smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

FRIDAY
11.20.20
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Council to discuss water, fees and hotel worker safety

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

Outgoing elected officials Ana Maria Jara, Ted Winterer and Terry O'Day will meet as Santa Monica City Councilmembers for the last time Tuesday, Nov. 24.

City leaders intend to recognize the outgoing councilmembers, along with Mayor Kevin McKeown, immediately after they finish discussing closed session items around 6:30 p.m. Council is then expected to approve the consent calendar, which includes an annual Development Impact Fees report for the fiscal year 2019-2020.

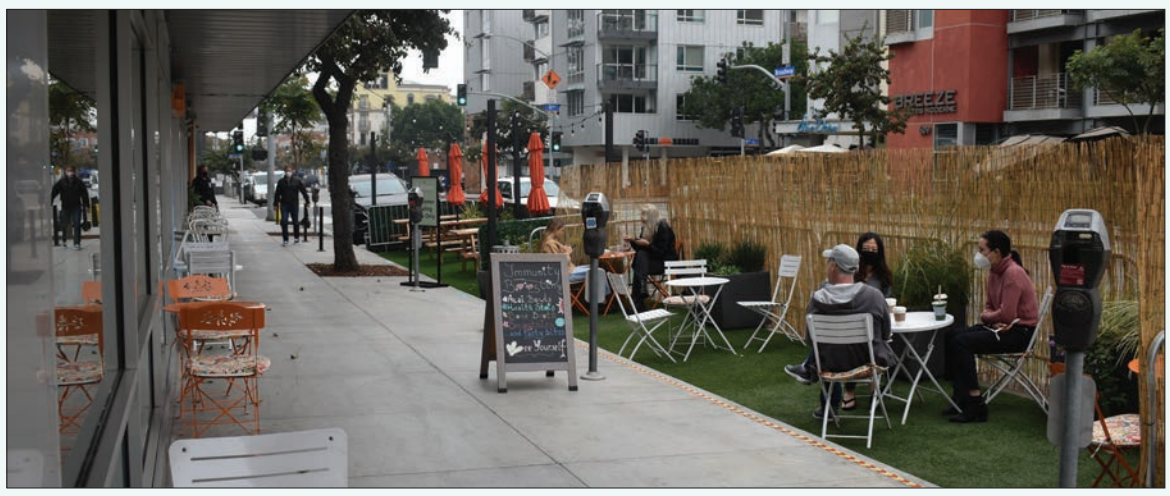
The fees report is currently available online to inform residents about the status of funds that were collected from the City's development impact fees, which are collected from developers and traditionally used to make investments in child care, transportation, parks, affordable housing and water consumption. The City can also use these funds as grant match dollars to further reduce City costs for larger projects, staff said as they detailed the beginning and ending balance for the various impact fee categories.

With no study session or administrative proceedings planned for Tuesday, Council is then expected to address a proposed ordinance that would help local hotel staff stay in compliance with local safety standards.

"Under the City's Hotel Worker Safety Ordinance, which was adopted by Council on September 10, 2019, the estimated 2,100 housekeepers working at Santa Monica's 41 hotels

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 7

Restaurateurs fear new restrictions will make it impossible to stay afloat





Clara Harter

FOOD: New limits on outdoor dining start today and restaurants are worried about their futures.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Surviving in the restaurant business is difficult in the best of times. Today, with a new 50 percent capacity restriction on outdoor dining beginning, local restaurateurs say it's impossible.

Since restaurants reopened in June, owners have invested thousands in PPE, outdoor dining spaces, and heat lamps, and are often still unable to turn a profit. Federal paycheck relief money stopped flowing in August and now all restaurants need to halve their already limited seat number, painting a bleak picture for the imminent future of the industry.

"I'm going to try for a week and then probably shut everything down. I can't imagine we can survive and it's also freezing

SEE **RESTRICTIONS** PAGE 11

California imposes overnight curfew to curb coronavirus

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

California is imposing an overnight curfew on most residents as the most populous state tries to head off a surge in coronavirus cases that it fears could tax its health care system, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced Thursday.

What officials are calling a limited stay-at-home order requires people not working essential jobs to stay home from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. starting Saturday. The order will last until Dec. 21 but could be extended if infection rates and disease trends don't improve.

The curfew covers 94% of the state's nearly 40 million residents. It's in place in 41 of the state's 58 counties that have the most significant increases in virus cases and face the most severe restrictions under California's system for reopening the economy.

It's a swift escalation just days after the state imposed the tougher restrictions limiting business operations in those 41 counties. It comes as COVID-19 infections, hospitalizations and deaths are surging nationwide ahead of Thanksgiving, when many will be tempted to gather with family and friends.

"The virus is spreading at a pace we haven't seen since the start of this pandemic, and the next several

SEE **CURFEW** PAGE 11

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City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
CITY PLANNING DIVISION
1685 MAIN STREET, MAIL STOP 28
SANTA MONICA, CA 90401

NOTICE OF COMPLETION/AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE 1633 26TH STREET OFFICE PROJECT NOVEMBER 19, 2020

OFFICIAL NOTICE is hereby given of the completion and availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for the proposed 1633 26th Street Office Project located in the City of Santa Monica (City). The Draft EIR (State Clearinghouse No. 2020050142) has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

PROJECT LOCATION: The approximately 87,651 square foot (2.01-acre) project site is located at 1633 26th Street, on the east side of 26th Street, between Pennsylvania Avenue and Colorado Avenue in the Bergamot Area Plan's Bergamot Transit Village in the City of Santa Monica. The project site is comprised of two parcels, Assessor Parcel Numbers (APN) 4268-001-025 and 4268-001-026. The site is bordered by a recently constructed 4 story office building on the north, Pennsylvania Avenue on the south, surface parking serving a 4 story office building on the east and 26th Street on the west. The project site is currently developed with a 3-story, brick, office building totaling approximately 45,529 sf and approximately 40 feet in height that was constructed in 1972. The project site also includes a surface parking lot serving the office building with 152 parking spaces (148 standard and 4 handicap).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed 1633 26th Street Project would consist of the refurbishment of the project site's existing three‐story, 45,429 square feet (sf) office building, and the development of two new adjacent four‐story, creative and business professional office buildings comprising a total of 129,265 sf of new floor area. The project would also include a three‐level subterranean garage with 399 parking spaces with vehicular access provided from Pennsylvania Avenue. The project's three buildings would total approximately 174,685 sf.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ANALYZED: The Draft EIR analyzed potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project, including Air Quality, Energy, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Transportation and Circulation, and Tribal Resources.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: A 60-day public review period will be provided for all interested persons to submit comments on the adequacy of the Draft EIR, which exceeds the 45 days required by CEQA. **The comment period will start on November 19, 2020 and end at 5:30 p.m. on January 18, 2021**. Written comments should be sent to:

Rachel Kwok, Environmental Planner
City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Mail Stop 28
Santa Monica, CA 90401
Email: Rachel.kwok@smgov.net

AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION: To reduce the risk of COVID19, City Hall remains closed to the public. The Draft EIR and background materials may be viewed online https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Environmental-Reports/1633-26th-Street-Project-EIR/.

ESPAÑOL: Esta es una advertencia de que la Ciudad ha preparado un informe que describe los posibles efectos ambientales de la construcción propuesta de un proyecto de oficinas, que puede ser de su interés. Para más información, llame a Carmen Gutiérrez al 310458 8341.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 35 CALLS ON NOVEMBER 18

EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 1:40 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 1:49 a.m.
EMS 300blk 24th St 2:20 a.m.
EMS 1500blk 5th St 2:38 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 2700blk Wilshire Blvd 3:48 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 200blk Santa Monica Blvd 5:21 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300blk 7th St 5:55 a.m.
EMS 1000blk Grant St 6:27 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300blk 7th St 6:29 a.m.
EMS 900blk 3rd St 6:38 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:33 a.m.
EMS 2500blk Pico Blvd 9:39 a.m.
EMS 2800blk Pico Blvd 10:07 a.m.
EMS 1100blk Centinela Ave 10:45 a.m.
Public Assist 1100blk 11th St 11:06 a.m.
EMS 800blk Grant St 11:19 a.m.
EMS 1200blk Ocean Ave 11:48 a.m.
EMS 1000blk 11th St 12:13 p.m.
EMS 800blk Pico Blvd 12:35 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 2:13 p.m.
EMS 1200blk Montana Ave 3:10 p.m.
EMS 1100blk Pico Blvd 3:13 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 4:17 p.m.
EMS 500blk Euclid St 4:23 p.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 1000blk 2nd St 4:56 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Cloverfield Blvd 4:58 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 2nd St 5:57 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1500blk Ocean Ave 6:05 p.m.
EMS 300blk Santa Monica Pl 8:05 p.m.
EMS 800blk 23rd St 8:09 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 10th St 8:15 p.m.
EMS 600blk 20th St 8:59 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 6th St 10:12 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Cloverfield Blvd 11:01 p.m.
Carbon Monoxide Alarm 3100blk Broadway 11:19 p.m.

CRIME WATCH BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Crime Watch is culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4 AT 1:44 P.M.

SMPD Officers were dispatched to the Main Library near the 1300 block of 7th St. regarding an Indecent Exposure. The comments of the call stated that the individual was now chasing someone through the library. Upon arrival, Officers detained the Suspect as they spoke to the victims. The victim of the Indecent Exposure did not desire prosecution. The other victim relayed that the Suspect had come up to him and asked for a cigarette and began to become aggravated because the Victim would not leave the area quickly enough. Ultimately the Suspect punched the Victim twice in the mouth, causing a small laceration. When the Victim began to walk away, the Suspect followed him around as the Victim called the police. Steven Duane Scott was arrested for a 243(a)PC-Battery and 11364(a)(1)H&S-Possession of Smoking Paraphernalia, given that a glass pipe was found in his possession. A computer criminal records check revealed Scott was on Parole for 459PC-Burglary, from Ventura County and was further placed on a parole hold.



DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 245 CALLS ON NOVEMBER 18

Audible Burglar Alarm 1600blk Ocean Park Blvd 12:01 a.m.
Loud Music 1700blk Hill St 12:03 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Princeton St / Santa Monica Blvd 12:47 a.m.
Construction Noise 2400blk Montana Ave 2:06 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 2:54 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 2700blk Wilshire Blvd 3:43 a.m.
Petty Theft 800blk Idaho Ave 4:30 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 3rd Street Prom / Arizona Ave 6:00 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1300blk 7th St 6:01 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 800blk 10th St 6:22 a.m.
Loitering 2000blk Main St 6:36 a.m.
Burglary 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:13 a.m.
Violation Of Temporary No Parking Signs 1300blk California Ave 8:14 a.m.
Fight 20th St / Broadway 8:15 a.m.
Petty Theft Now 2400blk Pico Blvd 8:38 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 21st St / Carlyle Ave 8:53 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1500blk Ocean Ave 8:54 a.m.
Domestic Violence Main St / Bay St 8:57 a.m.
Battery 600blk Wilshire Blvd 8:59 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1200blk 11th St 9:04 a.m.
Loitering 2400blk Ocean Park Blvd 9:08 a.m.
Petty Theft 1100blk 18th St 9:19 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 100blk Hollister Ave 9:42 a.m.
Identity Theft 900blk Wilshire Blvd 9:47 a.m.
General Parking Problem 1400blk 5th St 9:47 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2800blk The Beach 9:51 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1400blk 11th St 9:54 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1800blk 18th St 10:01 a.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 1400blk Broadway 10:03 a.m.
Person With A Gun 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 10:39 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2300blk Kansas Ave 10:40 a.m.
Battery 2400blk The Beach 10:45 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1500blk 6th St 11:05 a.m.
General Parking Problem 1300blk 4th St 11:22 a.m.
Identity Theft 500blk Alta Ave 11:31 a.m.
Grand Theft 1200blk 11th St 11:39 a.m.
Battery 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:05 p.m.
Battery 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:06 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1200blk 17th St 12:09 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1300blk Ocean Ave 12:25 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 700blk Navy St 12:30 p.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 100blk 16th St 12:44 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2000blk Lincoln Blvd 12:45 p.m.
Petty Theft 2800blk Lincoln Blvd 12:48 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 200blk Santa Monica Pier 1:27 p.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 1200blk 14th St 1:34 p.m.
Identity Theft 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 1:45 p.m.
Attempt Auto Theft 1300blk Arizona Ave 1:56 p.m.
Grand Theft 800blk 18th St 2:11 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1100blk 18th St 2:16 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 800blk 3rd St 2:22 p.m.
Battery Main St / Pico Blvd 2:23 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1200blk Berkeley St 2:29 p.m.
Harassing Phone Calls 2600blk 23rd St 2:32 p.m.
Malicious Mischief 100blk Strand St 3:07 p.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 900blk 6th St 3:12 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3300blk Barnard Way 3:15 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 600blk California Ave 3:20 p.m.
General Parking Problem 500blk Olympic Blvd W 3:25 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1600blk Arizona Ave 3:38 p.m.
Petty Theft Now 1400blk 4th St 3:38 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1200blk 14th St 3:57 p.m.
Drinking In Public 26th St / Santa Monica Blvd 4:03 p.m.
Petty Theft 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:07 p.m.
Runaway Ocean Ave / Bay St 4:10 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1600blk 9th St 4:13 p.m.
Arson 1100blk Broadway 4:44 p.m.
Arson 1000blk 2nd St 4:58 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 800blk Bay St 5:24 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 3rd Street Prom / Wilshire Blvd 5:34 p.m.
Petty Theft 2000blk Wilshire Blvd 6:07 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1300blk 26th St 6:16 p.m.
Public Intoxication 1400blk 2nd St 6:37 p.m.
Strongarm Robbery 1800blk Wilshire Blvd 6:41 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 900blk 10th St 6:57 p.m.
Battery 2600blk 34th St 7:20 p.m.
Battery 1700blk Lincoln Blvd 7:42 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 4th St / Pacific St 7:56 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1200blk 4th St 8:08 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1400blk 4th St 8:30 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper In Progress 300blk Santa Monica Pl 8:32 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto 100blk Broadway 8:37 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Ocean Ave / Broadway 8:37 p.m.
Loud Music 2500blk The Beach 8:46 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 600blk Kensington Rd 9:17 p.m.
Malicious Mischief 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 9:24 p.m.
Found Property 300blk Olympic Dr 9:40 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1600blk 9th St 10:17 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1000blk Montana Ave 10:50 p.m.
Loud Music 600blk Ocean Park Blvd 11:37 p.m.



City of Santa Monica

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

RFP: #279 COMMERCIAL/SPECIALTY VEHICLE AND SAFETY TRAINING

- **Submission Deadline is December 10, 2020 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **City's Online Vendor Portal.** The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is: ProcureNow or https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca There is no charge for the RFP package.

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
CALLING FOR BIDS
DISTRICT: SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
BID: 110920SF

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS ABATEMENT IN RELOCATABLE UNIT

time, sealed Bid Proposals for the Contract for the Work of the Project generally described as: Furnish all prevailing wage labor, materials, equipment for lead-based paint abatement & stabilization and asbestos abatement & removal by licensed and certified contractor in accordance with bid documents.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE BID PROPOSALS: 12/10/2020 at 2:00pm
All Bid Proposals shall be submitted on forms furnished by the District. Bid Proposals must conform with, and be responsive to, the Bid and Contract Documents. Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the District bidding website at: https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=13721#.

Only Bid Proposals submitted to the District via the bid website above prior to the date and time set forth shall be considered.

MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK: 11/25/2020 at 10:00am, sharp. Meet at SMC Main Campus 1900 Pico Blvd Santa Monica CA 90405 At entrance to Parking Lot 1 on Pearl St near 20th St. Bidder's attendance a t the Job Walk is mandatory. Sign-In is required. Late arrivals not permitted. Bid Proposal submitted by a Bidder whose representative(s) did not attend the entirety of the Mandatory Job Walk will be rejected by the District as being non-responsive. All attendees required to maintain min. 6ft distance from others and wear face covering over nose & mouth at all times. Small areas/rooms limited to 1 person at a time. Do not attend if sick or have cold/flu like symptoms. Limit surfaces touched & do not touch equipment & building materials if not necessary.

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $26,000

CONTRACT DAYS: Not to exceed 40

The Contractor is required to have a CSLB B license, CSLB ASB Certification, CSLB HAZ Certification, CDPH Lead Certification, and CADIR registration at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the District's Request for Bids.

Post dates 11/13/20 & 11/20/20



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Growing, Rowing and Next Stop College

I've known 17-year-old Aleah Reese Hurwitz her entire life. (Actually, I "met" her four days after her birth but her parents said she hadn't changed much.) Aleah is a quintessential child of Santa Monica as in her very first week her mom took her to the beach and her grandmother took her shopping on Montana. In preschool she enjoyed sports and the arts at Joslyn, Marine and Douglas Parks and, later, surfing lessons through the Santa Monica Recreation Department. She also volunteered at Heal The Bay Aquarium and Teen Council for the Santa Monica Public Library.

Her parents, Andy, a cardiac surgeon, and Arlene, an occupational therapist, have been my friends for twenty-five years. Both are very athletic so it was no surprise Aleah would be. (As would her younger sister, Adi.) As an infant Aleah was so remarkably agile she would climb out of her crib and apparently, when bored, climb back in. (Leaving her parents wondering how items had moved in the house until they finally figured it out.)

Ever bright, Aleah was four when I had to review an educational TV show for kids so I watched it with her. Afterwards Aleah "critiqued" it. That's how, perhaps the youngest ever, she got a co-byline in the Daily Press.

As a UCLA alumnus, I'm delighted Aleah is also a genuine Bruin, having attended the UCLA Lab School beginning in kindergarten. The Lab School is the oldest elementary school in L.A. founded in 1882. It's bisected by the Bel-Air Creek, surrounded by a redwood forest and the buildings were designed by the famed modernist architect, Richard Neutra.

Seemingly overnight, Aleah was suddenly turning 13 and prepping for her Bat Mitzvah. Evidently she heard from her dad that my Bar Mitzvah had been on TV. (Go to smdp.com "Lights, Camera and Uncle Benny") so I wound up helping her write her speech. As I put in my column back then, Aleah breezed through the Bat Mitzvah with maturity beyond her years.

In middle school, Aleah excelled in numerous sports, such as squash where she won junior trophies, including second place in the L.A. Open. She also played basketball and volleyball. It was obvious, once in high school, she would wind up in the highly competitive world of club volleyball. The question was which high school.

After exhaustive research, her parents agreed on the newly opened Geffen Academy of UCLA. (Which was Aleah's first choice!) The Geffen Academy was founded with a $100 million dollar donation from philanthropist David Geffen who has donated over $400 million to UCLA. (Now if he could only do something about the football team.)

Andy and Arlene were smitten with the Geffen because of the quality of the teachers, the high teacher to student ratio, the unique diversity of students and the proposed school architecture. But the clincher was the passionate Head of School, Dr. Sibyll Carnochan Catalan. Once enrolled, Aleah tried out for the volleyball team and ended up captain. Then came a life-changer.

Aleah was introduced to the sport of rowing through a UCLA extension program and took to it immediately. But her coaches stressed it was a full-time job and she would need to drop volleyball. Her parents were concerned but Aleah was confident it was the right decision and she has been proven prescient. (Not exactly typical for a teenager, Aleah leaves the house so early she's on the water by 6:30 a.m. and trains twenty hours a week!)

At the California Yacht Club Aleah came under the tutelage of legendary coach Craig Leeds whose teams historically are the best on the West Coast. Aleah's four girl team won medals from the jump. They garnered Gold at regattas in Long Beach, Marine Park (site for Olympic rowing Los Angeles in 1932), San Diego, and Lake Perris (expected venue for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics). Their greatest triumph was the U.S. rowing Southwest Youth Regional Championship in Sacramento.

It's joyful to remember Aleah at four days old and see her now. (That said, it also makes me feel really old!) She'll soon be in Geffen Academy's first high school graduating class, and is currently deciding which college to attend. (For those who'll get this hint, Aleah hopes to be rowing on the Connecticut River.)

Aleah has always wanted to go to college in New England, as she puts it, "To challenge myself and be out of my comfort zone." Not coincidentally universities in that region is where rowing, the oldest college sport, is most revered.

In fact, I was going to title this column "Rowing To New England" but with all the land between Santa Monica and Boston "rowing there" seemed an odd metaphor. And yet, it's essentially what my dedicated, beautiful and talented young friend, Aleah Reese Hurwitz, is about to do.

If he's not napping, Jack can be reached at: jackdailypress@aol.com.

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

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AWARD WINNER

AWARD WINNER

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Judge nixes lawsuit challenging California home pot delivery

MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press

In what could be a temporary victory for California's legal cannabis industry, a judge has dismissed a lawsuit that sought to overturn a state rule allowing home deliveries statewide, even into communities that banned commercial marijuana sales.

The court challenge raised a fundamental question in the nation's largest legal pot market: Where can you buy it? The state earlier ruled a licensed delivery can be made into "any jurisdiction" within California.

But a group of local governments behind the court challenge argued that the state was usurping their authority to regulate marijuana sales within their borders.

While the cities argued that the state rule "removes local regulatory power," Fresno County Superior Court Judge Rosemary McGuire agreed with state that the regulation and local ordinances "do not occupy the same field and are not in conflict."

Without a conflict, "this matter is not ripe for adjudication," she concluded in a Tuesday order.

McGuire agreed with the state that the regulation applies to state cannabis license holders, not local governments that filed the lawsuit.

The state regulation "does not command local jurisdictions to do anything or preclude them from doing anything," she added. "It does not command local jurisdictions ... to permit delivery. Nor does it override their local ordinances prohibiting or regulating delivery."

It wasn't immediately clear if an appeal would be filed. In the meantime, marijuana deliveries will continue under the state rule.

The judge's reference to the case's "ripeness" appeared to suggest that the debate might not be over.

Josh Drayton of the California Cannabis Industry Association said the decision highlighted that a community must have cannabis regulation in place to have any valid claims against state law. About two-thirds of cities in California have not established local pot markets, including numerous communities involved in the lawsuit, he said.

But with the market evolving "it's going to be up for interpretation moving forward . I don't think we're done having this discussion," Drayton said. "It's not settled. We are still in the midst of a cultural shift with cannabis."

Attorneys for the communities that include Beverly Hills and about two dozen other local governments did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The state Bureau of Cannabis Control declined comment.

When the state adopted the delivery rule in 2019, the League of California Cities and police chiefs complained that unrestricted home deliveries would create an unchecked market of largely hidden pot transactions, while undercutting local control guaranteed in a 2016 law broadly legalizing marijuana sales.

Marijuana companies and consumers had pushed for home deliveries because vast stretches of the state have banned commercial pot activity or not set up rules to allow legal sales, creating what's been called pot "deserts." Residents in those areas are effectively cut off from legal marijuana purchases.

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CDC pleads with Americans to not travel for Thanksgiving

MIKE STOBBE AND HEATHER HOLLINGSWORTH
Associated Press

With the coronavirus surging out of control, the nation's top public health agency pleaded with Americans on Thursday not to travel for Thanksgiving and not to spend the holiday with people from outside their household.

It was some of the firmest guidance yet from the government on curtailing traditional gatherings to fight the outbreak.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued the recommendations just one week before Thanksgiving, at a time when diagnosed infections, hospitalizations and deaths are skyrocketing across the country. In many areas, the health care system is being squeezed by a combination of sick patients filling up beds and medical workers falling ill themselves.

The CDC's Dr. Erin Sauber-Schatz cited more than 1 million new cases in the U.S. over the past week as the reason for the new guidance.

"The safest way to celebrate Thanksgiving this year is at home with the people in your household," she said.

If families do decide to include returning college students, military members or others for turkey and stuffing, the CDC is recommending that the hosts take added precautions: Gatherings should be outdoors if possible, with people keeping 6 feet apart and wearing masks and just one person serving the food.

Whether Americans heed the warning is another matter. The deadly comeback by the virus has been blamed in part on pandemic fatigue, or people getting tired of masks and other precautions. And surges were seen last summer after Memorial Day and July Fourth, despite blunt warnings from health authorities.

The United States has seen more than 11 million diagnosed infections and over 250,000 deaths from the coronavirus. CDC scientists believe that somewhere around 40% of people who are infected do not have obvious symptoms but can still spread the virus.

Also on Thursday, Rhode Island Gov. Gina Raimondo announced what she called a "two-week pause" with some businesses closures and capacity reduced for restaurants and houses of worship starting Nov. 30. She said officials will reevaluate COVID-19 caseloads on Dec. 13. If they haven't eased by then, she said "a full state lockdown" will follow.

And New Hampshire's Republican Gov. Chris Sununu, who previously resisted calls for a statewide mask mandate, issued an order requiring face coverings to be worn in public spaces indoors and outdoors.

KEEPING UP WITH NON-COVID-19 CASES

Hospitals are struggling to keep up with non-coronavirus cases ranging from broken bones to heart attacks in states where COVID-19 cases are tying up resources.

In Kansas, rural hospitals are running into difficulty trying to transfer patients to larger hospitals for more advanced care.

"Whether it is regular pneumonia or appendicitis or fractures that need surgery, they have a limited amount of beds in their facilities and they are not taking a lot of these routine cases," said Perry Desbien, a nurse practitioner who works in Smith Center and other rural communities. "They are saying, 'Send them home. Have them follow up in the office. Unless it is life-threatening, we don't want to see them either.'"

Earlier this month, the Mayo Clinic Health System in Wisconsin announced it was suspending elective medical procedures.

Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker noted that with COVID-19 patients claiming a quarter of the state's hospital beds, there are fewer resources for heart attack patients, expectant mothers or cancer patients.

"When we let our hospitals get overrun or even close to it, it is all of us suffering," Pritzker said.

SICK HOSPITAL WORKERS

The Mayo Clinic Health System, a Midwest network of hospitals and clinics run by the world-renowned Mayo Clinic, reported that 905 staff members have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past two weeks.

Dr. Amy Williams, executive dean of Mayo Clinic Practice, said the vast majority were exposed in the community and not at work.

"It shows how widely spread this is in our communities and how easy it is to get COVID-19 in the communities here in the Midwest," she said.

In Kansas, 178 employees and doctors at a Topeka hospital had active coronavirus cases or were isolated and on leave because of contact with someone who had coronavirus. And the University of Kansas Hospital in Kansas City and nearby clinics had 206 employees, including physicians, nurses and support staff, out as of Tuesday after testing positive. An additional 260 were not at work and quarantining while they awaited test results.

POSITIVITY RATE

The positivity rate — the percentage of tests coming back positive for the virus — has taken on a more prominent role in the nation's response to the crisis in recent days.

New York City shut down in-person classes in the nation's largest school system this week after the positivity rate surpassed 3%. That angered families who believe it is too stringent a standard and question why bars and restaurants can remain open.

The positivity rate has soared to record levels all around the nation. South Dakota, Iowa and Wyoming's rate are all averaging above 50%, and the national average is now 10%.

Health experts caution that there are weaknesses in the positivity data because states calculate the rate differently. But they say the overall trend is not in dispute, and it indicates severe spread and, in many places, insufficient testing.

Hollingsworth reported from Mission, Kansas. Associated Press reporters from around the country contributed.

Trump, allies make frantic steps to overturn Biden victory

COLLEEN LONG, ZEKE MILLER, JILL COLVIN AND DAVID EGGERT
Associated Press

President Donald Trump and his allies are taking increasingly frantic steps to subvert the results of the 2020 election, including summoning state legislators to the White House as part of a longshot bid to overturn Joe Biden's victory.

Among other last-ditch tactics: personally calling local election officials who are trying to rescind their certification votes in Michigan, suggesting in a legal challenge that Pennsylvania set aside the popular vote there and pressuring county officials in Arizona to delay certifying vote tallies.

Election law experts see it as the last, dying gasps of the Trump campaign and say Biden is certain to walk into the Oval Office come January. But there is great concern that Trump's effort is doing real damage to public faith in the integrity of U.S. elections.

"It's very concerning that some Republicans apparently can't fathom the possibility that they legitimately lost this election," said Joshua Douglas, a law professor at the University of Kentucky who researches and teaches election law.

"We depend on democratic norms, including that the losers graciously accept defeat," he said. "That seems to be breaking down."

Trump's own election security agency has declared the 2020 presidential election to have been the most secure in history. Days after that statement was issued, Trump fired the agency's leader.

The increasingly desperate and erratic moves have no reasonable chance of changing the outcome of the 2020 election, where Biden has now received more votes than any other presidential candidate in history and has clinched the 270 Electoral College votes needed to win.

But the president's constant barrage of baseless claims, his work to personally sway local officials who certify votes and his allies' refusal to admit he lost is likely to have a lasting negative impact on the country. Legions of his supporters don't believe he lost.

"It's about trying to set up the conditions where half of the country believes that there are only two possibilities, either they win or the election was stolen," said Justin Levitt, a constitutional law scholar and professor at Loyola Law School. "And that's not a democracy."

The two GOP canvassers in Michigan's Wayne County said in a statement late Wednesday they lacked confidence that the election was fair and impartial. "There has been a distinct lack of transparency throughout the process," they said. But there has been no evidence of impropriety or fraud in Michigan, election officials have said.

Trump's allies have homed in on the way that the president's early lead in Michigan and some other states on Election Night slipped away as later votes came, casting it as evidence of something nefarious.

But a massive influx of mail-in ballots because of the coronavirus pandemic leaned largely to Biden, who encouraged his supporters to vote by mail, and those votes were the last to be counted. So it appeared Trump had an edge when he really didn't.

In fact, Biden crushed Trump in Wayne County, a Democratic stronghold that includes Detroit, by a more than 2-1 margin on his way to winning Michigan by 146,000 votes, according to unofficial results.

Earlier this week, the county's two Republicans canvassers blocked the certification of votes there. They later relented and the results were certified. But a person familiar with the matter said Trump reached out to the canvassers, Monica Palmer and William Hartmann, on Tuesday evening after the revised vote to express gratitude for their support. Then, on Wednesday, Palmer and Hartmann signed affidavits saying they believed the county vote "should not be certified."

They cannot rescind their votes, according to the Michigan secretary of state. The four-member state canvassing board is expected to meet Monday and also is split with two Democrats and two Republicans.

Trump appears intent on pushing the issue. He has invited Michigan's Republican legislative leaders, Senate Majority Mike Shirkey and House Speaker Lee Chatfield, to the White House, according to two officials familiar with the matter who were not authorized to speak publicly. The two have agreed to go, according to one official, but they haven't commented publicly, and it's not clear what the purpose of the meeting is.

The Michigan Legislature would be called on to select electors if Trump succeeded in convincing the state's board of canvassers not to certify Biden's 153,000-vote victory in the state. But both legislative leaders have indicated they will not try to overturn Biden's win.

"Michigan law does not include a provision for the Legislature to directly select electors or to award electors to anyone other than the person who received the most votes," Shirkey's spokeswoman said last week.

During a press conference in Wilmington, Delaware, on Thursday, Biden said Americans are "witnessing incredible irresponsibility, incredibly damaging messages are being sent to the rest of the world about how democracy functions."

He added, "I just think it's totally irresponsible."

A few hours earlier, Trump personal attorney Rudy Giuliani and others had held a press conference to allege a widespread Democratic election conspiracy involving multiple states and suspect voting machines. But election officials across the country have said repeatedly there was no widespread fraud.

Many of the allegations of fraud stem from poll watchers who filed affidavits included with lawsuits in battleground states aimed at

SEE **TRUMP** PAGE 7

TRUMP

FROM PAGE 6

delaying vote certification. Those affidavits lean into innuendo and unsupported suggestions of fraud.

For example, they refer to suitcases in a polling place, but make no suggestion that ballots were being secretly counted. There are allegations of ballots being duplicated — something routinely done when a ballot is physically damaged. There are claims that partisan poll watchers were too far away to observe well and therefore something fishy was probably going on. But they don't have proof. Poll watchers have no auditing role in elections; they are volunteer observers.

Giuliani cited a few sworn affidavits that he said showed a vast Democratic conspiracy, but added that he could not reveal much of the evidence. One he cited was from Jessy Jacob, identified as a city employee in Detroit who said she saw other workers coaching voters to cast ballots for Biden and the Democrats.

A judge who refused to block certification of Detroit-area results noted that Jacob's claims included no "date, location, frequency or names of employees" and that she only came forward after unofficial results indicated Biden had won Michigan.

Trump legal adviser Jenna Ellis, who joined Giuliani, said more evidence would be forthcoming and that Trump's allies would have more success in courts going forward. But so far, most of their legal actions have been dismissed.

Chris Krebs, the Trump administration election official fired last week over the comments about the security of 2020, tweeted: "That press conference was the most dangerous 1hr 45 minutes of television in American history. And possibly the craziest."

In Pennsylvania, where the Trump campaign is challenging the election results in federal court, a legal team led by Giuliani suggested in a filing Wednesday that the judge order the Republican-led state legislature to pick delegates to the Electoral College, potentially throwing the state's 20 electoral votes to Trump. A judge canceled an evidentiary hearing in the case.

In Arizona, the Republican Party is pressuring county officials to delay certifying results. The GOP lost a bid on Thursday to postpone certification in Maricopa County, the state's most populous. In northwestern Arizona, Mohave County officials postponed their certification until next week.

Judge John Hannah ruled without explanation, except to bar the party from refiling the case. The judge promised a full explanation in the future.

Maricopa County officials are expected to certify elections results on Friday.

Biden won Arizona by more than 10,000 votes, and Maricopa County put him over the top. The county performed a hand count of some ballots the weekend after the election, which showed its machine counts were 100% accurate. The same was found Wednesday during routine post-election accuracy tests.

In Georgia, where officials have been auditing the results of the presidential race, Trump has repeatedly attacked the process and called it "a joke."

He has also made repeated incorrect assertions that Georgia election officials are unable to verify signatures on absentee ballot envelopes. In fact, Georgia requires that they be checked.

The secretary of state's office planned to release results of the audit on Thursday.

During the hand tally, several counties found previously uncounted ballots that the secretary of state's office has said would reduce Biden's lead to just under 13,000 votes, with roughly 5 million total votes cast. Georgia law allows a candidate to request a recount within two business days of certification if the margin is less than 0.5 percentage points. That recount would be done using machines.

Eggert reported from Lansing. Associated Press writers Alanna Durkin Richer in Boston, Kate Brumback and Christina A. Cassidy in Atlanta, Alexandra Jaffe in Wilmington and Jacques Billeaud in Phoenix contributed to this report.

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

and motels are required to receive live and interactive public housekeeping training and certification. The effective date for the certification requirement is one year after the effective date of the ordinance, after which no hotel employer may employ a housekeeper for more than 120 days without the worker having a valid Public Housekeeping Certificate," staff said in a report.

Prior to the pandemic, staff was in the process of launching an in-person training program but a modified training program provided in a virtual format in accordance with LA County Department of Public Health COVID-19 protocol is now operational. It could take longer to deliver the equivalent amount of training and certification that originally intended since hotel staff are now working part-time or at a fraction of pre-COVID-19 levels though. As a result, a report states, "staff requests that the effective date for the required public housekeeping certification be extended to June 30, 2022. Staff also requests that the Professional Services Agreement with WED be extended for two one-year options. This will allow WED to complete the training and certification by the extended timeframe."

The final matter to be taken up by Council next week is to adopt resolutions relating to Water & Wastewater Capital Facility Fees. A public hearing will be held so councilmembers can receive public comment on the matter before approving a Water and Wastewater Capital Facility Fee Study Report. The proposed resolutions, which seek to allow Council to revise the Water and Wastewater Capital Facility Fees that can be charged for any water connection, are expected to be approved shortly after.

To view the full agenda, residents can visit bit.ly/SamoCouncil.

Brennon@smdp.com

LET US KNOW YOUR OPINION
Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com





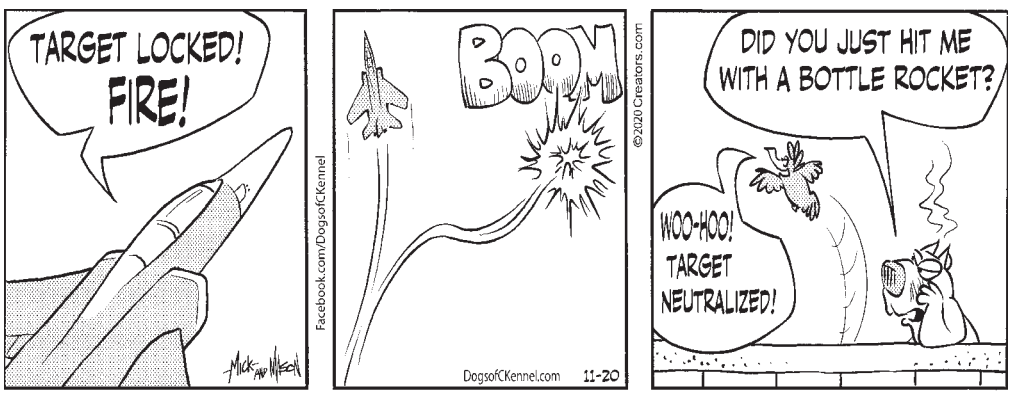
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



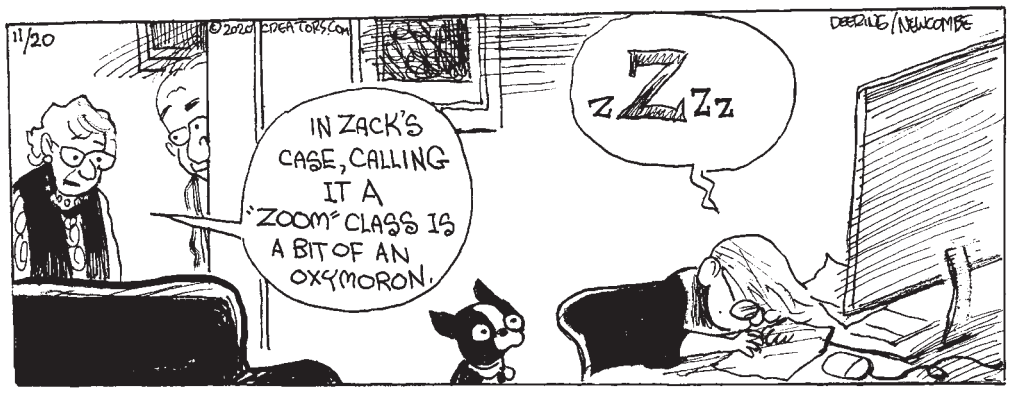
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



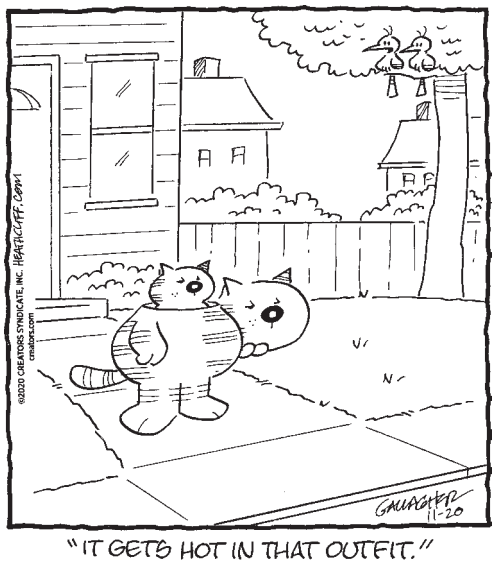
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

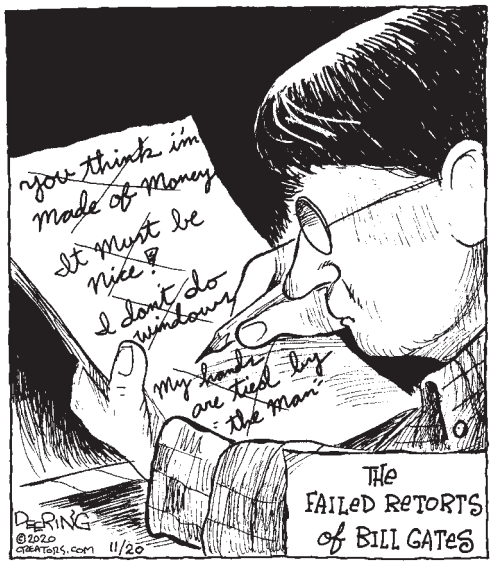
By PETER GALLAGHER



"IT GETS HOT IN THAT OUTFIT."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 58.5°

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high
Mix of SSW swell and WNW swell should ease. Light AM winds, light onshores for the afternoon. AM tide push should be largest/cleanest/best for most.

SATURDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft Thigh to waist high
Mainly fading SSW swell due. AM winds look light.

WEATHER

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 62.
Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 50.
Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 68.
Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 53.
Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 69.
Sunday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 52.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2020/11/20	Fri	02:35 AM	3.75	H
2020/11/20	Fri	06:27 AM	3.17	L
2020/11/20	Fri	12:32 PM	4.96	H
2020/11/20	Fri	8:23 PM	0.04	L
2020/11/21	Sat	03:53 AM	3.99	H
2020/11/21	Sat	08:33 AM	3.20	L
2020/11/21	Sat	1:56 PM	4.42	H
2020/11/21	Sat	9:32 PM	0.31	L
2020/11/22	Sun	04:47 AM	4.29	H
2020/11/22	Sun	10:23 AM	2.79	L
2020/11/22	Sun	3:29 PM	4.10	H
2020/11/22	Sun	10:29 PM	0.53	L
2020/11/23	Mon	05:27 AM	4.59	H
2020/11/23	Mon	11:29 AM	2.23	L
2020/11/23	Mon	4:47 PM	3.97	H
2020/11/24	Tue	05:58 AM	4.87	H
2020/11/24	Tue	12:17 PM	1.66	L
2020/11/24	Tue	5:50 PM	3.94	H
2020/11/24	Tue	11:50 PM	0.98	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date:11/14
4 5 17 43 52
Power#: 5
Jackpot:192 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 11/17
8 13 35 46 68
Mega#: 16
Jackpot: 188 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 11/18
1 2 16 27 32
Mega#: 18
Jackpot:8 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 11/18
1 4 5 18 34

Daily 3
Draw Date: 11/17
Evening: 0 8 7
Draw Date: 11/17
Midday: 9 2 5

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 11/18
1st: 06 - WHIRL WIN
2nd: 07 - EUREKA
3rd: 04 - BIG BEN
RACE TIME:1:40.01

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 (NOVEMBER 20)

The strong and the brave make a better world while the fearful but creative can make the world more beautiful by escaping to a lovelier imagined world and relaying what has been seen there. You'll be in each of these categories at various points of this solar journey. One move in particular will go down in history. Libra and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 22, 1, 30 and 16.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Are you mistaking a temporary arrangement for a permanent one? If you are living under the delusion of being stuck in a situation, stars bring you sweet relief now as they now align to indicate the fallacy.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The obstacles of the day do not need to be smashed through. The difficulties needn't be broken down. A gentle approach will win not only the day but the month. What can be bent?

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Many forms of deception hold no evil intent. Just as some animals change their colors to avoid being eaten, you'll come across people who create illusions to survive and thrive.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You are still being much too hard on yourself. Change that. If you believe that you have a right to grow, then you must also believe that you have a right to make a few mistakes, as that is the price of growth.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your brain loves a workout, and today serves up a training that seems custom-made by a time traveler as it perfectly caters to the needs and wants of your future self.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). When you think about the times you felt most alive yesterday, what were you doing? It's a clue about where you can find more of the vitality you'll need to get in the zone today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You consider your commitments first and your own desires second. Because of this instinctive order, you will not get to your own desires if you keep taking on new commitments. Be careful in this regard today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Some of the solutions for creating a better life are so obvious that they are easy to miss, though today's stars point them out. For instance, you can immunize yourself against stress with regular exercise.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You know what it's like to be defeated. The knowledge of that lower limit is golden because anything above the limit is fair game. When you're well-matched, you fight hard and win.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Most people are so easy for you to win over that when faced with a tough cookie, you love the challenge. Your mind immediately races for a way to reach, inspire and open the person up. It will probably take a few tries.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Make your environment work for you. Structure it in a way that keeps you focused on the things that you want to do and be. Decide where you should be "looking" and nix the distractions.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). A little recipe can be a big deal. This is why secret instructions for making things like Coca-Cola or Kentucky Fried Chicken are locked away. Your way of creating success is a kind of sacred recipe and should be protected as such.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

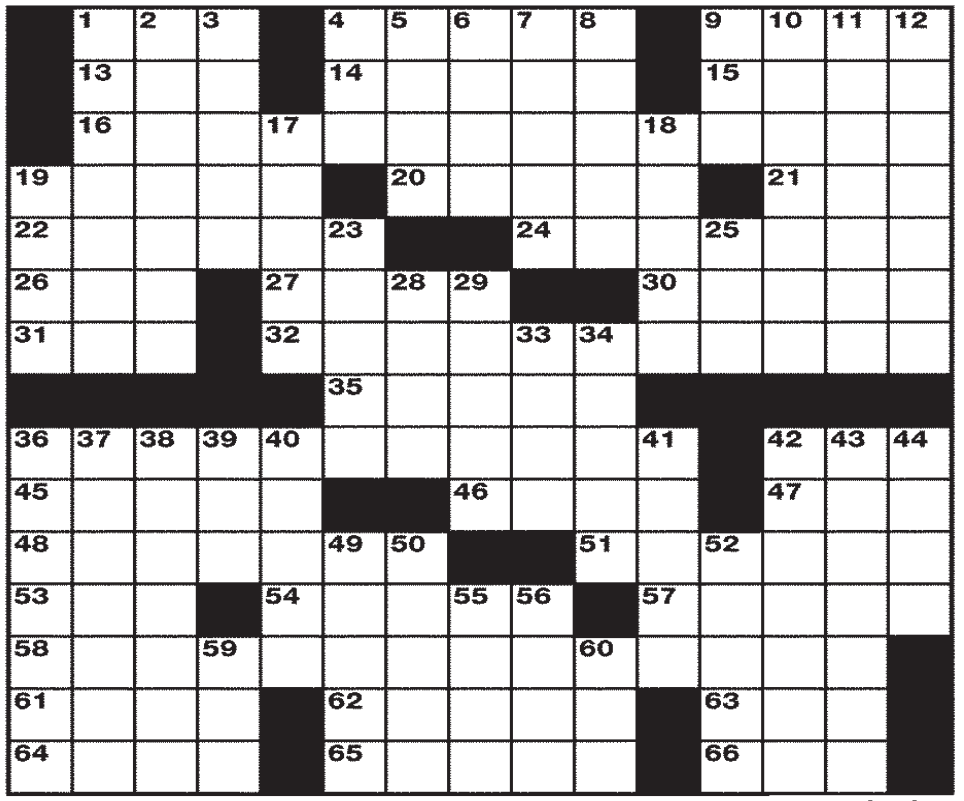
			8		1	4		2
6				4		9		
	2	8		6			1	
7		6				1		
	4						8	
		1				3		7
	7			8		5	3	
		5		7				4
3		4	2		6			

Newsday Crossword

REALLY! by S.N.
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Metaphor for simplicity
4 Less inept
9 *Playbill* header
13 Bossy type, per astrology
14 Product knockoff
15 Person manipulated
16 "Really!"
19 k, as in Krugerrands
20 Pluto's current category
21 Grab greatly
22 Source of sea squirts
24 Get rougher
26 Unlikely story, likely
27 Bugs Bunny's girlfriend
30 Has earned special treatment
31 One who won't quit
32 With 36 Across, "Really!"
35 Deen of down-home dining
36 See 32 Across
42 One of seven vowels
45 It's northeast of Vientiane
46 What you eat
47 With 29 Down, "The King of Country Music"
48 Expression of support
51 Polished and elegant
53 River in Madrid
54 Poet whom friends called "Tom"
57 Pleasant change of pace
58 "Really!"
61 Robin's companion
62 Orders from the court
63 Typical JAMA subscribers
64 Design detail
65 Burn through
66 Follower of tea or TV

DOWN
1 Land on the Adriatic
2 Something tapped at a frat
3 Mixers at mixers
4 Crush, as a quiz
5 MacArthur, in DC
6 Name on theaters since 1904
7 Laptop's '40s ancestor
8 Throwback style
9 National Humor Mo.
10 Rummy relative
11 Vacation descriptor
12 Far from low-key
17 G7 nation
18 Work __ (masterpiece)
19 Brick oven
23 Commandeer
25 Strike solidly
28 Meal with mahi mahi
29 See 47 Across
33 __ Romeo (import from 17 Down)
34 South Pacific microstate
36 Strong cravings
37 Chew the scenery
38 Effective at the moment
39 "A-n-n-n-d . . .?"
40 Reason to pull over
41 "Ross for Boss" in '92
42 Revision remnant
43 Tops in swank
44 Voice vote shouts
49 Former women's labor org.
50 Arena levels
52 Rhymesters of yore
55 Lin-Manuel Miranda's two-time award
56 Costume depicted by Degas
59 Pedigree registry org.
60 Honey meas.



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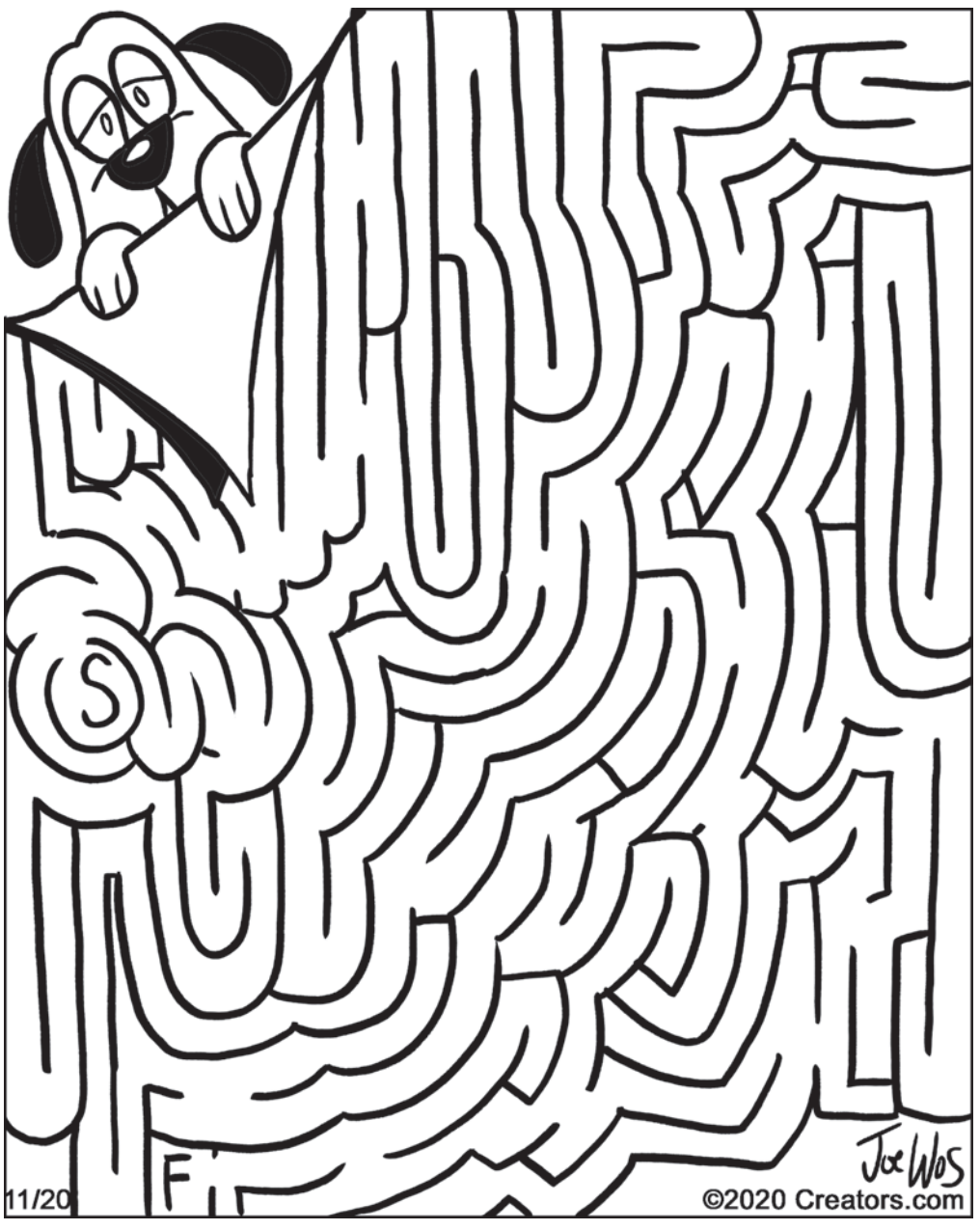
Binary Puzzle

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0
1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0
0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
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1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
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FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 21 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle.

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Travel the world

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

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Cameras	Image	Scenery	Trip
Cities	Islands	Service	Uber
Connections	Issue	Share	Unit
Deals	Knowledge	Ships	Value
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SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
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RESTRICTIONS

FROM PAGE 1

now," said Mark Verge, owner of Art's Table, Ashland Hill, Margo's, the Golden Bull, and Order for Me Deli. "This is probably a death sentence for all restaurants."

For months Verge has held on to the staff in his five restaurants, only one of which is currently turning a profit. While he's adamant on reopening when restrictions improve, he fears there is no way he can continue operating under present conditions.

"We love Santa Monica, we are trying to do everything we can to stay. At some point you can't imagine, you keep losing money every month," said Verge. "It's just trying to figure out how long you keep getting punched in the face."

> **"It's just trying to figure out how long you keep getting punched in the face"**
>
> - Mark Verge

Steve Lieberman, owner of Surfridge Brewery and West 4th and Jane is in a similar position. After the July reopening rollback, his brewery only received permission to open outdoor dining on Oct. 6 and his restaurant only has outdoor space for 40 seats.

"If that 40 goes down to 20 my staff is going to be standing around for nothing and I still have to pay payroll taxes, electric, government tax bills, and with half the amount of customers" said Lieberman. "We've been open 11 years, is it going to be worth it in January if it's still like this? Probably not."

Raphael Lunetta, owner of Lunetta Italian restaurant, was seating 50 percent of his pre-Covid capacity and now will be limited to 25 percent. His restaurant has gone from having booming business seven days a week, to having business around four and a half days a week.

"What we need is another round of PPP funds, and we need to make sure our government is really looking out for small businesses," said Lunetta. "That's what needs to happen, because there are a lot of small businesses that are not going to survive this."

The Paycheck Protection Program was included in the March 27. CARES Act, which offered forgivable loans to small businesses to keep employees on payroll. Those funds ran out in Aug. and without another federal relief package, restaurant owners are struggling to keep staff employed.

Lieberman is also looking for more PPP money, but said that paycheck funding can only get a business so far when it has severely limited capacity and owes months of back rent.

"Payroll is not the issue. I have ten customers a day. I don't need payroll for ten customers a day; I can have one person there. I need money for back rent," said Lieberman. "How am I supposed to pay back a year of not paying rent? We need our landlords off our back, and we need our landlords to get help so the banks get off their back."

All three restaurateurs said they fully understand the need to reign in cases and protect people's health, but expressed frustration that despite their efforts to operate as safely as possible, restaurants are the target of new restrictions.

"I feel like on the Westside people are more aware and they are more conscientious and I believe that we on the Westside are doing a pretty good job in taking responsibility," said Lunetta. "Yes there are some businesses of all sorts that don't follow the rules and if they don't it's unfortunate because the rest of us who do do it, I believe well, are going to get dinged."

Clara@smdp.com

CURFEW

FROM PAGE 1

days and weeks will be critical to stop the surge. We are sounding the alarm," Newsom said in a statement.

It's the sort of announcement Newsom, a Democrat, would normally make in person. But he was not expected to attend a virtual news conference with the state's top health officers as he faces intense criticism for recently attending a party. He was at a pricey Napa Valley restaurant with lobbyists despite pleading with residents to avoid gatherings with people from multiple households.

"Even our everyday activities become higher risk," California Health and Human Services Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly said at the news conference.

Hospitalizations are up nearly 64% in 14 days, while the positivity rate has jumped from less than 3% to a seven-day rate of 5.6%, he said. The state recorded 11,478 cases Thursday, "widespread across the state," he said, a figure that "intensives our resolve to get it back under control."

Even with vaccines on the horizon, "We have to take care of the urgency of the day, Ghaly said. "We must address it immediately."

While nonessential businesses must close by 10 p.m., restaurants will be permitted to offer takeout and delivery food and people can do some routine activities like walking the dog, Ghaly said. They will still be able to get medical care, pick up prescriptions and take care of other essential needs.

Officials said overnight movements are more likely to involve social activities that bring increased risk of infection, particularly if people drink and let down their guard on precautions like wearing masks and staying a safe distance apart.

It follows the state's more sweeping lockdown in the spring that affected all residents, day and night.

Republican Assemblyman James Gallagher, who is suing the governor over his earlier emergency orders, said the latest move will further harm businesses that are already struggling.

"None of these orders matter unless Californians buy in and change their behavior," Gallagher said in a statement. "The better policy to respond to this spike in cases is to call on all Californians to step up and make responsible choices to follow basic health guidelines to limit the spread without shackling our freedoms and the economy. A curfew undermines the public's faith that the guidelines are science-driven."

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