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Santa Monica Daily Press

WEEKEND EDITION
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Volume 20 Issue 08

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The Santa Monica Library and Museum have a new exhibit.
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People who save lives
A local man reflects on those who make a difference.
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Most teachers are strongly against school reopenings



Courtesy photo

DISTANCED: SMMUSD officials visited a school district with in-person learning recently as part of their decision making process for reopening local school sites.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

As SMMUSD continues reopening discussions, teachers are making their viewpoint loud and clear: they do not want to set foot in the classroom given the current case levels.

In a survey sent out by the teacher's union, 45 percent of teachers said they would consider taking leave, resigning or retiring if SMMUSD implemented a hybrid return while the County is in the purple or red tiers. Seventy-five percent prefer distance learning with limited on campus activities over a hybrid model when the County enters the red tier.

SMMUSD is currently pursuing two courses of limited reopening while in the purple tier. It is resuming limited in-person services for special education students, English learners, and adult transition students and is also applying for a waiver to reopen TK to grade 2.

Sixteen teachers called in to a Nov. 19 School Board meeting and appealed to the District to not pursue waivers or a hybrid reopening.

"I'm here tonight as both a teacher and a parent to implore you to reconsider opening specialized preschool classrooms," said teacher Tashia Buccioni and spoke about her special needs son. "He does not understand how to socially distance for extended periods of time. He also struggles to keep his mask on for longer than 30 to 45 minutes at a time, and I have a feeling he's not the only one like this."

"It frightens me for myself and also for my extremely medically fragile students to bring them back on campus when they cannot wear masks and they cannot socially distance," said special education teacher Esther Andersen. "Bringing students on campus is adding the stress and the difficulty of putting their life and my life at risk."

Sixty-seven percent of surveyed teachers did not support resuming any in-person instruction while in the purple tier. Only 10 percent of teachers surveyed said they are confident that safety measures

SEE **REOPENINGS** PAGE 11

Daily COVID-19 deaths in US reach highest level since May

DAVID CRARY AND PAUL J. WEBER
Associated Press

The surging coronavirus is taking an increasingly dire toll across the U.S. just as a vaccine appears close at hand, with the country now averaging over 1,300 COVID-19 deaths per day — the highest level since the calamitous spring in and around New York City.

The overall U.S. death toll has reached about 254,000, by far the most in the world. Confirmed infections have eclipsed more than 11.8 million, after the biggest one-day gain on record Thursday — almost 188,000. And the number of people in the hospital with COVID-19 hit another all-time high at more than 80,000.

With health experts deeply afraid Thanksgiving travel and holiday gatherings next week will fuel the spread of the virus, many states and cities are imposing near-lockdowns or other restrictions. California ordered a 10 p.m.-to 5-a.m. curfew starting Saturday, covering 94% of the state's 40 million residents.

The Texas border county of El Paso, where more than 300 people have died from COVID-19 since October, is advertising jobs for morgue workers capable of lifting bodies weighing 175 pounds or more. Officials are offering more than $27 an hour for work described as not only physically arduous but "emotionally taxing as well."

The county had already begun paying jail inmates $2 an hour to help move corpses and has ordered at least 10 refrigerated trucks as morgues run out of room.

COVID-19 deaths in the U.S. are at their highest level since late May,

SEE **COVID-19** PAGE 11

Santa Monica pub tries to keep calm, carry on with virus rules

BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press

By most measures of what keeps a pub afloat, the coronavirus pandemic should already have Ye Olde King's Head on its last kegs.

The British restaurant and bar in seaside Southern California has been battered the past nine months. It was in the process of adapting to new restrictions that took effect Friday that would further crimp its recovery even as the prospect of a stay-home order loomed that could cripple the business.

"It's not worth thinking about," said operations manager Lisa Powers, who has guided the 46-year-old institution through an ever-changing set of public health orders. "Nobody's going to survive without help from the federal government if there's another lockdown."

The surge of cases in Los Angeles County is exploding at a rate even local public health officials didn't seem to contemplate on Tuesday, when they gave businesses three days to adopt new restrictions that force restaurants to halve the outdoor capacity many established to stay afloat because indoor service was banned. Restaurants and

SEE **PUB** PAGE 2

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City of Santa Monica

**ORDINANCE NUMBER 2657 (CCS)
(CITY COUNCIL SERIES)**

AN EMERGENCY INTERIM ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA EXTENDING INTERIM ZONING REGULATIONS ESTABLISHED BY EMERGENCY INTERIM ZONING ORDINANCE NUMBER 2637 (CCS) FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY IN THE CITY'S DOWNTOWN, MIXED USE AND COMMERCIAL, EMPLOYMENT, OCEANFRONT, AND PUBLIC AND SEMI-PUBLIC DISTRICTS, EXCLUDING THE AREA INCLUDING AND IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO THE THIRD STREET PROMENADE SUBJECT TO INTERIM ZONING REGULATIONS SET FORTH IN EMERGENCY INTERIM ZONING ORDINANCE NUMBER 2636 (CCS)

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2657 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

This Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance ("IZO") extends the interim zoning regulations put in place effective May 12, 2020 by Emergency IZO 2637, which are intended to assist in economic recovery in the City's Downtown, Mixed Use and Commercial, Employment, Oceanfront, and Public and Semi-Public Districts, excluding the Third Street Promenade and a surrounding area that are the subject of Emergency IZOs 2636 and 2658 (CCS). The Emergency IZO extends the following provisions of Emergency IZO 2637:

- makes restaurants up to 5,000 square feet a permitted use;
- establishes a new Food Hall commercial use category, modifies off-street parking requirements for Food Halls, and makes Food Halls up to 175 seats a conditionally permitted use;
- removes the per block cap on the number of Main Street restaurants;
- provides that certain limitations on size and street frontage for tenant spaces only apply to new construction and alterations to existing buildings that result in combination or enlargement of tenant spaces;
- eases standards related to when retail and restaurant uses are considered abandoned;
- relaxes parking requirements for changes of use;
- for changes of use, allows for alternate compliance with loading standards through approval of a Parking and Loading Operations Plan;
- modifies Alcohol Exemption conditions and processes to limit the need for Conditional Use Permits and streamline the process for permitting alcohol service for eating and drinking establishments; and
- modifies the personal services, physical training use classification to allow more flexibility in physical training uses and reduced parking requirements for smaller fitness studios.

The Emergency IZO also modifies the Alcohol Exemption conditions and processes for the Santa Monica Pier to make them mirror those in place for the Third Street Promenade area under Emergency IZOs 2636 and 2658.

The Emergency IZO will be in effect until December 31, 2022. While the Emergency IZO implements temporary changes to zoning regulations, all land uses and entitlements approved while the Emergency IZO is in effect would remain valid beyond the term of the Emergency IZO unless specific regulations are subsequently enacted that could affect these prior approvals.

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

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

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 31 CALLS ON NOVEMBER 19

EMS 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 1:18 a.m.
EMS 4th St / Colorado Ave 8:21 a.m.
EMS 7th St / Michigan Ave 8:53 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 20th St 9:46 a.m.
Odor Investigation 900blk 7th St 11:03 a.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 3100blk 4th St 11:05 a.m.
EMS 300blk Olympic Dr 11:06 a.m.
EMS 1000blk 2nd St 11:15 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 2nd St 11:21 a.m.
Trash/Dumpster Fire 3100blk 4th St 11:25 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 23rd St / Ocean Park Blvd 11:40 a.m.
EMS 1400blk California Ave 12:02 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 1:16 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 2:11 p.m.
EMS 2400blk Main St 3:38 p.m.
EMS 1100blk Palisades Park 4:12 p.m.
EMS 800blk 3rd St 4:19 p.m.
EMS 2100blk Cloverfield Blvd 4:24 p.m.
EMS 400blk Raymond Ave 4:29 p.m.
EMS 800blk 3rd St 4:45 p.m.
EMS 2300blk 20th St 4:47 p.m.
EMS 2000blk 21st St 4:55 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1000blk 19th St 5:04 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 5:50 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 21st St 5:52 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 6:41 p.m.
EMS 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 7:47 p.m.
EMS 1800blk Ashland Ave 10:28 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 7th St 10:28 p.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 1400blk 2nd St 11:21 p.m.

PUB

FROM PAGE 1

nonessential retail must close at 10 p.m.

On Wednesday, LA County Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer said that by early December the county of 10 million people could reach a daily average of 4,000 cases that would require restaurants to only offer takeout meals. She said she didn't think that outcome was inevitable.

The next day, as daily cases topped 5,000, county health officer Dr. Muntu Davis said by Sunday the county could surpass a daily average of 4,500 cases that would trigger a shutdown.

The latest surge comes as public health officials across the U.S. raise the alarm about out-of-control transmission of the virus, strengthen restrictions and urge people against holding large Thanksgiving gatherings.

Gov. Gavin Newsom placed most California businesses under the most severe restrictions on Monday and on Thursday added a 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew for residents that takes effect Saturday.

Restrictions went further in Los Angeles County, which accounts for a quarter of the state's 40 million residents but has about a third of the coronavirus cases and close to 40% of the deaths.

Ye Olde King's Head, a mock Tudor fixture near the beach in Santa Monica, weathered a lengthy shutdown in the spring, a destructive ransacking during police protests in May and public health orders that have required constant adaptation.

"It's like every week there's a different rule to follow," Powers said as she readied the establishment for the latest rules. "We're trying to keep up but things happen so fast."

The California Restaurant Association has said thousands of restaurants have closed statewide and it fears more than a third of restaurants open in March before the first shutdown order will eventually go out of business.

The King's Head had to offer its traditional British fare — everything from bangers and mash and fish and chips to traditional Sunday roast — for takeout. It's adjoining gift "shoppe" offering imported tea, biscuits, Marmite spread and British newspapers has also reopened.

It continued to rebuild after vandals and looters trashed the place during protests following the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis. The ATM was dragged into the street, smashed open and the cash pocketed. Booze was stolen, televisions were smashed and graffiti was sprayed on the window blinds.

"They didn't even know what they were looting," Powers said. "It was English tea and English chocolates."

When only outdoor dining was allowed, the King's Head was fortunate to be a business that already had patio seating, allowing it to begin serving pints with pub grub along with formal afternoon tea on fine china and white linen with fresh baked scones, sausage rolls and mini sandwiches.

For the largely British ex-pat community, as well as loyal locals and tourists from all over, the reopening was welcome.

"It's as close to being back home as you can get," said Philip Mathur, who has been frequenting the pub since he moved to LA from a small town outside Glasgow more than 20 years ago. "It brings a bit of sanity into another otherwise strange world we're living in right now."

Mathur, who drank a Heineken and planned to order steak pie and chips once his three British friends arrived, said it would be "a sad loss" if the pub had to close again.

It should have been a big year for any bar in Los Angeles. The Dodgers won their first World Series in more than three decades and the Lakers won their first NBA Championship in 10 years. The pub also draws crowds for English soccer and rugby matches that they had to show to limited crowds on the patio.

The pub itself is mostly quiet. No one is throwing darts, standing at the dark wooden bar where 20 beers are on tap, eating in the formal dining room or sitting by the fireplace with a painting of Winston Churchill above it.

Powers is working on plans to add awnings and heaters to prepare for outdoor seating in the cooler, damper months in the otherwise temperate climate.

She declined to discuss how much sales have declined. The business made it through the shutdown with help from a Paycheck Protection Program loan ranging between $350,000 and $1 million, according to the Small Business Administration.

Powers, who is from Birmingham, England, didn't want to contemplate another possible shutdown, though she acknowledged the latest virus numbers don't look good.

"It's certainly testing us," she said. "I think we've got the good old British grit."

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 272 CALLS ON NOVEMBER 19

Found Property 2500blk Michigan Ave 1:37 a.m.
Report Of Shots Fired 2300blk 5th St 2:44 a.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 1400blk 17th St 5:26 a.m.
Encampment 1800blk Main St 5:33 a.m.
Found Senile Person 700blk Montana Ave 5:41 a.m.
Encampment 1600blk Ocean Ave 5:44 a.m.
Burglary Report 1900blk Broadway 6:50 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 20th St / Pico Blvd 7:27 a.m.
Prowler Just Left 1000blk 7th St 7:32 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 20th St / Santa Monica Blvd 7:35 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 2100blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:01 a.m.
Prowler Just Left 1000blk 7th St 8:02 a.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 8:06 a.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1000blk 18th St 8:28 a.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 14th St / Wilshire Blvd 8:38 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 2900blk 4th St 8:38 a.m.
Encampment 2000blk Ocean Front Walk 8:44 a.m.
Identity Theft 2500blk 28th St 9:09 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1000blk Michigan Ave 9:09 a.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 700blk Broadway 9:12 a.m.
Person With A Gun 1100blk Lincoln Blvd 9:18 a.m.
Found Property 800blk Pico Blvd 9:37 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1300blk 15th St 9:43 a.m.
Fight 1500blk 7th St 9:52 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 400blk 9th St 10:01 a.m.
Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 500blk Adelaide Dr 10:04 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 400blk 19th St 10:06 a.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 2600blk 23rd St 10:14 a.m.
Fight 1200blk 14th St 10:17 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1400blk Princeton St 10:18 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1000blk 12th St 10:21 a.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 900blk Lincoln Blvd 10:25 a.m.
Encampment 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 10:27 a.m.
Missing Person 1200blk 14th St 10:32 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 900blk 2nd St 10:32 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 1900blk Pico Blvd 10:40 a.m.
Encampment 1700blk Ocean Front Walk 10:43 a.m.
Fraud Report 2000blk Euclid St 10:49 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 600blk Ocean Ave 10:53 a.m.
Encampment 1700blk Ocean Front Walk 10:58 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1600blk Wilshire Blvd 11:02 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3300blk Barnard Way 11:15 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 400blk Raymond Ave 11:20 a.m.
Death Investigation 2600blk 32nd St 11:34 a.m.
Encampment 1600blk The Beach 11:36 a.m.
Encampment Ocean Ave / Bicknell Ave 11:38 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 23rd St / Ocean Park Blvd 11:40 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 12:01 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 2200blk 20th St 12:12 p.m.
Encampment 700blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:19 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1000blk Hill St 12:22 p.m.
Strongarm Robbery Report 1200blk Fourth Street 12:55 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 17th St / Santa Monica Blvd 12:57 p.m.
Identity Theft 2200blk 4th St 1:28 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 17th St / California Ave 1:50 p.m.
Battery Report 1400blk 4th St 1:58 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1100blk 20th St 2:04 p.m.
Fraud Report 1000blk Pier Ave 2:37 p.m.
Drinking In Public 2200blk Virginia Ave 2:44 p.m.
Found Property 2200blk Virginia Ave 2:48 p.m.
Harassing Phone Calls Report 900blk 4th St 2:52 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 4th St / Interstate 10 2:59 p.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 3300blk Barnard Way 3:03 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 2nd St / Colorado Ave 3:04 p.m.
Bike Theft Report 26th St / Wilshire Blvd 3:14 p.m.
Found Property 2200blk Virginia Ave 3:31 p.m.
Domestic Violence Now 500blk Colorado Ave 3:32 p.m.
Fraud Report 400blk Broadway 3:38 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2400blk Ocean Park Blvd 4:20 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 300blk Olympic Dr 4:27 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 600blk California Ave 4:58 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1600blk Ocean Ave 5:19 p.m.
Encampment 2100blk Virginia Ave 5:58 p.m.
Encampment 1700blk Ocean Front Walk 6:06 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 3rd Street Prom / Santa Monica Blvd 6:12 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1000blk 21st St 6:14 p.m.
Bike Theft Report 1800blk 10th St 6:17 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 2000blk 11th St 6:46 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 800blk 11th St 6:56 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1100blk 20th St 7:00 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1900blk Ocean Ave 7:28 p.m.
Domestic Violence Now 1400blk 12th St 7:58 p.m.
Domestic Violence Now 1300blk Ocean Park Blvd 8:10 p.m.
Assault Just Occurred 300blk Santa Monica Pier 8:58 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 26th St / San Vicente Blvd 10:05 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 2900blk 16th St 10:09 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1700blk Cloverfield Blvd 11:32 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now Lincoln Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 11:41 p.m.

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.

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Your column here

By Ron Rapoport — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The people who save lives

Stephen Miller's time as a latter-day Iago whispering poison into the president's ear concerning new and diabolical ways to keep immigrants from coming to America is coming to an end. And what a record he has to reflect on.

The travel ban from Muslim countries? Miller.

The ban on the industrious young people known as "dreamers" residing in this country? Yes again.

Kids in cages? That too.

And so much more. Seldom, I would suggest, has so much evil been packaged into one sinister package. He must be so proud.

Lately, though, I have been entertaining a more prosaic image of Miller. It has to do with him returning to his home town of Santa Monica and, now that he is a man of leisure, perhaps using some of his spare time to catch up on a few long-delayed doctors appointments. I bring this up because of an experience I had a while back that may be relevant.

The only doctor I see who never gave me any trouble — and when you get to the shady side of 70, you see many more doctors than I'm sure Miller, a mere lad of 35, does — was my cardiologist. You're fine, he always said, after taking a listen and hooking me up to an EKG. See you next year.

Until one Tuesday a couple of years ago when he didn't.

I've been having this small feeling around my heart, sort of a low burn, when I'm riding on the bike path along the beach near my home, I told him at our annual appointment. It always goes away after a few minutes. I'm sure it's nothing. I just thought I'd mention it. His eyes widened and within half an hour he had put me on a treadmill, taken an ultrasound of my heart, told me there was a 90 percent blockage and said he operates on Wednesdays.

Less than 24 hours later, I was in a bed on a ward in Santa Monica Hospital, having received a shiny new stent, a stern lecture about the importance of taking a blood thinner and a realization of something that made me smile and think of Miller.

I had dealt with four doctors in the hospital—one who told me about the procedure, two who performed the operation, and one who checked up on me after it was performed—and dozens of nurses, aides, attendants and all the other people who keep a hospital running day and night.

And here's the thing. Not a single one of them was an Anglo-American male.

All of my doctors were Persian or South Asian with the exception of the woman who stopped by after the surgery. All of the nurses were Asian or Latino or African-American. As were the woman who brought food from the kitchen, the guy who wheeled me down to the lab for some post-op tests and the woman who brought some prescription drugs to my bedside.

Now the hospital cannot have been more than a mile or two from where Miller grew up and went to high school and what I am wondering is if, some time when he is home paying a visit, he might not walk into a doctor's office with a mild complaint and suddenly find himself whisked off to surgery and then to a hospital room of his own. It pleases me to think that the people who save his life and give him the best care possible will be some of the same immigrants and children of immigrants whose lives he has worked so hard to destroy.

Ron Rapoport is the author of a dozen books on sports and show business, most recently Let's Play Two: The Legend of Mr. Cub, The Life of Ernie Banks. He lives in Santa Monica.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Tongva Exhibit at the Santa Monica History Museum

Santa Monica Public Library is proud to present a free family-friendly program for Native American Heritage Month, "Tongva Exhibit at the Santa Monica History Museum," on Tuesday, November 24 at 3 p.m. The virtual program can be accessed via the library's Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/smpublib.

The Santa Monica History Museum is honored to help tell the story of the Tongva people, who were the first inhabitants of Santa Monica and who continue to live on this land, acting as stewards of sites such as Kuruvunga Springs. As one of the richest and most culturally sophisticated societies in California, Tongva influence extended well beyond their borders. Do you know which Santa Monica street is named for an important Tongva ceremony? Can you identify the female Tongva leader who appears in murals throughout Los Angeles? Join us to learn this and more about the history of the Tongva people.

Families are also invited to explore the Santa Monica Public Library's collection featuring Native American Heritage and authors: Native American Heritage Month for Kids

To control the spread of COVID-19, the Library buildings remain closed to the public until further notice. Contactless curbside pickup service is available at Santa Monica Public Library. For more information, visit smpl.or/curbside. We encourage you to visit our Online Library and access the Library's many digital services that are available 24/7. Questions? Call us at (310) 458-8600 or email reference@smgov.net. Staff are available Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and look forward to connecting with you.

SUBMITTED BY ANN WILSON

Citywide

Landlord/Tenant Forum

On Wednesday, December 2, from 4 to 6 p.m., the Santa Monica City Attorney's Office and the Rent Control Board will host their annual Landlord/Tenant Forum. This year's event will be held through teleconference. Registration is required and capacity is limited.

Register online at https://bit.ly/36rzzLO

This event is open to Santa Monica residential landlords, tenants, property managers, and service providers. Topics will include:

Update on operations at City Hall
Tenant protections during COVID-19
Santa Monica's residential leasing requirements
Rent 20/20 – Rent Control's Interactive Information System Under Development
There will be a Q&A after the topic presentation. Capacity is limited, so please register early.

SUBMITTED BY CONSTANCE FARRELL

City of Santa Monica

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2658 (CCS) (CITY COUNCIL SERIES)

AN EMERGENCY INTERIM ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA EXTENDING AND AMENDING INTERIM ZONING REGULATIONS ESTABLISHED BY EMERGENCY INTERIM ORDINANCE 2636 (CCS) FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY OF THE BC (PROMENADE) DISTRICT AND THOSE PORTIONS OF THE BC (2ND AND 4TH STREET) DISTRICT BOUNDED BY SECOND STREET TO THE WEST, BROADWAY TO THE SOUTH, 4TH STREET TO THE EAST, AND WILSHIRE BOULEVARD TO THE NORTH

The following is a summary of Ordinance Number 2658 (CCS) prepared by the Office of the City Attorney:

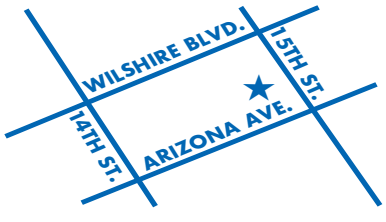
This Emergency Interim Zoning Ordinance ("IZO") extends the interim zoning regulations put in place effective May 12, 2020 by Emergency IZO 2636, which are intended to assist in economic recovery of the Third Street Promenade and a surrounding area. The Emergency IZO extends the following provisions of Emergency IZO 2636:

- modifies existing allowable land uses and introduces new permitted land uses including food hall and light industrial uses to provide more flexible land uses in the Promenade area;
- eliminates the requirement of a Conditional Use Permit for the conversion of eating and drinking establishments to other uses;
- eases standards related to when retail and restaurant uses are considered abandoned;
- modifies Alcohol Exemption conditions and processes to limit the need for Conditional Use Permits and streamline the process for permitting alcohol service for eating and drinking establishments; and
- for changes of use, allow for alternate compliance with loading standards through approval of a Parking and Loading Operations Plan.

The Emergency IZO also extends the allowance for alternate compliance with loading standards through approval of a Parking and Loading Operations Plan to new buildings, additions, and enlargements of uses

The Emergency IZO will be in effect until December 31, 2022. While the Emergency IZO implements temporary changes to zoning regulations, all land uses and entitlements approved while the Emergency IZO is in effect would remain valid beyond the term of the Emergency IZO unless specific regulations are subsequently enacted that could affect these prior approvals.

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

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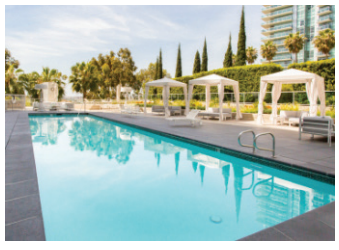
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BULLDOG REALTORS

Your column here

By Jagdip Dhillon Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Get Covered With Health Insurance in 2021

Covered California is urging people to "get covered and stay covered" during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, not only with masks to fight against the pandemic, but also with quality health care coverage. Open enrollment is underway right now, and during these trying times, having a health plan you can count on is more important than ever before.

An estimated 338,000 people remain uninsured in Los Angeles County, even though they are eligible for financial help through Covered California or low-cost or no-cost coverage through Medi-Cal.

"The pandemic shines a light on the importance of health insurance and access to quality care, and now is the time to sign up for coverage through Covered California," said Peter V. Lee, executive director of Covered California. "We will be reaching into every corner of the state to encourage Californians to keep COVID-safe and to get health coverage now."

The good news for people in NE Los Angeles County is that premiums will remain relatively unchanged in 2021. Covered California announced the rate change for the region will be -0.9 percent in 2021, which is lower than the statewide average change of 0.6 percent. More importantly, consumers may be able to pay less than they are paying now, by an average of -10.7 percent, if they shop around and switch to the lowest-cost plan in the same metal tier.

"Providing access to affordable health care coverage is more critical than ever as our state and nation continue to navigate this pandemic," said Gov. Gavin Newsom. "Covered California opens the door to quality care by making financial assistance available to help Californians get the coverage they need. Now is the time to get covered and stay covered."

In an effort to promote open enrollment and make clear the connection between insurance coverage and the COVID pandemic, Covered California will be mailing masks (see right) to its record 1.5 million enrollees, and provide them to all new consumers who sign up during the open-enrollment period.

All consumers will be asked to wear the masks to prevent the spread of the virus, while spreading the word about open enrollment.

"The pandemic is front and center in all of our lives, which means the issues of health and wellbeing are more important than ever before," Lee said. "Getting covered with a mask will help protect Californians and their families and friends; getting covered with a health plan will help protect people if they get sick."

Open enrollment, which is the one time of the year when eligible Californians can sign up for health care coverage without needing to meet any requirements, runs through Jan. 31.

In addition, in order to help bring the cost of coverage within reach, the state of California will continue to provide more financial help to eligible consumers in 2021 through a subsidy program. Overall, the financial help from the federal government, the state, or both, helps the average person save about 80 percent off the cost of their monthly premium.

The most recent data shows there are 197,030 Covered California consumers in NE Los Angeles County. Depending on their ZIP code, people in these counties will once again be able to choose plans from Anthem Blue Cross, Blue Shield of California, Health Net, Kaiser Permanente, L.A. Care, Molina Healthcare and Oscar.

Consumers can see their options and find out whether they are eligible for financial help by visiting Covered California's website at www.CoveredCA.com and using the Shop and Compare Tool.

Consumers who do not have health insurance will be able to begin signing up for 2021 coverage in the fall. Others with special qualifying life events, like losing their coverage or moving, can enroll year-round. Medi-Cal enrollment is also year-round.

Interested consumers should go to www.CoveredCA.com to find out if they qualify for financial help and find free local help to enroll. They can contact the Covered California service center for enrollment assistance by calling (800) 300-1506.

Jagdip Dhillon Information is with Coverd California's Office of Communications and Public Relations



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Free Program Features Dance Styles from Around the World

Santa Monica College's renowned Global Motion World Dance Company will present its fall 2020 performance featuring dances and stories from around the world as a free video presentation that debuts November 30.

The video will be available for viewing online using the Zoom platform starting at 12 a.m. November 30. A link at smc.edu/dance/events takes guests directly to the performance video.

SMC students will present the excitement and diverse beauty of other cultures through showcasing traditional and contemporary World Dance styles – including Bachata, Ballet, Hawaiian, Fusion, and Mexican Folklórico.

Global Motion was founded 40 years ago by SMC Dance Department chair Judith Douglas to bring knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of the diverse beauty of dance throughout the world, and to give students the essential experience of working with choreographers and performing as a professional company, on a professional stage.

Global Motion is under the artistic direction of Raquel Ramirez and Sri Susilowati. Ramirez is a dance professor at SMC and the founder and director of a folklórico performance group dedicated to supporting the traditions and cultures of Mexico. Susilowati, originally from Indonesia, creates and performs traditional and contemporary works that focus on community, gender, and ethnicity.

Faculty choreographers are Laura Canellias (Bachata), Keali'i Ceballos (Hawaiian), and Raquel Ramirez (Mexican Folklórico).

SMC dance students audition to choreograph pieces for Global Motion. This fall, the student choreographers are Natalie Brown (Ballet), Liam Gifkins (Fusion), and Jackie Riedel and Gillian Leach (Jazz).

Costumes are handmade each season by professional costumer Patricia Oliva.

The Global Motion troupe has toured extensively and performed at schools, festivals, and special events throughout California and Mexico, as well as at performances in Beijing, China; Bracciano, Italy; Santiago, Chile; Lloret de Mar, Spain; and Paris, France. In October 2019, Global Motion traveled to China for performances in Beijing.

More information is available at smc.edu/dance or by calling the SMC Dance Department at 310-434-3467.

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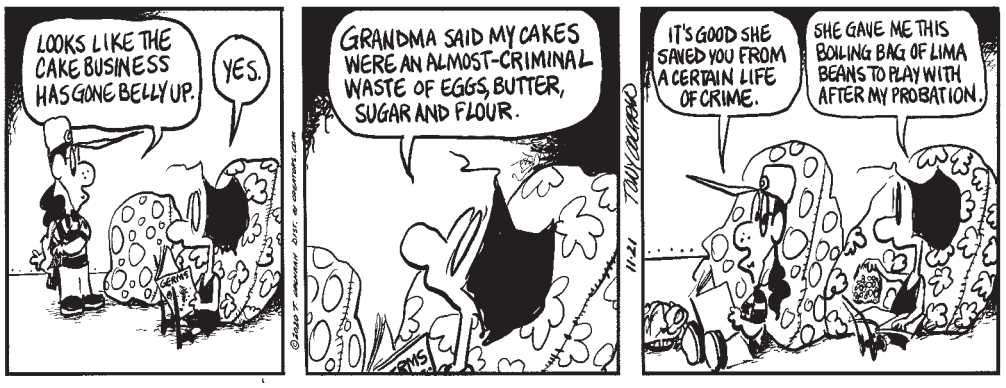
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6:00 PM - 7:15 PM PROGRAM
7:15 PM - 10:00 PM SOCIAL HOURS

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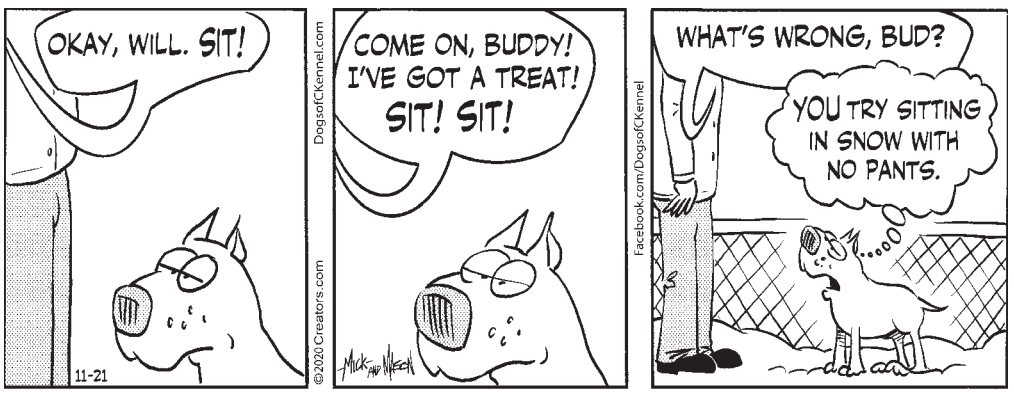
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"I DIDN'T KNOW GREAT DANES TRAVELED IN PACKS."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 57.9°

SATURDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
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.

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

WEATHER

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.
Monday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 64.
Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 51.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2020/11/25	Wed	06:23 AM	5.13	H
2020/11/25	Wed	12:55 PM	1.14	L
2020/11/25	Wed	6:42 PM	3.93	H
2020/11/26	Thu	12:21 AM	1.22	L

DAILY LOTTERY

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

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

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

Fantasy 5 calottery
Draw Date: 11/19
5 19 28 35 36

Daily 3 calottery
Draw Date: 11/19
Evening: 8 9 8
Draw Date: 11/19
Midday: 6 0 7

Daily Derby calottery
Draw Date: 11/19
1st: 8-GORGEOUS GEORGE
2nd: 7-EUREKA
3rd: 5-CALIFORNIA CLASSIC
RACE TIME:1:48.56

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 21)

Some magic is real. If you don't believe it now, you will by your next birthday. Your emotional intelligence soars as relationships school you in the weeks to come. You'll use what you know to create a special bond, the likes of which you've not yet experienced in this lifetime. Foreign cultures will intrigue and call to you. Aries and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 22, 14, 9 and 28.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). When in doubt, assume the very best of the other person. When you're pretty sure what the other person meant, consider that there's always room for doubt. Then refer to sentence one.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Practice is the best teacher. Besides, what you want to know cannot be learned theoretically. You're better for it, as the thick of the task gives you not only knowledge but also fun and relationships.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). While overconfidence can lead to arrogant mistakes, a pinch of doubt makes you more accurate. Make a claim, and then consider reasons you might be wrong and take another go at it.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You'll deal gently with the errors of others, and this will produce even more goodwill than if no mistake had been made. Now, if you can duplicate the dynamic on a you-to-you basis, you'll be golden.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Humor keeps seriousness in check and vice versa. The joke that isn't well-reasoned isn't very funny, and a grave situation that cannot bear an ounce of levity is unbearable indeed.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your efforts make a difference. One of the ways you find this out is in measuring how much people missed you. You may very well hear that just about nothing is the same without you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Happy endings are really new beginnings. For that matter, so are sad endings. Maybe this is why, at the movies, the best song is often saved for the credit roll.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You're normally independent, and now you're fiercely so. The person who questions your whereabouts, bosses you or seeks to become overly invested in what you're doing will be unsuccessful in these endeavors.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). For you, it's not about winning; it's about doing. You wouldn't enjoy a prize you didn't earn, and, once you've done the work, getting the prize actually matters very little to you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You want to give but are hesitant about the expectation it will set up. Random acts of kindness are the answer. Give to those who aren't asking for anything.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Show your work to people, not because you want to impress or enroll them, but because the experience of sharing will teach you what you're doing.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your intellectual energy will be best in the midmorning. Guard against interruptions so that you can fully focus on the sort of problem that is best solved with cleverness.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

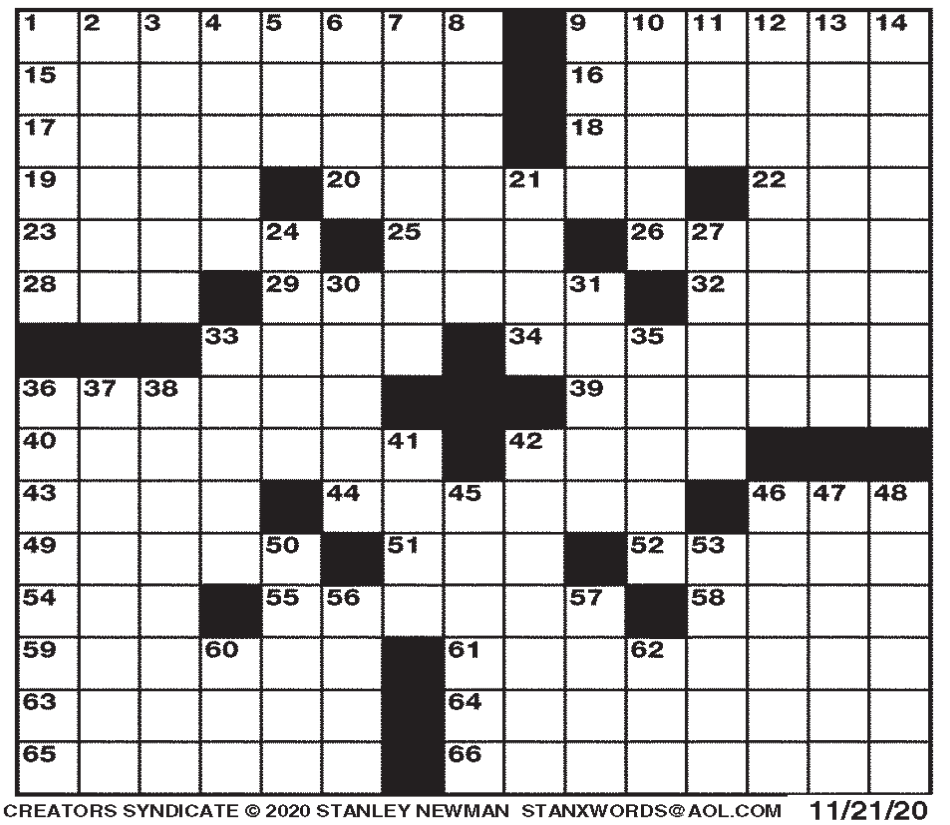
		8	1	5		3		9
4			6				2	
						4		7
	4	6				9		
	3			2			7	
		5				8	4	
3		4						
	8				3			5
9		2		8	7	6		

Newsday Crossword

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

ACROSS
1 Fiesta participant
9 Compatibility obstacle, perhaps
15 Go too far with your scheme
16 Endangered great ape
17 Either half of a bonded pair
18 Bashes
19 Postgame declaration
20 Supporting Actor Oscar role for '77
22 Parisian's "Rats!"
23 Something seen at sari shows
25 [We are not amused]
26 Hard labor
28 Essentially tealess refreshment
29 Very far from cloistered
32 '60s *What's My Line?* regular, pre-TV stardom
33 Wet blanket
34 Ripe for romance, as a stroll
36 Threes of a kind
39 Polished
40 Name on two histories
42 Metaphor for the body
43 Many a DC senator
44 In installments
46 Shielding figure
49 Pregame declaration
51 Preceder/ follower of "yes"
52 *Armata confligit*
54 Guy who sounds like a song
55 Aesthetes' bane
58 Overly inventive one
59 Been-there-done-that
61 MGM Roman blockbuster
63 Fly back
64 One of 100+ for Mr. Tesla
65 "See what you think"
66 Oral exams of a sort

DOWN
1 Spanish bishop in *The Da Vinci Code*
2 Strong insistence
3 Bring around
4 Protector of ancient Athens
5 Crime news blog
6 The Whopper Detour got one for 2019
7 "Why, oh why, can't I?" lyricist
8 Tone of twilight
9 Katy Perry visited their Stockholm museum
10 In progress
11 Scorsese major at NYU
12 Destroyer on the Hollywood Walk of Fame
13 Bristle with
14 Follow
21 Sound of a Snoopy fall
24 High-calorie, as some crusts
27 Bounced off
30 Creative inspiration
31 Delivery room volunteer
33 Charlie's *Wall Street* girlfriend
35 "The WOW of a professional clean" brand
36 Reproachful remark
37 Feudal flunky
38 Deep understanding
41 Endow (with)
42 Frenzied but entertaining
45 Indelicate
46 Things ruled on by umpires
47 Quibble
48 History makers
50 Group of fibers or flyers
53 Make merry
56 Sideline
57 Francis Bacon's "Good breakfast but . . . a bad supper"
60 Try to catch
62 Fermentation station



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2020 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 11/21/20

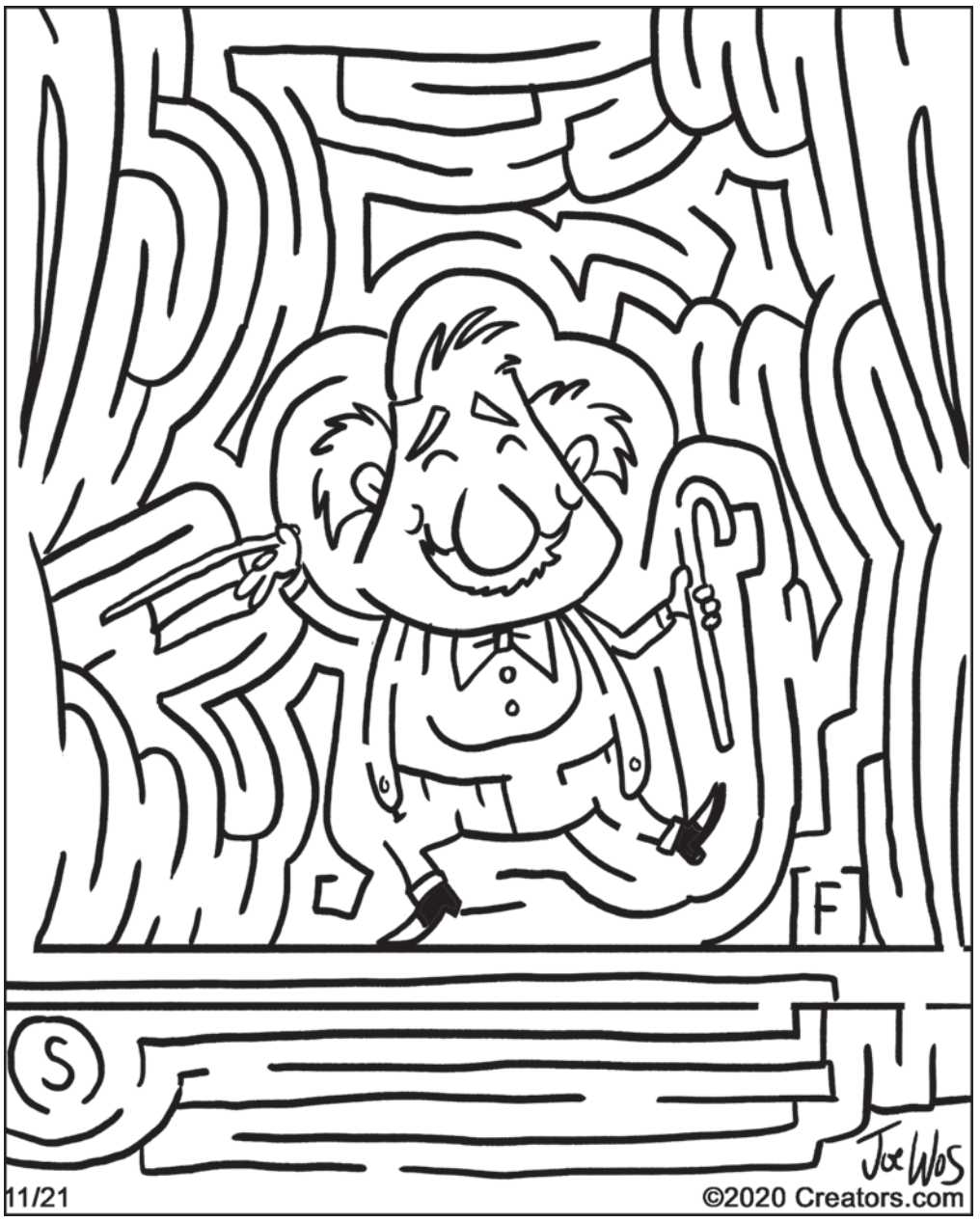
Binary Puzzle

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

I	O	O	I	I	O	O	I	O	O	I	I
O	I	I	O	I	O	I	O	I	I	O	O
I	O	I	O	O	I	I	O	I	I	O	O
O	I	O	I	I	O	O	I	O	O	I	I
I	O	I	I	O	I	O	I	O	I	O	O
I	I	O	O	I	O	I	O	I	O	O	I
O	O	I	I	O	O	I	I	O	I	I	O
O	O	I	O	O	I	O	I	I	O	I	I
I	I	O	O	I	I	O	O	I	I	O	O
O	I	O	I	I	O	I	I	O	O	I	O
I	O	I	O	O	I	I	O	O	I	O	I
O	I	O	I	O	I	O	O	I	O	I	I

		O									
										O	O
			I		O						
	I			O					I		O
							O				
					I		O	O		O	O
I			O					O			
					O						O
			I		O						
								I		O	O
	I	I			O		O				
		I		O		I				O	



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Santa Monica Daily Press

FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 25 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 4939

Tasty treats

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

Ales
Beer
Bread
Buns
Champagne
Cocoa
Cutters
Dishes
Eclair
Fatty
Flour
Fondant
Fried chicken
Fruitcake
Gelato
Lamb
Liqueur
Lollies
Morning tea
Mousse
Muffins
Pavlova
Peanuts
Pie crust
Pizza
Quiche
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COVID-19

FROM PAGE 1

when the Northeast was emerging from the first wave of the crisis. They peaked at about 2,200 a day in late April, when New York City was the epicenter and bodies were being loaded onto refrigerated trucks by forklift.

Amid the bleak new statistics, Pfizer said Friday it is asking U.S. regulators to allow emergency use of its COVID-19 vaccine, setting in motion a process that could make the first, limited shots available as early as next month, with health care workers and other high-risk groups likely to get priority.

But it could take months before the vaccine becomes widely available. Pfizer has said the vaccine appears 95% effective at preventing the disease.

In Texas, Republican Gov. Greg Abbott has ruled out another shutdown and singled out El Paso county leaders for not enforcing restrictions already in place. The state's attorney general, Ken Paxton, likened the county's chief administrator to a "tyrant" after Paxton won an appeals court ruling blocking local leaders from shutting down gyms and other nonessential businesses.

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine, also a Republican, failed to persuade leaders of the GOP-controlled legislature to reject a bill that would limit his administration's power to deal with the crisis.

At issue is a Senate bill that would ban the state health department from issuing mandatory quarantine orders enforced against people who are not sick or exposed to disease — such as the order announced by the governor Tuesday setting a 10 p.m. curfew.

DeWine said he will veto the bill when it reaches his desk; Republicans in both the House and Senate have enough votes to override the veto if they choose.

"This bill is a disaster," DeWine said Thursday. "This is not a bill that can become law."

In California, the curfew will be in place in 41 of 58 counties. Its impact will depend heavily on voluntary compliance. Sheriffs of some counties said they won't enforce it. Under the rules, people who are not on essential errands must stay home after 10 p.m.

The curfew is less strict than the near-total ban on nonessential business and travel that Gov. Gavin Newsom imposed in March and which he credited with flattening the rate of COVID-19 cases.

In Kansas, new cases have risen to an average of over 2,700 per day, nearly four times higher than a month ago.

"Our hospitals are overwhelmed with coronavirus patients. Health care workers are burned out," Democratic Gov. Laura Kelly said Friday.

In rural western Kansas, the number of people seeking testing at a Kearny County clinic doubled over the past week to about 80 per day, said Dr. Lane Olson, a family practice doctor.

He said nurses had to make multiple calls this week before the University of Kansas Hospital, about 360 miles away in Kansas City, Kansas, agreed to take one of his coronavirus patients whose oxygen levels were falling. Then several more calls were needed to find an air transport company that could fly her there.

In Topeka, the emergency department at Stormont Vail Hospital has taken over a back hallway and a waiting room, with some patients waiting hours to be moved to a regular room. The crunch has area officials considering opening a field hospital.

Among other developments:

The mayor of Newark, New Jersey, said residents should stay home for 10 days starting next week because of the rise in cases.

—In Arizona, four Democratic mayors urged Republican Gov. Doug Ducey to impose a statewide requirement for people to wear masks in public. The move came as health officials reported more than 4,000 additional COVID-19 cases for the second consecutive day.

Ducey's chief of staff, Daniel Scarpinato, pushed back on the request, saying the mayors are doing little to enforce their own mask ordinances or ensure that existing safety measures put in place by the governor are being enforced.

—In New Mexico, where hospitals are facing a crunch, the state reopened a vacated former hospital in Albuquerque for use by COVID-19 patients.

REOPENINGS

FROM PAGE 1

will be fully implemented and maintained by the District.

"We have experienced safety issues in our rooms for years and we have seen how the District is struggling to follow through with consistent safety measures, just in the limited on campus assessments and how they are telling our special ed teachers to reuse single use PPE like surgical mask and N95," said teacher Shelly Ehrke.

"I ask of you today to rescind the waiver that will force my colleagues in special education to return to in person teaching without providing them the appropriate PPE, they are lacking N95s for teachers and para educators, there is lack of ventilation in our dated school buildings," said teacher Victoria Chang.

In the Nov. 19 School Board meeting several teachers also expressed concern about the District's lack of a testing plan with a hybrid model.

"The refusal to implement the state recommended surveillance testing underscores that what can be afforded is determining safety measures, not science, and that's terrifying," said Ehrke.

"The District is still seeking waivers to get students on campus without regular testing for staff," said teacher Lindsay Okumura. "I urge you to support students and teachers and give them the consistency and predictability and the commitment to distance learning through the end of the 2021 school year."

The District's reopening plans do not include testing because it is cost prohibitive and because test results only provide a snapshot in time, according to Gail Pinsker, District PIO.

Some teachers also expressed the view that there are not enough educational benefits to a hybrid model to outweigh the negatives.

"There will be no socializing or partner work in a hybrid classroom. There will be no close work between teachers and students," said teacher Parisa Jung. "What will happen in the hybrid model will look nothing like school. We currently have a great model."

The Board of Education will decide between a hybrid model or distance learning plus for its red tier reopening plan in a Dec. 17 meeting. The District has made it clear that it will take teachers' views into strong consideration when forming decisions.

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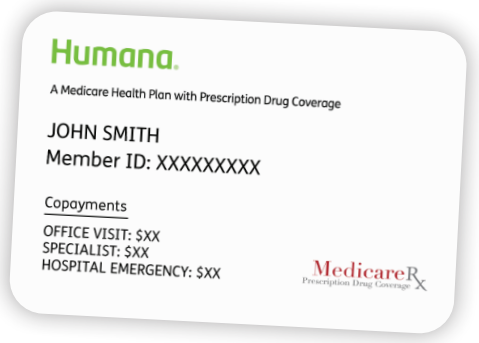
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