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Crime Watch
Robbery at the gas station.
Page 3

Strictly Business
Inclusive therapy.
Page 7

SMMUSD is experiencing severe staffing shortages

DANIEL FARR
SMDP Staff Writer

The Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District is struggling to fill positions in several categories including custodial staff, bus drivers, nurses, paraeducators and special education teachers.

The District previously discussed the challenge in finding bus drivers but at the most recent meeting of the SMMUSD Board, the student representative said staffing shortages on campus are starting to impact student life.

"We are experiencing a major staff and substitute shortage. This is causing some classes to be canceled resulting in students being left outside the classroom," Nathan Castanaza ASB Student Member of the Board said. "We've also noticed that this is happening after Oct. 1 which enforced the vaccine mandate for all staff on campus. The major shortage of teachers and substitutes is becoming very transparent. I personally experienced a period where I had to meet in the cafeteria with another class because of this lack of subs had my teacher supervising two classes at once. There's also a custodial staff shortage and it appears that classrooms are not being cleaned because of the lack of people showing up to work."

Officials said they couldn't attribute the lack of employees to the vaccine mandate but did acknowledge challenges filling several kinds of positions.

"We have fewer than 90 total regular employees who are not yet vaccinated. We continue to work with these employees regarding the mandate and expectations," Dr. Mark Kelly, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources said. "The loss of staff in certain departments and school sites has been challenging, but our site administrators and district leaders are working to ensure the continuity of learning for our students, and all support services."

The challenges include dealing with retirements and attrition.

"At the start of the year, we had a few teachers, like me, who moved to another position and left an open position at Samohi. There have been a few retirements and resignations for various reasons including finding a job closer to their home — housing in Santa Monica is too expensive for our teacher salaries," Claudia Bautista-Nicholas SMMCTA President said. "Some of our teachers come from very far away: Simi Valley, Santa Clarita, Valencia, deep in the valley, Corona, etc. Finding the right teacher for those positions can also be difficult especially for those who taught specialized classes such as AP Biology, AP English or AP Spanish Language. The shortage of

SEE **SMMUSD** PAGE 11

Palisades Paddle Out





Judi Jensen

PADDLE: Many old friends and surfer buddies gathered at recently to say goodbye to their old friend, who passed away from Parkinson's recently. Marty Sugarman, well known surfer, owner of Marty's Cabana in the canyon, publisher of H20 magazine, artist, professor and great friend, will be sorely missed.

Hit and run with burglary strikes three Downtown businesses



Todd James

CRASH: A driver abandoned his vehicle and fled after crashing yesterday.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

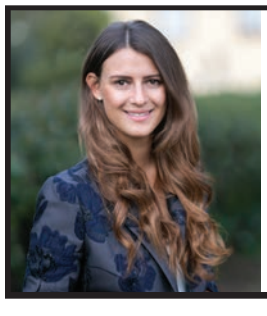
At around 2:07 a.m. on Oct. 11 a white van ran through the outdoor dining barrier at Berbere restaurant, hit an outdoor booth at Heroic Italian restaurant and smashed into the windows of Thunderbolt Spiritual Bookstore.

According to SMPD, a few minutes later two males wearing hoodies entered through the broken glass, stole the cash register and then fled. The cash register was later found in the 1400 block of alley 5, which is located directly behind the stores.

SMPD is investigating this as two separate crimes — a hit and run and a burglary.

Officers arrived on scene after a city employee reported the van crash at 5:32 a.m. According to SMPD, the driver left the vehicle and fled the scene shortly after the

SEE **CRIME** PAGE 6



Thinking of making a move?
Let me guide you.

Melanie Tielmann

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COMPASS

Merck asks US FDA to authorize promising anti-COVID pill

MATTHEW PERRONE
AP Health Writer

Drugmaker Merck asked U.S. regulators Monday to authorize its pill for treating COVID-19 in what would add an entirely new and easy-to-use weapon to the world's arsenal against the pandemic.

If cleared by the Food and Drug Administration — a decision that could come in a matter of weeks — it would be the first pill shown to treat the illness. All other FDA-backed treatments against COVID-19 require an IV or injection.

An antiviral pill that people could take at home to reduce their symptoms and speed recovery could prove groundbreaking, easing the crushing caseload on U.S. hospitals and helping to curb outbreaks in poorer countries with weak health care systems. It would also bolster the two-pronged approach to the pandemic: treatment, by way of medication, and prevention, primarily through vaccinations.

The FDA will scrutinize company data on the safety and effectiveness of the drug, molnupiravir, before rendering a decision.

Merck and its partner Ridgeback Biotherapeutic said they specifically asked the agency to grant emergency use for adults with mild-to-moderate COVID-19 who are at risk for severe disease or hospitalization. That is roughly the way COVID-19 infusion drugs are used.

"The value here is that it's a pill so you don't have to deal with the infusion centers and all the factors around that," said Dr. Nicholas Kartsonis, a senior vice president with Merck's infectious disease unit. "I think it's a very powerful tool to add to the toolbox."

The company reported earlier this month that the pill cut hospitalizations and deaths by half among patients with early symptoms of COVID-19. The results were so strong that independent medical experts monitoring the trial recommended stopping it early.

Side effects were similar between patients who got the drug and those in a testing group who received a dummy pill. But Merck has not publicly detailed the types of problems reported, which will be a key part of the FDA's review.

Top U.S. health officials continue to push vaccinations as the best way to protect against COVID-19.

"It's much, much better to prevent yourself from getting infected than to have to treat an infection," Dr. Anthony Fauci said while discussing Merck's drug last week.

Still, some 68 million eligible Americans remain unvaccinated, underscoring the need for effective drugs to control future waves of infection.

The prospect of a COVID-19 pill comes amid other encouraging signs: New cases per day in the U.S. have dropped below 100,000 on average for the first time in over two months, and deaths are running at about 1,700 a day, down from more than 2,000 three weeks ago.

Also, the average number of vaccinations dispensed per day has climbed past 1 million, an increase of more than 50% over the past two weeks, driven by the introduction of booster shots and workplace vaccine requirements.

Still, heath authorities are bracing for another possible surge as cold weather drives more people indoors.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, health experts have stressed the need for a convenient pill. The goal is for something similar to Tamiflu, the 20-year-old flu medication that shortens the illness by a day or two and blunts the severity of symptoms like fever, cough and stuffy nose.

Three FDA-authorized antibody drugs have proved highly effective at reducing COVID-19 deaths, but they are expensive, hard to produce and require specialty equipment and health professionals to deliver.

Assuming FDA authorization, the U.S. government has agreed to buy enough of the pills to treat 1.7 million people, at a price of roughly $700 for each course of treatment. That's less than half the price of the antibody drugs purchased by the U.S. government — over $2,000 per infusion — but still more expensive than many antiviral pills for other conditions.

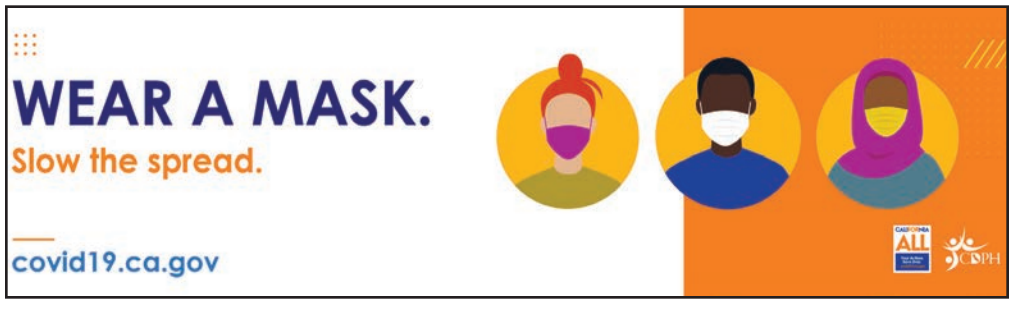
Merck's Kartsonis said in an interview that the $700 figure does not represent the final price for the medication.

"We set that price before we had any data, so that's just one contract," Kartsonis said. "Obviously we're going to be responsible about this and make this drug as accessible to as many people around the world as we can."

Kenilworth, New Jersey-based Merck has said it is in purchase talks with governments around the world and will use a sliding price scale based on each country's economic means. Also, the company has signed licensing deals with several Indian generic drugmakers to produce low-cost versions of the drug for lower-income countries.

Several other companies, including Pfizer and Roche, are studying similar drugs and are expected to report results in the coming weeks and months. AstraZeneca is also seeking FDA authorization for a long-acting antibody drug intended to provide months of protection for patients who have immune-system disorders and do not adequately respond to vaccination.

Some experts predict various COVID-19 therapies eventually will be prescribed in combination to better protect against the worst effects of the virus.



California coronavirus death count tops 70,000 as cases fall

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

California's coronavirus death toll reached another once-unfathomable milestone — 70,000 people — on Monday as the state emerges from the latest infection surge with the lowest rate of new cases among all states.

Last year at this time, cases in the state started ticking up and by January California was in the throes of the worst spike of the pandemic and was the nation's epicenter for the virus. Daily deaths approached 700.

The latest surge started in summer and was driven by the delta variant that primarily targeted the unvaccinated. At its worst during this spike, California's average daily death count was in the low 100s.

Data collected by Johns Hopkins University showed the state with 70,132 deaths by midday Monday. It's the most in the nation, surpassing Texas by about 3,000 and Florida by 13,000, although California's per capita fatality rate of 177 per 100,000 people ranks in the bottom third for the U.S.

"There's very little if anything ever to compare that to," Dr. Mark Ghaly, California's health secretary, said of the level of deaths.

"Take a moment of silence and reflection on what that's meant for Californians," he said. "Families that have lost more than one family member, key breadwinners, people who couldn't protect themselves."

The most populous state is in a much better situation as it enters the colder months this year. It has been a national leader in vaccinations while others who survived the virus acquired a natural immunity that also helps prevent severe illness and death.

Even if there is a new surge, "the level of life-altering behaviors may be different this time around than we saw last winter," Ghaly told The Associated Press.

He does not expect California to lock down as it did last year with business closures, social distancing requirements and capacity restrictions.

"That is not what we're talking about," he said. "I think vaccines plus masks in certain (indoor) settings is going to be a significant support of us getting through anything that COVID throws at us in the future."

A year ago, "there were all these debates, should we have Halloween vs. no Halloween," said Dr. Monica Gandhi, an infectious disease expert at the University of California, San Francisco. "I think this winter is going to be a lot better than last winter, especially in California."

More than 70% of Californians are now fully vaccinated and another 8% partially so, she noted. That compares to about one-third who had antibodies against the coronavirus in February, before the rollout of vaccines and as California was recovering from a surge that strained hospitals to the breaking point.

Marm Kilpatrick, an infectious disease expert at the University of California, Santa Cruz, projects that the current level of immunity is still too low to avert another surge, particularly because people are tired of safety precautions.

Still, "it will primarily be those people who have not been infected before and those who are not vaccinated that will suffer the highest consequences," Kilpatrick said.

California was the first to impose a statewide stay-at-home order, in March 2020, and that aggressive action by Gov. Gavin Newsom was credited by many with sparing the state from the kind of surge that devastated New York City early in the pandemic.

But later Newsom faced criticism that he was too slow to remove restrictions on businesses and activities. He ultimately faced a recall election last month and voters overwhelmingly chose to keep him in office.

Even as cases fell, Newsom recently announced the nation's first plan to require all eligible schoolchildren to be vaccinated. The state also requires masks in school.

But the state's local governments have been imposing and lifting requirements on their own, creating a confusing patchwork of regulations.

In Los Angeles County, a vaccine requirement just took effect for customers at indoor bars, wineries and a small group of other businesses. But in the city of Los Angeles, a far more aggressive vaccine mandate that applies to virtually all indoor businesses is set to take effect next month.

SEE **COVID** PAGE 11

Letter to the Editor

Peter Borresen Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The October 2021 issue of National Geographic magazine has a major article on Black homeownership. It says: "A typical … white family's wealth is eight times that of a typical black family - a legacy of bias in housing." The article makes clear the enormous benefits of black homeownership.

Homeownership enforces saving, builds wealth through appreciation and creates multigenerational stability and community.

It is vital that Santa Monica builds affordable condos for sale, with income restriction covenants. This will allow everyone to create wealth and will level the playing field with the rich, who are the only ones who can afford to buy in Santa Monica.

Those families displaced when the 10 freeway was built may well have been homeowners, and now Santa Monica plans to offer them rentals. This reinforces the initial property taking and continues the pattern of poverty and dependency.

Affordable renting is just renting, and leads nowhere - the rich get richer and the poor stay poor. To close that gap the poor need to own property. The city must make ownership a primary goal for all classes of residents, especially the poor.

Peter Borresen, Santa Monica.

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 255 CALLS ON OCTOBER 10

Petty Theft Report 2900Blk Main St 1:34 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2500Blk Neilson Way 1:41 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1300Blk Yale St 1:49 p.m.
Burglary Report 2200Blk 6th St 1:52 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 3100Blk Airport Ave 1:59 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 200Blk 12th St 10:01 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2300Blk 4th St 10:04 a.m.
Lewd Activity 1500Blk The Beach 10:08 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 900Blk 4th St 10:14 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1100Blk 22nd St 10:16 a.m.
Sexual Assault 500Blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:17 a.m.
General Parking Problem 1800Blk Euclid St 10:19 a.m.
Burglary Report 2200Blk Colorado Ave 10:21 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1600Blk 9th St 10:22 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1600Blk The Beach 10:32 a.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 30th St / Pico Blvd 10:32 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 700Blk Pine St 10:43 a.m.
Fight 100Blk Ocean Park Blvd 10:51 a.m.
Auto Burglary Just Occurred Main St / Ocean Park Blvd 10:55 a.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 1300Blk 2nd St 11:11 p.m.
Death Investigation 900Blk 14th St 11:12 a.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 2200Blk Delaware Ave 11:16 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1500Blk Wilshire Blvd 11:17 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 15th St / Wilshire Blvd 11:21 a.m.
Drinking In Public 200Blk Bay St 11:21 p.m.
Battery Report 800Blk The Beach 11:36 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2200Blk Ashland Ave 11:54 a.m.
Encampment 1600Blk Ocean Ave 11:54 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1400Blk The Beach 11:56 a.m.
Fight 100Blk Broadway 12:07 a.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 2000Blk Ocean Ave 12:14 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1300Blk Yale St 12:19 p.m.
Person Down 800Blk Lincoln Blvd 12:22 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1500Blk 9th St 12:24 p.m.
Party Complaint 1400Blk Harvard St 12:26 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 200Blk Wilshire Blvd 12:27 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Just Occurred 1600Blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:28 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1600Blk Ocean Front Walk 12:30 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 4th St / Colorado Ave 12:36 p.m.
Person Down 2200Blk Delaware Ave 12:36 p.m.
Person Down 1400Blk 14th St 12:42 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1700Blk Ocean Ave 12:42 p.m.
Status Check 1500Blk Yale St 12:43 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1700Blk Ocean Ave 12:45 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 14th St / San Vicente Blvd 12:55 a.m.
Party Complaint 500Blk 25th St 12:57 a.m.
Fight 1200Blk 3rd Street Prom 2:33 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 800Blk 5th St 2:34 p.m.
Lewd Activity Princeton St / Santa Monica Blvd 2:36 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Just Occurred 26th St / Santa Monica Blvd 2:37 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1300Blk Wilshire Blvd 2:54 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1400Blk Berkeley St 2:58 p.m.
Burglary Now 2500Blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:11 a.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 2600Blk Ocean Front Walk 3:14 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3300Blk Barnard Way 3:23 p.m.
Burglary Report 1400Blk Yale St 3:42 p.m.
Party Complaint 1000Blk 3rd St 3:48 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1500Blk 6th St 3:49 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1600Blk Appian Way 3:50 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 26th St / Santa Monica Blvd 3:55 p.m.
Lewd Activity 1900Blk Pico Blvd 3:55 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 4:01 p.m.
Person With A Gun 2600Blk Ocean Front Walk 4:03 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1900Blk Main St 4:04 p.m.
Report Of Shots Fired 800Blk 9th St 4:11 a.m.
Domestic Violence Just Occurred 1700Blk Appian Way 4:18 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries Neilson Way / Pacific St 4:42 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 2800Blk Exposition Blvd 4:43 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 2600Blk 11th St 4:47 p.m.
Encampment 2600Blk The Beach 4:58 p.m.
Party Complaint 3100Blk 2nd St 6:12 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Just Occurred 5th St / Arizona Ave 6:18 a.m.
Burglary Report 2200Blk 6th St 6:23 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2200Blk Ashland Ave 6:32 p.m.
Person With A Gun Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 6:39 p.m.
Encampment 1300Blk Wilshire Blvd 6:44 p.m.
Grand Theft Just Occurred 2600Blk Ocean Park Blvd 7:17 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Now 1600Blk Appian Way 7:26 p.m.
Encampment 1700Blk Ocean Ave 7:45 a.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon Now Franklin St / Wilshire Blvd 7:45 p.m.
Fight Neilson Way / Pico Blvd 7:46 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper In Progress 200Blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:47 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon Report 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 7:48 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Just Occurred 11th St / Santa Monica Blvd 8:03 p.m.
Living In A Vehicle 700Blk Ozone St 8:05 p.m.
Found Property 900Blk The Beach 8:27 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Just Occurred 1800Blk 4th St 8:33 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Just Occurred 4th St / Bicknell Ave 8:36 a.m.

SEE **POLICE LOG** PAGE 11

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 SEPT. 30 AT APPROXIMATELY 6:50 A.M.

Officers responded to 1819 Cloverfield (Chevron Gas Station) regarding a robbery that just occurred. The comments of the call stated the suspect pulled out an object believed to be a knife, pointed it at the storekeeper and then threw items around the gas station. The victim also stated the suspect placed multiple bags of chips into one of the three backpacks on his person without paying. While responding to the call, dispatch alerted units that they had a visual of a possible suspect near the Bergamot train station. Terrance McCrea was located near the train station in possession of stolen property, a knife and other items. He was arrested and booked in the Santa Monica jail for robbery.

City of Santa Monica

**CITY OF SANTA MONICA
ORDINANCE NUMBER 2682 (CCS)
(CITY COUNCIL SERIES)**

AN EMERGENCY INTERIM ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA AMENDING INTERIM ZONING REGULATIONS ESTABLISHED BY EMERGENCY INTERIM ORDINANCE 2636 (CCS) AND EXTENDED AND AMENDED BY EMERGENCY INTERIM ZONING ORDINANCES 2658 AND 2667 (CCS) FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY OF THE BC (PROMENADE) DISTRICT AND THOSE PORTIONS OF THE BC (2ND AND 4TH STREET) DISTRICT BOUNDED BY SECOND STREET TO THE WEST, BROADWAY TO THE SOUTH, 4TH STREET TO THE EAST, AND WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TO THE NORTH TO INCORPORATE SHORT-TERM RECOMMENDATIONS SET FORTH IN THE PROMENADE STABILIZATION AND ECONOMIC VITALITY PLAN

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2682 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

This Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance ("IZO") makes the following amendments to the interim zoning regulations established by prior Emergency IZOs 2636, 2658 and 2667:

1. Amend the land use table for all three blocks of the Promenade to add permitted uses, with certain limitations, and streamline permitting of existing land uses by minimizing applicability of Conditional Use Permits (CUPs), Minor Use Permits (MUPs), and other discretionary approvals to allow:

- Group Residential, Congregate Housing, and Senior Group Residential on upper floors
- Child Care & Early Education Facilities, Grooming and Pet Stores, Veterinary Services, Liquor Stores, Medical & Dental Offices, and General Personal Services with Promenade frontage
- Community Assembly and Business Services with alley frontage or on upper floors
- Cinemas & Theaters with more than 99 seats, Convention and Conference Centers, Small-Scale Facilities, and Hotels and Motels without requiring CUP
- Bed and Breakfasts and Tattoo or Body Modification Parlors without requiring MUP

2. Reduce minimum active ground floor depth requirement from 50 feet to 25 feet from Promenade property line.

3. Permit direct access to upper floors and rear ground floor office uses from the Promenade.

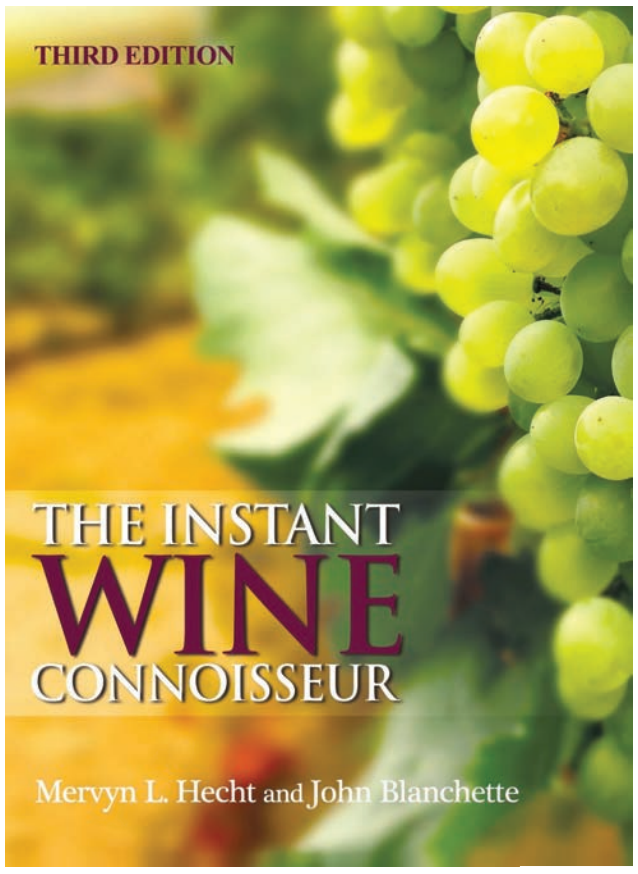
4. Exempt primarily open-air rooftop uses from floor area ratio calculations.

The Emergency IZO was effective as of the date of its adoption and will remain in effect through December 31, 2022, unless further extended.

The full text of the above Emergency IZO is available upon request from the office of the City Clerk, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 102, Santa Monica. Phone: (310) 458-8211.



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



Daily Press Food &Wine Columnist Merv Hecht takes you on an delightful tour of the world of wine. A fun way to increase your appreciation and knowledge of wine.

available at amazon

Southwest cancels hundreds more flights, denies sickout

DAVID KOENIG
AP Airlines Writer

Southwest Airlines canceled more than 350 flights Monday following a weekend of major disruptions that it blamed on bad weather and air traffic control issues. The pilots union accused the company of a botched response to what it said would have been a minor challenge for other airlines.

The third straight day of canceled and delayed flights left passengers stranded and steaming from California to the East Coast.

"You can't really relax when you're just sitting there waiting for your next flight to be canceled," said Vanessa Wheeler, who was biding her time at the San Jose, California, airport. She said Southwest canceled six consecutive flights on her over two days before she eventually decided to book a flight home to Las Vegas with Delta Air Lines. She vowed to never fly Southwest again.

Monday's cancellations amounted to 10% of Southwest's schedule, and at least 1,400 other flights, or roughly 40%, were delayed, according to the FlightAware tracking service. Shares of Southwest Airlines Co. fell 4.2%.

The widespread disruptions began shortly after the Southwest Airlines Pilots Association, representing 9,000 pilots, asked a federal court on Friday to block the airline's order that all employees get vaccinated. The union argued that Southwest must negotiate over the issue because it could involve sick leave or disability if pilots have a reaction to the vaccine.

"We are not anti-vaccination at all, but our pilots are extremely worried about how their medicals are going to be handled" if they are unable to fly, union president Casey Murray told The Associated Press. Murray said pilots had not staged a sickout because of the vaccine mandate.

He instead blamed the chaos of the past few days on Southwest's operation, which he said has become "brittle" and "cracks under the slightest pressure." He said the airline uses antiquated crew-scheduling technology that leads to cascading disruptions when flights are canceled in one part of its network.

Unions at both Southwest and American have also argued that management has been too slow to bring pilots back from leaves of absence that the airlines persuaded them to take during the pandemic, leaving them short-handed.

In a video for employees, Southwest Chief Operating Officer Mike Van de Ven said that despite "a very aggressive hiring plan ... we are still not where we want to be with staffing," especially pilots.

The staffing shortage is leading to fewer flights. After massive delays this summer, Southwest trimmed its fall schedule, which Van de Ven said had helped reduce delays in the past month. He said Southwest has already made significant cuts in its original schedules for November and December, "and if we think we need to do more, we will."

There is a risk to fewer flights, however: It leaves Southwest with fewer options to accommodate stranded passengers.

Meanwhile, the Federal Aviation Administration acknowledged delays in part of Florida on Friday but pushed back against Southwest's air-traffic control explanation. The FAA said Sunday that "some airlines" were experiencing problems because of planes and crews being out of position. Southwest was the only airline to report such a large percentage of canceled and delayed flights over the weekend.

Southwest spokeswoman Brandy King said there was no evidence that would indicate the disruptions were caused by any sort of employee protest over vaccinations.

Some passengers were frustrated not just by flight delays but also the lack of a clear reason for them.

"My concern is we had no explanation really that was, I feel, very legitimate or believable," said Brian Gesch of Cedar Grove, Wisconsin, who was traveling through Reagan Washington National Airport with his wife. He doubted that weather and air traffic controllers were the real issue. "So we are frustrated and missing a day of work."

Others were just concerned about getting home.

"I'm not sure what's going on," said Sean Merrell of Frisco, Texas, "but as long as I can get back to Dallas, it's all that matters to me."

The White House has pushed airlines to adopt vaccine mandates because they are federal contractors — they get paid by the Defense Department to operate flights, including those that carried Afghanistan refugees to the U.S. this summer.

United Airlines was the first major U.S. carrier to announce a vaccination requirement. Southwest had remained silent even after President Joe Biden announced his order for federal contractors and large employers. Finally last week, Southwest told employees they must be fully vaccinated by Dec. 8 to keep their jobs. Workers can ask to skip the shots for medical or religious reasons.

Savanthi Syth, an airlines analyst for Raymond James, said the weekend problems will increase Southwest's costs and worsen the company's strained relations with unions.

Southwest has struggled all summer with high numbers of delayed and canceled flights. In August, it announced it was trimming its September schedule by 27 flights a day, or less than 1%, and 162 flights a day, or 4.5% of the schedule, from early October through Nov. 5.

Associated Press reporters Dan Huff in Washington, D.C., and R.J. Rico in Atlanta contributed to this report.

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WINNER

Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

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‘Surf City USA’ beach reopens after oil spill

AMY TAXIN
Associated Press

Surfers and swimmers returned to the waves Monday at a popular Southern California beach that was shut for more than a week after an undersea pipeline leaked crude oil into the ocean.

The reopening of Huntington Beach — dubbed “Surf City USA” — came far sooner than many expected after a putrid smell blanketed the coast and blobs of crude began washing ashore.

City and state park officials decided to reopen the shoreline in Huntington Beach after water quality tests revealed no detectable levels of oil associated toxins in the ocean. That was good enough for Andrew Boyack, a 54-year-old commercial photographer, who usually surfs the waves in his hometown three or four times a week but has stayed out since the spill.

“There’s lots of guys out so I figure it’s probably alright, and I guess they tested it,” Boyack said, while rinsing off at an outdoor beach shower.

“It’s exercise. It’s like, you know, if somebody was a jogger or something. We surf every morning.”

This surf-loving city of 200,000 people and nearby coastal communities have been reeling from the spill. The ocean has been closed, a popular air show canceled, fisheries shuttered and local shops have been walloped. The environmental impact on sensitive wetland habitats has been less severe than initially feared, but advocates say they’re concerned about the long-term impacts of the spill.

Coast Guard officials said a pipeline owned by Houston-based Amplify Energy that shuttles crude from offshore platforms to the coast leaked at least about 25,000 gallons and no more than 132,000 gallons of crude oil into the ocean.

The spill was confirmed on Oct. 2, a day after residents reported a petroleum smell in the area. Officials have said the cause remains under investigation and they believe the pipeline was likely damaged by a ship’s anchor several months to a year before it ruptured.

On an overcast Monday, a handful of people played volleyball and residents walked, jogged and biked on a path along the beach. Surfers in wetsuits jogged to the shore carrying their boards, eager to return to the waves, some after being shooed away over the weekend by lifeguards on jet skis.

Still, there were far fewer people in the ocean than usual, said Sean Rinehart, a 49-year-old surf instructor and chef from Huntington Beach. Rinehart headed out to surf but said he decided not to go in after the smell of dead fish near the pier gave him pause. The last time he surfed was Oct. 2, when he said he wound up in an oil slick. His skin, even now, is still itching, he said.

“I want to go in, but no way,” he said.

In Huntington Beach, shops selling everything from bikinis to stars-and-stripes boogie boards to sand toys and fishing gear have taken an economic hit since the spill. Shop owners hope business will bounce back quickly but fear it could take longer.

Other nearby beaches remain closed. The shoreline in Newport Beach to the south was closed on Monday pending the results of water quality testing, said John Pope, a city spokesman.

In Huntington Beach, the sand looked clear near the pier and there was no smell of oil. Workers in hazmat suits tasked with removing oily blobs continued to comb the sand.

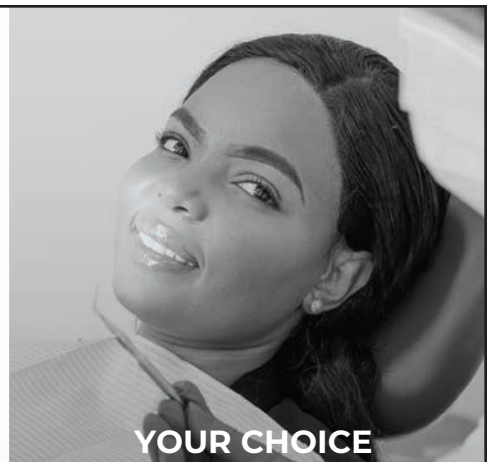
Matt Harty, a 61-year-old retired construction supervisor from the nearby community of Seal Beach, said he was glad to return to the waves in Huntington Beach with other early morning surfers. He said he’s seen oil spills before and this one didn’t seem that bad, and in fact, the beach looks great.

“This is the cleanest I’ve seen the beach in years, right, because there’s been nobody here for a week,” Harty said. “I think they cleaned it up really well.”

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 36 CALLS ON OCTOBER 10

Automatic Alarm 1400Blk Georgina Ave 1:04 a.m.
Public Assist 2nd St / Broadway 6:12 p.m.
Vehicle Into A Structure 14th St / San Vicente Blvd 12:55 a.m.
EMS 400Blk Broadway 1:00 a.m.
EMS 700Blk 12th St 2:59 a.m.
EMS 1100Blk Pico Blvd 8:14 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 9:31 a.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 1500Blk Pico Blvd 10:01 a.m.
EMS 1700Blk Lincoln Blvd 10:38 a.m.
EMS 2300Blk 2nd St 11:01 a.m.
EMS 900Blk 14th St 11:05 a.m.
EMS 15th St / Wilshire Blvd 11:23 a.m.
EMS 2200Blk 20th St 11:36 a.m.
EMS 800Blk Lincoln Blvd 12:22 p.m.
EMS 2200Blk Delaware Ave 12:36 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk 14th St 12:49 p.m.
EMS 2500Blk Pico Blvd 2:30 p.m.
Elevator Rescue 1300Blk 2nd St 2:52 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk Ocean Ave 3:36 p.m.
EMS 2000Blk Arizona Ave 3:51 p.m.
EMS 400Blk Broadway 4:13 p.m.
EMS 1000Blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:16 p.m.
EMS 1200Blk 11th St 4:19 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Physical Rescue Neilson Way / Pacific St 4:42 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk 3rd Street Prom 4:52 p.m.
EMS 1000Blk Montana Ave 5:02 p.m.
EMS 900Blk 10th St 6:18 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk 16th St 6:40 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 400Blk Broadway 6:51 p.m.
EMS Neilson Way / Pico Blvd 7:48 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 8:34 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 500Blk 21st Pl 8:37 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1500Blk 6th St 9:23 p.m.
Hydrant Leak 14th St / Alta Ave 9:34 p.m.
Flooded Condition Euclid St / Alta Ave 9:35 p.m.
EMS 800Blk Ocean Ave 10:29 p.m.

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6255

CRIME

FROM PAGE 1

collision.

"We're just lucky nobody was sleeping out there, because people sometimes sleep on those benches and seriously somebody could have died, so I'm just glad everybody is ok," said Damian Morgan-Flemming, manager at Thunderbolt Spiritual Bookstore, explaining that homeless individuals often sleep in the outdoor dining spaces by the store.

Morgan-Flemming said that all the cash was taken from the register, but that it was not a significant amount. He also said that the police took fingerprints from the register and hopes this helps them identify the culprits.

The entire left side of the bookstore's windows were destroyed and need to be replaced. At the newly opened Ethiopian restaurant Berbere several tables were damaged as were the parklet barrier planters. Heroic Italian also suffered damages to its planters and to one of its wooden dining booths.

Jeffrey Merrihue, Executive Chef at Heroic Italian, expressed exasperation at the incident as on Sept. 30 a separate van drove into the Beverly Hills Heroic Italian kiosk and heavily damaged the structure.

"It destroyed a booth, whereas in Beverly Hills it destroyed the whole restaurant," said Merrihue. "It's actually quite a pain in the neck to fix, but it's a small percentage of our overall seating; we have 42 seats outdoors, so we lost six."

Merrihue said the custom made booths are expensive and hard to build, but is relieved that he is able to keep the Santa Monica restaurant open as the Beverly Hills location is closed and in need of extensive repairs.

"Anyone who is still open after this mess (the pandemic) has got to have some kind of fundamental underlying resilience," said Merrihue. "Our team has a never give up attitude; when we got looted May 31st of last year the place was pretty well ransacked, but we came in in the morning, and a lot of the neighbors came out, and we all swept up and opened on time at 11 a.m. with broken windows."

All three businesses picked up the pieces from the van incident, replaced furniture where necessary and were open as of Monday morning.

Clara@smdp.com





Todd James

DAMAGE: Three businesses were damaged in the early morning crash.

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

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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press



Strictly Business

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Where To Look When You Need A LGBTQ Friendly Therapist

Yesterday was National Coming Out day, the time when gay men and women across the country announce themselves as homosexual, pansexual, bisexual or any other variation of human sexuality. Yep there's a lot more to it than just the old Hetero/Homo binary options. I like to say that human sexuality is like a 7 lane highway, and most people are in the bike lane. I mean most people are not very adventuresome or open-minded when it comes to their own or others sexualities.

As a divorce lawyer for the past 20 plus years I've learned a great deal about a great many people's private sexual lives. It's an interesting position I'm in where people (mostly men) tell me their deepest sexual likes and dislikes and fantasies and fetishes and mostly there's a lot of porn watching.

People open up to this gay divorce lawyer because they feel safe that their secrets are kept confidential and their sex fantasies won't offend me. Both of which are true. At this point in my career there's a short list of things that I haven't heard, and even those wont shock me when I hear them.

I know that my being open to hearing others deepest thoughts is a relief to them, because that's exactly what I am told and have witnessed. There's a real, physical reaction, that happens when we get honest and disclose our private thoughts. That's the basis of psychotherapy after all.

As a person who has spent thousands of dollars and hours working with therapists to overcome my own traumas from childhood, substance abuse, PTSD from my work and my own internalized homophobia, I can state that therapy, confession and third party input is crucial to getting and maintaining mental health. The world has been through a very traumatic event and many people could use some good therapy time.

Luckily we live in a time when the options for access to therapists is expanding. Aside from the many in person options we have in Santa Monica to therapists and psychologists, the online world expanded. I was able in the midst of the pandemic to see my therapist via a secure videoconference and we had access to one of the resources we use for EMDR (eye movement desensitization and reprocessing) via the internet.

The usage of technology in the distribution of therapists is expanding. My friend Jake Myers and I met while I was attending Antioch University pursuing a Masters in Psychology. He completed the program and went on to become a licensed therapist in California.

Myers is taking his background in website development and marketing and has launched lgbtqtherapyspace.com, which is the first teletherapy space devoted to serving the needs of both therapists and patients in the LGBTQ space. "This service provides lower cost therapy to individuals across the country, and more importantly, it allows individuals in remote locations that may not have access to a gay-friendly therapist, to see someone who is prescreened as culturally aware and sensitive to the diversity issues the LGBTQ community faces" Myers told me.

For many individuals across the country who are confronting their sexuality in unsafe territory the option to have a therapist who has been properly vetted is a tremendous benefit. "There are men on the DL (down low) and feel intense shame and guilt and have no one to turn to for solace. The unique experiences we all live, don't have to fit into neat boxes of gender. We need to be human, our spirit is what matters, to not be limited by society's expectations. We need to all embrace out masculine and feminine sides to lead happy fulfilled lives and it is my hope that this website will help make that happen for more people." Myers said.

One of the biggest benefits to the therapists is that they have the option to work from their home, or anywhere with internet access. "Plus they are paid out weekly directly to their accounts so they don't have the problems of waiting on funds from the insurance companies." Myers continued.

Mental health is a huge problem in our country, and it has only escalated due to the pandemic and the isolation that so many of us experienced. I'm lucky to live in a city like Santa Monica where I have access to a full range of therapists and modalities to help me navigate towards a healthy life. For those who are in the remote parts of our state and country, this new website is a boon to them and I'm happy that my friend Jake Myers, is leading the way along with his husband to make psychotherapy more available to everyone.

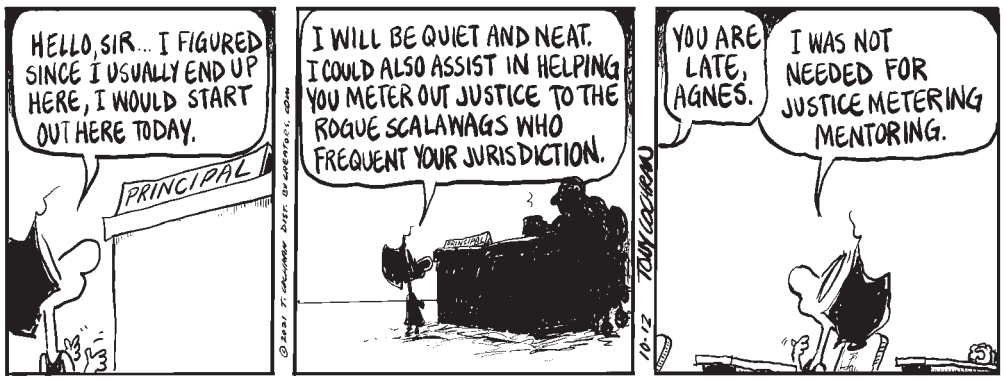
David Pisarra is a Los Angeles Divorce and Child Custody Lawyer specializing in Father's and Men's Rights with the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or 310/664-9969. You can follow him on Twitter @ davidpisarra

SEND YOUR NEWS TO THE EDITOR
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Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



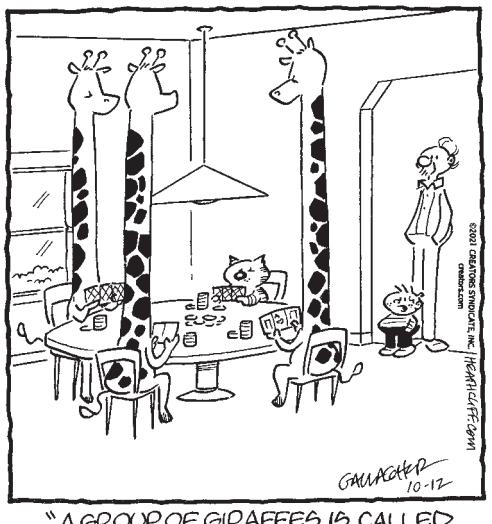
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

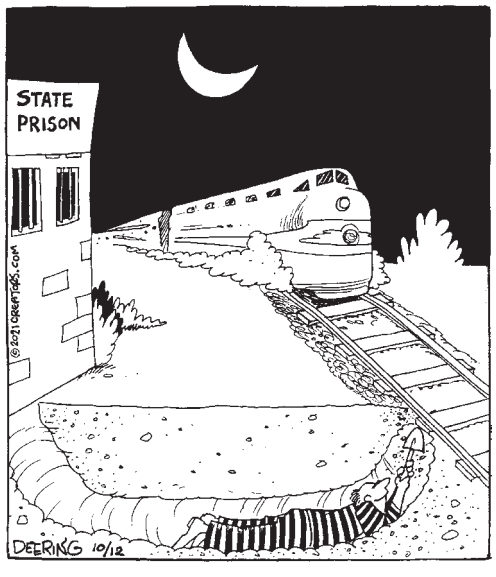
By PETER GALLAGHER



"A GROUP OF GIRAFFES IS CALLED A TOWER."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 61.3°

TUESDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft+ Waist to shoulder high occ. 5 ft
SW/SSW swell holds. Shorter period NW swell mix carries into the morning then trends down. Elevated offshore wind possible for S facing spots in the morning – watching position of low as it passes.

WEDNESDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 3-4ft Waist to chest high
Light to moderate offshore flow and clean early. Should be a pretty fun morning with a combo of continued SSW swell and dropping NW swell mix. Account for the mid to higher tide all day.

WEATHER

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 69. North wind around 10 mph.
Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 50. West southwest wind 5 to 10 mph.
Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near 68. North northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/10/12	Tue	04:35 AM	3.46	H
2021/10/12	Tue	07:37 AM	3.21	L
2021/10/12	Tue	2:27 PM	5.29	H
2021/10/12	Tue	10:38 PM	0.09	L
2021/10/13	Wed	06:07 AM	3.83	H
2021/10/13	Wed	10:11 AM	3.32	L
2021/10/13	Wed	4:06 PM	5.10	H
2021/10/13	Wed	11:49 PM	-0.06	L
2021/10/14	Thu	06:56 AM	4.24	H
2021/10/14	Thu	11:52 AM	2.87	L
2021/10/14	Thu	5:32 PM	5.16	H
2021/10/15	Fri	12:44 AM	-0.15	L
2021/10/15	Fri	07:31 AM	4.61	H
2021/10/15	Fri	12:54 PM	2.27	L
2021/10/15	Fri	6:39 PM	5.28	H
2021/10/16	Sat	01:28 AM	-0.13	L
2021/10/16	Sat	08:00 AM	4.95	H
2021/10/16	Sat	1:42 PM	1.70	L
2021/10/16	Sat	7:32 PM	5.34	H
2021/10/17	Sun	02:04 AM	0.02	L
2021/10/17	Sun	08:26 AM	5.23	H

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERball calottery
Draw Date: 10/9
12 17 30 45 62
Power#: 5
Jackpot: 38 M

calottery MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 10/8
21 24 36 40 70
Mega#: 22
Jackpot: 73 M

SuperLotto PLUS calottery
Draw Date: 10/9
13 21 22 32 43
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 25 M

calottery Fantasy5
Draw Date: 10/10
2 15 20 24 34

calottery Daily3
Draw Date: 10/10
EVENING: 7 0 2
Draw Date: 10/10
MIDDAY: 7 2 8

Daily Derby calottery
Draw Date: 10/10
1st: 05 - California Classic
2nd: 02 - Lucky Star
3rd: 09 - Winning Spirit
Race Time: 1:44.24

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 (OCTOBER 12)

You will be celebrated for those very same qualities you admire so much in others – a sign that what you've done to create yourself and your life is effective. You'll repeat the success formula to bring relationships to new places. You'll launch a personal odyssey and create financial resources for yourself and others. Aquarius and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 11, 1, 30, 3 and 18.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). People say "just kidding" when they mean "this is true to some degree." You'll hear the message behind the message and let it inform you, even if you don't react to it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll seize the opportunity to practice what you've learned ... once you recognize it, that is. Such opportunities often come disguised as perplexing problems.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your plan will be successful. Someone who keeps telling you that will be critical in this success. You could use a few more team members, so put out the word.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Not all outsiders are loners; many of them are soloists. You have an excellent sense about what energy level to bring to the scene. Your skill in relating to people in the way they prefer will connect you to many.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The day has 24 hours, but how many moments is that? Take it one at a time. Some require more building than others. It's not a bad time to start construction on a moment that will take months in the making.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). It is said that "nature abhors a vacuum." Relationships will run according to the principle today, making the main question one of casting: Who will play nature and who will play the vacuum?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). One good idea will be the bridge between you and what you want. Give yourself lots of mental space and maybe some boredom, too, if you can manage it. Let yourself daydream.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You are harder on yourself than even your harshest critic would be. A reminder: As a human, you're not always going to make the optimal choice. Accept your humanity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It's more about believing than seeing today. This is the principle by which creations come together. Hang the vision in a high corner of your mind, then dance toward it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). To effectively work a crowd, you must keep moving. The world is your "crowd" today, as dispersed as it may be. Through a commute or digital technology, you will spread your goodwill one short interaction at a time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). If you get it right the first time, go up a level. There's little to learn in arenas that are too easy for you. If you're not learning, you're declining. When you're getting it wrong, the lessons are abundant.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Information comes to you like unmarked mail. It could be from anywhere — next door or next continent. A lack of context calls for greater diligence in the testing of information. Question everything.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

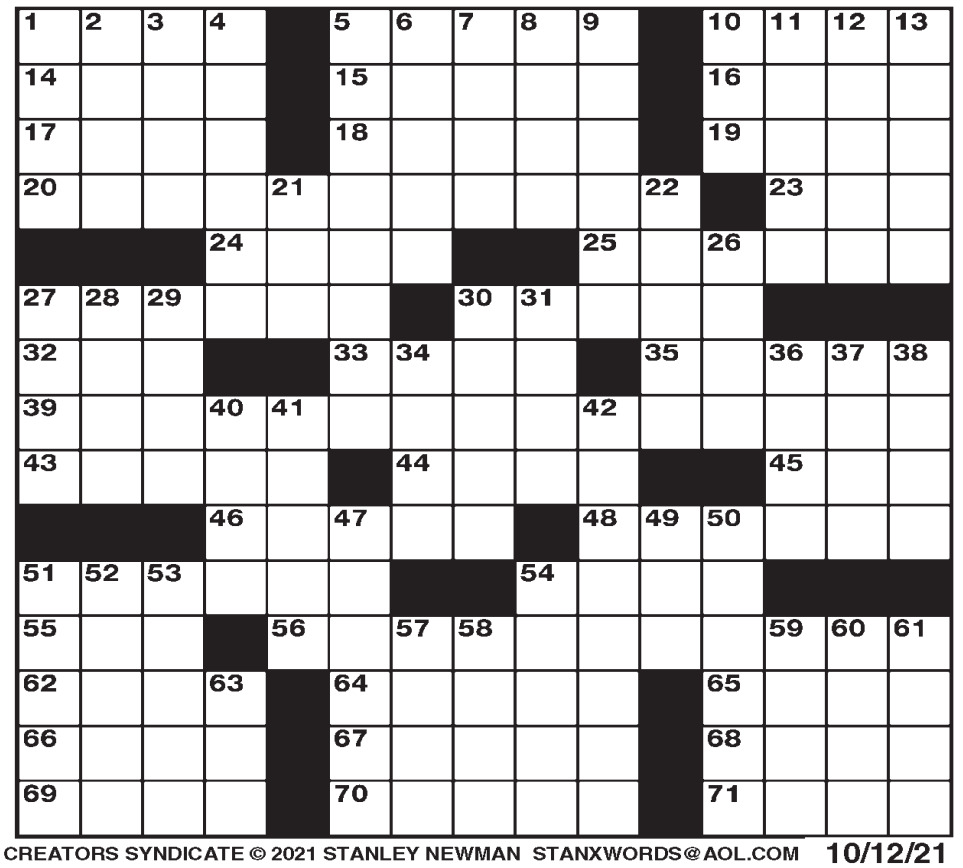
	8					4		
	7		6					5
4			7		5		8	
		2		5				4
	5	4	2		7	1	6	
8				4		2		
	6		9		1			2
1					2		3	
		5					9	

Newsday Crossword

JUST A MOMENT by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Birthday present, for example
5 Ear coverings in winter
10 Kindergarten basics
14 Great Salt Lake's state
15 Non-studio film, for short
16 Layer of paint
17 Christmas season
18 Go into a skid
19 Voicemail signal
20 Brief moment
23 Tip of a sock
24 Cheer for a team
25 Expert in shooting arrows
27 Port of the Bahamas
30 Sum calculated
32 Halloween mo.
33 Highway or street
35 Chess game endings
39 Brief moment
43 Oddly frightening
44 Measly
45 Period in history
46 Stun gun
48 Steakhouse orders
51 Region like the Sahara
54 At the summit of
55 Lumberjack's tool
56 Brief moment
62 Pressed the doorbell
64 Back tooth
65 "Scat!"
66 "So what __ is new?"
67 Award for a contest
68 Charged atoms
69 Plant stalk
70 Spirited horse
71 Russian refusal

DOWN
1 Fellows
2 Whoop __ (celebrate)
3 Harvest season
4 Belonging to those people
5 The Show Me State
6 Not yet rented
7 Savings protection org.
8 Generic dog name
9 Observed attending
10 Perform a role
11 Seating for four at a diner
12 Lake boat
13 Do the driving
21 Grind __ halt (stop)
22 Serious play
26 Big family
27 Short memo
28 Muscle soreness
29 Suffix for young or prank
30 Greedy one
31 Unpleasant smell
34 "You can count __!"
36 Adolescent
37 *Jane* __ (Charlotte Brontë novel)
38 Large briny waters
40 Mosquito attack
41 Acquire knowledge
42 Restrained, as in shackles
47 Treads heavily
49 Constricting snake
50 Decides to participate
51 Takes a risk
52 Praise highly
53 Sight or smell
54 Astonish
57 Legal wrong
58 "Would __ to you?"
59 Sailor's greeting
60 The __ Ranger (Western hero)
61 Was defeated
63 Ruby or diamond



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What's Up Westside
out and about in Santa Monica

TUESDAY | OCT. 12

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
The Zoning Administrator issues land use permits that are minor in nature and may adopt specific findings of fact to support the resulting decision, or require specific conditions. Some Zoning Administrator permits are administrative determinations, while others require a noticed public hearing. https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Zoning-Administrator/ 10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY | OCT. 13

FARMERS MARKET
The largest grower-only Certified Farmers Market in Southern California and a favorite for local chefs! Enjoy one of Santa Monica's farmers markets, widely considered to be among the best on the west coast and featuring field-fresh produce, hundreds of kinds of vegetables, brilliant cut flowers, breads, cheeses and delicious foods. Arizona Ave between 4th and Ocean. 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

THURSDAY | OCT. 14

RENT CONTROL BOARD
Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Rent Control Board, 7 p.m. Those wishing to give public comment may make that request via email to rentcontrol@santamonica.gov by 4:30 p.m. on October 14. https://www.smgov.net/rentcontrol/

FRIDAY | OCT. 15

LIVE MUSIC
Free Live Music Friday Nights with good-time Americana band Wild Rust delivering high energy honkey tonk songs to soulful ballads with beautifully blended vocal harmonies at the Third Street Promenade's Main Stage. Oct 8th, Oct 15th, Oct 22nd (Live music from 7-8pm). You won't want to miss it ! https://www.instagram.com/wild.rust/

CLOSING CELEBRATION AND HISPANIC HERITAGE AWARDS CEREMONY
Closing event with music, awards, dance, lowrider car show, and art. This event will also host a Job Fair and vaccination clinic. Don't forget to submit your stamped loteria cards you received at the September 15 kickoff event for a drawing to win a Hispanic Heritage Month giveaway. 3:30 p.m., speakers begin at 4:30 p.m. Santa Monica City Hall

ENGLISH AS S SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) CONVERSATION, LOW
Santa Monica Public Library hosts an ongoing series of English as a Second Language (ESL) classes taught by Adult Education Center instructors. Classes are free and students must be 18 years or older to attend. Community parents and SMMUSD parents have priority enrollment. Learn more about California adult education at caladulted.org. Enrollment is through the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Adult Education Center, located at 2510 Lincoln Blvd., Room 203, Santa Monica, CA, 90405. Visit smmusd.asapconnected.com or contact Olga Saucedo at osaucedo@smmusd.org or (310) 664-6222, ext.76203 to enroll. 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

SATURDAY | OCT. 16

OPEN MAIN STREET
Main Street, Santa Monica turns into a pedestrian plaza with a pumpkin patch, beer booth, live music, kid korner, fitness classes & more. Open Main Street returns for Halloween. Enjoy al fresco dining, family friendly activities, & other fun experiences with local businesses when the two blocks between Hill & Kinney streets close to cars. Visit the "Popup Park" near Ashland & Main for live music in partnership with TRiP Santa Monica, free fitness classes by Fit Girl Club & activities for kids in front of Pump Station (2727 Main St.). Event schedule: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/open-main-street-halloween-edition-tickets-178274763617

SUNDAY | OCT. 17

FARMERS MARKET
2640 Main St. (In The Victorian Parking Lot) 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

MONDAY | OCT. 18

LIVE MUSIC
Free Live Music Friday Nights with good-time Americana band Wild Rust delivering high energy honkey tonk songs to soulful ballads.

For help submitting an event, contact us at
310-458-7737 or submit to events@smdp.com

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 15 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5265

Gym workout

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

Abseil	Drinks	Keen	Soccer
Arms	Exhale	Lean	Sport
Athlete	Fast	Legs	Swim
Back	Floor	Mind	Teacher
Ball	Focus	Perspiration	Time
Bikes	Fruit	Pilates	Tired
Burpee	Golf	Protein	Towel
Class	Hard	Push	Weekend
Cricket	Help	Relax	warrior
Crouch	Hips	Rib cage	Weights
Cycle	Join	Run	Winner
Diet	Juice	Size	Yoga

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Fresh is always best

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SMMUSD

FROM PAGE 1

substitute teachers is that many of the subs we had in 2019 left the district permanently since there was little need for substitute teaching while we were teaching remotely. Some took permanent jobs. It also takes a long time to process new applications to hire anyone to teach because we have to be fingerprinted. That can take about one month."

Kelly said there's a large pool of paraeducators available but the District is experiencing turnover for the positions.

"Kind of behind that is special education teachers. That's one where we need it, it's a tough job. They're dedicated, committed people. It takes a particular kind of individual who has the patience to serve, and really can manage that kind of diverse tasks, it's a bit different than more conventional teaching assignments," he said. "We are hurt, you know, in our maintenance and operation custodial and support services that's also developing where we have particular needs right now."

PTA members have encouraged the district to look into the community to steady the workforce since nationwide jobs are available, but not being occupied.

"We are also aware that we have parents and guardians out there who are out of work," Gabrielle Cohen said. "So we would like to have anyone in our community, consider looking at the job openings in our district and cities first to see if you fit the requirements for one of the positions and help us have a win-win situation."

The district is trying to get the word out about the openings, but has not had much success and the problem seems to be sticking around.

"I think we continue to just try to get the word out as much as possible, try to get people engaged in that process. Our Personnel Commission in some of these classifications. They have continuous recruitment going on, so they're always engaged in the process," Kelly said. "The positions are always posted and open for people to apply."

Boardmember Keith Coleman agreed that the word must get out, and seemingly depending on the online postings is not cutting it.

"When we're looking at things that are much more localized, word of mouth is a way to do things digitally and I know that people do look at job boards etc, but oftentimes we know that if I say that to Bill and Bill says to Jennifer and Jennifer says to Sally, you know, that kind of information, and sometimes it can be much more compelling," he said.

daniel@smdp.com

COVID

FROM PAGE 2

No counties around Los Angeles County have such mandates.

In Northern California, San Francisco and several nearby counties announced plans to begin easing masking requirements as conditions improve. On Friday, Newsom called that "an encouraging sign," while also offering caution about moving too quickly.

"This time last year we were experiencing not dissimilar optimism, only to experience that winter surge," he said.

California has the lowest per capita rate of new coronavirus cases in the country. It is one of only two states that the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention rates as having a "substantial" rate of transmission, which is a step below the "high" rate that all other states have.

California recorded 67 cases per 100,000 people in the last week; the nation's average is 195. And the state's positivity rate in the last seven days was 2.5% while the country averaged 6.1%.

The rate at which each infected person spreads the disease, known as the R-effective, has been dropping steadily in California since mid-July and now is at 0.78 statewide. Anything below 1 means the number of infected persons will decrease.

Statewide, hospitalizations crested at nearly 22,200 and ICU admissions at almost 5,000 in January. There are now about 4,100 hospitalizations and 1,100 intensive care cases, down from 8,220 and 2,100, respectively, a month ago.

Gandhi thinks California is nearing levels where it could lift most precautions and accept living with a virus that won't go away but one that isn't likely to kill or seriously injure most vaccinated people. She said California seems unlikely to lift restrictions until children 5-11 are widely vaccinated and there are improvements in the rest of the nation.

Meantime, the upcoming flu season will present its own challenges as health care providers test patients to sort out common symptoms from the coronavirus.

Ghaly said the state has been preparing for a crush of testing. Dr. Lee Riley, chairman of the Division of Infectious Disease and Vaccinology at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Public Health, expects problems.

"We're probably going to overwhelm the testing service," Riley said. Moreover, he said the flu can make even vaccinated people more susceptible to lung damage and other severe symptoms.

With that caution, Ghaly predicted that this winter the vaccinated, perhaps while masked, can "continue to move around the cabin, if you will, and enjoy some of the things that last year we didn't get to enjoy."

POLICE LOG

FROM PAGE 3

Auto Burglary Report 900Blk 6th St 8:54 a.m.
Domestic Violence Now 3100Blk Virginia Ave 8:59 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 9:03 a.m.
Living In A Vehicle 100Blk Georgina Ave 9:07 p.m.
Living In A Vehicle 200Blk Georgina Ave 9:07 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report Main St / Ocean Park Blvd 9:36 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1800Blk 34th St 9:36 a.m.
Encampment 2600Blk Ocean Front Walk 9:44 a.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 30th St / Pico Blvd 9:48 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Now 1200Blk Yale St 9:58 p.m.

Santa Monica Daily Press
Classifieds
FOR QUOTES PLEASE CALL 310-573-8074
or email cindy@smdp.com

CLASSIFICATIONS
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Jewelry
WantedvvTravel
Vacation Rentals
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Rent
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Roommates
Commercial Lease
Real Estate
Real Estate Loans
Storage Space
Vehicles for Sale
Massage
Services
Computer Services
Attorney Services
Business
Opportunities
Yard Sales
Health and Beauty
Fitness
Wealth and Success
Lost and Found
Personals
Psychic
Obituaries
Tutoring

Help Wanted

Front Desk Concierge 2 years customer service experience & basic Computer SkillsFull + Part Time - benefits offeredHourly Rate: $15.00 Location: Santa Monica AreaSeeking immediate placement2nd shift (3 pm - 11 pm) and 3rd shift (11 pm - 7 am) Email cover letter and resume: conciergesolutionsinc@gmail.com

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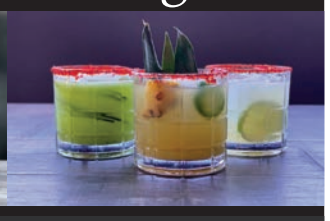
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Announcements

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HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm LOCATION 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401



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Ride Metro for Free

Los Angeles County's Metro system is launching a two-year pilot program for SMC students to **ride its buses and light rail trains for free**.

Vaccination Required

Your safety is our number one concern. The SMC Board of Trustees unanimously approved a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination program for the Santa Monica College community.

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