smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

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Crime Watch
Two's company but three's enough to subdue a chain wielding vandal.
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Feel Good News.
Page 4

Threats rattle local schools





Clara Harter

SAMOHI: School was open and classes were held at Samohi after a student was prevented from entering campus following an online threat. However, some students voluntarily left campus for the day.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

The Santa Monica Police Department is investigating two unrelated threats to local high schools.

Santa Monica High School and St. Monica's High School both dealt with online threats Monday morning but no violence occurred at either location.

At Samohi, a student made threats against the school on a private Snapchat account. The post included pictures of guns atop a pizza box and the text "I'm done talkin to you ..." followed by a racial slur.

SMPD officers searched the student's home, property and vehicle but did not find anything criminal. Officers said the student did not take the photo used in the post and that neither the student nor his family own guns of any type.

Samohi Principal Dr. Antonio Shelton sent a message to parents Monday morning.

"The school security team and I met with the student at the 7th and Michigan gate," he said. "The Santa Monica Police Department met with me, the parents and the student to conduct an investigation regarding the threatening photo. The family was cooperative and the residence and car of the student have been searched. The student has been removed from campus and the appropriate discipline measures have been taken."

School continued Monday and Shelton said SMPD did not feel the student posed a threat to the school community. However, some students voluntarily left campus and parents said they are unhappy with the way student concerns about the incident were handled.

"I definitely was freaked out, because there was no other

SEE **SCHOOL THREATS** PAGE 6

The Broad Stage centers new artistic season around BIPOC artists and social issues



Kenneth Friedman

BROAD: The Mark Morris Dance Group is part of the upcoming season at Santa Monica's Broad Stage.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

The Broad Stage is an artistic powerhouse that opened in 2008 and churned out nonstop performances until March 2020 when suddenly the lights went out, the audience disappeared and the stage began to gather dust.

Now, after a long and dreary artistic hiatus, the theater is gearing up for a star-studded 2022 season that will be more diverse and community oriented than any season past.

While the pandemic pause on performances was a gut punch for The Broad Stage and its artistic community, it allowed the organization a rare opportunity for reflection, which the artistic team took full advantage of when curating the upcoming season.

SEE **BROAD STAGE** PAGE 7

Trump media venture eyed by regulators; names Nunes CEO

STAN CHOE AND BERNARD CONDON
Associated Press

Regulators are looking into the deal that would bring Donald Trump's new social media company to the stock market, one that has attracted both legions of fans of the former president and people looking to make a quick profit.

The company partnering with Trump Media & Technology Group acknowledged the inquiries in a filing it made with regulators on Monday. It also gave some financial forecasts for the company, which wants to rival Twitter and other platforms that banned Trump after the Jan. 6 Capitol riots, along with Netflix and other streaming video services. It said over the weekend that it's lined up $1 billion in investments from a

SEE **TRUMP** PAGE 11

NICK THE GREEK
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City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA INVITES SEALED PROPOSALS FOR

RFP: #300 DIGITAL WAYFINDING & OUT OF HOME ADVERTISING KIOSK PROGRAM.

- **Mandatory pre-proposal meeting. December 8, 2021 1:30 pm.**
- **Submission Deadline is January 18, 2022 at 4:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL.** The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is ProcureNow (https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/santa-monica-ca). There is no charge for the RFP package.

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
CALLING FOR BIDS
DISTRICT: SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
BID: 112921RS
GLASS REPLACEMENT PERFORMING ARTS CENTER AND STUDENT SERVICES CENTER (EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR GLASS)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named California Community College District, acting by and through its Board of Trustees, hereinafter "the District" will receive up to, but not later than the below-stated date and time, sealed Bid Proposals for the Contract for the Work of the Project generally described as:

Furnish all glass, materials, supplies, equipment and prevailing wage labor to replace glass at specified locations:

Student Services Center
1. Exterior - First floor near the northeast corner of the building - 1" insulated glass unit.
2. Interior - Second floor lobby next to stair 2 -laminated glass.

Performing Arts Center
1. Exterior - Second story on the east side of the building - 1" insulated glass unit.

MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK: **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2021 AT 10:00 AM PST**

BIDDER'S ATTENDANCE AT THE JOB WALK IS MANDATORY. COVID 19 PROTOCOLS IN EFFECT; SOCIAL DISTANCING, FACE COVERING OVER NOSE AND MOUTH REQUIRED. SIGN-IN IS REQUIRED. LATE ARRIVALS NOT PERMITTED. BIDDERS ARE TO MEET OUTSIDE OF THE SMC FACILITIES TRAILER AT THE WAREHOUSE/RECEIVING PARKING LOT NEXT TO THE STADIUM BLEACHERS, 2121 16TH STREET, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405. THE BID PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY A BIDDER WHOSE REPRESENTATIVE(S) DID NOT ATTEND THE ENTIRETY OF THE MANDATORY JOB WALK WILL BE REJECTED BY THE DISTRICT AS BEING NON-RESPONSIVE.

PROJECT ESTIMATE:	$40,000.00
CONTRACT DAYS:	14
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES:	n/a

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE BID PROPOSALS: **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2021 AT 2:00 PM PST.** All Bid Proposals shall be submitted on forms furnished by the District. Bid Proposals must conform with, and be responsive to, the Bid and Contract Documents, copies of which may be obtained from the District as set forth above. Only Bid Proposals submitted to the District at or prior to the date and time set forth shall be considered.

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the District bidding website at: https://www.planetbids.com/portal/portal.cfm?CompanyID=13721#.

The Contractor is required to have a CSLB C-17 license and CADIR registration at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the District's Request for Bids.

Substitute Security- In accordance with the provisions of California Public Contract Code §22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the District to ensure performance under this contract.

DO YOU HAVE COMMUNITY NEWS?
Santa Monica Daily Press editor@smdp.com

LA Rams finally show adaptability in skid-snapping victory

GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

After stumbling and struggling through a three-loss November, the Los Angeles Rams emerged from their rough month with the result they needed from a meeting with one of the NFL's worst teams.

Yet it was the way that the Rams routed the Jacksonville Jaguars 37-7 that provides confidence they might get their season back on course.

The Rams (8-4) controlled both sides of the ball, as they should against a 2-10 opponent. But they started that dominance on their opening offensive series with something they hadn't showed all year — a jumbo formation, using Joseph Noteboom as an extra lineman and running the ball straight at the Jags.

"We decided to change some personnel and get in there and run some heavy runs," left tackle Andrew Whitworth said Monday. "Really some of those where it's like, 'You know it's a run, and we know it's a run, and we feel like we can out-execute you.'"

Throughout the afternoon at SoFi Stadium, the Rams used more personnel groupings, offensive sets and play-action passes than they've exhibited in just about any game this season. The overall game plan had similarities to Sean McVay's run-first-and-play-action mentality from his first two seasons in Los Angeles, when Todd Gurley was a rampaging force and the Rams' offense was the envy of the league.

Led by Matthew Stafford's four touchdown passes, Sony Michel's 121 yards rushing and Cooper Kupp's 129 yards receiving, it all added up to an unpredictable offense that consistently found ways to best Jacksonville, even its normally solid run defense.

Los Angeles' defense was similarly sturdy, taking advantage of Jacksonville's obvious personnel weaknesses and holding the Jags to 197 yards — the fewest this season for new defensive coordinator Raheem Morris' group.

The Rams had barely changed their offensive personnel packages at all this season, making fewer substitutions and running three-receiver sets on a greater percentage of their plays than any other NFL team. Robert Woods' injury and a three-game losing streak essentially forced McVay to re-evaluate what he was doing, and he came out with a new plan that worked splendidly.

For a team with a head coach that has often exhibited supreme — and, frankly, justified — belief in his technical prowess, this unpredictability might boost the Rams and McVay to contention for the NFC West title behind Arizona (10-2), their opponent Monday night.

WHAT'S WORKING

Kupp didn't make his first catch until the first two-minute warning, but ended up with his seventh 100-yard receiving game (and his 11th 90-yard game) of the season. The wideout's connection with Stafford remains the backbone of the Rams' attack even with every opponent knowing what they want to do. Woods' season-ending injury seriously damaged Los Angeles' offense, but Kupp — no stranger to injury problems himself — remains unstoppable.

WHAT NEEDS HELP

The Rams still rely on debatably talented players as pass-catchers and defensive backs. Tight end Kendall Blanton and rookie receiver Ben Skowronek both made costly drops, while Dont'e Deayon, Nick Scott and Darious Williams — not a fringe player, but a respected starting cornerback — all had rough moments in coverage. Star-studded Los Angeles' depth problems loom as a critical flaw.

STOCK UP

Michel produced the Rams' first 100-yard rushing game of the season even against the Jaguars' loaded box. An ability to gain yards after contact has been sorely missed by the Rams since Gurley's departure, and McVay could see how much better his offense ran with Michel breaking tackles.

STOCK DOWN

Darrell Henderson Jr. should lose playing time to Michel when he returns from his thigh injury. Henderson was technically available Sunday, but Michel's excellence kept Henderson on the sideline. Henderson has been an adequate back when healthy in his three NFL seasons, but he has run for 100 yards just once, back in September 2020.

INJURIES

The severity of C Brian Allen's knee injury is unclear, but Coleman Shelton filled in capably with minimal previous experience. The Rams' offensive line deserves much of the credit for Michel's success.

KEY NUMBER

1 — Plays missed by Stafford after taking a brutal hit late in the second quarter. Stafford shrugged it off as "a little chest shot" and returned after backup John Wolford handed off on his only snap. His teammates were a bit more impressed with their latest example of Stafford's famed toughness: "I thought he died there for a second, the way he was laying there," Kupp said with a laugh. "It was like, 'OK, his soul is gone.'"

NEXT STEPS

The Rams probably need to win at Arizona to have any shot at the NFC West title, and they've beaten the Cardinals in eight of their past nine meetings. A victory would also prove Los Angeles is an actual Super Bowl contender, while a loss would keep the Rams firmly in the second tier.

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

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 233 CALLS ON DECEMBER 5

Grand Theft 1400Blk 14th St 12:05 a.m.
Burglary 1500Blk 4th St 12:34 a.m.
Party Complaint 300Blk San Vicente Blvd 12:36 a.m.
Petty Theft 1700Blk Ocean Ave 12:40 a.m.
Party Complaint 1200Blk 14th St 12:54 a.m.
Fight 4th St / Broadway 1:38 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2900Blk Delaware Ave 1:49 a.m.
Party Complaint 1500Blk 15th St 1:49 a.m.
Party Complaint Berkeley St / Santa Monica Blvd 2:57 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 400Blk Georgina Ave 3:27 a.m.
Battery 300Blk Pico Blvd 4:10 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 100Blk Interstate 10 4:34 a.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 100Blk Interstate 10 4:42 a.m.
Petty Theft 600Blk Wilshire Blvd 5:37 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1000Blk Broadway 6:50 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 500Blk Palisades Beach rd 7:09 a.m.
Petty Theft 600Blk Wilshire Blvd 7:15 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1200Blk The Beach 7:16 a.m.
Burglary 200Blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:22 a.m.
Grand Theft 2300Blk 25th St 8:07 a.m.
Animal Related Incident Berkeley St / Arizona Ave 8:25 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 600Blk Marine St 8:29 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 3100Blk 5th St 8:49 a.m.
Panhandling 2700Blk Pico Blvd 9:10 a.m.
Battery 1600Blk 6th St 9:27 a.m.
General Parking Problem 1700Blk Stanford St 9:37 a.m.
Lewd Activity 2600Blk The Beach 9:46 a.m.
Burglary 1400Blk 5th St 10:09 a.m.
Bike Theft 2400Blk Pico Blvd 10:19 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto 3000Blk Neilson Way 10:24 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries 4th St / Montana Ave 10:27 a.m.
Burglary 00Blk Village Pkwy 10:35 a.m.
Critical Missing Person 2000Blk Marine St 10:47 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 15th St / Santa Monica Blvd 11:23 a.m.
Encampment 14th St / Arizona Ave 11:48 a.m.
General Parking Problem 1400Blk Olympic Blvd 11:53 a.m.
Vehicle Cite & Tow (Parking Problem) 900Blk Washington Ave 11:54 a.m.
Found Property 1600Blk Ocean Front Walk 12:05 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2500Blk 29th St 12:06 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1500Blk Lincoln Blvd 12:10 p.m.
Encampment 800Blk Maple St 12:14 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1000Blk 22nd St 12:15 p.m.
Found Property 200Blk Hollister Ave 12:17 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1400Blk Olympic Blvd 12:18 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1400Blk Olympic Blvd 12:20 p.m.
Encampment 1100Blk 5th St 12:36 p.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 3300Blk Barnard Way 12:44 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2200Blk Colorado Ave 12:48 p.m.
Encampment 00Blk Sea Colony Dr 1:18 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 200Blk Bicknell Ave 1:33 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries Ocean Ave / Idaho Ave 1:35 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1500Blk Lincoln Blvd 1:56 p.m.
Vehicle Cite & Tow (Parking Problem) 900Blk 17th St 2:02 p.m.
Encampment 1300Blk Palisades Beach rd 2:06 p.m.
Loud Music 2700Blk Barnard Way 2:11 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3300Blk Barnard Way 2:14 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 200Blk Bicknell Ave 2:18 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 2:30 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 100Blk Wilshire Blvd 2:43 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1000Blk 22nd St 3:11 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1500Blk Ocean Ave 3:22 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1100Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 3:29 p.m.
Lewd Activity 4th St / Broadway 3:32 p.m.
Grand Theft 700Blk Hill St 3:50 p.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 800Blk 7th St 3:56 p.m.
General Parking Problem 1400Blk Olympic Blvd 4:13 p.m.
Encampment 2200Blk Cloverfield Blvd 4:27 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 900Blk Princeton St 4:29 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1500Blk Harvard St 4:36 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 00Blk Vicente Ter 5:04 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1200Blk Ocean Ave 5:06 p.m.
Health & Safety Code Violation 1400Blk Ocean Ave 5:20 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 4th St / Broadway 5:21 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 2800Blk The Beach 5:51 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1200Blk Montana Ave 5:57 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1500Blk Yale St 6:34 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 19th St / Washington Ave 6:46 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2800Blk Pico Blvd 7:01 p.m.
Person With A Gun 1300Blk 4th St 7:04 p.m.
Found Senile Person 1600Blk Lincoln Blvd 7:18 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 3300Blk Olympic Blvd 7:48 p.m.
Found Property 4th St / Santa Monica Blvd 7:57 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 2800Blk Pico Blvd 7:59 p.m.
Found Property 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 8:56 p.m.
Found Property 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 8:57 p.m.
Fire Request Police 1700Blk Ocean Front Walk 9:11 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1400Blk 3rd Street Prom 9:57 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 1000Blk Lincoln Blvd 10:03 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2600Blk Lincoln Blvd 10:49 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1100Blk Georgina Ave 10:57 p.m.
Battery 100Blk Broadway 11:47 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 31 CALLS ON DECEMBER 5

EMS 1800Blk 7th St 1:37 a.m.
EMS Main St / Ocean Park Blvd 1:59 a.m.
EMS Main St / Ocean Park Blvd 2:00 a.m.
EMS 1500Blk 2nd St 2:22 a.m.
EMS 300Blk Pico Blvd 4:11 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 100Blk Interstate 10 4:43 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300Blk Ocean Ave 7:28 a.m.
EMS 4th St / Arizona Ave 7:40 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 300Blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:58 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury 4th St / Montana Ave 10:27 a.m.
EMS 1100Blk 20th St 10:36 a.m.
EMS 900Blk 10th St 11:10 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk 9th St 11:19 a.m.
EMS 2200Blk Virginia Ave 12:46 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 1:14 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Ocean Ave / Idaho Ave 1:35 p.m.
EMS 1500Blk 10th St 3:19 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 15th St 3:51 p.m.
EMS 2500Blk 20th St 4:36 p.m.
EMS 900Blk Euclid St 4:51 p.m.
Public Assist 2500Blk Beverley Ave 5:41 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk Franklin St 5:52 p.m.
EMS 1200Blk 11th St 6:10 p.m.
Flooded Condition 900Blk 16th St 6:16 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1800Blk Ocean Ave 6:35 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 20th St 6:53 p.m.
EMS 1300Blk 20th St 7:05 p.m.
EMS 900Blk 9th St 7:53 p.m.
EMS 2300Blk Main St 8:51 p.m.
EMS 2000Blk Arizona Ave 10:21 p.m.
EMS 1200Blk 9th St 11:47 p.m.

CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

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

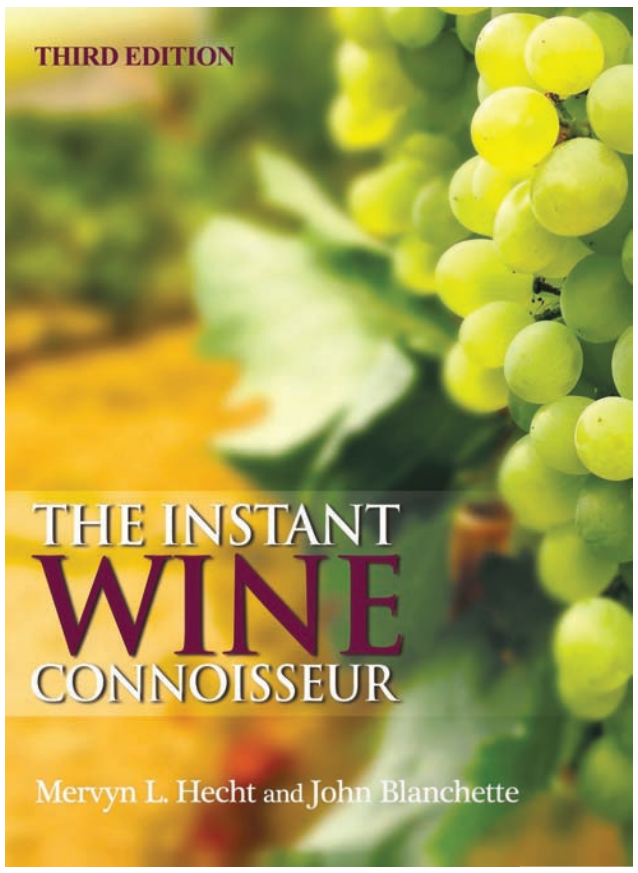
ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25 AT 8:04 A.M.

Officers responded to the 3000 of 4th St. regarding vandalism. The comments of the call stated the subject was currently being held down by some of the victims. Upon arrival, Officers handcuffed Alexander Barry as they spoke to the victims. Officers learned that one of the victims saw Barry hitting a car with a metal chain, breaking its windows and walking away. The victim located the owner of the vehicle and they both followed the subject, who subsequently swung the chain at them. The two individuals, along with a third bystander were able to hold the subject down until police arrived. The owner of the vehicle further relayed that he and the subject are related and have had multiple issues in the past. Barry was arrested for Assault with a Deadly Weapon and Vandalism.





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



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

available at amazon

Derby winner Medina Spirit collapses, dies in California

BETH HARRIS
AP Racing Writer

Medina Spirit, a 3-year-old colt whose Kentucky Derby victory in May came under scrutiny because of a positive drug test, collapsed and died after a workout Monday at Santa Anita in Southern California.

Trainer Bob Baffert said in a statement that the horse suffered a heart attack. The colt had just completed five furlongs in his second workout since finishing second in the Breeders' Cup Classic a month ago at Del Mar.

"My entire barn is devastated by this news," Baffert said. "Medina Spirit was a great champion, a member of our family who was loved by all, and we are deeply mourning his loss. I will always cherish the proud and personal memories of Medina Spirit and his tremendous spirit."

Santa Anita said in a statment that the track veterinary team took blood, hair and urine samples from Medina Spirit and sent them to the California Horse Racing Board. The colt will undergo a full necropsy, as required by the racing board, to try to determine the exact cause of death.

No timeline for completing the necropsy has been given.

Medina Spirit tested positive after his May 1 Kentucky Derby win for betamethasone, a legal medication that is not allowed on race day. The victory was Baffert's record seventh win in the Derby.

But in the wake of Medina Spirit's failed test, Baffert was suspended by Churchill Downs and barred from entering horses in the 2022 and 2023 Kentucky Derbies. He also was banned by the New York Racing Association from entering horses at its Belmont, Saratoga and Aqueduct tracks.

Last Friday, Craig Robertson, Baffert's attorney, released a statement saying that tests done by a New York lab have "definitely confirmed" Medina Spirit tested positive for the steroid — not through an injection but due to an ointment used to treat a skin rash.

The Kentucky Horse Racing Commission has been investigating the case, and has yet to hold a hearing that could possibly disqualify Medina Spirit.

In the $6 million BC Classic last month, Medina Spirit couldn't muster the necessary late kick to threaten winner Knicks Go.

"I'm very proud of him. He ran a great race," Baffert said last month. "To me, he's the best 3-year-old. He showed it today. That's what racing is all about, proving it on the racetrack. And he proved it today that he's the real deal."

Baffert was allowed to enter horses in the season-ending world championships, but the event's money-leading trainer had to meet certain conditions, including stricter out-of-competition testing of his horses and greater security at his barn. He agreed to the extra scrutiny and was required to pay for it out of his own pocket.

Medina Spirit had five wins in 10 career starts and earnings of $3,545,200, according to Equibase. The colt was owned by Amr Zedan, who competes as Zedan Racing Stables.

"Our most sincere condolences go out to Mr. Amr Zedan and the entire Zedan Racing Stables family," Baffert said in his statement Monday. "They are in our thoughts and prayers as we go through this difficult time."

Letter to the Editor

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

I would like to share a "feel good" story in these trying times.

Commendations to a Big Blue Bus driver named Mr. Evans for showing compassion and concern for one of his riders.

A very old and frail lady seemed disoriented when she was getting off the bus. Mr. Evans, spoke to her, could see she needed help. He helped her off the bus, made sure she got across the street safely to catch another BB Bus that Mr. Evans alerted to wait for until she safely boarded.

Mr. Evans is an asset to the BBB company. It would be a better world if we were all Mr. Evans.

Louise Steiner, Santa Monica

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

LA, Long Beach ports again delay fines for backlogged cargo

The ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles have again postponed imposing fees on containers left on docks too long, citing progress in moving the cargo from marine terminals.

The "container dwell fee" will now not be considered before Dec. 13, the ports said on Monday.

"Since the fee was announced on Oct. 25, the twin ports have seen a combined decline of 37% in aging cargo on the docks," the Port of LA said in a news release. "The executive directors of both ports will reassess fee implementation after another week of monitoring data."

The fee was imposed by the harbor commissions of both ports as a measure to help ease congestion that has left dozens of ships waiting offshore.

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AWARD WINNER
AWARD WINNER
Sustainable Quality Awards
WINNER

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.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Countywide

Two New Deaths and 1,103 New Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 in Los Angeles County

Due to the presence of the newly identified Omicron variant, L.A. County modified its Health Officer Order for Skilled Nursing Facilities to require routine testing of residents and staff and recent testing for visitors entering any indoor spaces at these facilities.

From December 15 through January 31, all skilled nursing facility residents, employees, and contractors who may encounter residents must test for COVID-19 infection once a week, regardless of vaccination status. Additionally, to obtain entry into a skilled nursing facility, all visitors regardless of vaccination status must provide proof of either:

A negative PCR test performed within 72 hours prior to entry

OR

A negative antigen test performed within 24 hours prior to entry.

Antigen test kits will be made available to skilled nursing facilities to facilitate visitor testing.

People who show documentation of recovery from COVID-19 within the last 90 days (i.e. a positive COVID-19 viral test result on a sample taken no more than 90 days prior) are exempt from weekly testing and from showing proof of a negative viral test for entry.

Public Health teams have also realigned plans to ensure protection for those living and working at interim housing sites, jails, and shelters. This includes ensuring adequate supplies of testing kits and PPE, along with modifying policies to ensure safety of staff and residents.

With 1.7 million students and staff attending school in-person, Public Health is working with school districts to reinforce the importance of existing school-based health requirements and routine testing programs.

Public Health confirmed two additional deaths and 1,103 new cases of COVID-19, these numbers reflect the weekend reporting lag. Of the 2 new deaths reported today, one person who died was between the ages of 65 and 79 and the other was over the age of 80 years old. All had underlying conditions. To date, the total number of deaths in L.A. County is 27,248.

As of Dec. 5, Public Health has identified a total 1,537,450 positive cases of COVID-19 across all areas of L.A. County, Long Beach and Pasadena.

As of Dec. 4, there are 595 people with COVID-19 currently hospitalized. Testing results are available for more than 9,515,741 individuals, with 15% of people testing positive. Today's test positivity rate is 1.2%.

Getting vaccinated or boosted remains critical as holiday traveling and gatherings begin. The vaccines are effective against the Delta variant and earlier strains of the virus, which allows us to remain hopeful that the approved vaccines will also provide some protection against Omicron. All residents across LA County should continue adhering to the masking requirements and wear a mask when indoors or at large outdoor mega events - regardless of vaccination status. Individuals should also wear a mask when at any crowded indoor or outdoor events.

Testing is an important tool in early detection of infection to reduce spread and Public Health encourages residents who have traveled for the holidays to get tested if they traveled internationally or to locations in this country with high transmission rates. Beginning today, international travelers arriving at the LAX international terminal are being offered free rapid COVID-19 tests and information on federal recommendations for quarantining and testing.

Residents should also get tested if they participated at gatherings and events with large numbers of people, some of which may be unvaccinated. Residents are reminded that they are legally required to be isolated if they have a positive COVID test result and that vaccinated close contacts with symptoms and unvaccinated close contacts need to be quarantined.

"I send my heartfelt condolences to everyone mourning the loss of a loved one to COVID-19," said Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd, Director of Public Health. "With the Omicron variant in L.A. County, Public Health is providing residents and our partners with information about Omicron and updated precautionary safety measures, which are even more critical for those in high-risk settings with increased opportunities for exposure. Over the course of the pandemic, these strategies have proven to be very effective in slowing the spread of COVID-19, and I encourage everyone to use these tools as we prepare for additional Omicron cases and a winter surge."

COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective and are recommended for everyone 5 years old and older to help protect against COVID-19. Vaccinations are always free and open to eligible residents and workers regardless of immigration status. Appointments are not needed at all Public Health vaccination sites and many community sites where first, second, and third doses are available.

To find a vaccination site near you, or to make an appointment, please visit:
www.VaccinateLACounty.com (English) or www.VacunateLosAngeles.com (Spanish).

If you need assistance you can also call 1-833-540-0473 for help:
Finding an appointment
Connect to free transportation to and from a vaccination site, or
Schedule a home-visit if you are homebound.

For more information regarding COVID-19 in LA County you can also visit the Public Health website at www.publichealth.lacounty.gov

SUBMITTED BY PUBLIC HEALTH

ADVERTISE WITH US TODAY!
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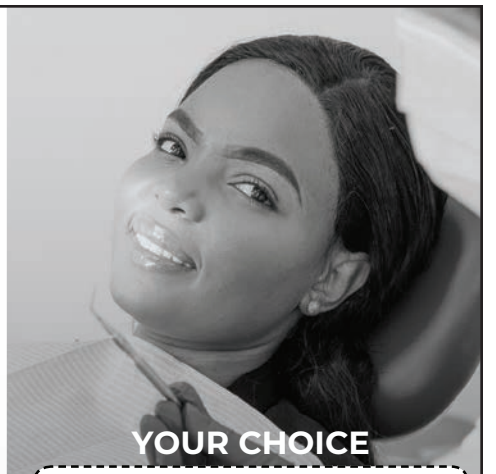
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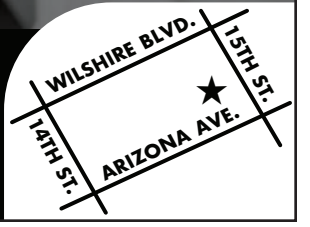
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SCHOOL THREATS

FROM PAGE 1

information other than just the stuff that I'd seen (on social media), and even though I didn't know the guy, it's creepy," said Graham Slater, a sophomore at Samohi who left campus at his parents' behest.

Mandana Yamin, a mother of a sophomore at Samohi chose to pick-up her son and was displeased that parents were not notified of the threat sooner.

"He told me this morning he was like 'mom my friend called me and told me to be careful at school today, because he said there's somebody that is going to come to school with a gun' … and then he went to school and then I got nothing from the school, which is really annoying," said Yamin.

Yamin picked her son up at around 10:30 a.m. and was rattled by the incident

"I find this type of incident really disturbing… really not something I would expect in Santa Monica at all. I expect this in states where they have open carry laws," said Yamin.

Also Monday, the Santa Monica Police Department was made aware of a possible threat to St. Monica's High School posted on social media, however, that case originated as a threat against at Elk Grove High School in Northern California.

At some point, text was added to the Elk Grove threat that referenced "St. Monica's" and school officials then contacted SMPD regarding the incident.

"Out of an abundance of caution SMPD has increased patrols in the surrounding area and maintain in close contact with school staff," said SMPD in a statement.

The threats follow a recent school shooting in, Oxford Township, Michigan, a community of about 23,000 people roughly 30 miles north of Detroit that left four students dead and six other students and a teacher wounded.

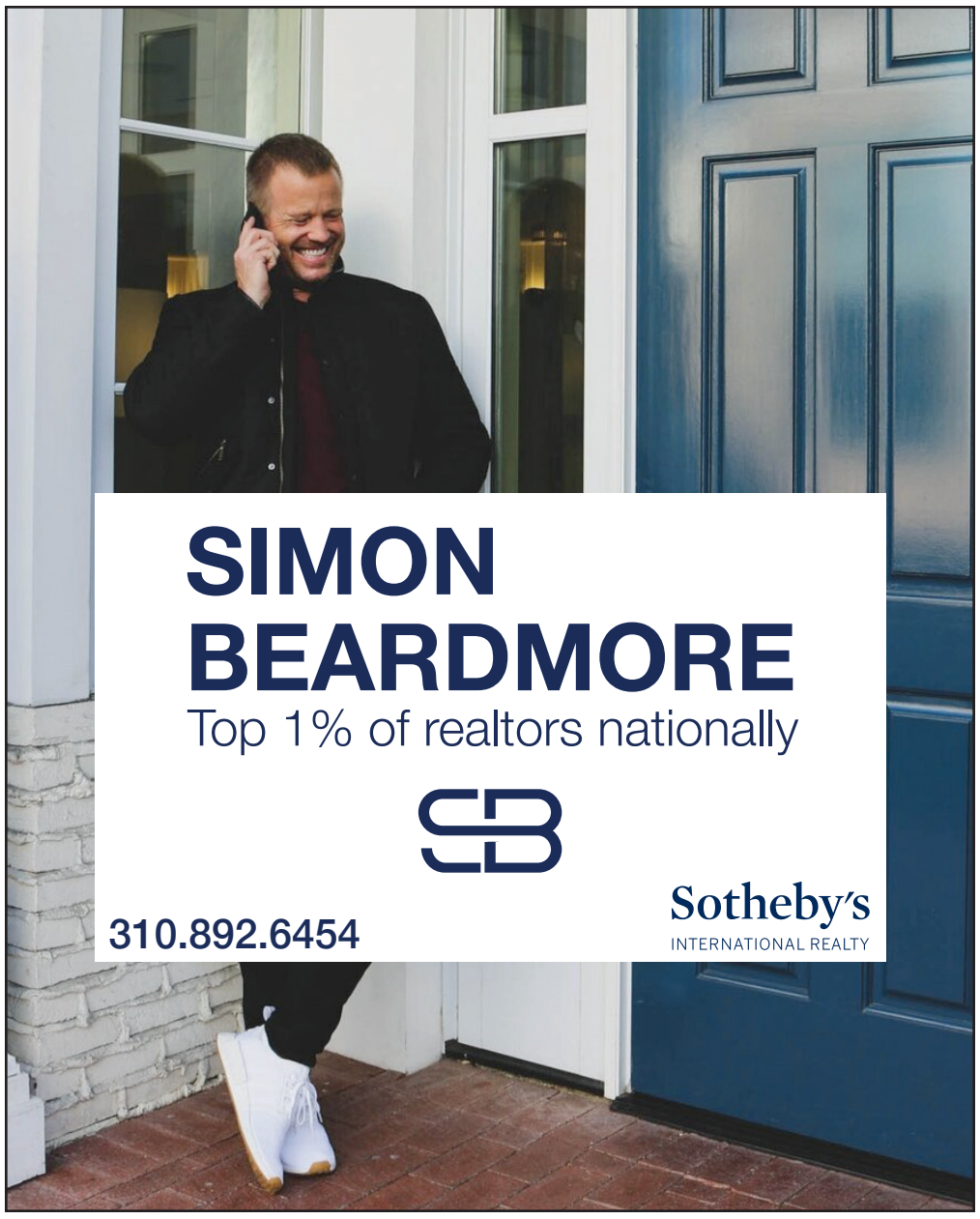
Ethan Crumbley has been charged as an adult with murder, terrorism and other crimes in the attack. And McDonald filed involuntary manslaughter charges against his parents, saying they failed to intervene on the day of the tragedy despite being confronted with the drawing and its disturbing message.

Clara@smdp.com



Clara Harter

SCHOOL: Some students left campus following a threat made on Snapchat.







BROAD STAGE

FROM PAGE 1

"There is always so much going on. Anytime that you're trying to put in place transformation and change, you're trying to change the wheels on a moving bus," said Director of Artistic Planning Eric Bloom. "The pandemic did offer us the opportunity to just pull off to the side of the road and then fix the whole bus."

As part of this change, the new season will focus heavily on the work of BIPOC artists and on elevating their voices, experiences, history and culture.

Highlights include "Yemandja: A Story of Africa" a new musical theater work set in 19th century Dahomey by and starring three-time Grammy Award winner Angélique Kidjo; an oratorio dance and music telling of the Sufi mystic poet Attar's "The Conference of the Birds" composed by Fahed Sladat; and "Being Future Being" a performance inspired by First Nation creation myths choreographed by Emily Johnson of the Yup'ik Nation.

Each of these performances was commissioned by Artistic and Executive Director Rob Bailis, who came on board in 2019 and sought to steer The Broad Stage into a new era of its programming.

"With Rob's entry into the organization he really brought with him a deep authentic desire to put forth culturally significant, important social justice issues, so we'll be doing a lot of work with BIPOC artists, really placing those artists at the center of our organization so that their work and what they do on stage makes a very kind of public facing articulation of our values," said Bloom.



Emilio Madrid, Matthew Murphy and Zac Smith

PERFORMANCE: There are 27 performances scheduled for the upcoming season.

The Broad Stage is also trying to increase engagement between its staged works and the Santa Monica community.

Instead of maximizing the number of performances that can be staged in a season, major works will remain on display for a longer period of time and have what Bloom calls a "community activation component."

For example, the upcoming presentation of New York Times science journalist Alanna Mitchell's one woman show about the deterioration of oceans "Sea Sick" will be accompanied by a beach clean-up hosted by local non-profit Heal the Bay.

Recently, the chamber opera Birds in the Moon partnered with the Santa Monica College art program and asked students to create works of art inspired by the show. Students' pieces were then displayed around Downtown Santa Monica. Three students won cash prizes and one student was later commissioned to create a poster for the show's tour.

This community activation is also part of an ongoing effort to strengthen the connection between the Broad Stage and the students at Santa Monica College. Although the venue is on SMC's campus, Bloom said that most students are commuters and don't often have the opportunity to stick around until the evening to watch performances.

"There's a lot of complication in that we live in a very sort of rich, upper middle, upper class, mostly white community that is centered on a college that has primarily minority students from a much more economically diverse background in a city that actually had at one point a much more thriving African American and Latino community," said Bloom.

Bloom said the organization is striving to acknowledge that history and that conflict specifically through the works it commissions and the themes they explore.

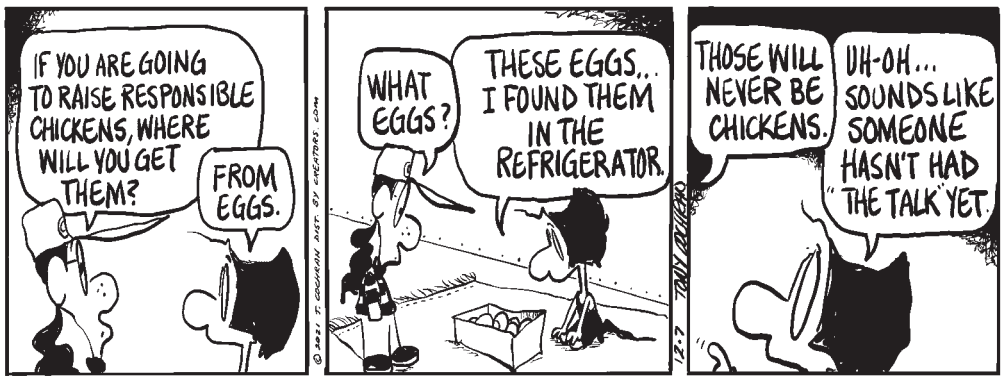
In the upcoming artistic season, there are 27 performances scheduled covering a range of genres including opera, musicals, plays, cabaret, dance ensembles, classical music, and jazz. Tickets and show information can be found at thebroadstage.org.

Clara@smdp.com



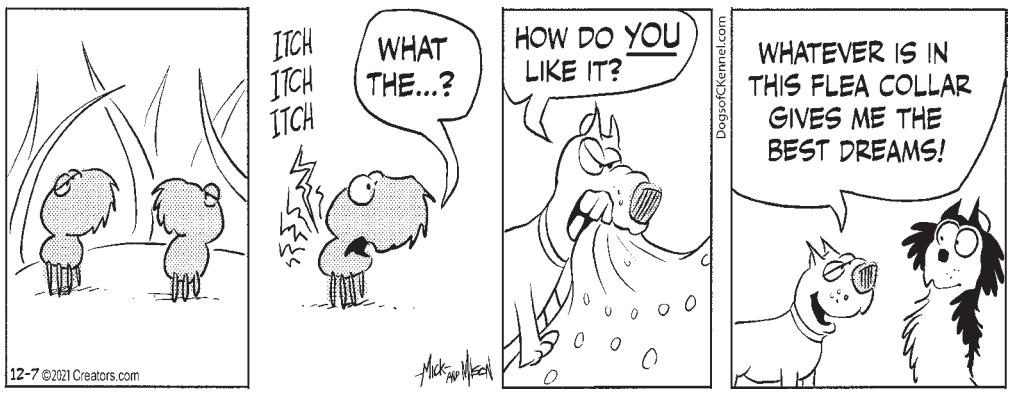
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



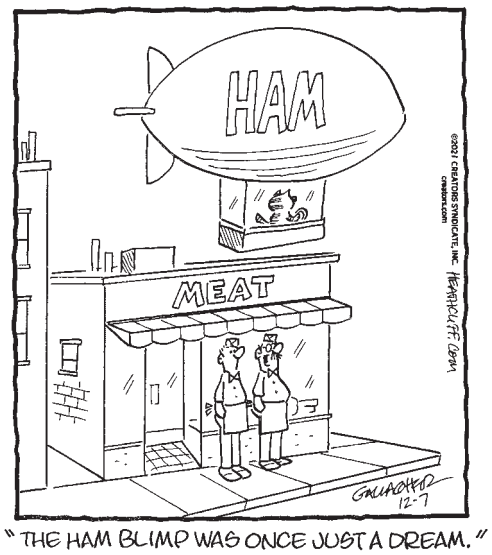
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"THE HAM BLIMP WAS ONCE JUST A DREAM."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 59.7°

TUESDAY - **POOR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high occ. 3 ft
Slight uptick in surf possible with NW and SSW swell trickling in.

WEDNESDAY - **POOR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high
Minor NW windswell and a touch of SSW swell will probably back down and we'll trend toward the barely rideable range again. May be just enough for a big board.

WEATHER

Tuesday: Mostly cloudy, with a high near 61.
Tuesday Night: Patchy fog after 10pm. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 55.
Wednesday: Patchy fog before 10am. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high near 60.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/12/07	Tue	12:03 AM	3.79	H
2021/12/07	Tue	04:19 AM	2.49	L
2021/12/07	Tue	10:38 AM	6.35	H
2021/12/07	Tue	6:13 PM	-1.08	L
2021/12/08	Wed	01:10 AM	3.80	H
2021/12/08	Wed	05:24 AM	2.74	L
2021/12/08	Wed	11:36 AM	5.70	H
2021/12/08	Wed	7:12 PM	-0.61	L
2021/12/09	Thu	02:21 AM	3.94	H
2021/12/09	Thu	06:49 AM	2.89	L
2021/12/09	Thu	12:43 PM	4.98	H
2021/12/09	Thu	8:14 PM	-0.13	L
2021/12/10	Fri	03:27 AM	4.21	H
2021/12/10	Fri	08:43 AM	2.77	L
2021/12/10	Fri	2:06 PM	4.32	H
2021/12/10	Fri	9:17 PM	0.31	L
2021/12/11	Sat	04:20 AM	4.55	H
2021/12/11	Sat	10:25 AM	2.27	L
2021/12/11	Sat	3:39 PM	3.86	H
2021/12/11	Sat	10:12 PM	0.70	L
2021/12/12	Sun	05:03 AM	4.89	H

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 12/4
10 40 45 56 67
Power#: 2
Jackpot: 280 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/3
22 45 48 58 61
Mega#: 13
Jackpot: 122 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 12/4
7 11 14 19 46
Mega#: 26
Jackpot: 9 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/5
7 9 10 33 37

Daily 3
Draw Date: 12/5
EVENING: 2 2 6

Draw Date: 12/5
MIDDAY: 2 4 5

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 12/5
1st: 10 - Solid Gold
2nd: 12 - Lucky Charms
3rd: 04 - Big Ben
Race Time: 1:43.69

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 7)

You take quick, decisive action and win. The thrill of victory is addictive, and you'll keep making strong decisions to feed the streak. It's made sweeter by what it does for your team. In early 2022, a matter that's dragged on for years will be settled, giving you energy to apply to travel, projects and social excitement. Pisces and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 10, 1, 18 and 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Initiate small talk. It will be interesting what you learn about people in a short conversation. It will be enough information to guide your social life, plus fun bonus facts.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Return to an activity that once gave you a feeling of accomplishment. You'll succeed yet again — a confidence boost that translates into other parts of your life.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Someone thinks of you often and in a glowing light on a high pedestal. Don't worry about why you're up there; just make the most of it. From this heightened position, you can have a powerful positive influence.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You imagine people to have certain qualities because it's what you want. Maybe they will possess the quality because of your expectation. If they don't, chalk it up to a simple case of mistaken identity.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). To give something a name is to claim it. Try this with your feelings; it will help you process them. You'll create a bridge between emotion and thought, closing a gap that kept you from moving forward.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You're creating habits that align with the life you want, which is slightly different from the life you have in key ways. Since unconscious habits create reality, your work is repeating these habits until they're ingrained in you and automatic.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Cosmic nudges won't tell you where to go — they'll happen when you're already headed that way, mid-pursuit, when you have some momentum, though not all you need.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). A reorganization of your social sector is taking place, somewhat orchestrated by you purposefully, though you're also reacting to factors you had no control over.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You may complete your tasks rather robotically today, though you're no robot. Robots don't fantasize as you do. While you go through the motions of the job, your head will be somewhere else entirely.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Be relaxed. Be you. This is something you don't have to work at or compete for. It might feel like someone else is trying to be you, and if that is the case, there's nothing to worry about. You're the best at being you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). To create the mental space to do what you have to do, you need the physical space to be conducive to the work. You also need things to fit into your schedule. Handle the logistics, and your mindset will follow.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Somebody's going to win the game of chance. Most won't... Still, there will be a winner, and the hope that it could be you will lift you, as well as give an excited kind of hope to someone else.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

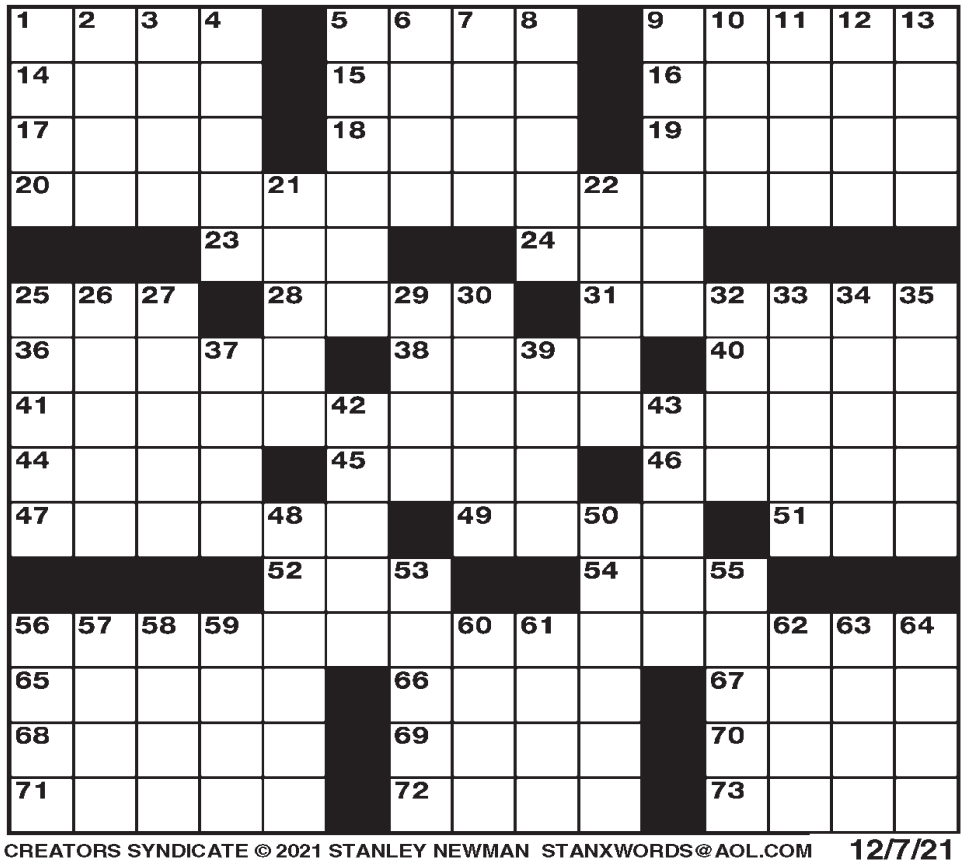
	2		7	8	5			4
1	9				2			3
	8					7		2
		4	6				9	
	6				7	4		
3		2					7	
5			9				2	1
9			2	1	8		4	

Newsday Crossword

NOT NOW by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Practice boxing
5 __ mater (school you went to)
9 Sofa
14 Adjust, as a radio
15 No longer worth debating
16 Cider fruit
17 CPR pros
18 Milky gem
19 Pave again, as a driveway
20 "Not now"
23 Daylight source
24 "Steady as __ goes"
25 Healthful resort
28 Line on a list
31 Destroys gradually
36 Purple flower
38 Stand up
40 Add to the payroll
41 "Not now"
44 Place for an indoor swim
45 Rebounding sound
46 Vitality
47 City thoroughfare
49 Mix, as a salad
51 Surgical venues: Abbr.
52 Take a chair
54 Hamster or canary
56 "Not now"
65 Major blood vessel
66 Turn __ a new leaf
67 Roads that often cross a 47 Across: Abbr.
68 Non-clergy group
69 Small bites
70 Bring in a harvest
71 Paradises
72 Ultimatum ender
73 __ and crafts

DOWN
1 One-pot dinner
2 Mountain lion
3 Prefix for freeze
4 Takes a breather
5 Dollar total
6 Cuts off, as branches
7 Watery castle defense
8 Map book
9 Life's work
10 Oil cartel
11 No greater than
12 Big family
13 Cattle group
21 Fruity breakfast drink
22 Piece of paper
25 Sales receipts
26 Cockpit boss
27 __ nothing (betting option)
29 Viking explorer __ the Red
30 Could possibly
32 Offhanded greeting
33 San __, CA
34 Mistake
35 Fortune-tellers
37 Well qualified
39 "Scat!"
42 Knot again
43 Family-room appliance
48 Opinion pieces
50 Thinly scattered
53 Sort of steak
55 Small crown
56 Not at all vivid
57 Batch of laundry
58 Cleveland's lake
59 Envelope's routing abbr.
60 Wicked
61 Energizes, with "up"
62 At any time
63 Tidy
64 Cough syrup amts.



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What's Up Westside
out and about in Santa Monica

TUES | DEC 7

STORY TIME AT THE MAIN LIBRARY: CAMPING ADVENTURE
10:30 to 11 a.m. / Central Courtyard
Let's go camping! Participate in stories, songs, and rhymes about camping activities and the wildlife we see when exploring the forest. For ages 2 and up. Space is limited. To register, email dana.laderer@santamonica.gov.

WINTERLIT LIGHTS
Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. (DTSM) brings the holidays to the Third Street Promenade with the return of Winterlit, transforming the downtown district into an immersive, festive experience. Tens of thousands of colorful lights, decor and garland will deck the Third Street Promenade, 2nd and 4th Streets, illuminating convenient shopping and cozy outdoor dining experiences.

WED | DEC 8

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. / Multipurpose Room
Your donation is urgently needed! To make an appointment visit: redcrossblood.org/make-donation and enter sponsor code SantaMonicaLibrary.

DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET
The largest grower-only Certified Farmers Market in Southern California and a favorite for local chefs! Enjoy one of Santa Monica's farmers markets, widely considered to be among the best on the west coast and featuring field-fresh produce, hundreds of kinds of vegetables, brilliant cut flowers, breads, cheeses, delicious foods, live music and more. Downtown Farmers Market Locations: Wednesdays at Arizona Ave & 2nd St and Saturdays at Arizona & 3rd St.

DANNY TREJO BOOK SIGNING
Book Monster in Santa Monica will host Hollywood's favorite bad boy-Danny Trejo. The book signing will be taking place on December 8 from 1-3 p.m., featuring Danny's beloved cookbook as well as his memoir. 212 Santa Monica Blvd.

PROPOSITION 19 TOWN HALL ON ZOOM
Los Angeles County Assessor Jeff Prang and Antonio Vazquez, chairman of the California Board of Equalization, will be the featured speakers. The purpose of the Town Hall is to solicit feedback from the public and real estate professionals as to the exact nature of the problems, challenges and criticisms of this highly charged proposition that later can be crafted into public policy. RSVP at www.assessor.lacounty.gov/events.

THUR | DEC 9

SANTA MONICA RENT CONTROL REGULAR BOARD MEETING
The Rent Control Board meets to conduct business associated with the Rent Control Charter Amendment and Regulations. 7 p.m. Visit https://www.smgov.net/rentcontrol for more information.

ARTOPIA
Weary Livers presents Artopia. Hosted by KTG and GOLDNBROWN. Featuring: Chris Cuseo, Dave Van Patten, Alison Oksen, Melinda Love Dean. Live acoustic set by Thomas Furr. 11:30 p.m. Weary Livers. 2819 Pico Blvd.

FRIDAY | DEC 10

WINDOWS OF ENCHANTMENT
The historic Merry Go-Round windows come to life with a one-of-a-kind festive, iconic and nostalgic holiday installation by the Santa Monica Pier Corporation. Santa Monica Pier Merry Go-Round Building, 200 Santa Monica Pier.

SANTA MONICA MYSTERY QUEST
Downtown Santa Monica, Inc. in partnership with Santa Monica Mystery Quest have launched a free scavenger hunt series on the Third Street Promenade. Lovers of mystery and adventure will enjoy this real-world, immersive experience to solve the case of the missing Promenade dinosaur. Participants will follow clues, collaborate with teammates, collect points and win prizes. 1351 3rd Street Promenade. 7 p.m.

MARION DAVIES GUEST HOUSE
Santa Monica Conservancy docents share the rich history of the Beach House site from the 1920s onward. Free 20-minute visits docent tours are available on a walk-up basis, for groups of up to six people on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 12 - 2 p.m. Just head to the Marion Davies Guest House where you will be greeted by a docent. Masks are required while indoors. Schedule subject to change, call (310) 458-4904 to confirm dates and hours.

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

FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 17 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5321

Racing horses

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

Acrasia	Colt	Guide	Post	Sore
Arab	Delta	Hats	Prize	Star
Away	Enjoy	Hoof	Protectionist	Stud
Beach	Fall	Injury	Punt	Trust
Bets	Fast	Lessons	Quick	Turf
Bravo	Feed	Loser	Reins	Waler
Brew	Flank	Mane	Risks	Whip
Bronco	Foal	Mare	Roan	Zulu
Cart	Gait	Neigh	Sauna	
Cheer	Golden	Pace	Show	
Cloth	Slipper	Pays	Sire	
Club	Gray	Polo	Slow	

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TRUMP

FROM PAGE 1

group of unnamed institutional investors.

Separately, Trump Media announced that Rep. Devin Nunes, a Republican from California, will leave Congress to become the company's chief executive in January. Nunes, the former chair of the House Intelligence Committee, was an ardent backer of Trump's during probes into Russian interference in the 2016 election and the president's 2019 impeachment by the Democratic-led House.

The regulatory scrutiny is focused on the October announcement by Trump's media venture that it would merge with Digital World Acquisition Corp. That company had launched on the U.S. stock market three weeks earlier with the sole purpose of finding a privately held company to buy. It's often referred to by its trading symbol of "DWAC."

DWAC said Monday that it is cooperating with "the preliminary, fact-finding inquiries" by the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.

The SEC early last month requested documents related to meetings of DWAC's board and communications between DWAC and Trump's media venture, among other things. According to DWAC, the SEC's request said the commission's "investigation does not mean that the SEC has concluded that anyone violated the law or that the SEC has a negative opinion of DWAC or any person, event, or security."

The SEC could be looking at whether DWAC and Trump's company had any conversations about a deal before DWAC's own initial public offering of stock, said Jay Ritter, a professor at the University of Florida who is an expert on IPOs.

Under rules for these blank-check companies, known as special-purpose acquisition companies, or SPACs, they're not supposed to line up acquisition targets before selling their own shares. Senator Elizabeth Warren on Nov. 17 wrote a letter to the SEC's chair, Gary Gensler, asking if the agency is exploring whether DWAC had violated the law by holding such discussions and misleading potential investors by failing to inform them before its IPO.

Asked how worried he would be about the SEC's investigation if he were on the receiving end, Ritter said, "It depends on what I knew. This could be innocuous or pro-forma stuff, or it could be really serious."

Just what the regulators are probing is not clear. What's more, the regulatory rules on SPAC discussions with targets are gray, prohibiting only "substantive" talks with possible acquisition targets.

Still, the Trump deal stood out as unusual in many ways even before an Oct. 29 report from the New York Times said that DWAC CEO Patrick Orlando had met with Trump and his representatives before taking DWAC public. Blank-check companies typically buy businesses with employees, customers and a track record, which is not the case with the Trump deal. Several SPAC experts also said the three weeks it took for DWAC to find and strike a deal with TMTG was unusually fast.

DWAC and TMTG did not respond to requests for comment on Monday.

An SEC spokesperson declined to comment beyond saying, "The SEC does not comment on the existence or nonexistence of a possible investigation."

Separately, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, or FINRA, asked in late October and early November for a review of trading in DWAC's stock before the Oct. 20 merger deal was announced. That could be an indication of a search for insider trading, Ritter said, though it's a notoriously difficult thing to prove.

The merger announcement sent DWAC's stock surging from $9.96 to $94.20 in just two days as Trump supporters and investors looking to make a fast buck piled in. The shares have since pulled back to roughly $44.

Such a lofty price indicates high expectations for Trump's media venture among at least some investors. In its filing with regulators, DWAC also gave some financial forecasts for the company, which has yet to launch but wants to build a "non-cancellable" global community.

The presentation included forecasts that the company's TRUTH Social service may have 81 million users by 2026, or nearly 7 million more people than voted for Trump in the last U.S. presidential election.

SPACs generally are known for giving very optimistic forecasts about their future growth in presentations to investors.

In five years, TMTG is forecast to generate nearly $3.7 billion in revenue, according to the filing. That is more than the annual revenue of retailer Restoration Hardware, RV maker Winnebago Industries and entertainment giant iHeart Media, which owns more than 800 radio stations.

For its TMTG+ video service that will stream "non-woke" entertainment and news, it says the monthly fee per user could be $9 in 2026. Netflix, in comparison, got $14.49 in average revenue from its U.S. and Canadian members during the first nine months of this year.

The presentation also lists the names of 30 key employees, including its chief technology officer, but only gives their first names and last initial. The company has yet to offer many other details about its operation, outside of Trump being its chairman.

DWAC stock opened with a slight gain Monday before closing down 2.6% at $43.81.

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