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FRIDAY
10.30.20
Volume 19 Issue 193

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Open door burglary.
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**Laughing Matters**
Dodgers win.
Page 4

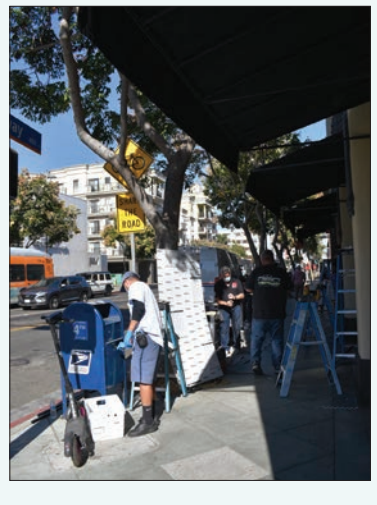







Clara Harter

**PREPARED:** The Vans store on 4th St. and Broadway Ave. is installing reinforced window panels in advance of the election. This store was looted during the May 31 civil unrest. The panels are highly resistant to force and could offer protection in the case of any election related rioting.



# How to celebrate Halloween and Día de los Muertos this weekend

**CLARA HARTER**
SMDP Staff Writer

It's set to be a spooky weekend with Halloween on Saturday and Día de Los Muertos starting on Sunday, and though some traditions are not possible this year there are still many ways to safely celebrate in Santa Monica.

This year's biggest change in festivities will be the lack of trick-or-treating due to the health risks posed

SEE **HALLOWEEN** PAGE 11

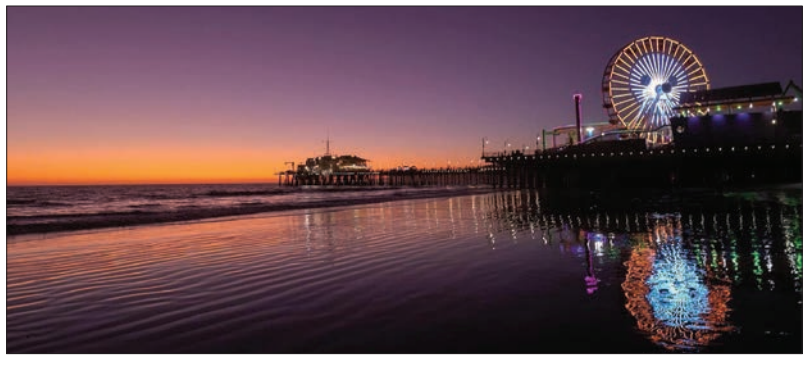


Photo by Steven Jay

**SPOOKY:** The Santa Monica Pier will have seasonal graphics.

# School district separation debate is all about finances

**CLARA HARTER**
SMDP Staff Writer

Malibu's potential divorce from Santa Monica schools is coming down to an issue that will be all too familiar to attorneys throughout the nation: educational alimony.

SEE **SEPARATION** PAGE 10

# Economic news offers glimmer of hope

**BRENNON DIXSON**
SMDP Staff Writer

The novel Coronavirus pandemic has caused unfavorable economic conditions for many residents living on the Westside, but business experts and community leaders said this week that locals should have hope for a fairly rapid recovery in the economy.

The Westside Council of Chambers, a group that advocates on behalf of economic organizations like Santa Monica's Chamber of Commerce, hosted its annual State of the Westside event Thursday morning, which featured a presentation from Chris Thornberg of Beacon Economics. Though the event was hosted virtually for the first time this year, dozens

SEE **WESTSIDE** PAGE 6

SHINE ON SANTA MONICA

## Recovering through the Power of Art

Instead of a Stairway to Heaven, 2020 has taken us down the road of recovery, as our community navigates the ever-changing landscape of a COVID-19 world. On this journey, we have had new adventures, taken some unexpected detours and learned a little more about ourselves in the process. We have been given precious time to reflect and make significant changes to our lives, allowing us to appreciate the small pleasures we took for granted: being around close friends, going out for lunch, even flashing a masked-smile at a stranger. While we continue on our path

SEE **ART** PAGE 8

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# FBI warns ransomware assault threatens US healthcare system

**FRANK BAJAK AP**
Technology Writer

Federal agencies warned that cybercriminals are unleashing a wave of data-scrambling extortion attempts against the U.S. healthcare system designed to lock up hospital information systems, which could hurt patient care just as nationwide cases of COVID-19 are spiking.

In a joint alert Wednesday, the FBI and two federal agencies warned that they had "credible information of an increased and imminent cybercrime threat to U.S. hospitals and healthcare providers." The alert said malicious groups are targeting the sector with attacks that produce "data theft and disruption of healthcare services."

The cyberattacks involve ransomware, which scrambles data into gibberish that can only be unlocked with software keys provided once targets pay up. Independent security experts say it has already hobbled at least five U.S. hospitals this week, and could potentially impact hundreds more.

The offensive by a Russian-speaking criminal gang coincides with the U.S. presidential election, although there is no immediate indication they were motivated by anything but profit. "We are experiencing the most significant cyber security threat we've ever seen in the United States," Charles Carmakal, chief technical officer of the cybersecurity firm Mandiant, said in a statement.

Alex Holden, CEO of Hold Security, which has been closely tracking the ransomware in question for more than a year, agreed that the unfolding offensive is unprecedented in magnitude for the U.S. given its timing in the heat of a contentions presidential election and the worst global pandemic in a century.

The federal alert was co-authored by the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Health and Human Services.

The cybercriminals launching the attacks use a strain of ransomware known as Ryuk, which is seeded through a network of zombie computers called Trickbot that Microsoft began trying to counter earlier in October. U.S. Cyber Command has also reportedly taken action against Trickbot. While Microsoft has had considerable success knocking its command-and-control servers offline through legal action, analysts say criminals have still been finding ways to spread Ryuk.

The U.S. has seen a plague of ransomware over the past 18 months or so, with major cities from Baltimore to Atlanta hit and local governments and schools hit especially hard.

In September, a ransomware attack hobbled all 250 U.S. facilities of the hospital chain Universal Health Services, forcing doctors and nurses to rely on paper and pencil for record-keeping and slowing lab work. Employees described chaotic conditions impeding patient care, including mounting emergency room waits and the failure of wireless vital-signs monitoring equipment.

Also in September, the first known fatality related to ransomware occurred in Duesseldorf, Germany, when an IT system failure forced a critically ill patient to be routed to a hospital in another city.

Holden said he alerted federal law enforcement Friday after monitoring infection attempts at a number of hospitals, some of which may have beaten back infections. The FBI did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

He said the group was demanding ransoms well above $10 million per target and that criminals involved on the dark web were discussing plans to try to infect more than 400 hospitals, clinics and other medical facilities.

"One of the comments from the bad guys is that they are expecting to cause panic and, no, they are not hitting election systems," Holden said. "They are hitting where it hurts even

SEE **ASSAULT** PAGE 6

## DAILY FIRE LOG

### SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 35 CALLS ON OCT. 28

EMS 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:22 a.m.
EMS 100blk Georgina Ave 1:01 a.m.
EMS Lincoln Blvd / Colorado Ave 1:35 a.m.
EMS 1300blk Pico Blvd 1:39 a.m.
EMS 300blk Olympic Dr 2:34 a.m.
EMS 100blk Broadway 6:14 a.m.
EMS 500blk Colorado Ave 7:25 a.m.
Flooded Condition 1400blk 25th St 7:41 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 2nd St 8:50 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 800blk Broadway 9:13 a.m.
EMS 1500blk 4th St 9:13 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 700blk Ocean Park Blvd 10:06 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:42 a.m.
Elevator Rescue 1600blk Lincoln Blvd 12:22 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 1:14 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 5th St 1:22 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 11th St 2:10 p.m.
EMS 2800blk Kansas Ave 2:25 p.m.
EMS 800blk 2nd St 2:28 p.m.
Flooded Condition 2600blk Centinela Ave 3:26 p.m.
EMS 00blk Sea Colony Dr 3:41 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 5th St 3:48 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2300blk Wilshire Blvd 4:44 p.m.
Odor Investigation 600blk San Vicente Blvd 5:04 p.m.
EMS 3000blk Delaware Ave 5:33 p.m.
Broken Water Main 1800blk Stewart St 6:21 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 7:08 p.m.
EMS 900blk 3rd St 7:48 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Ocean Ave / Idaho Ave 7:52 p.m.
EMS 2700blk Neilson Way 7:57 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1200blk 15th St 8:28 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 8:41 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Cloverfield Blvd 9:05 p.m.
EMS 2000blk 20th St 10:17 p.m.
EMS 2200blk Colorado Ave 11:54 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 OCTOBER 13, AT APPROXIMATELY 1 A.M.

SMPD officers responded to the 1100 block of Broadway regarding a "burglary that had just occurred." Comments of the call stated the victim saw a suspect exiting her apartment with her belongings. The victim stated she left her apartment to briefly retrieve an item from her car and upon returning saw the suspect was walking out of her unlocked apartment with multiple purses, shoes and jewelry. Upon arrival, officers discovered the suspect was being detained by the victim's significant other. After a brief investigation, Alicia Cruz was booked for 459 P.C- Burglary and is being held on $100,000 bail.

## LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

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## DAILY POLICE LOG

### SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 269 CALLS ON OCT. 28

72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:16 a.m.
Medical Aid Alarm 100blk Georgina Ave 1:02 a.m.
Public Intoxication 1300blk Pico Blvd 1:20 a.m.
Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 2500blk Pico Blvd 2:13 a.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation Ocean Ave / California Ave 3:42 a.m.
Encampment 1100blk Palisades Park 4:21 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1300blk 2nd St 5:31 a.m.
Harassing Phone Calls Report 800blk Pacific St 5:48 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 300blk Montana Ave 7:21 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 22nd St / Georgina Ave 8:01 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1400blk 14th St 8:09 a.m.
Battery 1500blk 2nd St 8:18 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1600blk Broadway 8:46 a.m.
Violation Of Restraining Order In Progress 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 8:51 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1800blk 20th St 8:55 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 1800blk 20th St 8:55 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 4th St / Palisades Ave 9:02 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 600blk Ozone St 9:04 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1500blk 11th St 9:06 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1800blk 20th St 9:21 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1400blk 14th St 10:03 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2900blk 2nd St 10:16 a.m.
Petty Theft 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 10:18 a.m.
Red Zone Violation 800blk 17th St 10:23 a.m.
Burglary Report 1200blk 11th St 10:40 a.m.
Family Disturbance 500blk Pier Ave 10:45 a.m.
Person With A Gun Euclid St / Santa Monica Blvd 10:57 a.m.
Petty Theft 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 11:01 a.m.
Petty Theft Puzzle Zoo 11:03 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 900blk Berkeley St 11:05 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved Lincoln Blvd / Olympic Blvd W 11:11 a.m.
Person With A Gun 900blk Arizona Ave 11:43 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 400blk Washington Ave 11:47 a.m.
Bike Theft Report 1900blk Lincoln Blvd 11:59 a.m.
Violation Of Temporary No Parking Signs 1100blk 7th St 12:09 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2400blk 34th St 12:16 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1800blk 19th St 12:16 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1800blk Montana Ave 12:21 p.m.
Petty Theft 2500blk Main St 12:23 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 700blk Ozone St 12:36 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 400blk Washington Ave 12:47 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 400blk Washington Ave 12:49 p.m.
Burglary Report 800blk Euclid St 12:55 p.m.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered 900blk Pacific Coast Hwy 12:56 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1000blk Michigan Ave 1:05 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1500blk Lincoln Blvd 1:28 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1300blk 9th St 2:06 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1400blk Ocean Park Blvd 2:20 p.m.
Burglary Report 900blk 14th St 2:35 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1400blk 6th St 2:51 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 800blk 6th St 2:55 p.m.
Indecent Exposure 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:07 p.m.
Domestic Violence 2nd St / Colorado Ave 3:18 p.m.
Fraud Report 1500blk 16th St 3:18 p.m.
Stalking Report 1500blk 11th St 3:28 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Cloverfield Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 3:32 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3300blk Barnard Way 3:40 p.m.
Missing Person 3rd St / California Ave 3:43 p.m.
Bike Theft Report 1400blk Ocean Park Blvd 3:50 p.m.
Burglary Report 1200blk 5th St 3:57 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2200blk 5th St 4:27 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 800blk 6th St 4:42 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 800blk 6th St 4:42 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 5:24 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 800blk Hill St 5:49 p.m.
Strongarm Robbery 2400blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:14 p.m.
Encampment 1700blk The Beach 6:25 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1400blk 4th St 6:43 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1400blk 4th St 6:45 p.m.

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City of Santa Monica

## NOTICE OF PREPARATION/NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING FOR A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE 6TH CYCLE 2021-2029 HOUSING ELEMENT

**DATE:** October 30, 2020

**TO:** State Clearinghouse, Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, Organizations and Interested Parties

**LEAD AGENCY:** City of Santa Monica
City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Mail Stop 28
Santa Monica, California 90401
Contact: Rachel Kwok, Environmental Planner
Email: Rachel.Kwok@smgov.net

The City of Santa Monica (City) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed 6th Cycle 2021-2029 Housing Element of the City's General Plan. In accordance with Section 15082 of the State CEQA Guidelines, the City has prepared this Notice of Preparation (NOP) to provide the public, Responsible Agencies, and other interested parties with information describing the proposed project and its potential environmental effects. The EIR will address the proposed project's potentially significant effects in the following environmental issue areas:

- Air Quality
- Population/Housing
- Cultural Resources
- Public Services
- Energy
- Transportation/Circulation
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Tribal Cultural Services
- Land Use and Planning
- Utilities
- Noise
- Mandatory Findings of Significance

**PROJECT APPLICANT:** City of Santa Monica

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The City of Santa Monica is located in Los Angeles County along the coast of the Pacific Ocean. The City is surrounded on three sides by the City of Los Angeles, including the westside communities of Brentwood, Mar Vista, Pacific Palisades, Venice and West Los Angeles. The City comprises approximately 5,280 acres (approximately 8.25 square miles).

**PROJECT LOCATION:** The City of Santa Monica is located in Los Angeles County along the coast of the Pacific Ocean. The City is surrounded on three sides by the City of Los Angeles, including the westside communities of Brentwood, Mar Vista, Pacific Palisades, Venice and West Los Angeles. The City comprises approximately 5,280 acres (approximately 8.25 square miles).

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Since 1969, California has required that all local governments (cities and counties) adequately plan to meet the housing needs of everyone in the community. One of the required elements of a General Plan is the Housing Element. California State law requires that communities prepare and update the Housing Element every eight years. The Housing Element serves as the City's guide for addressing the housing needs of all segments of Santa Monica's population. Housing needs are determined by the California Housing and Community Department (HCD), who decides what the numerical housing targets should be for each regional council of governments. Each council of government across the state then further allocates the regional housing number (known as the Regional Housing Needs Allocation – or RHNA) to every city and county within its jurisdiction. The RHNA is a targeted housing number - Cities and counties do not have to build this number of units, but rather they must plan for them and show that under current land use and development standards, there is capacity to accommodate for this number of housing.

For the proposed 6th Cycle 2021-2029 Housing Element, the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) has determined that the City's draft RHNA allocation is 8,874 units, more than 5 times than the last cycle. The significant increase in the City's RHNA housing number is indicative of the severity of the current housing crisis. As part of the proposed 2021-2029 Housing Element, Santa Monica must demonstrate to the State that there is available capacity within its jurisdictional boundaries to meet its targeted RHNA number. Per State requirements, the City's proposed Housing Element would include the following components:

- A detailed analysis of the City's demographic, economic and housing characteristics.
- An analysis of the barriers to producing and preserving housing.
- A review of the City's progress in implementing current housing policies and programs.
- An identification of goals, objectives, and policies, in addition to a full list of programs that will implement the vision of the plan.
- A list of sites (aka the Suitable Sites Inventory) that could accommodate new housing, demonstrating the City's ability to meet the quantified housing number established in the RHNA.

The proposed 6th Cycle Housing Element must be certified by the State Department of Housing and Community Development no later than October 2021.

**REVIEW PERIOD:** State CEQA Guidelines requires circulation of a NOP for a minimum 30-day review period. In consideration of the current Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the City will be circulating the NOP for the proposed Housing Element for an extended 60 days. Please go to the City's webpage https://www.santamonica.gov/housing-element-update for the NOP and associated info on the Housing Element Update (including background on the Housing Element, State requirements, anticipated project schedule, notification lists). The City welcomes agency and public input during this period regarding the scope and content of environmental information that must be included in the Draft EIR. **Comments may be submitted, in writing, by 5:30 p.m. on December 31, 2020** and addressed to:

Rachel Kwok, Environmental Planner
E-mail: rachel.kwok@smgov.net

**PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING:** In an effort to reduce the risk of COVID-19, the City will hold a scoping meeting via teleconference on December 10, 2020 at 5:30 PM to describe the proposed project, the environmental review process, and to receive public comments on the scope of the EIR. City staff and the City's EIR consultant will participate via teleconference. Participants may join the teleconference via https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/bxxeeakf or by dialing in at +1 (415) 466-7000 PIN is: 4050914#

Those wishing to give public comment for the meeting must make that request via email to Rachel.Kwok@smgov.net prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting and will be posted online on the project's webpage. Written information received after 12 p.m. will be read aloud at the meeting for a total of three minutes. The City will consider all comments, written and oral, in determining the final scope of the evaluation to be included in the EIR.

**ESPAÑOL:** Este es un aviso de que la Ciudad está preparando un informe que describe los posibles efectos ambientales de un plan de vivienda, que puede ser de su interés. Para más información, llame a Carmen Gutiérrez al 310-458-8341.




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## Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# Democracy May Lose But the Dodgers Won

There are four days until the most important presidential election in our lifetime. I've heard that comment about other elections but this one, when they say "vote like your life depends on it," it just may. Given Donald Trump brazenly said, "Article 2 of the Constitution means I can do whatever I want," either he goes bye bye on November 3 or democracy does. (If you see any typos it may just be my nerves.)

Eight years ago I was supremely proud of America. Barack Obama became the first African-American president in a nation that had, 147 years earlier, waged a brutal and bloody civil war to decide it some humans could literally own other humans. (What a concept.)

Sadly, we were the last industrialized country to outlaw slavery and the only one that required a war to do so, albeit at a staggering human cost. Approximately 5% of the population was either killed or wounded in the four year conflagration, meaning if it were fought today 17 million Americans would have died or been injured. Unimaginable, you say?

Actually things have been unimaginable for almost four years and getting worse. I pray I'm wrong, but given the extreme polarization additionally ginned up by Trump, plus the terrifying number of automatic weapons and angry citizens seemingly eager to use them, I worry we could be approaching Civil War 2.0.

In 2008 I watched the election results on TV with friends and was so moved by Obama's victory speech from Grant Park in Chicago, I was moved to tears. I wasn't the only one. In the estimated 240,000 people in the park, Oprah Winfrey was weeping tears of joy so profusely she blew her nose on her friend's jacket. Except he wasn't her friend!

The man was a complete stranger! He didn't seem to notice and apparently neither did Oprah because when she was told what she had done, she immediately invited the good-natured man on her show and presented him with a new jacket. (It seemed a bit cheap considering in 2004 Oprah gave all 276 members of her studio audience a new Pontiac. )

So if in 2008 I was so proud of the progress of America's conscience, in 2016 we elected a person totally devoid of one. In addition to telling 23,000 lies in four years he has done the following despicable things to name but a few: Mocked the disabled; ridiculed an autistic teenage girl fighting to save the environment; disrespected Gold Star families; called fallen soldiers "losers and suckers"; put kids in cages; insulted women; emboldened white supremacists; alienated our allies while siding with our autocratic-led enemies; and, through colossal Covid mismanagement, essentially killed 227,000 Americans (possibly 400,000 by January.)

Keep in mind Obama left Trump a "pandemic playbook" that was completely ignored and a "pandemic research team" Trump disbanded. And yet Trump says, "I take no responsibility." (Under the word "sociopath" Merriam-Webster ought to include a photo of Trump.)

Despite record numbers of Covid cases (70,000 a day!) and field hospitals being hurriedly erected, the White House is declaring "Trump has ended the pandemic." (The family of Nazi Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels, who invented "The bigger the lie the more it will be believed," could sue Trump for residuals.)

And the lies continue to flow on Trump's desperate Covid death tour. At his Bund-like rallies, not only does he spout toxic misinformation but in crowding his cult followers shoulder to shoulder, he spreads the toxic virus. But it was in Omaha on a freezing night Trump revealed a sub-human lack of empathy. Whining about how cold he was he told them, "At least you have the crowd to keep you warm." (And also give you Covid.)

When the event was over Trump hurriedly boarded warm, plush and tax-payer funded Air Force 1 and left the crowd in the freezer so to speak. It took four hours for buses to arrive which caused thirty people, many elderly, to suffer from hypothermia and seven required hospitalization. (Meanwhile Trump was probably wolfing down a bucket of hot KFC chicken.)

Shallow as sounds, I was busy celebrating the Dodgers winning their first World Series in 32 years. Thankfully, Trump didn't call the players "sons of bitches" or call for them to be fired. He didn't even take credit for the successful baseball season, which sounds absurd but not for a man who takes credit for defeating Covid which appears to be worse than ever. (Cases are up in 40 states, with hospitalization up 40% in the last month alone.)

If, God forbid, autocrat Trump cheats his way into a second term democracy will disappear. God willing the Dodgers win back to back World Series, they'll be the first team to do so in 20 years. Go Dodgers! Far more importantly and my last chance to say it before the election, go Joe Biden!

For guaranteed laughs Google "What undecided voters look like" and "Trump's first term by the numbers." Jack is at: jackdailypress@aol.com.

Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

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



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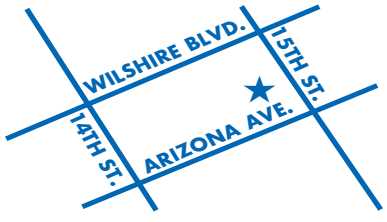
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# Letters, texts, caravans, parades: Advocates mobilize voters

JOCELYN NOVECK AND CLAIRE GALOFARO
Associated Press

Sometimes her hand hurt, but Nancy Gehman kept writing. Every evening from July until mid-October, the 85-year-old retiree sat with a gel pen, writing notes imploring fellow Americans to find a way to vote.

Then she mailed them: All 1,260 letters.

"It was comforting to know that I was doing something productive," she says.

Gehman, who lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico, is one of 182,000 people who have participated in Vote Forward, a 50-state letter-writing campaign to more than 17.5 million homes. The grassroots effort is one of countless ways in which individuals and organizations are working to get people to the polls in an election where, it's safe to say, nothing is normal.

In the best of times, it's a massive logistical challenge to get millions out to vote. In 2020, the difficulty has been compounded: by fear of the coronavirus, by complications and confusion over mail-in ballots, by palpable anxiety over the bitter divisions in the country.

As early voting has surged dramatically, with more than 73 million people estimated to have cast ballots, advocates have been mobilizing in myriad ways, from neighborhood groups to national movements, from block associations to college marching bands to lone violinists. Voters have been ushered to the polls by fleets of minivans, with bicycle parades and on horseback in Indian Country. When they get there, they're sometimes welcomed by a cello performance or a dance party.

Often unable to knock on doors or chat in person because of virus concerns, advocates have had to adapt. They've been texting and phone banking, holding drive-in rallies and organizing caravans.

What unites these efforts is the certainty that this is an election year like no other, and that voting is essential.

In Native American tribal communities devastated by the coronavirus, from job losses to sickness and death, advocates are mindful of causing further stress.

"As much as we know voting is important and necessary ... people are struggling," says advocate Ahtza Dawn Chavez. "In some ways, a lot of it can come off as just being insensitive."

In a normal election cycle, Chavez, who lives in Albuquerque and is Navajo and Kewa, and colleagues would knock on doors and sit down for coffee. Now, they're relying on ambassadors within communities to talk with their neighbors. They're also using robocalls, phone banking and mass texting. Of special concern are older adults.

"Our elderly are basically our library, they are our encyclopedia, our historical and cultural knowledge holders," Chavez said. "Making sure people have a safe way to cast their votes and access their polling locations was something we were very concerned about." In Arizona's Indian Country, "Ride to the Polls" has targeted younger voters with organized groups on horseback.

It's not only the coronavirus that's been an obstacle. In North Carolina, civil rights leader the Rev. William Barber II and others have been training clergy members to mobilize their congregations and make sure they know their options and rights, and to push back against any misinformation that might prevent them from voting.

"Don't let anybody suppress, stop, stymie, deter, detract your right to vote," Barber recently told attendees of a get-out-the-vote event.

In 2016, Patrisse Cullors, one of the creators of Black Lives Matter, hadn't thought about how she could leverage the platform to get out the vote. Now, after an unprecedented surge of Black Lives Matter-themed protests in recent months, Cullors and the foundation are hosting pandemic-safe drive-in rallies, text-banking voters and leveraging the millions of dollars in donations to run ads focused on the Black vote, Cullors said.

In Louisville, Kentucky, a city that has been rocked by demonstrations over the killing by police of Breonna Taylor, community groups, voters and activists have joined together in a parade of cars, trucks and buses through the city's predominantly Black West End in an effort to get out the vote. The effort, called "Protest to the Polls," is led by the Louisville Urban League and aims to take the summer's demands for racial and social justice to the ballot box, said Sadiqa Reynolds, president and CEO.

"We are reclaiming our votes," she said.

Some get-out-the-vote efforts have involved large-scale planning; others have been the work of one or two people with a sudden idea.

On the larger side is the nonprofit Neighborhood Assistance Corporations of America, which has deployed a fleet of vans in southwest Texas and Atlanta, and recently expanded to Charlotte, North Carolina. The vans have carted 25,000 people to the polls, said media coordinator Tim Trumble.

The community justice organization hopes it sends a message: Voter suppression efforts in minority communities will backfire. The 15-passenger vans, which accommodate six people with social distancing, get going as the sun comes up and drive all day, and are sanitized between each trip.

On the smaller side: "Play for the Vote," a nonpartisan effort by Boston cellist Mike Block that has organized musicians to play for voters while they wait to cast their ballots. Block came up with the idea while practicing his instrument the morning after the chaotic first presidential debate.

"I thought, 'The music is helping me — maybe I should just go down to my polling location and play.' It became obvious how great it would be if every musician did that," he said.

So Block, 38, has since enlisted several hundred musicians from 39 states and the District of Columbia who will perform classical, folk, bluegrass, country, hip hop or rock — but nothing with a political bent — for voters stuck standing in long lines. Participants range from musicians with New York's Metropolitan Opera orchestra to a high school orchestra in Wyoming.

Also on the musical front, "Joy to the Polls" seeks to make a memorable experience of waiting in line to vote. A recent video on social media showed voters in Philadelphia dancing joyfully as they waited, alongside members of the Resistance Revival Chorus.

SEE **VOTERS** PAGE 11

## WESTSIDE

FROM PAGE 1

of residents, business owners and other pertinent stakeholders gathered to discuss the latest economic data relating to Westside communities pre- and post-Covid-19 before hearing Thornberg offer insight into what local economies can expect on the road to recovery.

"Dr. Thornburg is an expert in economic and revenue forecasting and became nationally known for forecasting the subprime mortgage market crash that began in 2007," said Diane Forte, a Government Relations Manager for Southern California Edison who described Thornburg as one of the few economists who went on-record to predict a global economic recession.

"You know, it's interesting — we started out with that prediction I made back in 2006 about the course of The Great Recession and what happened. I would like to tell you I predicted this particular downturn as well but I don't think anybody really did," Thornberg said. "Well, two months later, of course, and we are well aware of just how serious it is."

There's no doubt that what's been seen over the last few months has been truly eye popping, especially when one considers the fact that Gross Domestic Products and unemployment numbers have recently broken records all over the place, according to Thornberg. "And that, in turn, has led a lot of economists to talk about a call of recession."

But just this week, Santa Monica City Council reviewed and closed out the fiscal year 2019-20 budget. During the process, city leaders said their extensive efforts earlier this year to address the economic impacts of COVID-19 have allowed the City's fiscal health to stabilize.

"Revenues were marginally better than anticipated due to the early phased reopening of the economy, some hotels remaining open, and fewer people than anticipated deferring taxes and other payments," staff said. And since revenues were slightly higher, about $12 million less than expected was moved to the city's reserves to cover the shortfall caused by the pandemic.

The citywide budget is still $192.3 million less than the fiscal year 2019-20 Revised Budget and has 298.8 fewer full-time permanent positions and 122.3 fewer full-time equivalent as-needed positions, but staff projects that revenues will recover to pre-COVID-19 levels in fiscal year 2024-2025.

"Think about, for example, the Great Recession — six quarters of the U.S. economy contracted by about 6 percent in real terms. But that wasn't the true pain of the Great Recession; it was the fact that it took over seven years for the economy to get back to normal levels of economic activity," Thornberg said, stating, "This time around, it's a completely different type of situation."

It is more like a natural national disaster, which traditionally have tragic consequences in the short run but tend to not have long impacts in the medium-term, so the lessons of past business cycles are simply not applicable.

"This is a truly unique business cycle. And as such, there are different kinds of things happening," Thornberg said. Thus, the prediction about how long it takes to recover can't be based on past situations.

Clearly, the Westside is an economic dynamo — both in terms of the number of jobs and the quality of jobs for the overall area," which is a trend he expects to continue, Thornberg added. "Because again... you're going to see businesses continue to flock to those high demand areas, which by the way, is the Westside.

Some of the hottest office markets are in Santa Monica or Century City, and these cities will remain hot because people want to be here, Thornberg said. "And as a result of that… you're still gonna see phenomenal demand."

Brennon@smdp.com

## ASSAULT

FROM PAGE 2

more and they know it." U.S. officials have repeatedly expressed concern about major ransomware attacks affecting the presidential election, even if the criminals are motivated chiefly by profit.

Mandiant's Carmakal identified the criminal gang as UNC1878, saying "it is deliberately targeting and disrupting U.S. hospitals, forcing them to divert patients to other healthcare providers" and producing prolonged delays in critical care.

He called the eastern European group "one of most brazen, heartless, and disruptive threat actors I've observed over my career."

While no one has proven suspected ties between the Russian government and gangs that use the Trickbot platform, Holden said he has "no doubt that the Russian government is aware of this operation — of terrorism, really." He said dozens of different criminal groups use Ryuk, paying its architects a cut.

Dmitri Alperovitch, co-founder and former chief technical officer of the cybersecurity firm Crowdstrike, said there are "certainly lot of connections between Russian cyber criminals and the state," with Kremlin-employed hackers sometimes moonlighting as cyber criminals.

Neither Holden nor Carmakal would identify the affected hospitals. Four healthcare institutions have been reported hit by ransomware so far this week, three belonging to the St. Lawrence County Health System in upstate New York and the Sky Lakes Medical Center in Klamath Falls, Oregon.

Sky Lakes acknowledged the ransomware attack in an online statement, saying it had no evidence that patient information was compromised. It said emergency and urgent care "remain available" The St. Lawrence system did not immediately return phone calls seeking comment.

Increasingly, ransomware criminals are stealing data from their targets before encrypting networks, using it for extortion. They often sow the malware weeks before activating it, waiting for moments when they believe they can extract the highest payments, said Brett Callow, an analyst at the cybersecurity firm Emsisoft.

A total of 59 U.S. healthcare providers/systems have been impacted by ransomware in 2020, disrupting patient care at up to 510 facilities, Callow said.

Carmakal said Mandiant had provided Microsoft on Wednesday with as much detail as it could about the threat so it could distribute details to its customers. A Microsoft spokesman had no immediate comment.

Associated Press writers Eric Tucker in Washington, D.C., Lisa Baumann in Seattle and Deepti Hajela in New York City contributed to this report.

# Early Voting Centers & Ballot Drop Boxes

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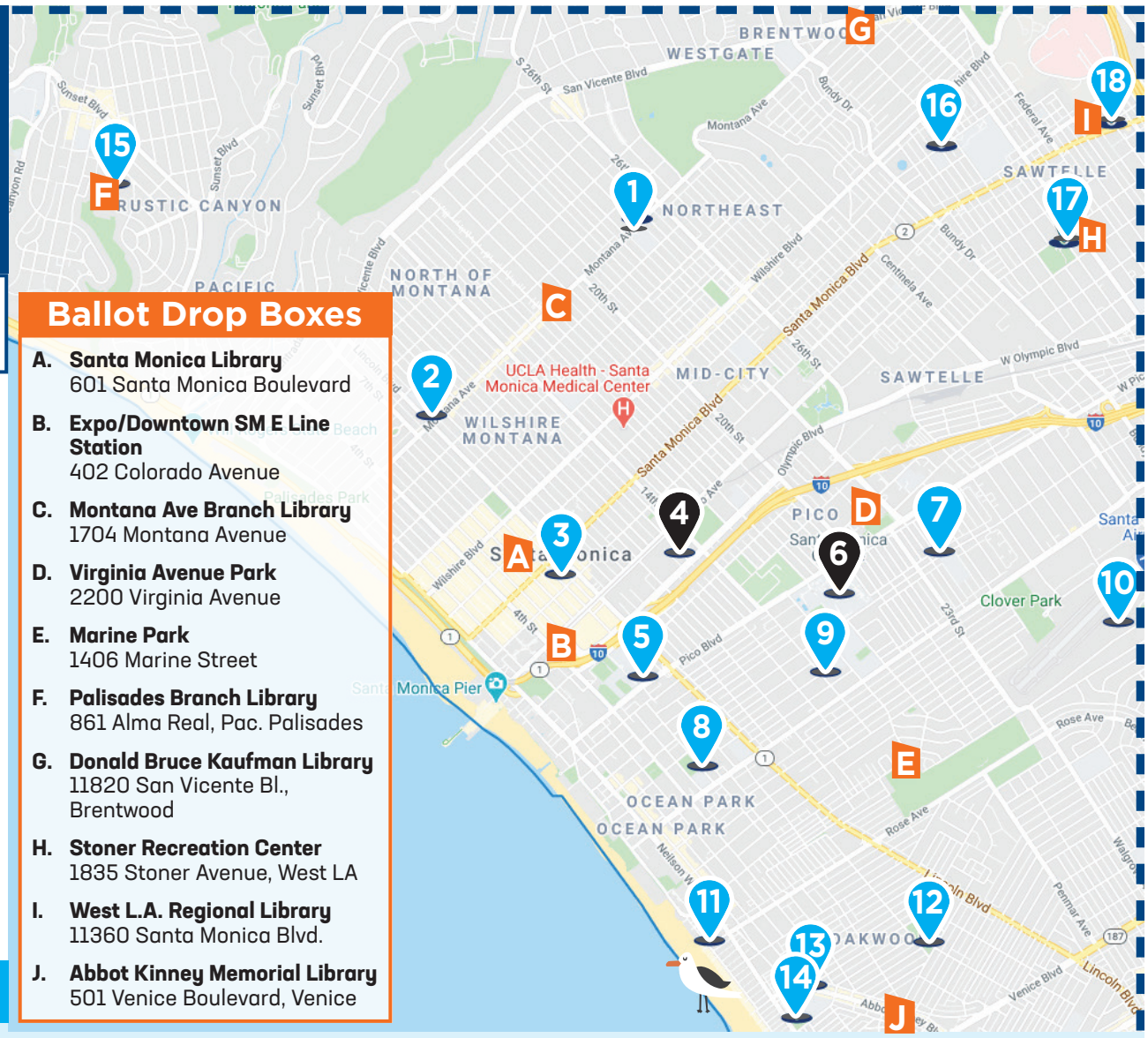
Registered voters were sent a Vote By Mail ballot earlier this month and they can be returned via the USPS, to a designated **ballot drop box** or in person at a **vote center**. Ballots postmarked by election day and received within 17 days will be counted in the election.

Alternatively, voters can safely vote in-person at any Vote Center in the County. Two local Vote Centers will be available beginning Saturday, October 24. All Vote Centers will be available beginning Friday, October 30.

Vote Centers will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. during the early voting period. On Election Day Vote Centers will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

## Ballot Drop Boxes

- **A. Santa Monica Library**
  601 Santa Monica Boulevard
- **B. Expo/Downtown SM E Line Station**
  402 Colorado Avenue
- **C. Montana Ave Branch Library**
  1704 Montana Avenue
- **D. Virginia Avenue Park**
  2200 Virginia Avenue
- **E. Marine Park**
  1406 Marine Street
- **F. Palisades Branch Library**
  861 Alma Real, Pac. Palisades
- **G. Donald Bruce Kaufman Library**
  11820 San Vicente Bl., Brentwood
- **H. Stoner Recreation Center**
  1835 Stoner Avenue, West LA
- **I. West L.A. Regional Library**
  11360 Santa Monica Blvd.
- **J. Abbot Kinney Memorial Library**
  501 Venice Boulevard, Venice




## Voting Centers

1. **Franklin Elementary School**
   2400 Montana Ave, Santa Monica 90403
   Additional Info: Cafetorium
2. **Roosevelt Elementary School**
   801 Montana Ave, Santa Monica 90403
   Additional Info: Auditorium
3. **Former Fire Station 1**
   1444 7th St, Santa Monica 90401
   Additional Info: Apparatus Roo
4. **National Typewriter Company**
   1666 Euclid St, Santa Monica
   1st Floor Gathering Room.
   **Open 10/24**
5. **Santa Monica High School**
   601 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica 90405
   Additional Info: Cafeteria
6. **Santa Monica Community College**
   1900 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica
   Corsair Gymnasium.
   **Open 10/24**
7. **Grant Elementary School**
   2368 Pearl St, Santa Monica 90405
   Additional Info: Auditorium
8. **John Muir Elementary School**
   2526 6th St, Santa Monica 90405
   Additional Info: Multi-Purpose Room
9. **Will Rogers Learning Community**
   2401 14th St, Santa Monica 90405
   Additional Info: Cafeteria
10. **Barker Hangar**
    3021 Airport Ave Suite 203, S.M. 90405
    Additional Info: Hangar
11. **The Rose Room**
    6 Rose Ave, Venice 90291
    Additional Info: Rose Room and Entry Room
12. **Oakwood Recreation Center**
    767 California Ave, Venice 90291
    Additional Info: Gymnasium
13. **Westminster Avenue Elementary School**
    1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd, Venice 90291
    Additional Info: Auditorium
14. **Westminster Senior Center**
    1234 Pacific Ave, Venice 90291
    Additional Info: Lobby and Auditorium
15. **Palisades Recreation Center**
    851 Alma Real Dr, Pacific Palisades 90272
    Additional Info: Small Gymnasium
16. **Brockton Avenue Elementary School**
    1309 Armacost Ave, Los Angeles 90025
    Additional Info: Auditorium
17. **Stoner Recreation Center**
    1835 Stoner Ave, Los Angeles 90025
    Additional Info: Gymnasium
18. **Felicia Mahood Multipurpose Center**
    11338 Santa Monica Blvd, Los Angeles 90025
    Additional Info: Auditorium

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SANTA MONICA SHINES

# Recovering through the Power of Art

IMAGE: Artist Molly Ellis paints k-rails for Main Street's al fresco dining experience. Photo provided by artist Molly Ellis.

## ART

FROM PAGE 1

towards healing, we have accumulated a wealth of local support and strength by looking to our fellow community members for help when we need it most. Although we have accomplished so much, our collective journey is not over yet, as many of our peers are at different stages of their own. This is why the City of Santa Monica Cultural Affairs created Art of Recovery, a new program that will harness the power of arts to assist the community on our road to recovery. The Art of Recovery is guided by a committee of dedicated arts, business and community leaders who play a vital role in shaping the program and the ongoing review of proposals.

Santa Monica has always cultivated a strong relationship with arts and culture, largely due to the creativity of local people and organizations. With a focus on "connecting art to people" according to their website, a goal for Art of Recovery is "to strengthen the local network of artists, nurture connections between artists and other sectors, and build cohorts of learners focused on integrating the arts and artists into community efforts.". The program will pair local artists with Santa Monica businesses and community groups to create and implement COVID-19 safe art experiences around the city.

The project was inspired by the New Deal-era initiative, the Works Progress Administration's Federal Art Project (WPA), which funded American artists to create artworks, establish community art centers and employ American Artists. "This program had a lasting legacy on the country's recovery from the Great Depression," says City of Santa Monica Cultural Affairs Manager Shannon Daut. Art of Recovery, says Daut, will "create new opportunities that foster long-term relationships and will hopefully have a positive impact on their long-term sustainability as artists," as well as foster "the importance of the arts in the city's future and how the arts can play a meaningful role in the city's recovery."

The effort is funded through a $500,000 allocation from the City's Cultural Arts Trust, created through the Private Developer Arts Requirement. Interested artists and local groups can find more information about the program and submit a Letter of Intent online at santamonica.gov/arts/artofrecovery.

The program focuses on three main priorities: public health & safety, economic recovery, and community connectedness & restorative justice. The priorities are intended as guidelines for artists and business to imagine creative, new ways to drive economic recovery, focus on ways we can create community connectedness and promote racial justice in a time of physical distancing and heightened racial tension, as well as create a collective intent to slow the spread of COVID-19. Cultural Affairs "believes that artists have compelling and creative solutions to pressing challenges," which is why the city is focusing on this program.

Projects are already underway to bring a little beauty to our city starting on Main Street. The k-rails (concrete safety dividers) lining the Main Street outdoor dining areas will become colorful works of art. Painted with bright colors and fun designs, the artworks will accentuate the already open and funky culture on Main Street. One recently painted k-rail mural can be found in front of the former Starbucks on Main and Hill Street and new murals will be underway soon. Hunter Hall, Executive Director of the Main Street Business Improvement Association says that painting the K-rails seemed like a "natural decision" to beautify the city, working with Evan Meyer of the non-profit organization

SEE **ART** PAGE 9

## Santa Monica Shines COVID-19 Assurance Program

Look for the Santa Monica Shines COVID-19 Assurance program seals in the storefronts of Santa Monica businesses. These businesses have gone above and beyond to ensure you feel safe and comfortable.

- **Big Dean's**
- **Blazing Saddles Beach Rentals and Tours**
- **Dagwoods pizza**
- **Dolcenero**
- **Hostelling International**
- **Le Méridien Delfina Santa Monica**
- **Lunetta**
- **Main Street Visitor Center**
- **Meat on Ocean**
- **Pacific Park**
- **Perry's Cafe and Beach Rentals 1200 PCH**
- **Perry's Cafe and Beach Rentals 930 PCH**
- **Perry's Cafe and Beach Rentals 2600 PCH**
- **Perry's Cafe and Beach Rentals 2400 OFW**
- **Physical Therapyworks**
- **Rusty's**
- **Santa Monica Walk-in Visitor Center**
- **Sea Blue Hotel**
- **Solstice Sunglasses**
- **Sonoma Wine Garden**
- **The Albright**
- **The Georgian Hotel**
- **The William Warren Group**
- **Tiato**
- **Tidbits by Dialogue**
- **Trapeze School New York**
- **Tribe Pilates**
- **Viceroy Santa Monica**
- **Water Grill**
- **Westside Music Conservatory**

## ART

FROM PAGE 8

Beautify Earth to help implement the project.

In addition to the k-rail mural project on Main Street, the Santa Monica Pier and Downtown Santa Monica are presenting a brand-new Día de los Muertos sculptural art installation. While COVID-19 has changed the spooky season, the Pier wants you to experience the culture of Día de los Muertos with larger-than-life sculptures of La Calavera Catrina: Mexico's great Dane of Death and iconic holiday figure. The installation was created by Los Angeles-based artist Ricardo Soltero, who creates large Catrina sculptures for parades, television and movie set designs along with other Día De Los Muertos events. Soltero says that he has been an artist "since he was a kid" and learned about the history of Día De Los Muertos from his Grandmother, who loved to create paper garlands and flowers for the holiday. Soltero says that La Calavera Catrina was originally a satirical drawing depicted in a Mexican newspaper in 1910, but over time became the figure of the holiday. Mexican women dress up like Catrina on Día De Los Muertos to welcome the spirits of their deceased relatives back to earth for one night so the families can keep the memories of their deceased relatives alive.

Soltero says he started making "the Catrinas" nearly 20-years-ago and features his work at the Annual Día De Los Muertos event at Hollywood Forever Cemetery. Soltero says that representatives from Downtown Santa Monica reached out to him on Instagram to include his Catrinas Downtown and at the Pier and the plan was quickly set into motion. From Saturday, October 31, through Monday, November 2, Pier and Third Street Promenade visitors can check out the sculptures and partake in the cultural festivities of the season.

These projects are just the beginning for what's to come in Santa Monica, as Cultural Affairs will accept Letters of Intent on a rolling basis with projects running through June 30, 2021. For artists interested in participating in the project, don't be shy to apply! Artists are eligible at any stage in their career. The only requirement is that you are an LA-county based artist and that your proposed project adheres to the LA county health ordinance. Business Improvement Districts, business associations, neighborhood associations, community groups, nonprofit organizations and non-arts businesses whose official address is within Santa Monica city limits are also eligible to apply.

Harnessing the power of art has beautified the road to recovery, lifting our spirits along the way and showing us how important community-connectedness truly is during this time. Allison Ostrovsky, City of Santa Monica Cultural Affairs Supervisor, says that "artists will lead us and lead Santa Monica...in reimagining and recreating what the future can be" through the power of their art. With this new mindset, the city was able to shift its thinking and find a solution that encourages expression, unity and a sense of community. In fact, this program is so innovative that other cities across the country are thinking about how to develop similar art and recovery programs. Cultural Affairs is "excited to share" information about their project and how it is effectively employing artists to help local governments in recovery efforts. This focus on the arts will hopefully lead our own community, as well as others, further down the path of recovery. As the Cultural Affairs team likes to say: "COVID can't keep the arts down!"

For information about the Art of Recovery program or to apply, visit **www.santamonica.gov/arts/artofrecovery**

City of Santa Monica Celebrates

# DIA DE LOS MUERTOS 2020

## SUNDAY AT 5 PM PST – 6 PM

Join the City virtually to celebrate Day of the Dead. This family-friendly hour will include an overview of this celebration of life and death, live Day of the Dead inspired music, presentations of altars by local community members, and a workshop on how to make a paper flower for your own altar.
The event is free of charge.

Please register in advance by signing up here: **http://bit.ly/SMDia2020.**



IMAGE: La Catrina sculptures by artist Ricardo Soltero. Photo provided courtesy of Downtown Santa Monica, Inc.

This special section is made possible through the Santa Monica Economic Recovery Task Force and its outreach partners: City of Santa Monica, Downtown Santa Monica, Inc., Main Street Business Improvement District, Montana Avenue Merchants Association, Pico Improvement District, Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce, Santa Monica Pier Corporation, Santa Monica Place, Santa Monica Travel & Tourism, and 18th Street Arts Center.

**santamonicashines.com**

## SEPARATION

FROM PAGE 1

Both sides agree that Santa Monica will require financial support from Malibu if the two cities were to split their school systems but how much and for how long is up for debate.

Earlier this month Malibu City Council voted to exit two years of negotiations with SMMUSD over a school district separation plan and take its petition for an independent Malibu district to the L.A. County Office of Education.

In an Oct. 28 town hall, Malibu councilmembers explained that they took this step because the District and Malibu were unable to agree on a financial separation plan.

The separation debate boils down to an issue of local control and district funding. Malibu has 15 percent of the District's student population but a large portion of the property tax revenues, and wants independent control of its schools' facilities and educational offerings. Santa Monica wants Malibu to remain in the District, or leave under a District approved financial plan, so that it will not suffer a strong financial impact.

Per California Department of Education regulations, a district may not separate if it would cause a substantial increase in cost to the state or a substantial negative effect on the fiscal status of the proposed districts.

Malibu therefore cannot separate and withdraw all of its property tax revenues immediately, because the new Santa Monica District would suffer a significant financial loss and the state would need to provide additional funding to fulfill the Santa Monica budget. In April 2018, Malibu entered negotiations with SMMUSD to create a separation plan that both sides agreed on. They had previously petitioned for separation directly to LACOE in Aug. 2017, but suspended the petition in favor of working with the District.

During the negotiations Santa Monica's financial consultants proposed that a portion of Malibu's property tax base be permanently redistributed to the proposed Santa Monica School District. The Malibu separatists did not approve.

"In an analysis of this proposal that was submitted by the Santa Monica financial consultant, over ten years, over $250 million in Malibu property taxes would be given to Santa Monica and over 50 years it would be $4 billion in property tax split," said Christine Wood, deputy city attorney of Malibu. "We submitted that to the City Council and we just couldn't find common ground in something that wasn't so permanent for the community of Malibu."

Malibu's consultants developed their own plan where Malibu property taxes would be redistributed to Santa Monica to the point where the state would not need to provide a Santa Monica District with any additional funding. This would continue until Santa Monica's growth rate could cover the difference in funds, at which point the Malibu District would conserve all of its property tax revenues.

SMMUSD does not support this proposed plan as it would lead to a large gap in per student funding between Malibu and Santa Monica over time.

"Their consultants' projections show Malibu starting at $16,494 per student, while students in Santa Monica would be funded at $13,592. Based on the Malibu formula for revenue growth, in year five, Malibu students will receive $25,998 per student, while Santa Monica per student funding will be $14,264: a five-year growth rate of 58% in Malibu vs 5% in Santa Monica," said SMMUSD Superintendent, Ben Drati in an Oct. 28 letter to the City of Malibu.

Malibu consultants believe that it is still a viable option as both the Santa Monica and Malibu Districts are projected to receive more funding under Malibu's separation plan than the joint district would, although the gains to the Santa Monica District are incremental.

"There wouldn't be a negative financial impact to either of the proposed districts. On a per student basis, each district would be in a better position then they are today," said Cathy Dominco, financial consultant for Malibu. "We think that it is reasonable to expect when a feasibility study is completed, that a reorganization could be deemed feasible and provide the City with some assurance that its own petition could be evaluated by LACOE."

The petition to LACOE is one step in a multi-year process that could eventually lead to district separation. Both SMMUSD and Malibu representatives are preparing presentations for the public hearing LACOE will schedule in response to the petition.

Clara@smdp.com

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

**Countywide**

### L.A. County Sees Highest Number of New Cases Since Late-August

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) has confirmed 19 new deaths and 1,745 new cases of COVID-19. This is the highest number of new cases reported since late-August not associated with backlog cases.

To date, Public Health identified 305,070 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County and a total of 7,044 deaths. Upon further investigation, 44 cases and 15 deaths reported earlier were not L.A. County residents.

There are 750 people with COVID-19 currently hospitalized and 31% of these people are in the ICU. The number of COVID-19 hospitalizations has remained stable for most of September and October.

Schools have reopened for specialized services for students with high-needs, waiver programs for students in grades TK-2, childcare, and modified youth sports programs. They are required to follow school re-opening protocols for infection control, distancing, and cohorting to minimize COVID-19 spread. Additionally, Public Health has a dedicated team of specialists providing technical assistance and disease management to all schools that are re-opened or re-opening, and every school that re-opens receives a site visit from Public Health.

Parents play a vital part in the shared responsibility to prevent COVID-19 spread in schools and communities. To date, nearly 30,000 COVID-19 cases have occurred in children under 18 years old in L.A. County. If a child's school has reopened for one of the approved purposes, the decision to send a child back to school rests with each family. It is essential for families to follow the Department of Public Health's safety guidance to reduce the risk of getting and spreading COVID-19. The necessary steps include:

Keeping your child at home if she or he is sick and or has any symptoms of COVID-19, or if your child has been in contact with someone with COVID-19; symptoms to look out for in your child are fever, new onset of cough, diarrhea/vomiting/abdominal pain, and new onset of severe headache;

Instructing your child to always wear a mask while at school and when in public outside of your home;

Developing good hand hygiene habits so that your child frequently washes their hands, particularly before eating and after toileting;

Teaching your child to stay 6 feet apart from others who aren't in your household.

There are also actions that parents can take to increase their child's safety at school:

Find out if your child's school does a symptom screening daily before children and staff enter school; they should be requiring this step for the entire school community.

Ask your child about their experience at school regarding distance between students, mask-wearing, and hand washing.

Model the behaviors you wish to see your child demonstrate when they go to school; these behaviors include wearing a face covering when outside the home, physical distancing, and hand washing.

Ask the school to share its safety protocols and other plans for how it will handle cases and exposure that might occur at the school and ask how the school will communicate with parents if that happens.

Be part of school efforts that promote compliance with safety directives.

**SEND YOUR TIPS TO THE EDITOR**

Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

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# Classifieds

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ATTENTION DIABETICS! Save money on your diabetic supplies! Convenient home shipping for monitors, test strips, insulin pumps, catheters and more! To learn more, call now! 1-855-702-3408. (Cal-SCAN)

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## Real Estate Loans

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## Notice

NOTICE TO BIDDERSNotice is hereby given that the Director of Public Works will accept sealed bids for the removal of corrugated metal catch basin connector pipes, replacement with reinforced concrete connector pipes, and the performance of other appurtenant work under Project ID No. FCC0001352, Kenter Canyon Drain Connector Pipe Replacement Redesign project, in the City of Santa Monica. The bids must be submitted on the proposal forms included in the bidder's package of the contract documents. The contract documents for this project may be downloaded free of charge by visiting the Los Angeles County Public Works Business Opportunities website:http://pw.lacounty.gov/general/contracts/opportunities The work is estimated to cost between $180,000 and $270,000 and shall be completed in 40 working days. The prime contractor shall possess a valid California Class A or C42 contractor's license. The bids must be submitted electronically using Bid Express, www.BidExpress.com, before 11 a.m. on Tuesday, November 10, 2020, and no bids may be submitted after that date and time. Registration instructions and the fee schedule for Bid Express are included in the Instructions to Bidders. Paper bids will not be accepted. The bids will be opened through a webcast immediately after the specified closing time. Bidders may participate in the public bid opening by visiting the Los Angeles County Public Works Business Opportunities website, selecting the project and clicking on the Microsoft Teams Online Bid Opening Webcast. For more information, please contact Mr. John Lu at (626) 458-4968 orjolu@pw.lacounty.gov. For American with Disabilities Act information, please contact Public Works' departmental American with Disabilities Act Coordinator at (626) 458-4081 or Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (626) 282-7829.CN972905 03632 Oct 26,27,28,29,30, 2020



## VOTERS

FROM PAGE 6

In Cincinnati, Diane Cunningham Redden, an official with the Hamilton County Republican Party, has been holding small, socially distanced patio gatherings, on the theory that "if 28 people each go home and talk to five friends, those are votes."

Redden heads a group called SHELeads, which identifies and supports female candidates. She has also helped organize bring-your-own-sign events supporting President Donald Trump and others at busy intersections.

Some voters are wary of catching the virus by voting in person, but they're also concerned about the mail-in option. In Columbus, Ohio, 80-year-old Carol Tonkins requested an absentee ballot this year for the first time, but didn't totally trust the mail.

So she called Katie Beaumont, who directs a program, At Home on High, that helps older adults like Tonkins stay home by providing transportation, yardwork, shopping and other services. Beaumont dropped Tonkins' ballot off last Wednesday. "We don't care the way you vote. We just want you to vote," Beaumont said.

In some cases, new strategies have yielded unexpected benefits.

In Sacramento, California, advocate Nichole Rice can't knock on doors because of the coronavirus, and she can't make phone calls because of her two small, sometimes loud, children.

Instead, she's texting hundreds of people every day from an app on her phone. She says that when she can convince them she's not a robot -- which takes some doing in 2020 -- she can have extended conversations with many more voters than she ever would have knocking on doors.

It's led to some vulnerable moments. Rice said one voter said her priorities had changed because her husband had just undergone bypass surgery. Another person revealed her husband was cheating on her.

"People are way more willing to disclose things ... than they ever did in person," she said.

In Mississippi, which has some of the country's most restrictive voting regulations — rules that historically have kept African Americans from voting — retired educator Fran Bridges has been volunteering with several neighborhood associations in Jackson to conduct street-by-street registration.

The idea was that people might be more inclined to register if contacted by their neighbors. She enlisted one person to be the point person for each street. They covered at least 100 streets that way.

Like Gehman in New Mexico, Radha Pyati in Philadelphia has devoted untold hours to writing letters as part of Vote Forward.

"I don't want to wake up on the morning of Wednesday, Nov. 4, and feel I didn't try as hard as I possibly could," she said.

There's at least some evidence that her efforts and those of fellow letter writers have had an impact. One recipient, Carlos Flores in Miami, said he'd already been planning to vote, but the passionate letter he received from Portland, Oregon, on Tuesday got him fired up.

A bakery owner, Flores, 34, voted this week in his first presidential race since gaining citizenship in 2018.

"Lots of people in the world can't vote," Flores said. "This is a privilege. Every vote counts."

## HALLOWEEN

FROM PAGE 1

by sharing food and coming in close contact with others. As a potential replacement activity, the City has organized a Spooky Scavenger Hunt where families can dress up and track down different spooky items around their neighborhood for points. Drive-by car parades and socially distanced touring of decorated houses are also encouraged.

"However you choose to celebrate fall, it is important to keep you and your family's health top of mind," said Santa Monica's Emergency Operations Center Director, Lindsay Call. "Even when outdoors, remember to wear your face covering, keep outdoor gatherings small and limited to three households, and physically distance when around non-household members."

For more festive activities, people can head over to Montana Ave., which has come up with several fun alternatives to its traditional Halloween Hop. Store windows have been decorated with fall artwork created by local students. There are also hay bales and corn stalks set up for photo-ops on several street corners.

"It was a great idea, because kids can dress up in their costumes and parents can take pictures, but you are not in a crowd. It gives kids a chance to participate so they can feel like Halloween is still happening," said Jane Walker, owner of Texture and member of Montana BID. "I've seen a bunch of people sitting there with their kids, taking pictures, and having coffee. It's really cute!"

Montana Ave. is also hosting a scarecrow competition where families are challenged to build their best scarecrow and submit a picture to montana.santamonica@gmail.com or share using #montanaavesm for a chance of winning a gift from a Montana eatery or shop. People who share their hay bale pictures with #montanaavesm also have a chance to win a gift.

For more festive fun, Santa Monicans can head down to the pier for a Día de Los Muertos art installation and a Ferris wheel light display. Every night until Nov 2. Pan Pacific Park will display a 90-foot tall, high-flying ghost and sugar skull on its world-famous Ferris wheel along with a not-too-scary smiling vampire and grinning jack-o-lantern.

The Pier Corporation in collaboration with Downtown Santa Monica has launched a public art installation on Third Street Promenade and Santa Monica Pier designed by Los Angeles-based artist Ricardo Soltero. His giant sculptures of La Catrina, Mexico's Dame of Death, will be on display from Saturday Oct. 1 through Monday Oct. 2.

The brightly painted paper mache sculptures are up to 14 feet high and are inspired by Day of the Dead traditions, Mexican clothing and embroidery. Soltero is from Nayarit, Mexico, and is the director of America's largest Day of the Dead celebration which takes place annually at the Hollywood Forever Cemetery.

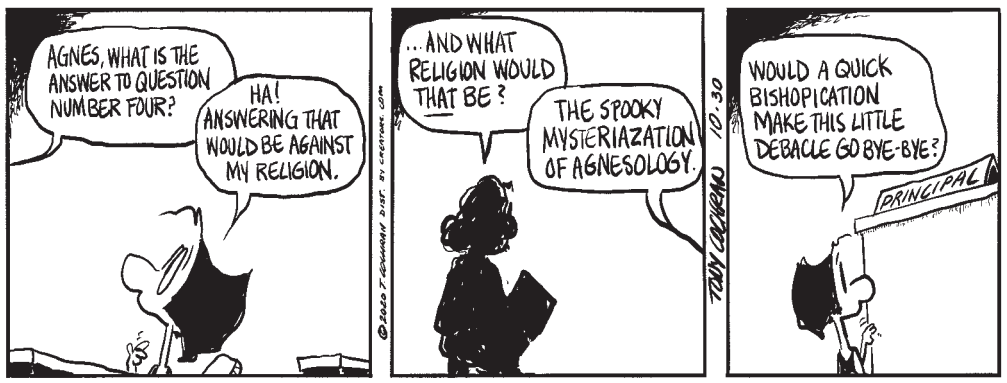
The City has also organized a virtual Día de los Muertos celebration on Nov. 1 over Zoom, which will include a presentation on the day's history, traditional music, altars created by local community members, and a workshop on making a paper flower for your own altar.

For links related to these activities see: https://www.santamonica.gov/blog/tips-to-safely-enjoy-santa-monica-s-fall-festivities

Clara@smdp.com

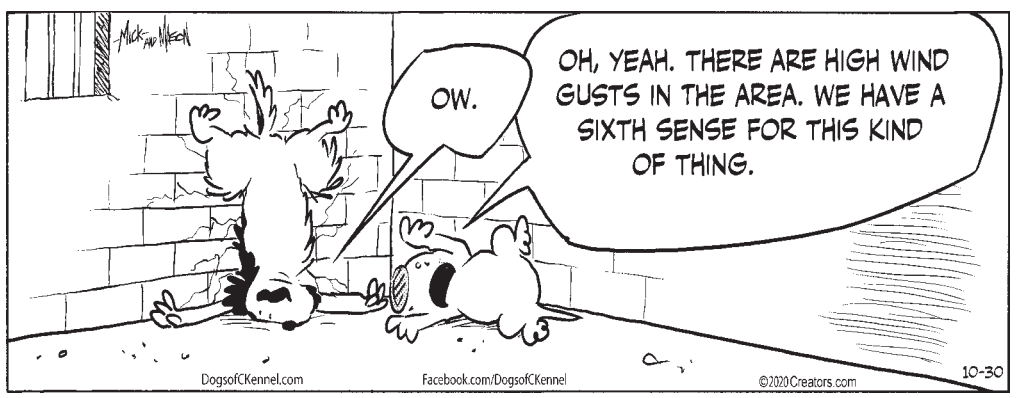
## Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



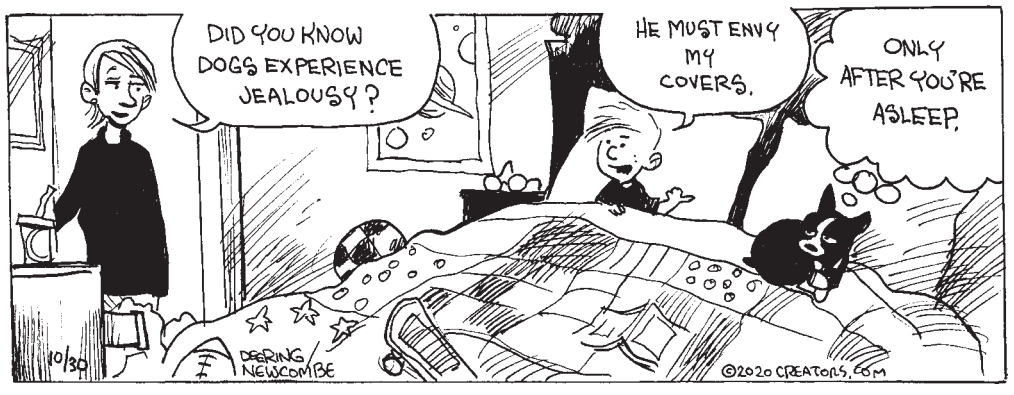

## Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



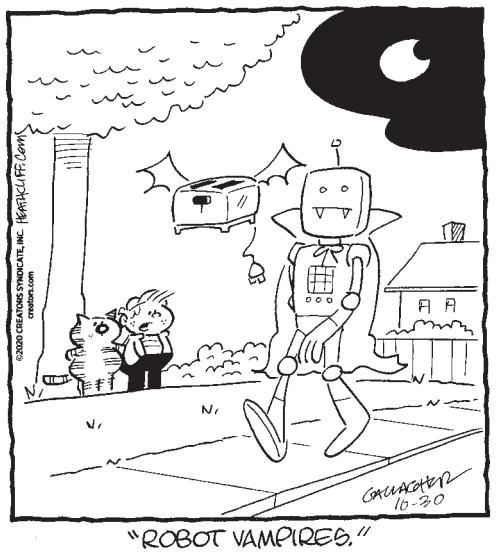

## Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE




## Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER




## Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING







## SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 65.1°

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high
Lingering SSW swell looking pretty weak. Best for big boards.

SATURDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high occ. 3 ft
Small, new SSW swell slowly builds with some minor NW swell mixing in as well. Still on the slow side, and you'll want to get out there either before or after the deep 9:30am high tide.

## WEATHER

**Thursday:** Sunny, with a high near 72.
**Thursday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 54.
**Friday:** Sunny, with a high near 70.
**Friday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 55.
**Saturday:** Sunny, with a high near 73.
**Saturday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 57.

| Date | Day | Time (LST/LDT) | Predicted (ft) | High/Low |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2020/10/29 | Thu | 02:32 AM | 0.87 | L |
| 2020/10/29 | Thu | 08:47 AM | 5.43 | H |
| 2020/10/29 | Thu | 3:09 PM | 0.68 | L |
| 2020/10/29 | Thu | 9:10 PM | 4.58 | H |
| 2020/10/30 | Fri | 02:54 AM | 1.14 | L |
| 2020/10/30 | Fri | 09:06 AM | 5.58 | H |
| 2020/10/30 | Fri | 3:38 PM | 0.41 | L |
| 2020/10/30 | Fri | 9:44 PM | 4.40 | H |
| 2020/10/31 | Sat | 03:15 AM | 1.42 | L |
| 2020/10/31 | Sat | 09:27 AM | 5.69 | H |
| 2020/10/31 | Sat | 4:09 PM | 0.22 | L |
| 2020/10/31 | Sat | 10:18 PM | 4.19 | H |
| 2020/11/01 | Sun | 02:36 AM | 1.71 | L |
| 2020/11/01 | Sun | 08:48 AM | 5.74 | H |
| 2020/11/01 | Sun | 3:42 PM | 0.12 | L |
| 2020/11/01 | Sun | 9:57 PM | 3.93 | H |
| 2020/11/02 | Mon | 02:58 AM | 2.02 | L |
| 2020/11/02 | Mon | 09:11 AM | 5.71 | H |
| 2020/11/02 | Mon | 4:18 PM | 0.12 | L |

## DAILY LOTTERY

**POWERBALL**
Draw Date:10/24
18 20 27 45 65
Power#: 6
Jackpot:116 M

**MEGA MILLIONS**
Draw Date: 10/23
18 34 44 60 69
Mega#: 22
Jackpot: 109 M

**SuperLotto PLUS**
Draw Date: 10/24
8 20 22 34 35
Mega#: 3
Jackpot:21 M

**Fantasy 5**
Draw Date: 10/25
7 14 15 34 36

**Daily 3**
Draw Date: 10/26
Midday: 5 5 5

Draw Date: 10/25
Evening: 8 0 9

**Daily Derby**
Draw Date: 10/25
1st:06-WHIRL WIN
2nd: 02-LUCKY STAR
3rd: 05-CALIFORNIA CLASSIC
RACE TIME: 1:48.78

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

## TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (OCTOBER 30)

People first. This is your genuine inclination, and because of it, you wind up with a great deal of things that aren't people -- business, money and assets, to name a few. A relationship takes you on an emotional journey unlike any you've known thus far. You'll discover talents previously untapped. Sagittarius and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 11, 7, 1, 4 and 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It is easy to notice and avoid the dangers that come in the form of bad ideas, oppressive forces and general trouble. What's hard to avoid (and, therefore, more dangerous) are the seductions and temptations of daily life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). New people need much more attention in order to feel comfortable in a group. You will not be sorry if you go out of your way to make someone feel welcome.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Love and all its contradictions will be the theme that winds through this day, stringing together elegant and messy outcomes. There's not a lot to analyze here -- not now, at least. Live it and make assessments later.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll be exceptionally gifted at recognizing the limitations of a situation, which are not as constricting as most people assume and not as expansive as the big dream. You'll find level ground on which to set your expectation.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). The expression of your mind and body can be baffling, but there is wisdom here beyond mundane comprehension. However your mind and body are working, it's happening that way to keep you safe and protected.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Though people need attention, relationships get off balance when too much attention is paid. Freedom and privacy are also core needs. Today's gifts of love come in the form of trust and space.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). People experience you as self-contained. This is why they don't provide much: You don't seem like you need it. Though it's true you are quite fulfilled in your own being, ask for help anyway. Someone wants to be needed by you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Trust and commitment are the cornerstones of long-term relationships and, to some degree, more casual arrangements. It's hard to want to relate to a person you don't trust.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're being nudged into a change. Though it doesn't feel like a glorious turn of events, it really is tremendous luck because this fortuitous shift is not something you would have initiated.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Every dalliance has a tribute. The chocolate cake exacts its revenge calorically. The endless video game or binge-watch takes its toll energetically. Knowing what things really cost will help you make better decisions.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When you decide to be, you're a master of focus and a wizard of productivity. The trick is in deciding what is worth doing and prioritizing well. Many will benefit from your organized approach.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There is no better revenge than success. Is it wrong to want to punish someone by blinding them with the light of your superstar status and accomplishments? There are worse things.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD




## Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

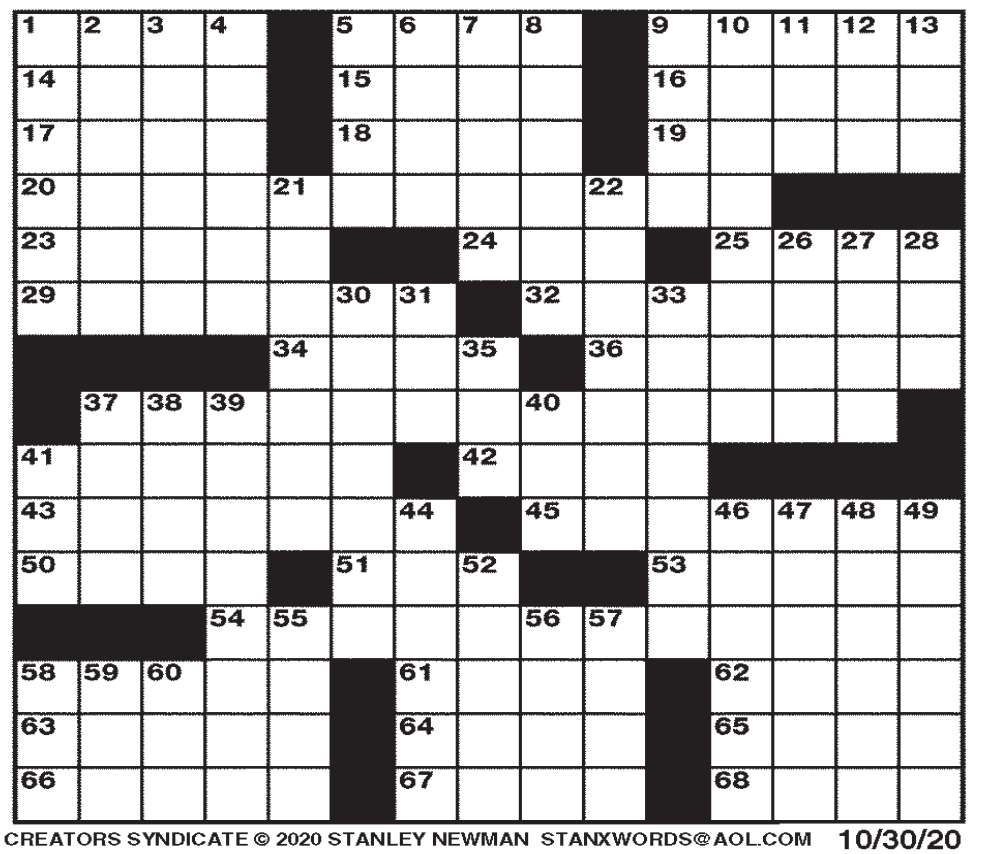
| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| | 9 | | | | 3 | 7 | | 4 |
| 1 | | | | 7 | | | 5 | |
| | | | | 5 | 6 | | | |
| 9 | | 6 | | | | 8 | | 2 |
| | | | 1 | 9 | | | | |
| | 2 | | | 8 | | | | 1 |
| 6 | | 1 | 3 | | | | 7 | |
| | 4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

## Newsday Crossword

THINKING ABOUT TOMORROW by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

**ACROSS**
1 Level, for one
5 Coats named for their Scottish inventor
9 Cookout serving
14 Stop lying
15 Really long
16 Gobsmacked
17 __ mater
18 Metaphor for secrecy
19 "Great" bird in the Everglades
20 TRICK __
23 Tropical ray
24 Wayfarer's stop
25 Moussaka ingredient
29 State co-ruled by Macron
32 Dannon sister brand
34 Nihilistic art movement
36 Miss America host after Bert Parks
37 " . . . OR __"
41 In stitches
42 Sort
43 Mister Rogers' Mr. McFeely
45 Principled
50 Architectural plan info
51 Milne marsupial
53 Geode rock, often
54 TREAT __
58 Not at all limber
61 Joyce's homeland
62 Divine mother of the pharaohs
63 Beauts
64 Rebel Alliance princess
65 Graffiti signatures
66 Clear material, for short
67 "Over here!"
68 Inventor Rubik

**DOWN**
1 ER doctor's expertise
2 Crankcase reservoir
3 Seven-sibling singing surname
4 Crude shelter
5 Mark Cuban's hoop group
6 Go-to people
7 What covers some dogs
8 Pop singer Gomez
9 Eastern European capital
10 Recent Maleficent portrayer
11 Form of chocolate
12 Fall behind in bills
13 Venture
21 Where the auditory canal ends
22 Make secret, as a transmission
26 Opposite of *sans*
27 Exploit to the fullest
28 Water under some bridges
30 Defensive barrier
31 Trivial tempest
33 Available
35 Transporter of scraps
37 Stat for a sommelier
38 Toddler's scrape
39 Illicit
40 Where some drops end up
41 Pint-sized, to Burns
44 Of little use
46 Kindle
47 Word in the etymology of "czar"
48 Email necessity
49 Not as much
52 Sooners
55 "Assuming that . . ."
56 40 Down's diaphragm
57 Cleverly done
58 UT's largest airport
59 Calendar watch letters
60 "__ say!"



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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

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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"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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# 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 19 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.**

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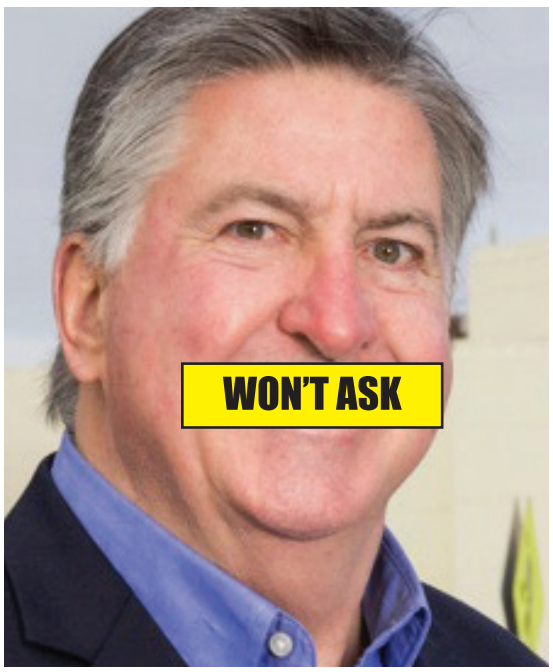
## Preparing a meal

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

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Beat | Flake | Pare | Sift |
| Blanch | Fold | Peel | Simmer |
| Blend | Fricassee | Pie | Skim |
| Board | Fry | Poach | Slice |
| Boil | Glaze | Pumpkin | Steam |
| Broccoli | Gratin | Roast | Stir |
| Burnt | Grill | Satay | Sweets |
| Chop | Herbs | Sauce | Technique |
| Cure | Knead | Scald | Toss |
| Dust | Lamb | Score | Truss |
| Eggs | Mince | Sear | Vegetarian |
| Entree | Oven | Shred | Whip |

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
**Who's quarantine crafting**

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**Mayor Kevin McKeown**




**Mayor Pro Tem Terry O'Day**




**Interim City Manager Lane Dilg**

# Santa Monica City Council paralyzed by management chaos, inept police oversight, institutional racism

**Police Chief abruptly quits - follows City Manager into sudden retirement after disastrous performance**

On Sunday, May 31, in a city led by officials who claim to be progressive, Santa Monica Police were ordered to use brutal force to disrupt a demonstration against racism and in support of Black Lives Matter. At the same time, Santa Monica's business district went largely unprotected by police as groups of criminal looters wreaked havoc undeterred.

***Things really could not have gone much worse in terms of failure to protect residents, businesses, and the Constitution. The Council leadership let our city down.***

Just days ago, the City's Police Chief, Cynthia Renaud, suddenly retired from her post. In response, City leaders praised the embattled chief while glossing over her extraordinary failures and the destruction that those failures caused to our city and its reputation.

Since shortly after May 31, Santa Monicans for Democracy, a neighborhood group, has organized a series of successful and spirited demonstrations at SMPD headquarters calling for reforms.



*Santa Monica Police, May 31st, 2020*

***When the City Manager walks off the job and then the Police Chief abruptly quits, you know something is seriously wrong. We don't need Council delays and coverup. We need accountability. We need real policy change. We need more than just talk.***

Co-Founder, Craig Miller, says the organization is small, hyper-local, and rag-tag, adding jokingly that, "Not a single member of our group has impressive credentials. It is just that we love Santa Monica and when our city leadership is afraid to call out police misconduct and directly attack institutional racism, they are not standing up for our values!"

LOCAL POLITICIANS

# Santa Monica. Beautiful City. Ugly Secrets.

**The City leaders pictured to the left have gone to great lengths to keep the truth from the public about the events of 5/31 until after Election Day.**

Despite many demands for a public accounting, our city leaders have refused to provide answers to these questions:

1) Why was SMPD ordered to focus on the non-violent demonstrators while ignoring the criminal looters?

2) Was the Interim City Manager consulted on key tactical decisions on May 31st?

3) Did city officials act quickly and competently to deploy maximum SMPD personnel during the crisis?

4) How many rounds of tear gas and rubber bullets did police fire at demonstrators?

5) Why did the police assault protestors prior to curfew? How many people got hurt?



*Actual rubber bullet victim. Photo from stock media footage.*

Research by Santa Monica area college students: Bardo Lopez, Carlos Rodriguez, Meredith Coon, Martin Guerra and Richard Kerr. Paid for by Craig R. Miller, Santa Monica resident since 1983.

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