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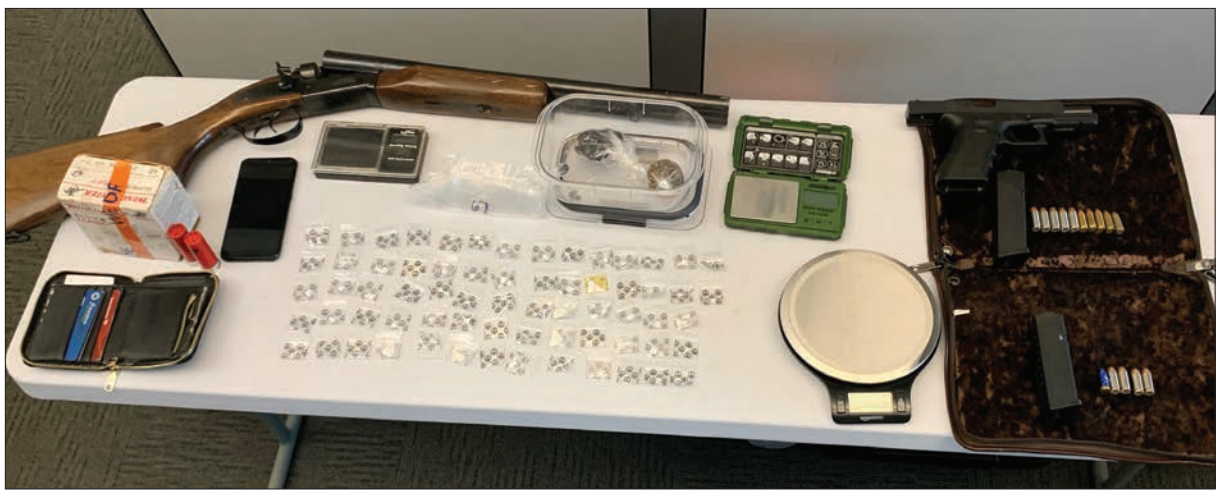
smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press
WEEKEND EDITION
10.03.20 - 10.04.20
Volume 19 Issue 171

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Police seize drugs, guns and $296,000



Courtesy photo

BUST: Police also found a significant amount of cash in a home that was raided as part of a drug investigation.

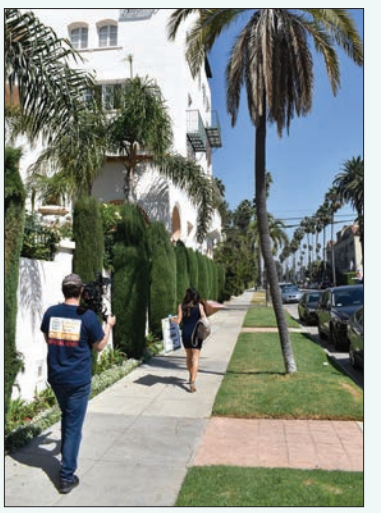
MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

A Santa Monica based drug investigation has yielded one arrest in addition to fentanyl, heroin, prescription pills and seizure of $296,000 in cash.

According to SMPD, officers began investigating the suspect following a drug sale in city limits. The investigation took local officers into Los Angeles where they executed a search warrant on a home and found the money, a stolen handgun, a shotgun, ammunition, several passports, identification cards and drivers' licenses belonging to other people.

SEE **DRUGS** PAGE 2







Brennon Dixson

PRIZE PATROL CHALLENGE VISIT: The Prize Patrol from Publishers Clearing House traveled to Santa Monica on Friday to award $10,000 to local resident Cheryl Pappas, who had absolutely no idea the crew was coming.
Host Danielle Lam said she regularly travels across the country to award unsuspecting applicants and shared Publishers Clearing House has awarded more than $494 million dollars in prizes nationwide since the popular program first began.
Most winners say they intend to use the money to cover bills or take a vacation, but Pappas said she is going to give some of the prize money to charity.
"And I am going to personally write some checks to people who need some money. That's what I really think I'm doing with it," Pappas said during the check presentation. "There are people who are really, really struggling now and I really think it's important to give because it bounces right back."
Residents interested in entering the sweepstakes can do so by filling out a form at bit.ly/36r0Akj.

Drive-in production heads to SMC

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

With the coronavirus still preventing live performances in Santa Monica, performers with the Westside School of Ballet have decided to host a drive-in movie venture featuring some of the studio's most celebrated choreographers, dancers and alumni.

In conjunction with Santa Monica College's Public Policy Institute Annual Arts Forum and the SMC Dance Department, "Grace and Grit" will be presented at Santa Monica College's Bundy Campus at 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 9-10.

The project highlights several professional alumni and the award-winning Ballet Folklórico Flor de Mayo, as well as Santa Monica College's diverse dance companies — Global Motion and Synapse. The film also showcases two new works by three aspiring Westside Ballet pre-professional dancers,

SEE **BALLET** PAGE 11

Santa Monica is preparing to reopen local playgrounds

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health intends to revise the Health Officer Order to allow the reopening of outdoor playgrounds next week along with other businesses like nail salons and shopping malls.

Nail Salons were allowed to resume indoor service at 25% occupancy last week, according to Public Health officials, who said Thursday they intend to allow more sectors to begin reopening after this weekend.

Applications for the Schools (TK-2) Waiver Program can be submitted beginning Monday, Oct. 5, which is when cardrooms can also resume outdoor operations. Indoor shopping malls are expected to make a return a few days later on Wednesday, Oct. 7, with occupancy limited to 25% capacity and no food courts.

Outside playgrounds have yet to receive an official reopening date because the decision is at the discretion of cities and Los Angeles County's Department of Parks and Recreation, according to health officials. But City spokesperson Constance Farrell said the City of Santa Monica is preparing for the safe reopening of playgrounds — with most anticipated next week.

"We look forward to welcoming

SEE **PLAYGROUNDS** PAGE 11

Letter to the Editor

By Katie Wildhagen — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Going to the gym isn't always about physical fitness – for a lot of us, it's about the feelings of accomplishment, pride, and community. While these are difficult to replicate without being physically together, digital platforms have allowed us to safely maintain, and in a great respect, grow a lively community that keeps our clients moving and our business alive.

The pandemic has shown us that people who are mourning the loss of gyms and studios like those that I operate in, aren't just missing exercise and free movement, but also having another institution in their social life. People miss their favorite instructor, their workout buddy, and the opportunity to be part of something bigger than themselves.

Thankfully, we've been able to bring some of that collective experience to our customers online through a host of digital tools. If these platforms and apps were nice to have before, they've proven essential to how we do business now. Online tools have given us the ability to stream classes, schedule outdoor and socially distant sessions, and stay connected to our most loyal patrons. Giving our customers the ability to reserve a spot online for our classes, and come together digitally for our 4 week fitness programs has been a lifeline for us – and for them.

Until we can safely sweat it out together again, we'll keep it moving online. Thanks to digital tools like Google Suite, the rituals of working out together haven't been lost. I only hope that the value of these and other tools will be recognized by politicians at all levels of government moving forward. These have become not just an added benefit, but a necessary part of the business model going forward.

Katie Wildhagen, Santa Monica

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Malibu

City of Malibu Marks Annual Day of Preparedness and the Two-Year Anniversary of the Devastating Woolsey Fire with Community Emergency Preparedness Competition

In November 2018, the Woolsey Fire tore through the community, destroying nearly 500 homes, taking the lives of three people, and leaving the entire community traumatized. Malibu will never forget. Since Woolsey, the City has committed to ramping up preparedness for future wildfires and declared November 9 as the City of Malibu's Annual Day of Preparedness.

"We will never forget the destruction and pain we all experienced during the Woolsey Fire, which showed us the new normal of California mega-fires," said Mayor Mikke Pierson. "We owe it to ourselves, our community, and future community members to take what we have learned from the Woolsey Fire and apply it so that we have higher levels of preparedness, and better resilience for the inevitable future fires. So I hope you and your neighbors will join me in this friendly competition that will encourage others to follow your good example."

The City will commemorate the two-year anniversary of the Woolsey Fire and Malibu's Annual Day of Preparedness on Monday, November 9, 2020 with a community effort to promote emergency preparedness. In an effort to recognize residents who are already prepared and encourage others to take steps to be more prepared, the City is asking residents to submit photos or videos showing how they have prepared in a friendly competition to be declared the "Best Prepared in 2020".

Participants are asked to submit one to five photos and/or a video no longer than 30 seconds by email to publicsafety@malibucity.org no later than Friday, October 23. All of the submissions will be reviewed by a panel consisting of Mayor Mikke Pierson, Malibu CERT Team leader Richard Garvey, and Public Safety Commission Chair Chris Frost to determine who will receive the honorary title of "Best Prepared" based on their submissions.

Submission photos and videos will not be judged based on production quality, but on how well the participant is prepared for emergencies. The photos and videos should demonstrate for example, emergency plans, emergency supplies and kits, fire extinguishers, solar phone chargers, a certificate of completion of a CERT or first aid course, or anything that demonstrates preparedness.

All participants will receive a certificate of recognition from the City, and the person who is named "Best Prepared" by the panel will receive a commendation by the Malibu City Council during the City Council Virtual Meeting on Monday, November 9. "In addition, during the November 9 Council Meeting, a slide show of all of the submissions will be presented, along with a video highlighting the progress that has been made in rebuilding Malibu homes destroyed in the Woolsey Fire.

All of the competition information will be posted and updated at www.MalibuCity.org/Woolsey2Year. For more information, call Sarah Kaplan, Public Safety Specialist at d310-456-2489, ext. 368 or email publicsafety@malibucity.org.

Citywide

SMC Music Department Presents Free Online Concert Oct. 9

The Santa Monica College Music Department is pleased to present the SMC Music Pre-Midterms Showcase Celebration. The concert is free and will be presented with a live introduction online Friday, October 9, at 7:30 p.m.

The evening of music features eclectic offerings from SMC Music Department projects, including solo and group performances in both European classical and jazz styles.

Pre-registration for the concert is required. A registration link is available at the listing on the SMC Events calendar at smc.edu/calendar.

More information is available by calling 310-434-3005 or 310-434-4323.

SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH

Your Column Here

By Maryann Marino — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Kindness is the Best Medicine

As a frontline healthcare worker, Jean Abac is committed to overcoming any fear and doing her part in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. She has been working seven days a week as a nurse at three area hospitals.

Supporting patients' needs is especially meaningful for her because she knows that there is now a nursing shortage and those on the job can be concerned — even reluctant — about providing care, particularly at the bedside, to those diagnosed with coronavirus.

"Right now is the time to help," says Jean, who splits her work hours among the UCLA Medical Center in Santa Monica, Olympia Medical Center and West Hills Hospital. "Nurses have a huge responsibility. We signed up to be in this position. This is our job and that holds a lot of importance. You take an oath to be a part of a greater good."

Jean, 29, a resident of the Palms area of Los Angeles, emigrated from the Philippines as a teen and benefited from being selected as a United Health Foundation Diverse Scholar. The program, an initiative to promote diversity in the health care industry that was created and is funded by the United Health Foundation, will help pay for her continuing education to become a nurse practitioner.

The nursing profession is a family affair. Her fiancé, Spencer, is also a nurse — and he is working six days a week. They keep each other motivated. "We're just trying to do our best to make the most of what's currently happening," says Jean, whose biological father is also a nurse in a nursing home. Her mother previously worked overnight shifts as an in-home caregiver.

Over the past nine years that Jean has been a nurse, she has learned to become a more effective health care provider by making, what she calls, "cultural connections." She strives to be empathetic with all the patients she serves. She's quick to acknowledge their ethnic or racial backgrounds (such as conversing in Tagalog with fellow Filipinos) and create a general sense of familiarity and acceptance. She has also learned a handful of key words in Spanish that she says work like "magic" in making a difference with Latinos and helping them cope with issues of vulnerability.

"In my daily interactions with my patients, I try to really get to know them on a personal level, and especially learn what makes them laugh," she says. "When in the hospital, there's just way too many things that scare people, especially the big unknowns like waiting for their diagnosis or what will be the prognosis once they start their treatments."

The trauma that comes with a sickness and diagnosis is one that Jean knows firsthand. During nursing school, she was treated for a serious condition that could have led to cervical cancer. And now, as the deadly COVID-19 pandemic continues, there is the constant threat of exposure.

"There are a lot of worries among me and my co-workers. Some get sick and then you worry if you will get sick and that you'll bring it home to your loved ones," she says, referring to COVID-19. "But we all signed up to help every patient with every kind of disease."

Jean's award as a Diverse Scholar will help her continue to develop and grow in her career. She wants to be a role model for younger generations and help recruit others into nursing. She's trying to emulate the professional mentors who played such a big role for her when she first became a nurse.

"It's very humbling," she says. "I feel such great purpose knowing that I was part of allowing patients to receive a second, third or however many chances they've been granted again in life. We're only here for a short time — and knowing that you were part of lengthening somebody's life a little longer so that they can share more laughs, loves and memories with other people is an unexplainable feeling."

Letter to the Editor

By Tim Tunks — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Realizing that the 74 year old Trump is the same guy he was at 7 when he was pouring the dinner table's mashed potatoes on his brother's head, and with Trump now Covid positive, and with the next debate a town hall, why not stage it as a Zoom meeting where everyone can participate from their safe location and the moderator has the mute and speaker view controls. Most all TV viewers will find it a familiar format and actual issues could be debated.

Recognizing that juvenile misbehavior is to be expected, we'll need a moderator with the appropriate skill set to manage the contest. I'd pick a mother who's been working from home and wrangling her elementary school age kids for the last half year .

Problems solved!

Tim Tunks, Santa Monica

DRUGS

FROM PAGE 1

According to a statement from SMPD, the suspect was identified as William James Radford from Los Angeles. Radford has been booked for 11351 - H&S Possession of Narcotics for Sales; 11370.1 H&S - Possession of a Narcotics with a Loaded Firearm; 29800(A)(1) PC - Convicted Felon in Possession of a Firearm; and 496 PC - Receiving Stolen Property.

"This carries a lot of public safety implications for the public and officers because of the dangers of fentanyl that have been well publicized," said Lt. Roberto Villegas.

U.S. drug overdose deaths hit a new high last year of 71,000, according to federal data, driven mainly by fentanyl and similar drugs which were involved in about half of all deaths.

Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid narcotic that is about 100 times stronger than morphine.

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 277 CALLS ON OCTOBER 1

Violation Of Posted Sign 1400blk Ocean Ave 12:30 a.m.
Party Complaint 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 12:41 a.m.
Rape 100blk Bicknell Ave 1:09 a.m.
Petty Theft 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:42 a.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 1400blk 17th St 4:31 a.m.
Overdose 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 5:56 a.m.
Found Property 1200blk 6th St 7:15 a.m.
Death Investigation 1400blk Harvard St 7:25 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 500blk Wilshire Blvd 7:43 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 8:26 a.m.
Grand Theft 2800blk Colorado Ave 8:29 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 3100blk Donald Douglas Loop N 8:30 a.m.
Bike Theft 1900blk Frank St 8:33 a.m.
Encampment 3100blk 2nd St 8:33 a.m.
Burglary 200blk 16th St 8:34 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1400blk 17th St 8:39 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 2800blk Arizona Ave 8:48 a.m.
Battery 1400blk 6th St 8:55 a.m.
Battery 1400blk Montana Ave 9:26 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3300blk Barnard Way 9:27 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1900blk 14th St 9:39 a.m.
Battery 3000blk 16th St 9:58 a.m.
Petty Theft 1300blk Ocean Park Blvd 10:04 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1500blk 17th St 10:06 a.m.
Bike Theft 1400blk Yale St 10:07 a.m.
Battery 1300blk 11th St 10:14 a.m.
Encampment 1800blk Ocean Front Walk 10:23 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1900blk Olympic Blvd 10:39 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 200blk Bicknell Ave 10:43 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1300blk 12th St 10:50 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1600blk Olympic Blvd 10:56 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 2300blk Ocean Park Blvd 11:05 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1100blk Hill St 11:22 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2300blk Ocean Park Blvd 11:25 a.m.
Auto Burglary 600blk San Vicente Blvd 11:27 a.m.
Burglary 1100blk 14th St 11:29 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 400blk Palisades Beach Rd 11:29 a.m.
Speeding 200blk Montana Ave 11:55 a.m.
Grand Theft 1400blk 11th St 12:12 p.m.
Assault 1900blk Main St 12:16 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 900blk 18th St 12:40 p.m.
Identity Theft 400blk San Vicente Blvd 12:58 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3300blk Barnard Way 1:15 p.m.
Burglary 1000blk Grant St 1:28 p.m.
Found Property 1100blk 10th St 2:14 p.m.
Found Property 1600blk Ocean Park Blvd 2:15 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor 2700blk Wilshire Blvd 2:23 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 700blk Ozone St 2:23 p.m.
Identity Theft 400blk Pico Blvd 2:25 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1300blk 9th St 2:33 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1500blk 18th St 3:44 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 900blk 3rd St 3:47 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3300blk Barnard Way 4:36 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1800blk Stewart St 5:21 p.m.
Armed Robbery 300blk Santa Monica Pier 5:29 p.m.
Battery 1400blk Ocean Ave 6:05 p.m.
Auto Burglary 2400blk Cloverfield Blvd 6:53 p.m.
Speeding 2nd St / Broadway 7:11 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 2300blk Oak St 7:22 p.m.
Party Complaint 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 7:31 p.m.
Lewd Activity 1800blk Ocean Park Blvd 8:06 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 28 CALLS ON OCTOBER 01

Automatic Alarm 300blk Santa Monica Pl 1:32 a.m.
EMS 1300blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:04 a.m.
EMS Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 6:12 a.m.
EMS 1400blk Harvard St 7:12 a.m.
EMS 1500blk 16th St 7:19 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk Ocean Ave 9:36 a.m.
EMS 300blk 22nd St 9:44 a.m.
EMS 2300blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:58 a.m.
EMS 500blk Olympic Blvd W 11:08 a.m.
EMS 300blk 19th St 11:11 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 800blk Montana Ave 11:23 a.m.
EMS 1500blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:17 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300blk Arizona Ave 2:54 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2200blk Main St 2:54 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2000blk Wilshire Blvd 3:15 p.m.
EMS 2600blk Broadway 3:29 p.m.
Odor Of Natural Gas 400blk 20th St 3:38 p.m.
Assist LAFD 400blk 26th 3:52 p.m.
Elevator Rescue 800blk 3rd St 4:54 p.m.
EMS 2200blk 5th St 5:49 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Santa Monica Blvd 6:11 p.m.
Wires Down 2800blk Arizona Ave 6:54 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Pico Blvd 8:41 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 2nd St 8:46 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 16th St 9:22 p.m.
Carbon Monoxide Alarm 1500blk 9th St 9:40 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 10th St 10:11 p.m.
Transformer Fire 700blk Ashland Ave 10:58 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 SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 AT APPROXIMATELY 2:25 P.M.

Two SMPD Officers were dispatched to the 1500 block of Palisades Park regarding a female who had assaulted individuals in the area. Upon arrival, a Public Safety Officer guided the two Officers toward a woman sitting on a bench who appeared intoxicated. After speaking to the woman and to one of her victims, the Officers confirmed she was indeed intoxicated. The victim stated she had shoved him and then proceeded to push a woman who was sitting on a nearby bench and took her seat. Rhebecca Jo Morris was arrested on a 647 (F) PC- Public Intoxication and a 243 PC- Battery. Morris was cited and released.

ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, AT APPROXIMATELY 11 P.M.

Officers of the Santa Monica Police Department responded to Cross Campus located near the 900 block of Colorado Avenue regarding a burglary call. Upon arrival, officers met with the reporting party who told them that he was working late in his office and heard loud noises coming from the southwest corner of the business. The man said he determined the rear door of the business was smashed and he saw a suspect carrying two bags attempt to open a locked door. A description was provided to officers who later located and arrested Wilber Steele, 60 years old for 459 P.C. Burglary, and 148 P.C. Resisting Arrest.

Letter to the Editor

By Janet McKeithen Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Earlier this week, SMAME published a cartoon featuring anti-Semitic caricatures in the Santa Monica Daily Press. There has been an apology issued which included an explanation.

This is an opportunity for learning—and we sincerely hope that those responsible for this ad have learned their lesson about trafficking offensive caricatures into the local discourse. We have heard from numerous members of the Jewish community that the themes used in SMAME's cartoon are not new; they are based in a deep and painful historical precedent. From medieval pogroms to the Protocols of the Elders of Zion to the Nazi Ministry of Propaganda, these caricatures and stereotypes have been used to oppress, harm and demonize Jewish communities for centuries. We regret that—in the twenty-first century—these age-old aspersions have been injected into our community.

We urge SMAME to take this opportunity to reflect on how the messages they choose to advance about others can cause pain for all Santa Monicans. Unless we talk about this issue and educate people about its effects, it won't change—and it must.

We, the members of the Santa Monica Area Interfaith Council, invite the members of SMAME into a dialogue (within the next 2 weeks), where we can all learn. We think you'll agree that we need to do what we can to stop the harm.

Please let us know when we can meet via zoom, by emailing the Santa Monica Area Interfaith Council at Office@CIOP4Justice.org.

Rev. Janet Gollery McKeithen, President Santa Monica Area Interfaith Council

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KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

Annual Water Main Replacement Project



For the month of October, 2020 the contractor will be connecting newly installed water main and services on Ozone Avenue between 11th Street and 11th Court, which will require shut-off of the water. The contractor will begin installation of new water main and services on 20th Street between Broadway and Santa Monica Boulevard and on Idaho Avenue between 23rd Street and 25th Street. Residents/businesses will be notified of the date and time that their water service will be shutdown. Traffic on 20th Street will be reduced to one lane. Please use alternate routes whenever possible. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Carlos Rosales at (310) 458-8721, x2620.

Advanced Traffic Management System, Phase 5 Project

For the month of October, 2020, this project will upgrade the traffic signal equipment at four locations and install fiber optic cables along Montana Ave and 26th St.; The project will provide transit priority along the corridor, allow for real-time remote monitoring and management of the traffic signals, provide public Wi-Fi along the corridor, and connect the San Vicente Reservoir and the Montana Avenue Branch Library to the City's network. We appreciate your patience during the project, to provide this safety improvement and public enhancements. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Jay Dinkins at (310) 458-8291.

LA Metro public art project – "Tears for Santa Monica"

For the month of October, 2020, Artwork installation will continue through the month at the westerly wall of the Expo light rail station at 4th St and Colorado Ave. Intermittent easterly sidewalk and northbound 4th St lane closures will take place. Please contact Letitia F. Ivins at LA Metro at IvinsL@metro.net and (213) 922-2721 with any questions/concerns regarding this project.

Downtown Parking Wayfinding Digital Parking Signs Project

For the month of October, 2020 Crosstown Electric will be taking shoulder closures at various locations throughout the downtown area of the City of Santa Monica. Crosstown will be working on the installation of Parking Garage Signs. Please use alternate routes whenever possible. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Selim Eren at (310) 458-8721, x5107

City Yards Modernization Project

For the month of October, 2020, construction will impact the project area located at 2500 Michigan Ave, which will affect the sidewalk and parking lane on the north side of Delaware Ave just east of 24th St. Please contact Senior Construction Manager Sebastian Felbeck at (310) 434-2675 with any questions/concerns regarding this project.

Sustainable Water Infrastructure Project (SWIP)

For the month of October, 2020, underground pipeline work on Ocean Ave at the intersection of Vicente Terrace and on Vicente Terrace near the intersection of Main St. Temporary lane closures are as follows:

1. Expect delays on northbound and southbound Ocean Ave
2. One lane of traffic in each direction will remain open at all times during construction on Ocean Ave and Main St
3. No left turn or right turn from Main St onto Vicente Terrace
4. No left turn from Ocean Ave onto Vicente Terrace
5. Vicente Terrace will be closed at Main St and accessible only from northbound Ocean Ave
6. Shared bike lane and temporary loss of parking on southbound Ocean Ave
7. Vicente Terrace west of Ocean Ave will not be affected

Please contact Jason Hoang at (310) 351-7913 with any questions/concerns regarding this project.

Sustainable Water Infrastructure Project, Utility Investigation On Pico at 3rd (SWIP)

For the month of October, 2020, from 9/28/20 to 10/2/20, underground investigation will take place Monday - Friday, 6am to 6pm. Temporary lane closures on southbound Pico Blvd from 4th St to 3rd St. One lane of traffic is to remain. Northbound Pico Blvd is not affected. Expect delays. Please contact Jason Hoang at (310) 351-7913 or Jason.hoang@smgov.net with any questions/concerns regarding this project.

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

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The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 8,200 on weekdays and 8,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

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AWARD WINNER

AWARD WINNER

Sustainable Quality Awards WINNER

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California's stem-cell research program nearly out of money

JOHN ROGERS
Associated Press

California's first-of-its-kind state program to fund stem-cell research is running out of money and supporters want voters to provide a $5.5 billion infusion.

The California Institute for Regenerative Medicine has doled out nearly $3 billion for research since the non-profit was created in a 2004 ballot question supported by 59% of voters. New stem-cell labs were created around the state and grants were awarded to Stanford University, the University of California, Berkeley, and other prominent institutions.

In the years since, clinical studies have been launched to determine how stem cells might treat a variety of diseases, including Alzheimer's, cancer and Parkinson's, as well as such conditions as spinal paralysis and auto-immune deficiencies.

Proposition 14's supporters are hoping voters will again support the program, although some acknowledge that with the state caught in a pandemic-infused economic crisis it's hard to guess how the electorate will react. Early voting begins Monday for the Nov. 3 election.

"I would be optimistic that having a medical emergency at the international level would hopefully drive people to realize that funding for medical research that leads to therapies and cures — including for COVID-19 where there are some interesting approaches underway that CIRM has funded — would persuade some people to vote yes," said Larry Goldstein, director of the University of California, San Diego's stem cell research program.

Opponents argue the $5.5 billion bond purchase would unnecessarily add debt during the economic downturn and question whether the state got enough bang for its first $3 billion.

"Proposition 71 I think has done good work," said Jeff Sheehy of San Francisco who, although he is a member of the governing board of CIRM, doesn't believe it should be funded with any more bond money.

"I'm on the board, I've been on the board since the beginning, but I don't think the plan ever was for this to be funded forever with debt," he said, adding if the institute needs more cash it should seek it from the state Legislature.

If voters approve the measure, California would have to repay the bonds at a rate of about $260 million a year over 30 years, according to the state's legislative analyst.

Critics also question whether there is as much a need for California to carry the lead role in stem-cell research now as there was in 2004. At that time, the George W. Bush administration had banned the use of federal funds for research using newly created human embryonic stem cell lines.

Sheehy pointed out that the Obama administration lifted that ban in 2009, and since then more federal funds for research have been made available through the National Institutes of Health and other sources.

While that's true, supporters of Prop. 14 worry the ban could be reinstituted. They point to a recent letter signed by more than 90 members of Congress calling on President Donald Trump to do just that, noting that the Trump administration has already restricted use of federal funds and research involving the use of fetal tissue.

"While NIH funding is stable now, it's hard to forecast what it will be like over the coming decade," said Paul Noepfler, whose lab at the University of California, Davis, has put CIRM grant money toward researching cancer treatments.

With such money running out — only about $30 million remains, according to the legislative analyst's office — CIRM has stopped awarding new grants. Meanwhile, dozens of clinical trials continue in various stages of development.

Opponents say that if Prop. 14 is defeated those trials will likely continue with support from the federal government and other sources, including the private sector, foundations and venture capital.

Supporters question that, worried that current economic conditions could shut down those pipelines.

"Trials that use human embryonic derived stem cells to treat diabetes, to treat blindness and to treat spinal cord injury, those trials are early but already showing signs of patient benefit," Goldstein said. "Losing those trials would be a terrible tragedy for those patients."

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By Giacomo Valentini
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No on Prop. 21

Supporters of Proposition 21 are describing a world where millions of tenants are being exploited and harassed by greedy landlords. They say rents go up while salaries stagnate. Extreme rent control is seen as the necessary solution to end such injustice, reduce homelessness, and provide relief to stressed family budgets. Landlords are seeing as exploiting helpless tenants, in a naked pursuit of profit.

Unfortunately, this depiction is simplistic, and the solution proposed ineffective and damaging.

"Tenant" is not a social class. There are rich tenants and poor tenants. There are large families and single household tenants. As a group, "tenants" is a meaningless classifier. You have the young rich doctor who feels that as long as he is bachelor, he will live in a fancy rented apartment rather than facing the chores of real estate ownership. You have the poor family of Central American immigrants where the parents work long hours for a small pay, and live in shabby neglected tenements where they are harassed by landlords who are obsessed that their tenants might stop paying rent. And you have the retired people. Here too, the typology varies a lot. Some retired people have hefty savings and choose to sell their houses to live in smaller, more modest housing so as to simplify their life. Others have to live on meager pensions, and have to constantly struggle with rising costs while their pension remains the same.

While the general perception is that salaries tend to stagnate, this does not take into account that people actually change jobs, get career boosts, get married and form families, and all this means change and evolution - not stagnation. Any tenant today might tomorrow become a landlord.

"Landlord" is a general term for investors in rental property. They can be divided into two broad categories:

1. large corporations which handle thousands of rental units sometimes across several states. These organizations see the tenant as an asset to contribute to the value of their property. They seldom see the tenant as a human being. The logic of their business is to maximize profit, and are naturally led towards adopting exploitative policies to achieve their goals

2. small-scale investors, who buy rental property often as part of their retirement plans. These people are a social class of their own. They are not poor, but they are often not very wealthy, either. They rely on handymen, contractors and building managers to manage and maintain their properties. Most of them have taken loans to purchase their buildings. They undertake a significant amount of administrative work to secure their loans, remain compliant with housing laws, and often start off with almost no profit margin on their investment - they count on the time when their loan is mostly repaid to actually see a return on their investment. Since their housing purchase is part of their estate planning, they often put their properties into LLCs or family trusts.

Regarding homelessness, it is sometimes said that the problem is caused by high rents. This is not true.

Almost all long-term homeless people are people with mental problems, or have problems with substance abuse (alcohol or drugs). Giving them a home will not help them because their problems make them incapable of handling a home. They need much more help than merely giving them a bed to sleep in. A number of people every year become temporarily homeless through difficult circumstances. They might lose their job and then get evicted because they are unable to pay rent. These people might end up living off savings and sleeping in their car for a while, until they find a new job, and maybe move to a cheaper neighborhood. They are not the scruffy people we see cussing and urinating at street corners.

Parts of California are suffering from a housing shortage, due to population movements and relatively high birth rates. This has pushed up local real estate prices and brought rising rents. It is fundamental that Californians act together in a concerted effort to remedy this situation. What we need is new construction in areas that need it, new homes for the ever increasing new Californians. Unfortunately, I hear too many Californians rejecting new constructions as an unwelcome disruption to their traditional way of life.

Unfortunately, I think Californians will have to get used to a much more crowded future.

Most people, tenants or landlords, are moved by the same instincts. They seek comfort and wellbeing for themselves and in doing so sometimes forget the humanity in their counterpart. Prop 21 foments antagonism, it treats landlords as the enemy that has to be defeated. Hardly a recipe to reach a lasting solution to the problem at hand.

We need a solution that encourages investment in affordable housing. California is an attractive state. One of the richest and most resourceful ones. It is partly for these reasons that its population has increased significantly over the past decades. This increase has brought about a true housing crisis. Provided Californians eventually accept that their cities will have to become more crowded to accommodate the rising number of people coming here, how do we go about providing for these masses?

We need to approach the problem from a more systemic perspective - tackle the real issues such as housing scarcity in many areas of Southern California, and the difficulty for low-income households to secure decent housing. These problems are best handled by providing tax incentives for real estate investors to build affordable housing in the places that most need it and using state funds to expand existing housing voucher schemes. This society-wide approach is the one used in many European countries.

As far as rent control goes, California has recently introduced AB1482, which establishes a state-wide rent control system to protect tenants against rent hikes. The system could undoubtedly be improved.

SEE **PROP 21** PAGE 7

BRIEFS

Los Angeles

High Temperatures Forecast for Parts of Los Angeles County

The Los Angeles County Health Officer has extended a Heat Alert as high temperatures have been forecast for the following areas:

Los Angeles Basin – through Saturday, October 3

West San Fernando Valley – through Saturday, October 3

Public Health reminds everyone to take precautions to avoid heat-related illness, especially older adults, young children, outdoor workers, athletes, and people with a chronic medical condition who are especially sensitive to negative health impacts from extreme heat. Public Health offers the following recommendations during high temperature days:

Drink plenty of water and keep hydrated throughout the day.

If you must go out, plan your day to avoid going out during the hottest hours, and wear sunscreen. Wear lightweight, light-colored clothes, and bring a hat or umbrella with you.

Cars get very hot. Never leave children or pets in cars and call 911 if you see a child or pet in a car alone.

Beware of heat-related illness, like heat stroke and call 911 if you see these symptoms: high body temperature, vomiting, and pale and clammy skin.

Check on those at risk, like those who are sick, older adults, pregnant women, and children, and those who live alone.

Avoid strenuous work outs wearing face coverings or masks not intended for athletic purposes; this means avoiding contact with others while you work out.

Visit your power company's website or contact them by phone to determine if you are scheduled for a rolling power outage.

"While it is very important that everyone take special care of themselves, it is equally important that we reach out and check on others, in particular those who are especially vulnerable to the harmful effects of high temperatures, including children, the elderly, and their pets," said Muntu Davis, MD, MPH, Los Angeles County Health Officer. "High temperatures are not just an inconvenience, they can be dangerous and even deadly. But we can protect ourselves, our families, and our neighbors if we take steps to remain cool and hydrated. It is critically important to never leave children, elderly people, or pets unattended in homes with no air conditioning and particularly in vehicles, even if the windows are 'cracked' or open, as temperatures inside can quickly rise to life-threatening levels. If you have an elderly or infirm neighbor who is without air conditioning, check on them throughout the day."

As Health Officer Orders remain in effect, Public Health, City and County partners have planned ways to safely operate cooling centers during times of high heat. Cooling centers will be open to provide the public relief from the heat. Residents who do not have access to air conditioning are encouraged to take advantage of these free cooling centers. To find a location near you, visit https://ready.lacounty.gov/heat/ or call 211.

PROP 21

FROM PAGE 6

But hardly through constant policy changes and completely rewriting legislation. An important thing when making policy is to preserve a coherent approach. AB 1482 only took effect a few months ago. Prop 21 would gut it by allowing local communities to bypass it entirely. Again, there would be a lack of consistency in policy making. Again, the fundamental issues would not be addressed coherently but with a piecemeal approach.

Prop 21 would allow local communities to extend Rent Control to any Single Family Homes not owned

by a natural person. It will treat anyone who owns more than one or two houses as a for profit corporation. Through such provisions, Prop 21 would hit hard at small landlords, while large corporations will as usual use their lobbying might to find loopholes and buy their way out of trouble.

Prop 21 will increase bureaucracy and state control.

Since AB1482 already provides protection for tenants, Prop 21 will only add an additional layer of complication and bureaucracy for both tenants and landlords.

Prop 21 pursues a zero sum game, while we should aim much higher. Prop 21 is designed to allow special interests to take over the housing sector in local communities. It will inevitably lead to more antagonism between landlords and tenants, which flies against the obvious fact that we need as much as possible a consensual approach, one where all sides feel they are taking more than they are giving.

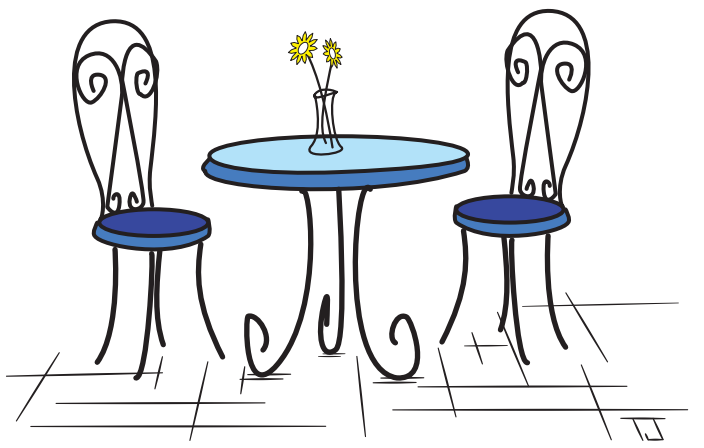
Prop 21 is the wrong solution to California's housing problems.

Prop 21 is at best unnecessary, at worst damaging to both tenants and landlords. It's a solution waiting for a problem.

Today in California it would be best to build on AB 1482, work to patch its deficiencies and aim at a system that makes both landlords and tenants work *for* rather than *against* the common good. I don't see Prop 21 working towards any of those goals.

That is why Prop 21 is not an adequate solution.

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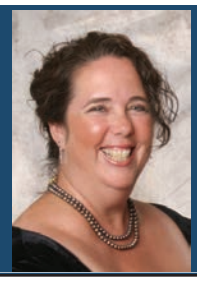
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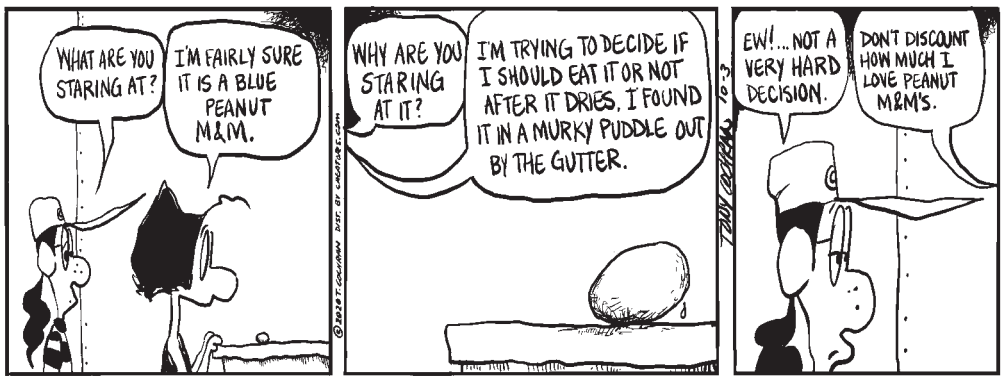


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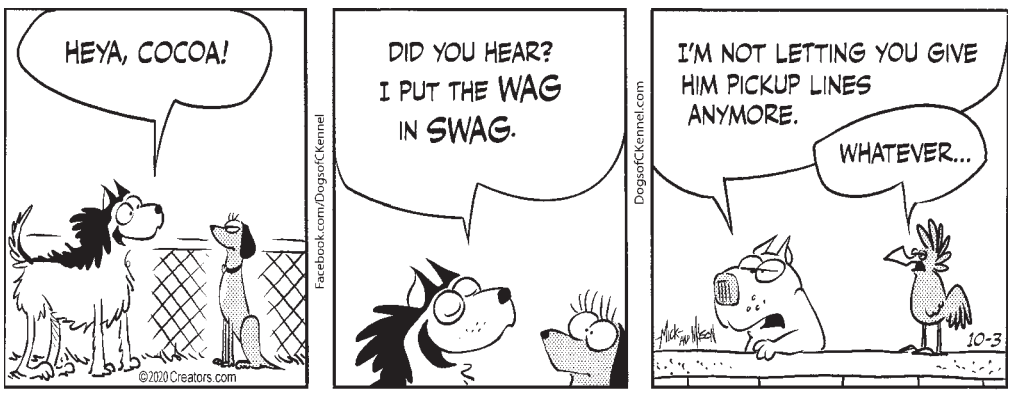
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Dogs of C-Kennel

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: 71.1°

SATURDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
SSW swell is down to smaller leftovers while NW swell eases through the day. Still pretty fun at standout/combo magnets. S swell from Marie builds in the PM. Clean in the morning.

SUNDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high occ. 5 ft
Building S/SSW swell from Hurricane Marie -- staying a little conservative on size for now. Reinforcing WNW swell. Biggest through the better combo breaks (west of Pt. Dume).

WEATHER

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 78.
Saturday Night: Clear, with a low around 64.
Monday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 75.
Monday Night: Patchy fog after 2am. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 62.
Tuesday: Patchy fog before 11am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 75.
Tuesday Night: Patchy fog after 11pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 63.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2020/10/03	Sat	04:22 AM	1.20	L
2020/10/03	Sat	10:30 AM	5.32	H
2020/10/03	Sat	4:55 PM	0.78	L
2020/10/03	Sat	11:01 PM	4.44	H
2020/10/04	Sun	04:42 AM	1.57	L
2020/10/04	Sun	10:52 AM	5.30	H
2020/10/04	Sun	5:32 PM	0.79	L
2020/10/04	Sun	11:40 PM	4.03	H
2020/10/05	Mon	05:02 AM	1.96	L
2020/10/05	Mon	11:16 AM	5.23	H
2020/10/05	Mon	6:13 PM	0.88	L
2020/10/06	Tue	12:28 AM	3.60	H
2020/10/06	Tue	05:20 AM	2.35	L
2020/10/06	Tue	11:43 AM	5.09	H
2020/10/06	Tue	7:02 PM	1.02	L
2020/10/07	Wed	01:35 AM	3.21	H
2020/10/07	Wed	05:34 AM	2.72	L
2020/10/07	Wed	12:17 PM	4.90	H
2020/10/07	Wed	8:09 PM	1.16	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date:0930
14 18 36 49 67
Power#: 18
Jackpot:43 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 09/29
14 39 43 44 67
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 41 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 09/30
3 23 28 46 47
Mega#: 25
Jackpot:14 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 10/01
4 10 20 24 26

Daily 3
Draw Date: 10/01
Evening: 8 1 4
Draw Date: 10/01
Midday: 2 3 8

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 10/01
1st: 06 - WHIRL WIN
2nd: 01 - GOLD RUSH
3rd: 09 - WINNING SPIRIT
RACE TIME: 1:43.63

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (OCTOBER 03)

You're an exceptional addition to the lives of others, and because of this, you'll be welcome in so many places and hearts. You can go there without traveling and you often will as you connect and share your talents. A new project in the new year pulls together brilliant love matches and business arrangements. Sagittarius and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 7, 30, 2 and 12.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Mystery and danger go hand in hand. Because mystery is about the unknown, and there is nothing more fearsome. This will play into the allure of the day.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). When stepping into a position held by another, sometimes they say there are big shoes to fill. You'll do this now, and the shoe size will be irrelevant because you'll take the role in an entirely different direction.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Of course, you're disillusioned. You projected your own desires onto the relationship, like every human does. The good news is that what you were looking for really is out there.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The person spreading goodwill, common decency and a cheerful smile -- that is the one advancing the true spirit of humanity. That's the one that's you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Why relax when you can hibernate? Things are happening inside of you -- energies rejuvenating, wounds healing, defenses forming for the purpose of health and vitality.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Those who exist in higher levels of self-esteem hardly ever give a thought to whether they like themselves or not, because it's a given. The direct route to solid self-esteem is through estimable acts.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Your project stalls. It's not your fault; it's just the universe giving you a chance to pause and reassess your current trajectory. You have so many talents. Which ones are being honed now?

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). People trust you. You'll be privy to plenty of information, some of which you don't even want to know! Still, you can take this to heart: People trust you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You've excellent taste and will choose good people to hang out with going forward. As for the past, someone who burned you before will do the same again if you don't protect yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You can't control the weather, but you can control what you wear to face it. That's what you're doing now -- anticipating the emotional heat, mildness, storm or whatever is in store and suiting up appropriately.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're generous. You'll give and keep giving until you know that what you have isn't a good match, and then you'll refer and recommend, which is also, by the way, a gift.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Fear makes hair stand on end. This is how, in primitive times, when humans were furry, fear made humans appear bigger to predators. Today, you'll find other ways to appear big.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

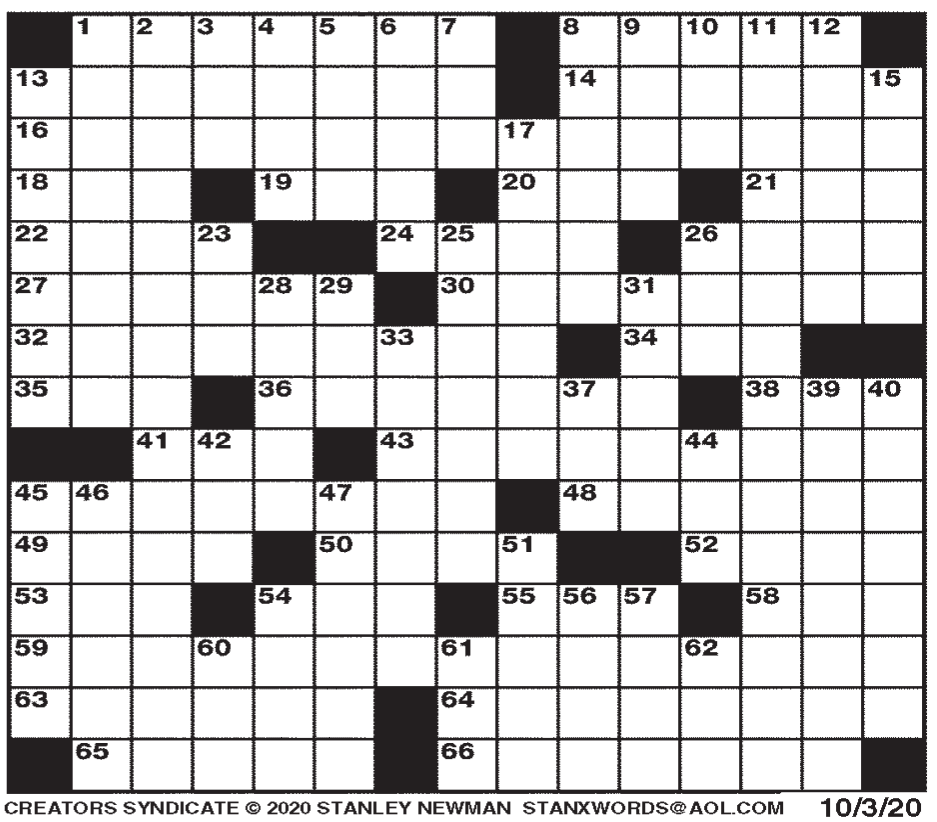
	5		2	3		9		6
7								
	6			5	4			8
	4				5	1		
	8			4			9	
		2	1				3	
8			6	2			4	
								1
3		6		7	1		8	

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Greg Johnson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Had principally
8 Dental descriptor
13 Decor in *That '70s Show*
14 Mimic
16 "I don't make merry" guy of holiday lit
18 IDs, often
19 Idle, with "out"
20 Puppy's thing
21 Sight in many a seascape
22 Largest Micronesian island
24 Started __
26 Where starters are seen
27 Pat alternative
30 Unquestioning
32 Tourist trap?
34 Have
35 Sanskrit for "majesty"
36 Tablet smaller than a smartphone
38 Something stalked in a field
41 Monticello note, before '76
43 Brass
45 RNA binder
48 Frequent Great Lakes travelers
49 *"Aucune __"* (Claudette's "I'm clueless")
50 Orally raw
52 Summer vacation, for some families
53 It might complete a Tweet
54 First Family member, 50 years ago
55 World's largest courier company
58 Starter starter
59 Get weird
63 Strong opposition
64 Much Rockies flora
65 Broken-off branches
66 Tips up and down

DOWN
1 Bloke harvesting beetroot
2 "You shoulda listened to me"
3 __ pool
4 About 4/5 of a mi., for Salt Lake City
5 Foggy condition
6 It's planted in home gardens
7 DC-based network
8 Eero Saarinen designed its Michigan Tech Center
9 Cream puff-like
10 It means "advocating"
11 Tech title at 8 Down
12 She's into shoulderstands and backbends
13 Effort, in an idiom
15 Orally oppose
17 Filament holders
23 Where Marilyn sang to JFK in NYC
25 Shrank in the cold
26 SE US cargo hub
28 Choppers
29 Very briefly, in today's slang
31 Female pilot in *Futurama*
33 Surveyor's angular measure
37 Small quantity of caviar
39 Heavy duty degreasers
40 Makes up for missing merchandise
42 Bad things that happen to good people
44 Be off
45 Carell, in *Battle of the Sexes*
46 *Mad* staff, by their own admission
47 Addresses to impress
51 He's Newt in *Fantastic Beasts* films
54 Hardly a sound of success
56 Moving day instruction
57 Baryshnikov, by birth
60 Fan club's imitative flattery
61 Direct debit through ATMs, e.g.
62 Beginning of adolescence



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Binary Puzzle

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

				1							
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	1				1		0		1	1	
	1		0	0							1



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FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 18 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

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Garage sale

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

Anchor	Discard	Ladder	Sports gear
Axes	Door	Mugs	Stamps
Bags	Dust	Ornament	Table
Beds	Empty	Quilt	Tools
Bike	Ferns	Rake	Toys
Burner	Find	Rubbish	Treasure
Cabinet	Flute	Sale	Tyres
Cage	Funds	Sell	Value
Change	Hats	Shovel	Vases
Coat	Household	Sign	Videos
Deal	Junk	Skis	
Dirt	Kitchenware	Space	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
You will love every part

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BALLET

FROM PAGE 1

Samara Koseff, Mac Pampinella and Zane Tahvildaran-Jesswein.

Koseff's work, "Misconception," was informed by the lyrics of the song, "My Funny Valentine" by Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart.

"I absolutely loved the music but I've always found that song to be really insulting because how demeaning and rude they are to the woman in the song," she said. "So, I kind of wanted to do a piece from her point-of-view," which resulted in a pretty fun time during the creative process.

Tahvildaran-Jesswein and Pampinella said recent losses in their lives, and the grief that resulted, inspired their piece "Daybreak."

"Initially, we were taking a college dance course," and working on a final when the two were asked to adapt their piece for the drive-in production, Tahvildaran-Jesswein said. "And it just kind of turned into a completely different thing. It's great though because the first draft was just us on the beach kind of screwing around. There was a vague idea of grief because me and Mac had both gone through some really tough losses in our lives right before. So the revised version was supposed to look at the anger that both of us were going through, and how to deal with that, as well as how to manifest in a healthy way."

Though she lives in Chicago, Westside Ballet alumna Lucia Connolly will also make an appearance in the upcoming film.

"I didn't really have any part in the creative process but it was lovely to go back to the beach, dance the same piece I did right before I left for Chicago," and it was all to support Westside Ballet, she said.

Tickets for the Dance Film Drive-In Fundraising Event are available online now at www.westsideballet.com, and the students are hopeful the community will attend.

"You're not going to experience this when we go back to normal. It's completely different as an experience and I think that's a good thing to have right now," Global Motion's Jackie Riedel said Thursday.

"COVID has performing arts as a whole taking a pretty gnarly hit. There are no live shows allowed but this loophole that we've been able to pull off is pretty sweet," Tahvildaran-Jesswein said.

"Also, it's a way to support young artists," Riedel added, "who are going into the world of art during a time of great stress and uncertainty."

With the coronavirus still preventing live performances in Santa Monica, performers with the Westside School of Ballet have decided to host a drive-in movie venture featuring some of the studio's most celebrated choreographers, dancers and alumni.

In conjunction with Santa Monica College's Public Policy Institute Annual Arts Forum and the SMC Dance Department, "Grace and Grit" will be presented at Santa Monica College's Bundy Campus at 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 9-10.

The project highlights several professional alumni and the award-winning Ballet Folklórico Flor de Mayo, as well as Santa Monica College's diverse dance companies — Global Motion and Synapse. The film also showcases two new works by three aspiring Westside Ballet pre-professional dancers, Samara Koseff, Mac Pampinella and Zane Tahvildaran-Jesswein.

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PLAYGROUNDS

FROM PAGE 1

families back to these beloved public spaces and equipping visitors with health guidelines for a safe and fun experience. Location details and guidelines will be shared next week," Farrell said.

In May, the City of Santa Monica and Santa Monica-Malibu School District announced their commitment to continue the Playground Partnership program, which prompted SMMUSD to open three elementary school sites for field and schoolyard access on weekday afternoons and on weekends. The City then began permitting City fields for youth sports access on September 8, and officials said they expect all six Playground Partnership sites to be available on weekends, district holidays, school breaks, and during the summer when on-campus learning resumes.

"We are excited that school is back in session, but we know it comes with unique challenges for our children and families this year," Interim City Manager Lane Dilg said earlier in September. "Now that the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health has cleared field use for certain activities, we hope our continued partnership with SMMUSD will provide the Santa Monica community much-needed access to outdoor recreation as we look together for ways for children to stay active during distance learning."

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