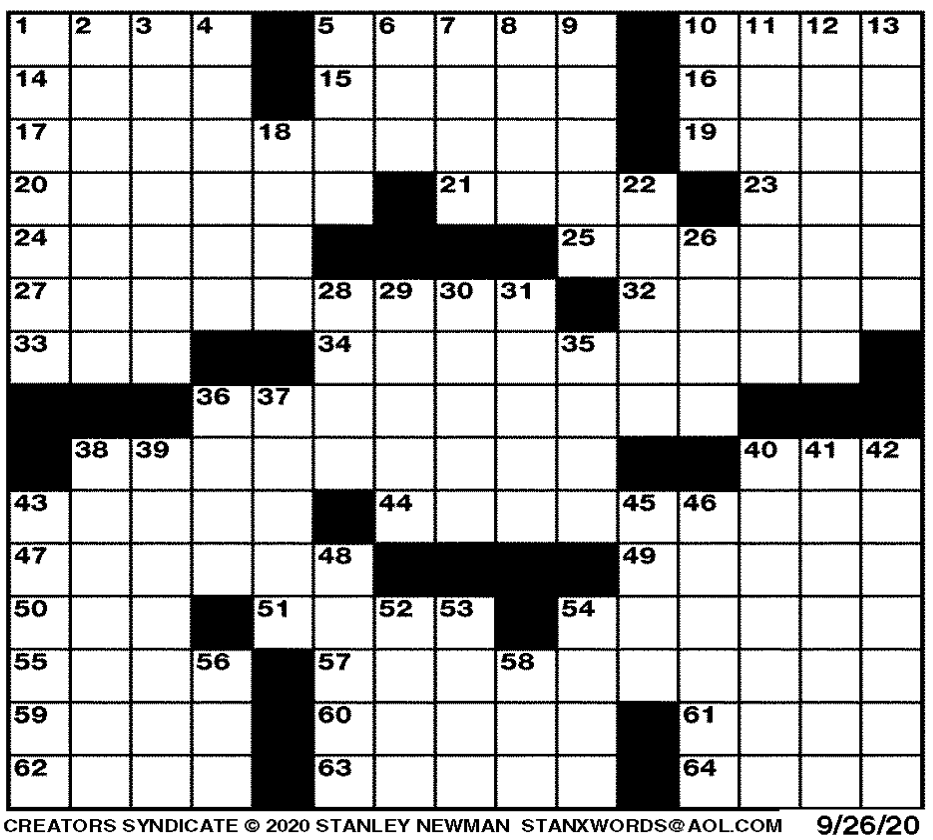
5	9	2	7	4	1	3	8	6
6	3	1	9	5	8	2	7	4
4	7	8	6	3	2	1	9	5
9	1	3	2	7	5	4	6	8
2	8	5	4	6	9	7	1	3
7	6	4	1	8	3	9	5	2
3	2	6	8	9	7	5	4	1
1	4	9	5	2	6	8	3	7
8	5	7	3	1	4	6	2	9

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Brad Wilber
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Banter with
5 Rice cakes, e.g.
10 Humor category
14 Ocular area beneath the white
15 Dash
16 Tradition descriptor
17 Don't move, unfortunately
19 __ Parker House (Boston hotel)
20 Broomlike, as terrain
21 Runners of two-minute miles
23 Numbers essential to Nebraskans
24 City with the John Denver Sanctuary
25 Musical about Charlemagne's son
27 Laser, circa 1960
32 Stupendous
33 Hiding place
34 "Others will back me up"
36 U-bahn users
38 Ovoid collectible knockoff
40 Foreign policy subject
43 Attention-getting consumption
44 Hot wheels
47 Betrayed a slow leak
49 It's not Balboa's name
50 Timely or tailor-made
51 Sea __ (Galway bay)
54 User
55 "America is a __ in our eyes": Emerson
57 Child's blanket
59 Setting for a portrait of Mozart, or Francis, or Felipe, . . .
60 Shout of disapproval
61 __ truck
62 Curtail
63 Shout of approval
64 Dash

DOWN
1 Group with a washboard
2 Quarterback
3 Besiege
4 Opera role for a young mezzo-soprano
5 Wet, in a way
6 Freud's *ego*
7 One drawn to hill country
8 Circumspection
9 Drench
10 #2 at Subaru
11 Your reach
12 All the guys
13 Amenable to bidding
18 Reaction to ruin
22 Highest scientific standards
26 __ XIII (HBO role for Jude Law)
28 What you're into at the moment
29 Topography that might be misty
30 Get around
31 Chili sauce sweetener
35 Turner of old movies
36 Annoying hangers-on on hikes
37 Spew
38 Lose it
39 Far from fancy
40 Cop's vacation time, commonly
41 Chapter 13 of his 1984 memoir is "Courted by Chrysler"
42 Don't know when to shut up
43 *Numbers, Colors,* __ (board book for tots)
45 Presidents define them
46 Marginalize?
48 Quarterback concerns
52 Kind of candy
53 Metaphor for a teeming multitude
54 Forward in phraseology
56 Million __ March
58 Peak of Tibet



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2020 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 9/26/20

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

1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1
1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1
0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0
1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0
1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1
0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1

						0					
				0				1	1		
		0			1						0
		0		0	0						1
									1		1
	1	1			0		1		1		
	1				0						
			1							1	
						1				1	1
0		1		0		1		0			1
		0					0				



"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 24 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 4883

Get your hair cut

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

Afro	Cosmetics	Moustache	Trendy
Aloe	Curls	Parlour	Trim
Apply	Day spa	Perm	Undercut
Barber	Dull	Plait	Vogue
Basin	Dyed	Rinse	Wash
Beard	Elegant	Roots	Waving
Brush	Foil	Shampoo	Wigs
Care	Funny	Short	Youthful
Chat	Hairdresser	Stylist	
Comb	Heat	Tint	
Consultation	Long	Towels	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.

Need to cut back on the sugar

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Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

TENANTS

FROM PAGE 1

being trapped or having to jump over a fence to get to the place they feel safe is neglectful, unlawful, and downright despicable. No one should have to endure that," said Searle.

Within the past two weeks a leak flooded the lobby, caused a portion of the ceiling to collapse, and trapped a disabled tenant in his first-floor unit for three days.

Tenants alerted management about a leak on the 3rd floor in early August and Searle has made four plumbing-related maintenance requests since June. On Saturday Sept. 12, two tenants called the Miller & Desatnik emergency maintenance line and no one came until Wednesday, according to Searle. Water from the ceiling flooded the lobby, temporarily preventing the first floor tenant, who uses a walker and relies on Meals on Wheels deliveries, from leaving his unit.

Miller & Desatnik sent a plumber on Sept. 20, after the Fire Department had responded to a call on the collapsed ceiling earlier that morning. A portion of ceiling was removed to allow the wood beams to dry and on Sept. 22 a representative from Miller & Desatnik told the Daily Press, "We cleaned up everything yesterday, and we are fixing all the issues."

The 3rd floor unit where the lobby leak originated is filled with furniture, grime, food remains, and possessions that have not been cleared since the unit was last occupied over ten years ago.

Another vacant unit has a dripping ceiling, falling paint, and mold growing in the living room, kitchen, and bathroom. According to the CDC, exposure to mold can cause stuffy noses, cough, wheezing, red or itchy eyes or skin.

In addition to plumbing issues, tenants have dealt with a jammed front door lock and faulty callbox for over a year. Searle has submitted eight lock-related maintenance requests since May 15.

Because the front lock frequently jams, tenants often prop open the door so that they can access their home and receive mail. This has led to squatters, unit breakins, and defecation in communal areas. When the door is not propped tenants have had to enter by climbing over a side gate.

A representative at Miller & Desatnik stated, "We've replaced the intercom system 4x, it is again brand new, we fix the gates almost every month. Transients come to the building and break things or prop doors open, break the locks. Transients intermittently break-in, also occupy some vacancies we have to change locks every other month, causing stoppages and drain issues. We attend to all calls immediately. I am sure you are aware that transient/homeless trespassing properties is a prevalent issue throughout Santa Monica."

There is a new callbox but according to Searle it is not connected to the door or lock and therefore remains inoperable. According to Searle, there has never been an issue with the gates, so she is unclear why management would say they have been fixed almost every month. She claims homeless people don't break-in, but walk-in because the door is often propped open and have squatted in the building because many vacant units are unlocked.

"I have spent hours and days making exhausting calls, climbing fences to get into the building, cleaning the lobby floor so that John in unit #1 can leave with his walker or pick up his meals on wheels at the front door," said Sealy. "The homeless problem is a problem, but they can make it a lot better by keeping us safe and keeping the locks safe, cleaning the toxic mold from the empty units and caring for the property."

A representative from the Santa Monica Police Department, acknowledged that homelessness is an issue in the City, but said that it is not always connected to break-ins.

"The biggest homeless related problems would be encampments and situations where a homeless person may be involved with mental health issues and there may be a disturbance out on the street. It would be very inaccurate of me to say that any time there is a break-in it is homeless related; that is not correct. Does it happen among the homeless population? Yes, but it's not the main issue," said Saul Rodriguez, Commander of the SMPD Special Operations Division.

On Sept. 15 Searle filed a petition for a rent deduction with the Rent Control Board. If granted, this would lower her rent until Miller & Desatnik address the building's issues.

Clara@smdp.com

GOODRX

FROM PAGE 1

a year after co-founder Doug Hirsch went to a pharmacy to pick up some drugs and was given a bill for $450, Hirsch wrote in the SEC filing.

"I searched the internet and found that while I could compare prices for TVs or plane tickets, there was no guidance to help me to understand what healthcare should cost. I had stumbled into an inefficient, massive market that Americans, with or without insurance, had no ability to navigate," the letter states. "I told my friend Trevor about my pharmacy experience, and we agreed that consumers, insured or not, desperately needed tools to sort through our confusing, frustrating, and expensive healthcare system. We also learned that physicians, medical professionals, and pharmacists across the country were likewise frustrated when patients couldn't afford their prescribed treatments."

There were multiple ways patients could save on their prescriptions, but virtually nobody knew about them, Hirsch added. That's all changed within a decade as consumers are more empowered and better informed than ever before

"Millions of Americans — including many medical professionals — rely on GoodRx's #1 ranked app to find affordable healthcare," he said at the conclusion of the company introduction. "So far, we've saved Americans an estimated $20 billion on prescriptions and medical services… As much as we've accomplished in the past decade, we recognize that there is a tremendous amount of work — and opportunity — ahead of us."

brennon@smdp.com

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BRIEFS

Citywide

SMCLC files lawsuit over massive 4th and Arizona project

The Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City (SMCLC) filed a lawsuit in Los Angeles Superior Court challenging the City's failure to abide by the Surplus Land Act. The Act requires the City to offer publicly owned land for affordable housing, park and recreational or open-space purposes before negotiating with a developer to privatize public land for commercial development.

"Residents have been forced to sue because the City refused to follow the law. This is the only remaining major parcel of publicly-owned, undeveloped land in our downtown and the City is negotiating to privatize it. Public land should be used for a public purpose," says Diana Gordon, SMCLC's co-chair.

SMCLC said the City's conduct demonstrates the abiding hold that developers and those special interests that benefit from their projects have over our city government; a hold so strong that the City Council has put aside its professed support for affordable housing and open space.

"The City is plowing ahead with a highly controversial commercial development, centered on yet another luxury hotel and more office space," Gordon continued. "This is unacceptable: Our city needs affordable housing and needs more open space. SMCLC's lawsuit seeks to compel the City to pursue these community priorities on our public land."

The lawsuit asks the court to issue a peremptory writ of mandate, requiring the City to stop its negotiations with the developer of the 4th and Arizona project and comply with the Surplus Land Act.

Beverly Grossman Palmer, a partner of Strumwasser & Woocher, represents SMCLC. Ms. Palmer is a well-known expert on land-use and environmental law and a long-time resident of Santa Monica.

SUBMITTED BY DIANA GORDON

AGENCY

FROM PAGE 1

pushing for such state-level agencies after the Trump administration backtracked on the federal protections put in place after the Great Recession of 2008.

"California is such an important market and such a leading state that what is done in California will set the tone across the country," Cordray said. "It will not only influence financial companies that will find it hard to operate differently elsewhere than they operate in California — so they'll have to meet higher standards — but it will also set an example that other states may well be inclined to follow."

The state-level agency "will be critical for California families" regardless of whether Trump is unseated in the November election, said the bill's author, Assemblywoman Monique Limón.

Newsom's office said the expanded agency will include dozens of investigators and attorneys to oversee financial institutions and punish financial predators.

It was one of a dozen consumer protection bills Newsom approved as he races against next week's deadline to act on several hundred bills sent to him by lawmakers.

Consumer Reports said the state's new Student Borrower Bill of Rights will also provide the nation's strongest protections in that area.

Others will license debt collectors and prohibit for-profit colleges from creating non-profit corporations to avoid student protections and state regulations.



Time is Running Out!

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City of Santa Monica