smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

WEDNESDAY
12.02.20
Volume 20 Issue 17

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A disturbance in the force.
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Donation and volunteer opportunities abound in Santa Monica



Photo Credit: City of Santa Monica

DONATION: Community volunteers have been helping to provide food to residents who need aid.

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

Giving Tuesday, a popular day to donate to nonprofits and charities, has passed but a number of organizations throughout town are still looking for volunteers and funds that will allow them to help those who are in need this holiday season.

Families throughout the Westside are grappling with the news that they will be unable to attend their traditional dinners and holiday parties this year due to COVID. But community leaders said many other families are facing more pressing issues, which is why the City of Santa Monica is looking to help raise $30,000 that will be used to support families who are facing food insecurity.

The Food Pantry at Virginia Avenue Park has sustained local families throughout the pandemic and the need for meals has not decreased in the months since the pandemic began, Chief Communications Officer Debbie Lee said while the community fed 1,455 families during last week's Giving Thanks(Giving) event at Santa Monica College.

"We're trying to raise $30,000 to make sure 300 families receive fresh groceries every week through the end of the year," Lee said. "We've been feeding families at the food pantry, which was started because of Covid, but it really opened our eyes to the need for food in the community."

Every $100 donated feeds a family of four for a month, Lee added, "but we're really just asking people to contribute whatever they can. It can be $25 for a week or $75 for three. If they have it in their hearts to donate more, it will definitely make a difference in a family's holiday season."

SEE **DONATION** PAGE 11

SMMUSD opens application process to appoint new School Board member

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

The SMMUSD Board of Education is accepting applications to fill the vacancy left by Oscar de la Torre, who was elected to City Council in the November election.

Following eligibility reviews, interviews and deliberations, board members will appoint one of the applicants during a public meeting on Jan 14, 2021.

The new member will serve out the remaining two years of de la Torre's term and will be eligible to run for the full four-year seat in the November 2022 election. De la Torre was first elected to the board in Nov. 2002 and has served for four and a half terms.

Applications will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 17 and can be found at https://www.smmusd.org/Page/6279. Completed applications can be submitted to the superintendent's office by emailing swahrenbrock@smmusd.org.

Per Education Code 35107, to qualify applicants must be at least 18 years old, a citizen of the state, reside in the school district,

SEE **SCHOOL BOARD** PAGE 11

L.A. County grants will aid some, but not all, struggling restaurants



Brennon Dixson

CLOSED: Restaurants have been ordered to give up outdoor seating.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

As the restaurant industry struggles to stay afloat, an LA County grant is offering businesses a $30,000 lifeline with a catch — only certain small restaurants qualify, while the rest are left to sink or swim.

The Keep L.A. County Dining Program comes in the wake of a controversial decision to shut down outdoor dining for three weeks, and will provide a limited number of restaurants with funds for payroll, operational expenses and adaptations to COVID-19 restrictions.

SEE **L.A. COUNTY** PAGE 11


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PUBLIC NOTICE
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SMMUSD's Board of Education will be accepting applications to fill a vacancy on the board that was created when Oscar de la Torre was elected to an open Santa Monica City Council seat in the November 2020 election.

De la Torre was first elected to the Board of Education in November 2002 and was reelected in November 2006, 2010, 2014, & 2018. The Board of Education will undergo the appointment process to bring a new member on board to serve out the reminder of de la Torre's term, which expires in December 2022. The person selected for this appointment can, if s/he chooses and continues to meet eligibility requirements, run for the full four-year open seat in the November 2022 election.

To be eligible to serve on the board, a person must be (as per Education Code 35107):

- 18 years of age or older
- A citizen of the state
- A resident of the school district
- A registered voter
- Not disqualified by the Constitution or laws of the state from holding a civil office

The eligibility of an applicant will not be based on race, color, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, religion, marital or parental status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, or genetic information. SMMUSD employees may apply. If s/he is selected for appointment, s/he must resign as an employee prior to being sworn into office.

Members of the public who meet the eligibility requirements are encouraged to apply. Applications can be found at https://www.smmusd.org/Page/6279. Completed applications can be submitted to the Superintendent's Office (emailed to swahrenbrock@smmusd.org). The Superintendent's office will receive completed applications until 4:30 p.m. on December 17, 2020.

During winter break, a subcommittee of the Board of Education – consisting of no more than three seated board members – will review the applications for eligibility (based on Education and Government Codes). When the second semester begins in January 2021, the board subcommittee will inform the Superintendent's office which applicants meet the eligibility criteria. The Superintendent's office will invite those applicants to participate in the interview process, which will take place at the regularly scheduled board meeting on January 14, 2021.

The interview process, deliberations, and final appointment will all occur during open session at the January 14, 2021, board meeting, which will be held via Zoom. The agenda for this regular meeting will be posted online by January 8, 2021, at https://www.smmusd.org/domain/2977.

Members of the public with questions regarding this appointment process are encouraged to contact the Superintendent's office at swahrenbrock@smmusd.org.

Santa Monica Daily Press (12/2/20)

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DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 218 CALLS ON NOVEMBER 30

Petty Theft 1600blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:11 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 1100blk 5th St 4:03 a.m.
Petty Theft 4th St / Colorado Ave 4:04 a.m.
Public Intoxication 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 5:38 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 700blk Ashland Ave 6:49 a.m.
Loud Music 4th St / Wilshire Blvd 7:08 a.m.
Family Disturbance 2200blk 28th St 7:52 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 400blk Broadway 8:01 a.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 2300blk Oak St 8:04 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 1300blk Idaho Ave 9:22 a.m.
Loud Music 800blk Broadway 9:29 a.m.
Burglary Report 900blk Idaho Ave 9:36 a.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 2600blk 23rd St 9:40 a.m.
Found Property 400blk Colorado Ave 9:41 a.m.
Traffic Control Request - Level 1 2nd St / Broadway 9:54 a.m.
Alcohol & Beverage Code Violation 2500blk Main St 10:16 a.m.
Traffic Hazard 900blk 4th St 10:21 a.m.
Attempt Burglary Report 900blk 15th St 10:23 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 900blk 12th St 10:25 a.m.
Fraud Report 1100blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:39 a.m.
Burglary Report 1000blk Ocean Ave 10:42 a.m.
Burglary Report 900blk 5th St 10:59 a.m.
Overdose 900blk Colorado Ave 11:11 a.m.
Hazard Materials Investigation 1300blk Berkeley St 11:13 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1500blk 6th St 11:17 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 2200blk Virginia Ave 11:23 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 900blk 12th St 11:25 a.m.
Traffic Hazard Lincoln Blvd / Colorado Ave 11:29 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1700blk Stanford St 11:37 a.m.
Bike Theft Report 400blk Broadway 11:50 a.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3300blk Barnard Way 11:53 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 200blk Montana Ave 12:27 p.m.
Stolen Vehicle Recovered 800blk 2nd St 12:30 p.m.
Bike Theft Report 900blk 14th St 12:39 p.m.
Identity Theft 300blk Olympic Dr 12:40 p.m.
Alcohol & Beverage Code Violation 2500blk Main St 12:40 p.m.
Loud Music 800blk Broadway 12:40 p.m.
General Parking Problem 500blk Arizona Ave 12:44 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation Entrada / Pacific Coast Hwy 1:03 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 4th St / Colorado Ave 1:15 p.m.
Alcohol & Beverage Code Violation 2500blk Main St 1:15 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 2200blk 20th St 1:22 p.m.
Found Property 1700blk Main St 1:34 p.m.
Bike Theft Report 700blk Strand St 1:34 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1400blk 5th St 1:45 p.m.
Alcohol & Beverage Code Violation 2500blk Main St 1:49 p.m.
Assault Neilson Way / Strand St 1:55 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1300blk Centinela Ave 1:58 p.m.
Hit And Run Felony Investigation 20th St / Wilshire Blvd 2:10 p.m.
Traffic Control Request - Level 1 20th St / Wilshire Blvd 2:17 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 900blk 21st St 2:24 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 2:50 p.m.
Fraud Report 2600blk 33rd St 2:58 p.m.
Identity Theft 2600blk Centinela Ave 3:01 p.m.
Battery Ocean Ave / Santa Monica Blvd 3:05 p.m.
Burglary Report 1400blk 23rd St 3:08 p.m.
Elder Abuse 2000blk Arizona Ave 3:21 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1100blk 11th St 3:39 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 300blk Adelaide Dr 3:47 p.m.
Petty Theft 800blk Wilshire Blvd 4:00 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2300blk 31st St 4:12 p.m.
Burglary Report 800blk 2nd St 4:24 p.m.
Loud Music 2200blk Virginia Ave 4:49 p.m.
Burglary Investigation/Walk Through 1400blk Wilshire Blvd 4:58 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 700blk Ozone St 5:05 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 2400blk Ocean Park Blvd 5:24 p.m.
Runaway 2200blk 26th St 5:34 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1400blk 5th St 5:43 p.m.
Missing Person 100blk San Vicente Blvd 5:44 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1200blk 4th St 5:46 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1300blk Stanford St 5:53 p.m.
Found Property 400blk Colorado Ave 5:53 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon 2600blk Wilshire Blvd 6:00 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 900blk 26th St 6:08 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 700blk Colorado Ave 6:16 p.m.
Assault 600blk Wilshire Blvd 6:41 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 900blk 5th St 6:48 p.m.
Identity Theft 300blk Olympic Dr 6:50 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1300blk 2nd St 6:54 p.m.
Child Abuse 2200blk 28th St 7:26 p.m.
Traffic Hazard Lincoln Blvd / Ocean Park Blvd 7:48 p.m.
Indecent Exposure 1500blk Lincoln Blvd 8:06 p.m.
Identity Theft 2600blk Centinela Ave 8:17 p.m.
Burglary Report 300blk Montana Ave 8:53 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1000blk 16th St 9:22 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 400blk Wilshire Blvd 9:30 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 11:04 p.m.

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DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 29 CALLS ON NOVEMBER 30

EMS 1300blk 17th St 1:21 a.m.
Carbon Monoxide Alarm 1000blk 14th St 1:53 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1500blk 5th St 1:54 a.m.
EMS 2900blk Neilson Way 4:00 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 11th St 5:47 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300blk 15th St 6:25 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:14 a.m.
EMS 500blk Pico Blvd 9:42 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1800blk 11th St 9:55 a.m.
EMS 2nd St / Colorado Ave 9:55 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:10 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Arizona Ave 10:37 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 20th St 11:04 a.m.
EMS 900blk Colorado Ave 11:11 a.m.
Flooded Condition 500blk Wilshire Blvd 11:34 a.m.
EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 11:47 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2200blk Main St 12:17 p.m.
EMS 2800blk Neilson Way 12:51 p.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Broadway 1:11 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 23rd St 1:26 p.m.
EMS 500blk 12th St 1:27 p.m.
EMS 20th St / Wilshire Blvd 2:10 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 2nd St 2:29 p.m.
Miscellaneous Outside Fire 1100blk 9th St 3:04 p.m.
EMS 100blk Colorado Ave 3:21 p.m.
EMS 1800blk Delaware Ave 4:41 p.m.
Vehicle Into A Structure 900blk 5th St 6:45 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 10:37 p.m.
EMS 2600blk 31st St 10:46 p.m.

Disputing Trump, Barr says no widespread election fraud

MICHAEL BALSAMO,
Associated Press

Attorney General William Barr said Tuesday the Justice Department has not uncovered evidence of widespread voter fraud that would change the outcome of the 2020 presidential election.

His comments in an interview with The Associated Press come despite President Donald Trump's repeated baseless claims that the election was stolen, Trump's effort to subvert the results of the 2020 presidential election and his refusal to concede his loss to President-Elect Joe Biden.

Barr said U.S. attorneys and FBI agents have been working to follow up specific complaints and information they've received, but they've uncovered no evidence that would change the outcome of the election. Barr was headed to the White House later for a previously scheduled meeting.

"To date, we have not seen fraud on a scale that could have effected a different outcome in the election," Barr told the AP.

The comments are especially direct coming from Barr, who has been one of the president's most ardent allies. Before the election, he had repeatedly raised the notion that mail-in voter fraud could be especially vulnerable to fraud during the coronavirus pandemic as Americans feared going to polls and instead chose to vote by mail.

Shortly after Barr's statement was published, Trump tweeted out more baseless claims of voter fraud. And his attorney Rudy Giuliani and his campaign issued a scathing statement claiming that, "with all due respect to the Attorney General, there hasn't been any semblance" of an investigation.

Last month, Barr issued a directive to U.S. attorneys across the country allowing them to pursue any "substantial allegations" of voting irregularities, if they existed, before the 2020 presidential election was certified, despite no evidence at that time of widespread fraud. That memorandum gave prosecutors the ability to go around longstanding Justice Department policy that normally would prohibit such overt actions before the election was certified. Soon after it was issued, the department's top elections crime official announced he would step aside from that position because of the memo.

The Trump campaign team led by Rudy Giuliani has been alleging a widespread conspiracy by Democrats to dump millions of illegal votes into the system with no evidence. They have filed multiple lawsuits in battleground states alleging that partisan poll watchers didn't have a clear enough view at polling sites in some locations and therefore something illegal must have happened. The claims have been repeatedly dismissed including by Republican judges who have ruled the suits lacked evidence. Local Republicans in some battleground states have followed Trump in making similar unsupported claims.

Trump has railed against the election in tweets and in interviews though his own administration has said the 2020 election was the most secure ever. Trump recently allowed his administration to begin the transition over to Biden, but has still refused to admit he lost.

The issues Trump's campaign and its allies have pointed to are typical in every election: Problems with signatures, secrecy envelopes and postal marks on mail-in ballots, as well as the potential for a small number of ballots miscast or lost.

But they've also requested federal probes into the claims. Attorney Sidney Powell has spun fictional tales of election systems flipping votes, German servers storing U.S. voting information and election software created in Venezuela "at the direction of Hugo Chavez," – the late Venezuelan president who died in 2013. Powell has since been removed from the legal team after an interview she gave where she threatened to "blow up" Georgia with a "biblical" court filing.

Barr didn't name Powell specifically but said: "There's been one assertion that would be systemic fraud and that would be the claim that machines were programmed essentially to skew the election results. And the DHS and DOJ have looked into that, and so far, we haven't seen anything to substantiate that," Barr said.

SEE **TRUMP** PAGE 5

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL VIA TELECONFERENCE Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20 Issued by Governor Gavin Newsom

SUBJECT: **Introduction and First Reading of an Ordinance to Amend the Text of the City's Zoning Ordinance to Prohibit Certain Fast Food Restaurants in Establishments with Frontage on the Third Street Promenade**

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to introduce for first reading an ordinance amending the text of the City's Zoning Ordinance prohibiting certain fast food restaurants in establishments with frontage on the Third Street Promenade.

On October 21, 2020, the Planning Commission adopted a Resolution recommending to the City Council that the Council make the proposed amendments to the text of the Santa Monica Municipal Code to prohibit certain fast food restaurants in establishments with frontage on the Third Street Promenade.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2020, AT 6:30 P.M.**

LOCATION: In an effort to reduce the risk of spreading Coronavirus (COVID-19), members of the City Council and City Staff will participate via teleconference. The meeting will be broadcast on CityTV Channel 16 and streamed on the City's website as normal but participants may also join the teleconference via https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/xhttakyv or by dialing in at 1-415-466-7000 (PIN: 3163201 #)

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Those wishing to give public comment must make that request via email to councilmtgitems@smgov.net. Written public comment submitted before 2:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be available for online viewing. Additionally, public comment can be made by phone at **(310) 458-8423.** Remarks from the public are limited to a total of 6 minutes per City Council meeting, with a maximum of 2 minutes per agenda item; under some circumstances, Council may change the maximum to 1 minute per agenda item.

Address your comments to: City Clerk
Re: Fast Food Prohibition

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Tony Kim, City Planning Manager, at (310) 458-8341, or by e-mail at tony.kim@smgov.net. The Zoning Ordinance is available on the City's web site at www.smgov.net. For disability-related accommodations, please contact (310) 458-8341 or (310) 458-8696 TTY at least 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the challenge may be limited to only those issues raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Santa Monica at, or prior to, the public hearing.

ESPAÑOL
Esto es una noticia de una audiencia pública para revisar applicaciónes proponiendo desarrollo en Santa Monica. Si deseas más información, favor de llamar a Carmen Gutierrez en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

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AWARD WINNER

AWARD WINNER

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Curious City

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

New Sheriffs In Town

WELCOME, NEW CITY COUNCIL

Next Tuesday's Council meeting marks the dawn of a new era — or the same ol' same ol'. That depends on the incumbents. They still have the 4-3 majority. But we cannot afford — economically, environmentally, morally — business as usual.

If the remaining Council incumbents see the writing on the wall from this election, in clear bold large letters, and truly wish to serve the electorate and their city, as we know they do, they will team with the new Council members and usher in an era of progress, sustainability, innovation, sensible growth and fiscal responsibility like we've never seen in our City government. It is possible. But nothing will be easy. Our challenges now are the greatest we've ever faced. But in great trials lie great opportunities for good.

I'VE BEEN CRITICAL

For many years of what our City Councils have handed us. But I'm not being sarcastic in saying I know the incumbents wish to serve the electorate and their city. They have done so, in their own ways, and must be thanked. Being on Council requires ridiculously long hours, an impossible array of knowledge to master and the judgment of Solomon, for almost no pay, and ample possibilities to be vilified as well as praised.

But past Councils and I (and apparently the voters of Santa Monica) have very different ideas on where this small, great city should be headed, and the past leadership has been disastrous in so many ways. In this election, the voters cried out in a very loud voice, Stop! Enough!

Will the incumbents be able to change their stripes, acknowledge wrong paths and now become heroes? Tough challenge. We shall see. I believe in miracles. If not and they cling to their repudiated governance, we will have to endure another two years of bad decisions, until the rest can be turned out in 2022. As they surely will. With what we are facing, we simply cannot afford those two years of backsliding.

BROCK, DE LA TORRE, PARRA

Those three new Council members will be sworn in — Christine Parra, Oscar De La Torre and Phil Brock, replacing three incumbents they defeated.

Let us first take a moment to acknowledge what an earth shaking event that election was.

Pam O'Connor was defeated as an incumbent in 2018, perhaps because her bold flaunting of the law (Oaks Initiative) cost our city nearly a million dollars from a lawsuit and that was the last straw in a long string of improprieties. It had been 16 years before that since an incumbent lost, Mike Feinstein in 2002, never a huge favorite of the SMRR kingmakers. (You can come up with your own reasons.)

The rule of thumb is that an incumbent fails to get re-elected to City Council in Santa Monica only once every five elections or so. That's about a dozen blue moons. The machine is that tight, the campaign funding bountiful. So ousting three in one election is beyond unheard of, it's hard to comprehend.

WHY NOW?

For one thing, the slate that sent three incumbents packing ran a great campaign. Really smart use of social media, Brock in particular tireless in posting his principles and plans, everywhere. And their message was firm but not strident or alarmist.

They were a product of the residents' expressed needs and desires, not opportunistic career politicians checking the breeze and adopting the message of the moment. They had less than half the money of their opponents but used it very effectively. Parra was a political unknown but she came in third. Brock had run before but fell short and de la Torre won two terms on the school board but backed off from running for Council; both were felt by some to be carrying baggage. Everything was against them — except what the voters saw out their front windows, and the understanding of who was responsible, and who had a very different plan to right the ship.

In a time of pandemic, when everything needs to be re-evaluated, we had incumbents already inching back to business as usual, and trying feebly to convince us that was what was needed. Residents were fed up with it before, and now it seemed just insane.

Crime was so out of control that longtime residents were moving out and we had a reputation that was affecting what little tourism remained, and yet during the campaign Council members were ignoring or trying to explain away the crazy guy on your front lawn or the looters in your downtown.

"CRIME, WHAT CRIME?"

— accompanied by twisted and meaningless statistics was a slap in the face. People knew their bikes were getting ripped off from their locked garages and grandma was in danger of getting sucker punched by a mentally unstable person as she ambled down the sidewalk. Forget about visiting our parks.

There's more, so much more. I'm not trying to open old wounds from an election that's over, but we have so many serious challenges and we do still have an incumbent majority on the Council: Gleam Davis came in second and was re-elected, newly-appointed Kristin McCowan, running for an additional two years, but unopposed, was also elected, and we still have Kevin McKeown and Sue Himmelrich.

THE PEOPLE HAVE SPOKEN

Loudly. In an era when Trump loses by 3M votes and acts like he has a landslide mandate, THIS is a mandate. It is very clear that voters here were fed up with how the city was being run (into the ground), and wanted

SEE **CURIOUS CITY** PAGE 7

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

Letter to the Editor

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Lack of right turn is wrong

Editor:

I could not possibly agree more to Jim Estes' letter in the 11/26 edition. Taking away the right hand turn lane from Ocean Ave. to the California Incline is not well conceived. It now forces drivers who are turning right from the single lane to look back over their shoulder to see if any bicycle riders, who in some cases are going very fast, makes it safe to proceed.

It poses an additional hazard because now bicycle riders will have to stop or at least slow down for a green light as a driver is attempting to cross the bike lane to proceed down the Incline. Heretofore a driver could make that right hand turn without impeding bike traffic.

I would hope the City Planners would take the opportunity to test for themselves what Mr. Estes and I are trying to warn you about. Take this suggestion from one who attempts to make that turn a couple of times a day.

D. Bruce Murdoch, Santa Monica

Immense Suffering

Editor:

I was born in Santa Monica and regularly walk along the beach and the Venice Boardwalk. I have never seen the immense suffering I saw today. One man was so skinny I didn't even know there was a human under a pile of rags until I heard the adult male groan. I didn't help him, despite being someone who helps the homeless almost daily. I told myself he was so close to death, it would be mercy to let him die. I ran into others like him tonight. One man had laid down in the street hoping someone would run him over. It was just too much for me. I ask that anyone with extra blankets in their home, bring them down to Ocean Park/Venice Beach.

Kira Erikson, Santa Monica

TRUMP

FROM PAGE 3

He said people were confusing the use of the federal criminal justice system with allegations that should be made in civil lawsuits. He said such a remedy for those complaints would be a top-down audit conducted by state or local officials, not the U.S. Justice Department.

"There's a growing tendency to use the criminal justice system as sort of a default fix-all, and people don't like something they want the Department of Justice to come in and 'investigate,'" Barr said.

He said first of all there must be a basis to believe there is a crime to investigate.

"Most claims of fraud are very particularized to a particular set of circumstances or actors or conduct. They are not systemic allegations and. And those have been run down; they are being run down," Barr said. "Some have been broad and potentially cover a few thousand votes. They have been followed up on."

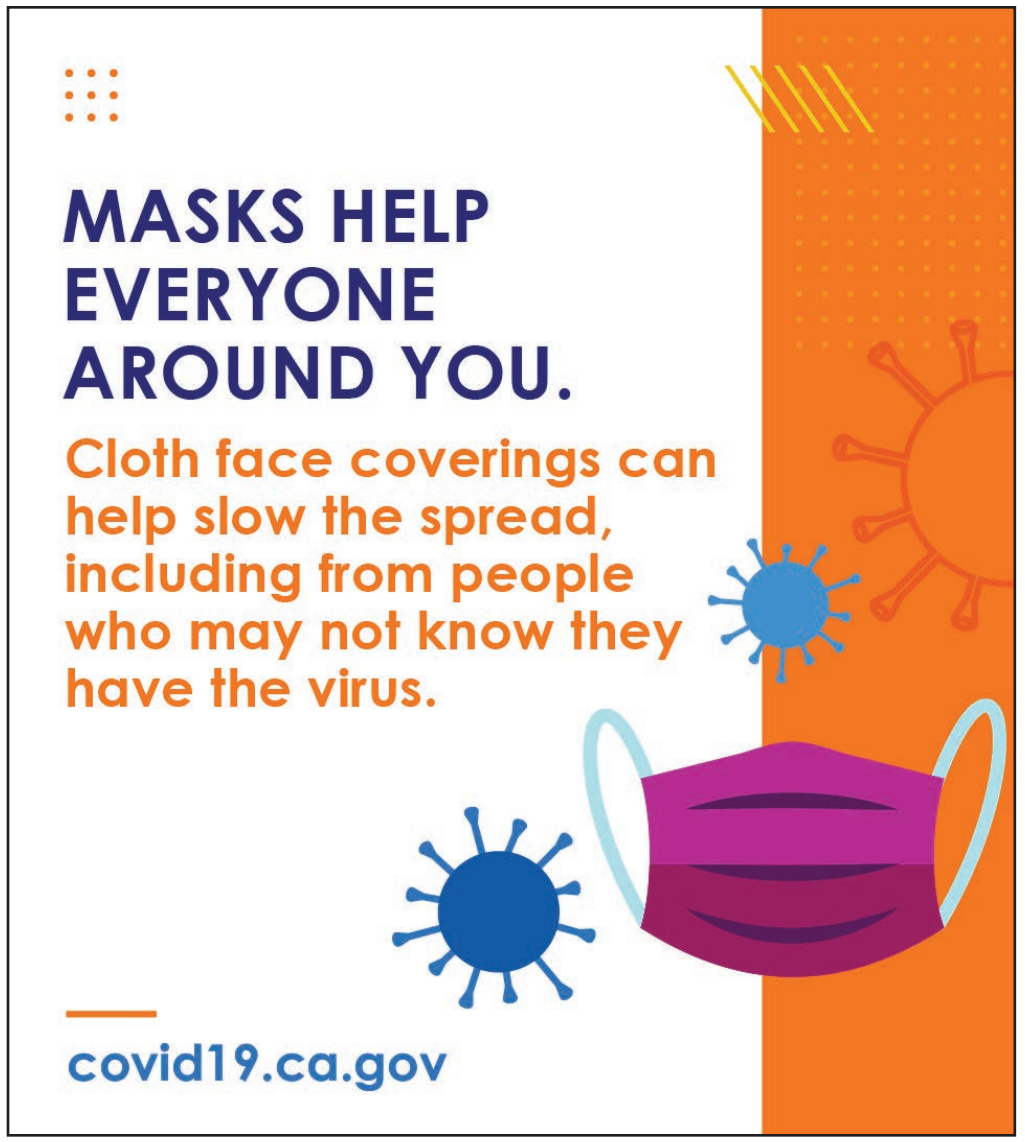
In the campaign statement, Giuliani claimed the had gathered "ample evidence of illegal voting in at least six states, which they have not examined."

"We have many witnesses swearing under oath they saw crimes being committed in connection with voter fraud. As far as we know, not a single one has been interviewed by the DOJ. The Justice Department also hasn't audited any voting machines or used their subpoena powers to determine the truth," he said.

The witnesses Giuliani has pointed to in the past included Jessy Jacob, identified as a City of Detroit employee, who said in an affidavit filed in court that she saw other workers coaching voters to cast ballots for Joe Biden and the Democrats.

But a judge who denied a bid to block the certification of Detroit-area election results noted that Jacob's claims of misconduct and fraud included no "date, location, frequency or names of employees" and that she only came forward with her allegations after the unofficial results indicated Biden had won Michigan.





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‘Very dark couple of weeks’: Morgues and hospitals overflow

TAMMY WEBBER AND HEATHER HOLLINGSWORTH
Associated Press

Nearly 37,000 Americans died of COVID-19 in November, the most in any month since the dark early days of the pandemic, engulfing families in grief, filling obituary pages of small-town newspapers and testing the capacity of morgues, funeral homes and hospitals.

Amid the resurgence, states have begun reopening field hospitals to handle an influx of patients that is pushing health care systems — and their workers — to the breaking point. Hospitals are bringing in mobile morgues. And funerals are being livestreamed or performed as drive-by affairs.

Health officials fear the crisis will be even worse in coming weeks, after many Americans ignored pleas to stay home over Thanksgiving and avoid people who don’t live with them.

“I have no doubt that we’re going to see a climbing death toll ... and that’s a horrific and tragic place to be,” said Josh Michaud, associate director of global health policy at the Kaiser Family Foundation. “It’s going to be a very dark couple of weeks.”

November’s toll was far lower than the 60,699 recorded in April but perilously close to the next-highest total of almost 42,000 in May, according to data compiled by Johns Hopkins University. Deaths had dropped to just over 20,000 in June after states closed many businesses and ordered people to stay at home.

The fast-deteriorating situation is particularly frustrating because vaccine distribution could begin within weeks, Michaud said.

At Mercy Hospital Springfield in Missouri, a mobile morgue that was acquired in 2011 after a tornado ripped through nearby Joplin and killed about 160 people has been put into use again. On Sunday it held two bodies until funeral home workers could arrive.

At the Bellefontaine Cemetery in St. Louis, burials are up by about one-third this year compared with last year, and the cremated remains of about 20 people are sitting in storage while their families wait for a safer time to hold memorial services. The dead include a husband and wife in their 80s who succumbed to COVID-19 five days apart.

“You want to be safe at the gravesite so you don’t have to do another graveside service” for another family member, said Richard Lay, Bellefontaine Cemetery’s vice president.

The Minneapolis Star-Tribune had 10 1/2 pages of obituaries on Nov. 15.

In Worcester, Massachusetts, the National Guard trucked in cots, medical supplies, tables and other items needed to operate a 250-bed field hospital in the event the state’s medical centers become overwhelmed.

Rhode Island opened two field hospitals with more than 900 beds combined. The state’s regular hospitals reached their coronavirus capacity on Monday. New York City, the epicenter of the U.S. outbreak earlier in the year, reopened a field hospital last week on Staten Island. Wisconsin has a field hospital in West Allis ready to take overflow patients. A Nevada hospital has added hospital bed capacity in an adjacent parking garage.

“Hospitals all around the country are worried on a day-to-day basis about their capacity ... and we’re not really even into winter season and we haven’t seen the impact of Thanksgiving travel and Thanksgiving gatherings,” said Dr. Amesh Adlaja, a senior scholar at the Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security.

The number of hospital beds is just one concern. Many hospitals are scrambling to find enough staff to care for patients as the virus surges almost everywhere at once, Adlaja said.

“You can’t just say we’ll have doctors and nurses from other states come because those other states are also dealing with COVID patients,” he said.

The virus is blamed for over 268,000 deaths and more than 13.5 million confirmed infections in the United States. A record 96,000 people were in the hospital with the virus in the U.S. as of Monday. The U.S. is seeing on average more than 160,000 new cases per day and almost 1,470 deaths — equal to what the country was witnessing in mid-May.

State and local officials also are responding with shutdowns, curfews, quarantines and mask mandates.

California officials said the state could see a tripling of hospitalizations by Christmas and is considering stay-home orders for areas with the highest case rates. Los Angeles County already has told its 10 million residents to stay home.

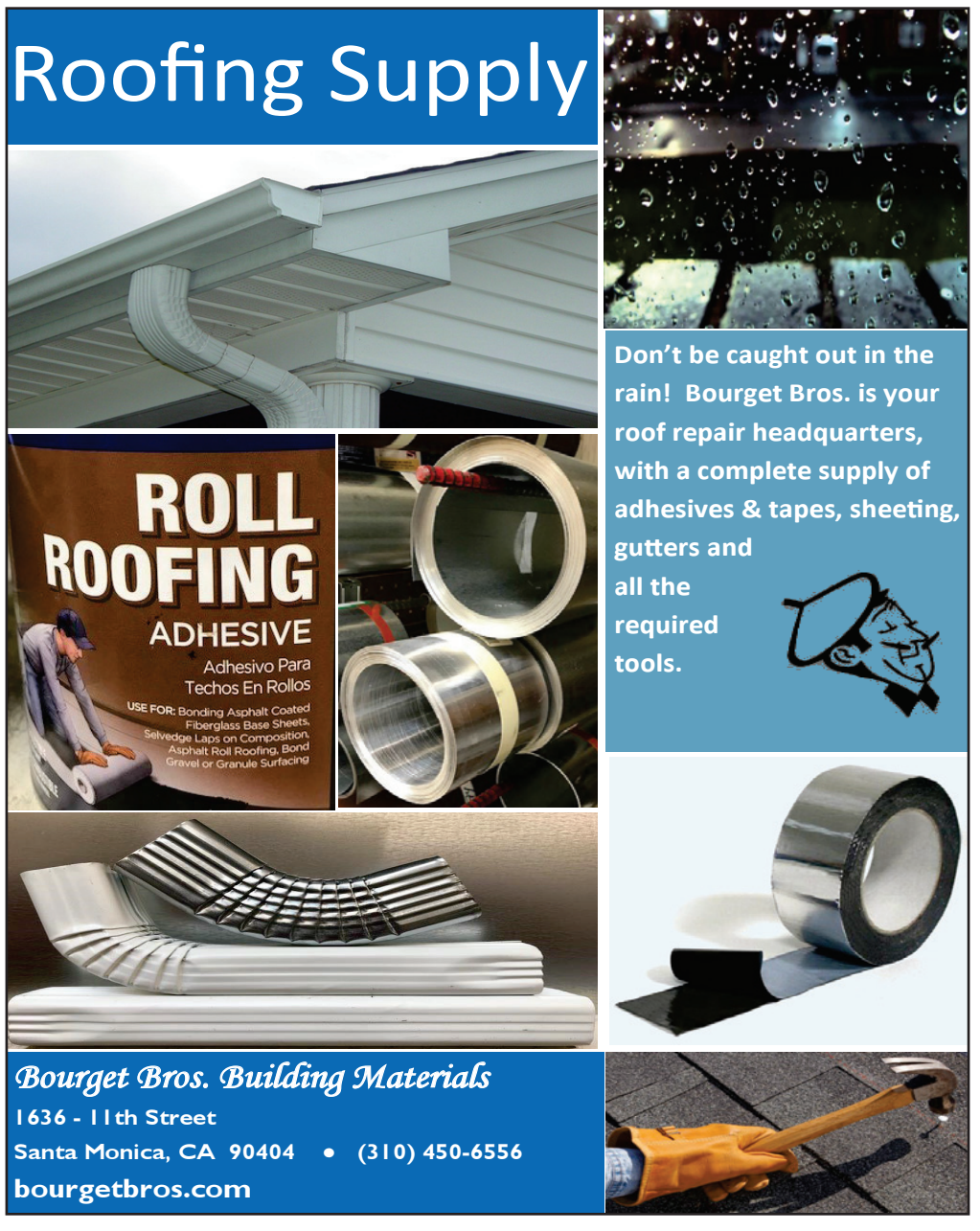
In Oklahoma, Republican Gov. Kevin Stitt declared Thursday a day of prayer and fasting as the state’s confirmed coronavirus infections neared 200,000. State health authorities Tuesday reported a one-day high of over 1,700 hospitalizations.

Stitt, who tested positive for the virus in July, has donated plasma to help other patients recover and said he will do it again.

“I believe we must continue to ask God to heal those who are sick, comfort those who are hurting and provide renewed strength and wisdom to all who are managing the effects of COVID-19,” he said in a statement.

Webber reported from Fenton, Michigan, and Hollingsworth from Mission, Kansas. Associated Press writers Alan Clendenning in Phoenix; David Caruso and Jeff McMillan in New York City; and Juliet Williams in San Francisco contributed to this story.





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 November 24, 2020



File photo

FRANK HERBERT

The Santa Monica Police Department arrested Frank Herbert, an unhoused individual from Los Angeles, for two burglaries in the City of Santa Monica. Detectives from the Santa Monica Police Department presented the case to the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office on November 30th and they have filed two felony counts of burglary (Penal Code Section 459) on Mr. Herbert. Currently, Frank Herbert is being held on $50,000 bail.

Herbert's arrest stems from two separate non-residential burglary cases. The first, which occurred on November 6, 2020 at 5:40am, where a suspect broke into, entered, and stole property from a business located in the 1700 block of Olympic Boulevard.

The second case occurred on November 23, 2020 at approximately 11:00pm, where a suspect broke into, entered, and stole property from a business in the 1600 block of Euclid Street. The property stolen from the business was a Star Wars movie prop helmet, multicolored pillows, and purses. All property was recovered and returned to the owner.

The Santa Monica Police Department encourages anyone with information pertaining to any crimes committed in the City of Santa Monica to share that information by calling 310-458-8451 or by email to crimetips@smgov.net.

Bail was set at $50,000

Submitted by Lt. Joseph Cortez

NEW SHERIFFS

FROM PAGE 4

Council members who would listen to their constituents and act on behalf of the people who live here, not outside interests.

So the incumbent majority can use their advantage to disadvantage the newcomers, or they can work with them. Despite years of flagrant overspending, overdeveloping, waving the flag of sustainability while turning a blind eye to our vital resources being depleted by their actions, they can redeem themselves in the next two years, and perhaps be returned to the position of power and prestige they seem to enjoy so much. A big finish can make you forget the first part of a mediocre movie or song or play.

If they want to show their good intentions and get off to the right start, they should vote two of them into the mostly ceremonial positions of Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem. They may be the new kids, but they are the big dogs that we have sent there to lead.

Charles Andrews has lived in Santa Monica for 34 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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Contact: Robert Norris, Norris Injury Lawyers
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Email: rmn@getnorris.com

PIONEER FLINTKOTE PLANT WORKERS DIAGNOSED WITH CANCER SECURE CASH BENEFITS FROM MULTIPLE PRIVATE TRUSTS

Federal Courts Require Asbestos Manufacturers to Compensate Cancer Victims

Vernon, CA, November 18 - Plant workers employed before 1981 diagnosed with various cancers are entitled to special benefits. Lung cancer, esophageal cancer, laryngeal cancer, pharyngeal cancer, stomach cancer, colon cancer, rectal cancer, and mesothelioma are frequently caused by asbestos exposure. Asbestos-laced products were used for decades at Pioneer Flintkote Plant. Neither employees nor management were aware of the asbestos risk.

Asbestos is a mineral that in its natural state is harmless. It becomes harmful when it is pulled apart or ground up into flexible fibers. Then, when inhaled or swallowed, microscopic asbestos fibers may be permanently affixed to body tissue. Over many years, these fibers may cause genetic changes that can lead to cancer. According to the National Cancer Institute, "It can take from 10 to 40 years or more for asbestos-related cancers to appear."

To compensate cancer victims and the families of deceased cancer victims, Federal Bankruptcy Courts have required asbestos manufacturers to set aside hundreds of millions of dollars in private trusts. Through these trusts, cancer victims can receive money damages by the filing of timely, detailed, and accurate claims.

Norris Injury Lawyers has announced a specific initiative to assist Pioneer Flintkote Plant employees in recovering money set aside for them in these asbestos trusts. Cancer victims or the families of deceased victims who worked at the plant before 1981 may call 800-478-9578 for a free evaluation of their claim. Additional information is available at getnorris.com/asb.

# # #

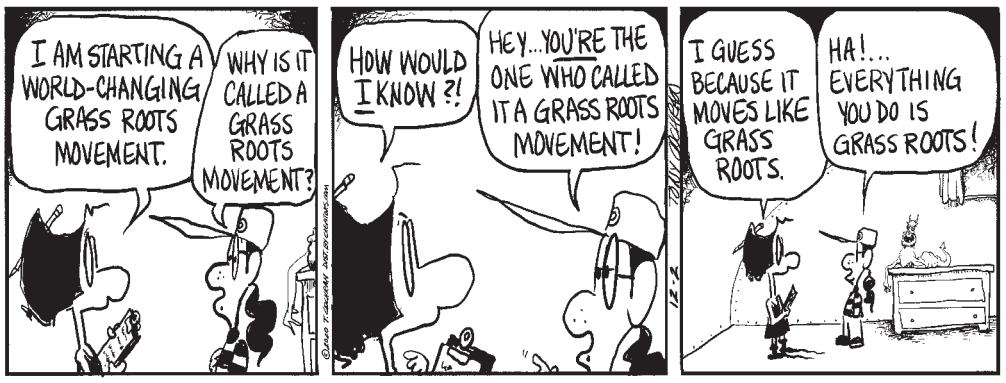
If you would like more information about this topic, please call Robert Norris at 205-397-3111 or e-mail rmn@getnorris.com.

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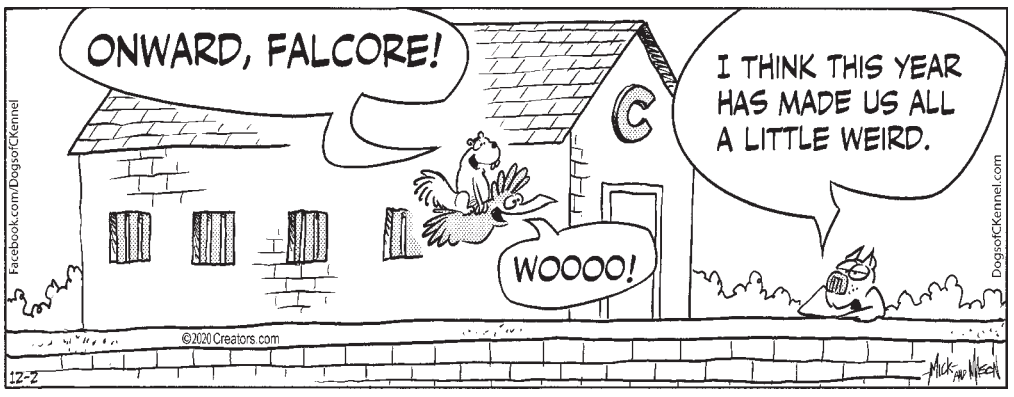
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



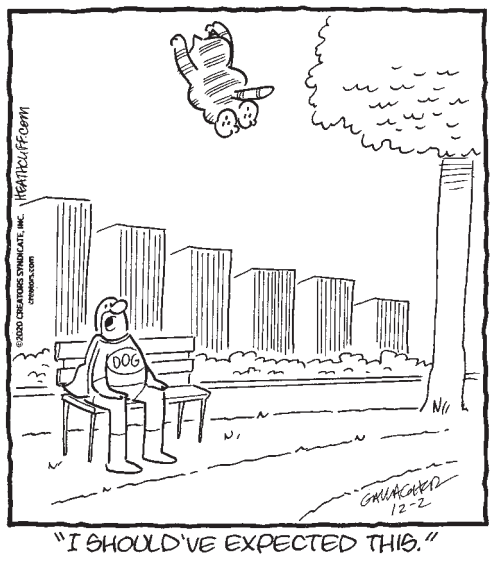
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"I SHOULD'VE EXPECTED THIS."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 60.3°

WEDNESDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to shoulder high occ. 4 ft
Fresh SSW swell tops out and holds. Small NW swell in the mix. AM wind looking more favorable across the board.

THURSDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to shoulder high
SSW swell starts to ease as next pulse of SW-SSW swell builds underneath.

WEATHER

Wednesday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 68.
Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 51. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph.
Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 66. North northeast wind around 10 mph, with gusts as high as 15 mph.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2020/12/02	Wed	02:58 AM	2.46	L
2020/12/02	Wed	09:18 AM	5.89	H
2020/12/02	Wed	4:49 PM	-0.40	L
2020/12/02	Wed	11:36 PM	3.41	H
2020/12/03	Thu	03:29 AM	2.66	L
2020/12/03	Thu	09:52 AM	5.72	H
2020/12/03	Thu	5:33 PM	-0.29	L
2020/12/04	Fri	12:35 AM	3.36	H
2020/12/04	Fri	04:08 AM	2.87	L
2020/12/04	Fri	10:32 AM	5.46	H
2020/12/04	Fri	6:20 PM	-0.13	L
2020/12/05	Sat	01:44 AM	3.41	H
2020/12/05	Sat	05:05 AM	3.07	L
2020/12/06	Sun	02:52 AM	3.63	H
2020/12/06	Sun	06:33 AM	3.19	L
2020/12/06	Sun	12:26 PM	4.66	H
2020/12/06	Sun	8:13 PM	0.24	L
2020/12/06	Sun	02:52 AM	3.63	H
2020/12/06	Sun	06:33 AM	3.19	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date:11/28
8 12 18 44 51
Power#: 18
Jackpot:231 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 11/27
4 10 27 35 58
Mega#: 10
Jackpot: 229 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 11/28
2 14 26 32 38
Mega#: 5
Jackpot: 11 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 11/24
21 22 24 27 28

Daily 3
Draw Date: 11/29
Evening: 0 4 1
Draw Date: 11/29
Midday: 9 1 7

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 11/29
1st: 08-GORGEOUS GEORGE
2nd: 01-GOLD RUSH
3rd: 11-MONEY BAG
RACE TIME: 1:49.43

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 (DECEMBER 02)

Your social grace is admirable to many and a talent you can rely on. You'll intuit when to step forward and when to step back, and in doing so, you'll create a beautiful dance of relationships. A much-needed break from work will come with once-in-a-lifetime experiences. A decision in February increases family closeness. Leo and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 32, 16, 3, 39 and 4.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). New relationships have their own special magic, a spark that can largely be created by our fantasies of who we want people to be and who we want ourselves to be.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Of all the notable sounds you'll hear during the day, the two you'll enjoy most will be your name on the lips of a delightful someone and the low din of life in the distance, uninterrupted by anything that requires your attention.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Wanting a particular outcome too badly makes you less aware of the nuances of timing. Help yourself play it cool by doing what it takes to return to a state of relaxed neutrality.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It seems like with sufficient evidence to make your point, the others would concede without drama. It is not so, as everyone has their own opinion about the evidence. The only way to reduce drama is to drop out of the fight.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Items in your everyday life get out of control, seeming to have lives of their own or decaying in some way before your eyes. When the back of the closet and the refrigerator are decluttered, so will be your mind.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). The easiest people to be around today will be neither related to you nor reminiscent of anyone from your original family. You'll see another side of yourself because they do.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The anchors of life are very useful and can keep you from drifting, emotionally or otherwise, to parts unknown. But you're supposed to lower them when the ship is at rest, not en route.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). With the internet alive and eager with information, you have to be a little judicious about what you ask. There are things you really don't want to know. Once you learn, you cannot unlearn, so go carefully.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You like the look of the situation and now it's time to do a deeper dive. Is there substance here to match? If there is, then you'll know within 10 questions.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You cannot develop yourself and ignore yourself at the same time. You are a reliable entity who must be listened to, first by you. Put self-approval before validation from others, and then act on what you approve of.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Certain individuals seem crystallized against the truths you hold so dear. On the bright side, if it were not the case, you wouldn't have nearly the drive to explore, practice and celebrate this important part of who you are.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You would rather do the listening than the talking, but what's out there to listen to today will either be too quiet to hear or, quite frankly, not worth listening to. Take this as an invitation. The world needs your contribution.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

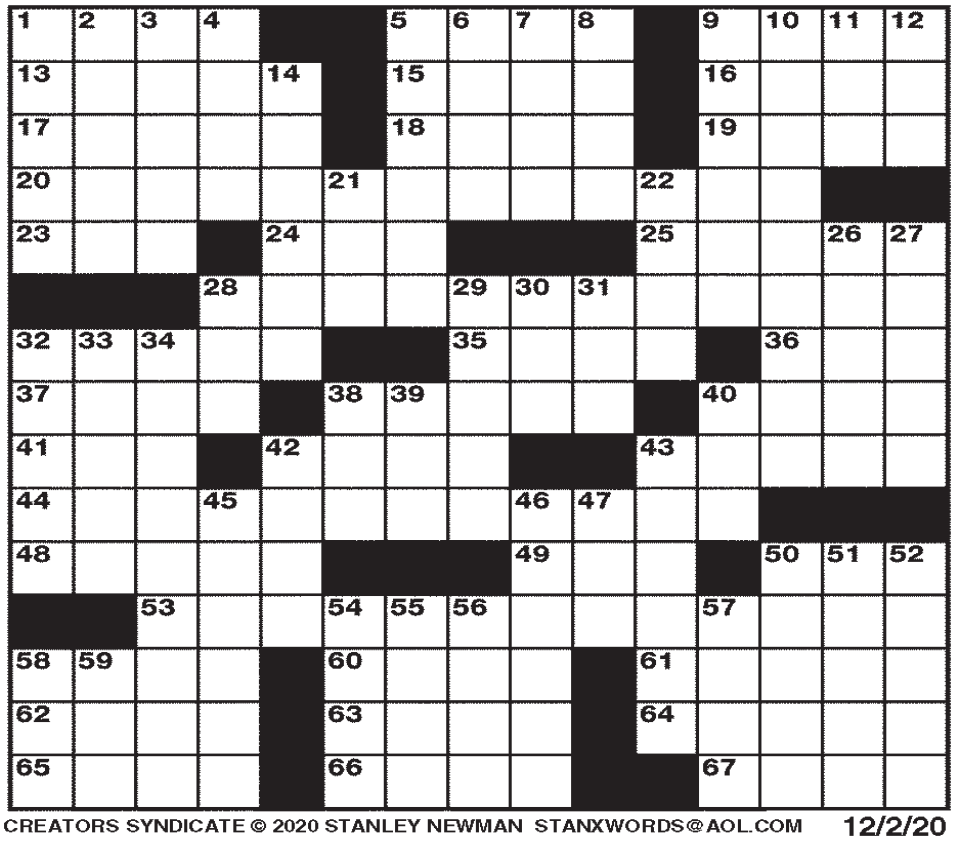
		7						
		9		1			2	
6		5	2		8		1	
	5			8	3			
7		8				6		3
			6	5			8	
	7		3		5	8		6
	4			6		5		
						2		

Newsday Crossword

TAKE A RIDE by Fred Ohles
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 "Darn it!"
5 Polka __ (fabric pattern)
9 Farmland measure
13 Be victorious in
15 Cleveland's lake
16 Place on display
17 Farming student, informally
18 Vampire novelist Rice
19 Walk through water
20 Thrilling carnival ride
23 Move to and __
24 Twosome
25 Poe's middle name
28 Romantic carnival ride
32 Metallic envelope closer
35 Highly skilled
36 Drag from behind
37 Holder of small spice jars
38 1, 5, or 9
40 Suffix for kitchen
41 Well chosen, as words
42 Julius Caesar garment
43 Villain's smile
44 Horsy carnival ride
48 Take a nap
49 Federal code-cracking org.
50 Dreadful
53 Watery carnival ride
58 San __ (Silicon Valley city)
60 "That's funny!"
61 Boxing wins
62 Vicinity
63 Yoked beasts
64 Slither like a snake
65 Toward the left, on a map
66 Neighborly
67 Singles in a wallet

DOWN
1 Sneezy or Bashful
2 Severity, as of rules
3 __-Saxon
4 End of a kite
5 Minister's helper
6 "Simple question, yes __?"
7 Fey of *30 Rock*
8 Takes a look at
9 Additionally
10 EB White's spider
11 Fishing stick
12 Lamb's mom
14 Prepared to drive a golf ball
21 Seek office
22 President after Teddy Roosevelt
26 Take __ (decide on democratically)
27 More recent
28 "For shame!"
29 Poe's first name
30 Hawaiian garland
31 Poet's "frequently"
32 Packs in tightly
33 Tuxedo's collar fold
34 Some "Best" Oscar winners
38 Pet that growls
39 "It's my turn now"
40 Conclusion
42 Keyboarding mistake
43 Chips, pretzels, etc.
45 Get leftovers ready
46 In stock
47 Find a purpose for
50 Pay to participate
51 Make amends
52 Where office workers work
54 "In that case, sure"
55 Car to hail
56 At that time
57 Angelic ring
58 Lower part of the face
59 Mined mineral



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2020 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 12/2/20

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

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



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

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smdp Santa Monica Daily Press

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. © australianwordgames.com.au 4950

Art galleries

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

Acrylic paint
Aspect
Azure
Boyd
Brush
Canvas
Clothes
Conder
Dali
Done
Draw
Dufy
Dusk
Ears
Easel
Enamel
Ernst
Eyes
Goya
Green
Hair
Hals
Hands
Hues
Inks
Likeness
Lips
Manet
Miro
Mood
Mouth
Oils
Orange
Reds
Renoir
Roberts
Rose
Rouge
Ruby
Sargent
Scott
Shop
Sitter
Skilful
Smile
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DONATION

FROM PAGE 1

Interim City Manager Lane Dilg said the city is grateful to anyone who leans into the "We Are Santa Monica" spirit of giving through the Food Pantry donation drive or any other form of charity this December.

"The holidays are a time to show our care and support for families that are finding it harder to make ends meet during the pandemic," she added.

To donate, residents are encouraged to visit calfund.org/wearesantamonica and select HOLIDAY FOOD PANTRY under Area of Support. Locals in need can also find more information about how to access the weekly food pantry services at Virginia Avenue Park by calling (424) 410-1354 or (310) 458-8688.

Residents who have limited funds but are still looking to get involved this holiday season are invited to consider spending their time volunteering with a nonprofit in Santa Monica. A complete list of organizations in need of assistance can be found online at bit.ly/GivingSM.

Brennon@smdp.com

SCHOOL BOARD

FROM PAGE 1

a registered voter, and not be disqualified by the Constitution or laws of the state from holding a civil office. SMMUSD employees are welcome to apply, but must resign from their position if elected.

During winter break a subcommittee of three board members will review the applications for eligibility. The superintendent's office will then invite applicants to the Jan. 14, 2021 School Board meeting during which interviews, deliberations, and final appointment will take place via Zoom.

Some people, including de la Torre, feel that Jason Feldman should be selected as he was the first runner up for a School Board seat in the November election.

"Right now I think if the School Board is going to make an appointment they should appoint the top vote getter of the challengers which is Jason Feldman," said de la Torre. "It's not a private club, this is a government for the people by the people, so when the people vote we should respect that."

Steven Johnson, who also ran for School Board in November, has voiced his support for selecting Feldman.

"The vote of the people should be counted, and recent precedent should also be noted because when Ralph Mechur was appointed to Ben Allen's seat, it was because he rightfully was the next highest vote-getter," said Johnson.

Ralph Mechur, who is stepping down from the Board at the end of his term this December, was appointed to School Board twice. He was first appointed to replace Emily Bloomfield in Aug. 2007, was reelected in 2010, and briefly lost his seat in 2014. Mechur was re-appointed in Jan. 2015 to fill Ben Allen's vacancy, having finished fifth in a race for four seats in Nov. 2014.

Members of the public with questions regarding the upcoming appointment process are encouraged to contact the superintendent's office at swahrenbrock@smmusd.org.

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L.A. COUNTY

FROM PAGE 1

L.A. County has 31,000 restaurants, according to County Public Health Director Dr. Barbara Ferrer, and the grant will accept the first 2,500 applications.

To qualify restaurants must meet several criteria, including being independently owned, having a fixed brick and mortar location with a full service kitchen, and—the kicker for many restaurants—employing less than 25 people.

"We qualify for every one of those elements and I look forward to filling that application out and if we are lucky enough to get the funds, using that to keep our staff employed through the holidays and into the new year," said Jeffrey Merrihue, owner of Heroic Deli in Downtown Santa Monica.

Sheldon Kozushko, a manager at 1212 restaurant on the promenade, is not as thrilled. While 1212 meets six of the seven grant qualifications, it employs more than 25 people.

"We fit every other requirement, why are we penalized because we hire more people?" said Kozushko. "We have a substantial impact on the community because we hire more people. Restaurants take a lot of people to run. Twenty-five seems like a very low number."

Restaurants, small and large alike, are reaching a moment of crisis in L.A. County. Federal funding through the Payroll Protection Program ended in Aug., changing restrictions have led to costly cycles of firing and rehiring, and outdoor dining and PPE have added new expenses.

"Restaurants have been hit by the proverbial insult to injury, while we were all in the Covid crisis together, only restaurants were urged to spend tens of thousands of dollars to build outdoor seating to then have it immediately shut down," said Merrihue. "Without assistance we would go bankrupt."

Merrihue spent $80,000 on outdoor dining permits and building an outdoor structure with booths, umbrellas, plants, and heaters, which he says has been the Deli's salvation. Prior to hearing about the grant program, Merrihue feared the closure of outdoor dining would cause the closure of his business.

The L.A. County Board of Supervisors voted three to two to uphold the outdoor dining ban. On Nov. 24. Sup. Sheila Kuehl cast a deciding vote supporting the ban in the afternoon and dined outdoors at Il Forno in Santa Monica that evening, prompting outrage from many restaurateurs.

"It's just disgusting. You are a public figure. I just don't understand the disconnect, to say that you think outdoor dining is harmful and to frame it in a way as if it's the service industry workers who are at risk as if you're protecting them, it's just total BS," said Kozushko.

Restaurants in Pasadena are not eligible for the grant program, as the Pasadena Health Department chose to keep restaurants open. Restaurants in the city of Los Angeles are also ineligible for the grant as the city of L.A. received its own CARES Act funding.

Applications are open Dec. 3 to 6 or until 2,500 applications are received. Funds will be split equally throughout each Supervisorial District and restaurants that provided outdoor dining will be given preference.

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Mgr., Software Eng. sought by Snap Inc. in Santa Monica, CA. Manage a team of S/ware Engrs. End to end project mngmt. M.S. or for. eq. + 3 yrs exp. OR B.S. or for. eq. + 5 yrs exp. req. Resumes: HalehHR, Snap Inc., 3000 31st St., Ste C, Santa Monica, CA 90405. Use Job Code #MSWE-1120-OC. EOE.

Quality Assurance Eng. (Camera Platform) sought by Snap Inc. in Santa Monica, CA. Testing & quality assessment for Snap's lenses, Feature & Product teams. BS or for. eq. + 3 yrs exp req. Resumes: HalehHR, Snap Inc., 3000 31st St., Ste C, Santa Monica, CA 90405. Use Job Code #SMSWE-1120-DE. EOE.

HOURS MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00am - 5:00pm
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