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The benefits of buying local

Purchases from neighborhood stores can help avoid supply shortages and delivery delays while building a sense of community



SMDP Image

Story by MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

With the year rapidly coming to an end, time is running out for residents hoping to get goods delivered on time.

The pandemic-induced supply chain snarls have created unprecedented shortages across all types of products, from the chips that go into gaming consoles to more mundane items like ties and pajamas.

On Cyber Monday — the biggest online shopping day of the year — the prevalence of out-of-stock messages rose 8% compared to a week earlier, according to Adobe Digital Economy Index. From November 1 through November 29, the number of out-of-stock messages soared close to twofold compared with pre-pandemic levels in January 2020 and up 258% from November 2019, Adobe said.

A lot is at stake for retailers. Holiday sales are expected to be up anywhere between 8.5% to 10.5% for the November-December period, compared with the year-ago period, according to the National Retail Federation, the nation's largest retail trade group.

Many industry analysts believe the supply chain issues will not be resolved until next year.

However, Santa Monica has a secret weapon in the battle for guaranteed, on-time gifts: shopping locally.

"If you're looking for last-minute ideas, there's all this great stuff in town," said Economic Development Director Jennifer Taylor. "Our businesses have gifts in stock and with the overall supply shortages, they will have items on shelves that you can put under the tree."

Buy Local is also offering a clearinghouse of local gift ideas through their website and social media channels.

Businesses can submit items for the Buy Local Holiday Gift Guide through their website or by tagging Buylocal SM on social media. Residents can browse the guide (http://www.buylocalsantamonica.com/tistheseason21) or search for find posts on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter under BuylocalSM.

While local stores might not have a particular item on the shelf, there's no guarantee online retailers will have it in a warehouse or that it can arrive on time and that could be a boon for physical stores. Experts say that the pandemic trained shoppers to try new brands and items when their first choice couldn't be found. For example, when consumer product makers and essential retailers saw a huge run on toilet paper in the spring of 2020, it forced shoppers to abandon the brands they'd been loyal to and seek out alternatives.

Local store owners are hoping the goods and services they do have available can meet the pent-up demand in a way that brings more long-term business back to the local economy.

The economic benefits of spending at local stores are well known. About 70 cents of each dollar spent in Santa Monica stays here. That money is used to keep essential services up and running, including local parks and libraries, while also funding local teachers and school counselors.

However, Councilwoman and small businesses owner Lana Negrete said supporting small businesses is actually about supporting local culture as it's the entrepreneurs that embody the city's culture.

"I feel like those businesses either tell a story of our past because they've been here and they're legacy businesses or they also tell the story of where we're going because there's a lot of new pop up small businesses that are kind of telling us who we are as a culture in Santa Monica," she said.

She said the economic transaction is only part of the reason residents benefit from local stores as the stores are where the community is built, especially in our current cultural moment where personal relationship building has been rare and engaging

SEE **SHOPPING** PAGE 6


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Companies rethink return-to-office plans amid omicron cases

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
Associated Press

Companies of all sizes are rethinking their plans to send workers back to the office as the new omicron variant adds another layer of uncertainty.

Alphabet's Google and the nation's second largest automaker Ford Motor Co. are among those once again delaying their return-to-office plans, while other businesses whose employees have already returned are considering adding extra precautions like requiring masks. Officials in the United Kingdom, Denmark, Norway and Sweden also have asked people in recent days to work from home if they can because of concerns about the variant.

Meta, formerly known as Facebook, and ridesharing company Lyft separately announced Tuesday that they're letting workers delay their return when offices fully reopen early next year. Meta still plans to open its headquarters at the end of January but will allow workers to delay their return as late as June. Lyft says it won't require workers to come back to its offices for all of next year, though they will fully reopen as planned in February.

Janelle Gale, vice president of human resources for Meta, said the latest decision recognizes "some aren't quite ready to come back."

The moves are the latest indication of how difficult it is for companies to set firm plans for their employees' mandatory return as worries about a spike in new cases or new variants keep shifting deadlines. This fall, the delta variant spurred many big companies to postpone a mandatory return to early next year.

"A year and a half ago, we thought this would be for a very short time," said Jeff Levin-Scherz, population health leader at Willis Towers Watson, a global advisory firm. "But the pandemic has thrown us many curves, and employers need to continue to be nimble."

The firm's survey of 543 employers with 5.2 million workers showed on average 34% of remote-capable employees remain remote, but that would decline to 27% by the first quarter of 2022. However, the survey was conducted before news of omicron surfaced.

The delayed plans are yet another blow to already struggling restaurants, bars, dry cleaners and other businesses that rely on office workers as patrons. Particularly hard-hit are those in downtown or midtown areas of cities like New York dominated by office buildings that remain largely empty.

The delays come even as U.S. health officials say early indications suggest omicron may be less dangerous than delta, which continues to fuel hospitalizations.

Lawrence Gostin, a public health expert at Georgetown University, doesn't believe there's enough scientific information on omicron to warrant companies delaying their return-to-office plans.

"There will be a constant stream of new variants as well as surges and waning of cases," Gostin said. "We shouldn't disrupt normal business activity at every possible trigger."

He noted that layered protection like masks, vaccinations and ventilation are highly effective at preventing virus spread in a workplace.

Still, the stream of new variants is having a psychological impact on business owners.

"Omicron has made me realize work life will never return to the way it was pre-COVID," said Gisela Girard, president of advertising agency Creative Civilization, whose 12 employees have been working remotely since March 2020. "It made me realize how working from home is likely to keep employees, their families and also our clients safe."

This summer, Girard's company aimed for a mandatory hybrid work plan to start in fall, but delta pushed back those plans to early next year. Now, omicron has her reconsidering not only those plans but whether employees should return at all. She renewed the office lease last year but said she's rethinking the physical office space.

For companies that have already brought workers back to the office, it's harder to retreat and allow them to be remote again. Still, some are considering new safety measures.

Kent Swig, president of Swig Equities LLC, a privately owned real estate investment and

SEE **OFFICE** PAGE 7

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DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 295 CALLS ON DECEMBER 9

Living In A Vehicle 2200Blk 5th St 12:02 a.m.
Living In A Vehicle 400Blk Georgina Ave 12:28 a.m.
Malicious Mischief Just Occurred Ocean Ave / Santa Monica Blvd 12:31 a.m.
Construction Noise 1200Blk Franklin St 12:35 a.m.
Loud Music 1800Blk 7th St 5:11 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 2200Blk 10th St 5:59 a.m.
Burglary Report 500Blk California Ave 6:23 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 2400Blk Arizona Ave 7:15 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1100Blk 19th St 7:48 a.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 12th St / Michigan Ave 7:48 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 2400Blk Virginia Ave 8:04 a.m.
Violation Of Temporary No Parking Signs 1200Blk 15th St 9:03 a.m.
Fight 1900Blk Pico Blvd 9:08 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1200Blk 23rd St 9:39 a.m.
Battery Now 400Blk Wilshire Blvd 9:46 a.m.
Panhandling 16th St / Wilshire Blvd 10:18 a.m.
Traffic Control Request - Level 1 Centinela Ave / Ocean Park Blvd 10:22 a.m.
Person Down 200Blk Colorado Ave 10:28 a.m.
Traffic Hazard 3rd Street Prom / Broadway 10:31 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed 1800Blk Stanford St 10:35 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 200Blk 25th St 11:10 a.m.
Burglary Report 1300Blk Centinela Ave 11:17 a.m.
Expired Registration 1000Blk 19th St 11:27 a.m.
Missing Person 1200Blk 16th St 11:33 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1300Blk 2nd St 11:35 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Just Occurred 600Blk Lincoln Blvd 12:09 p.m.
Red Zone Violation 1700Blk Appian Way 12:13 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1400Blk 9th St 12:25 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1700Blk Appian Way 12:33 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon Just Occurred 1600Blk Ocean Front Walk 12:57 p.m.
Panic Alarm 400Blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:00 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1300Blk 2nd St 1:14 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 300Blk San Vicente Blvd 1:21 p.m.
Fraud Report 800Blk 4th St 1:22 p.m.
Public Intoxication 11th St / Maple St 1:27 p.m.
Silent Robbery Alarm 500Blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:04 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 400Blk 21st St 2:07 p.m.
Identity Theft 1300Blk 9th St 2:23 p.m.
Grand Theft Just Occurred 400Blk 21st St 2:34 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 2500Blk 6th St 3:01 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1500Blk 2nd St 3:19 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1100Blk Harvard St 3:43 p.m.
Burglary Report 1400Blk 11th St 3:51 p.m.
Strongarm Robbery Just Occurred 1200Blk Ocean Front Walk 4:01 p.m.
Illegal Weapon 3rd Street Prom / Broadway 4:17 p.m.
Armed Robbery Just Occurred 2600Blk Lincoln Blvd 4:25 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2600Blk 14th St 4:28 p.m.
Fraud Report 1200Blk 6th St 4:29 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now Lincoln Blvd / Montana Ave 4:43 p.m.
Fraud Report 1300Blk California Ave 4:49 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved Pico/Sawtelle 5:13 p.m.
Found Property 2600Blk Ocean Park Blvd 5:15 p.m.
Loitering 1200Blk 6th St 5:44 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Lincoln Blvd / Broadway 5:52 p.m.
Bike Theft Report 2700Blk Main St 5:56 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 800Blk 16th St 6:12 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 3100Blk Pico Blvd 6:25 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Lincoln Blvd / Interstate 10 6:34 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2700Blk 6th St 6:47 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 500Blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:12 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop Lincoln Blvd / Bay St 7:14 p.m.
Death Notification 2000Blk Dewey St 7:29 p.m.
Loitering 1400Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 7:43 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 800Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 7:48 p.m.
Stolen Vehicle 00Blk Pico Blvd 7:51 p.m.
Loitering 600Blk 7th St 7:57 p.m.
Runaway Lincoln Blvd / Raymond Ave 8:55 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1300Blk 2nd St 9:04 p.m.
Party Complaint 3400Blk Pico Blvd 9:10 p.m.
Illegal Weapon 2100Blk Main St 9:20 p.m.
Found Property 2600Blk 26th St 9:27 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries 1300Blk 2nd St 9:36 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1800Blk Wilshire Blvd 9:49 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 2400Blk Pico Blvd 10:12 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Report 2800Blk Colorado Ave 10:16 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 23rd St / Wilshire Blvd 10:23 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 17th St / Wilshire Blvd 10:32 p.m.
Red Zone Violation 1700Blk Appian Way 10:35 p.m.
Construction Noise 1700Blk Ocean Ave 11:08 p.m.
Malicious Mischief Just Occurred 1400Blk 2nd St 11:32 p.m.
Encampment 1900Blk 6th St 11:54 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 21 CALLS ON DECEMBER 9

EMS 2200Blk 21st St 1:53 a.m.
EMS 2100Blk Ocean Ave 4:54 a.m.
EMS 1000Blk 12th St 6:09 a.m.
EMS 1000Blk 21st St 6:59 a.m.
EMS 12th St / Michigan Ave 7:58 a.m.
EMS 1300Blk California Ave 8:29 a.m.
EMS 2700Blk Neilson Way 9:01 a.m.
EMS 1900Blk Pico Blvd 9:23 a.m.
EMS 1100Blk 3rd St 12:33 p.m.
EMS 1100Blk 7th St 12:35 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk Franklin St 1:22 p.m.
Public Assist 300Blk 20th St 2:53 p.m.
EMS 2400Blk Hill St 3:31 p.m.
EMS 2800Blk Neilson Way 4:26 p.m.
EMS 2200Blk Virginia Ave 5:18 p.m.
Assist LAFD 600Blk N Kingman X Mesita Way 6:41 p.m.
EMS Main St / Colorado Ave 8:23 p.m.
EMS 2000Blk Arizona Ave 9:16 p.m.
EMS 2500Blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:31 p.m.
EMS 1500Blk 4th St 10:36 p.m.
EMS 1900Blk Pico Blvd 11:52 p.m.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

11th Street

SMC Music Students Showcase Vocal Talents in Free Concert December 13

The Santa Monica College Music Department is pleased to present the SMC Vocal Department Showcase, a concert featuring SMC's advanced voice students. The concert will be held Monday, December 13, at 7:30 p.m. in The Edye at the SMC Performing Arts Center, 1310 11th Street (at Santa Monica Boulevard).

Under the direction of SMC music instructor Dennis Parnell, the students will perform classical, jazz, musical theatre, and contemporary commercial songs.

The concert is free. Free parking on premises. An I.D. and proof of vaccination (or negative test within 72 hours of the event) must be presented to attend the event. Masks are required at all times. Seating is strictly on a first-arrival basis.

Tickets and more information available by calling 310-434-4323.

SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH, SMC

Citywide

Assemblymember Bloom To Host Winter Clothing Drive Benefiting Youth Experiencing Homelessness

Assemblymember Bloom is requesting new or gently used and laundered clothing for youth experiencing homelessness:

Sweatpants/Joggers (adult sizes M-XXL)
Sweatshirts (adult sizes M-XXL)
Rain Gear - umbrellas, ponchos, warmer rain jackets
Beanies/gloves
Other casual clothing items

While all clothing donations are welcome, the greatest need is for sizes XL and up and men's casual clothing.

Please call ahead to arrange drop offs through Dec. 17.
Assemblymember Richard Bloom: 2800 28th Street, Suite 105, Santa Monica.
Councilmember Nithya Rama: 6501 Fountain Avenue, Los Angeles.
Mon – Fri 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Weds and Thurs only 9 a.m. - 12p.m.

SUBMITTED BY MELISSA KAUFLER, COMMUNICATIONS FOR ASSEMBLYMEMBER RICHARD BLOOM

Colorado Ave.

Democratic Club Meeting

After an eventful year supporting President Biden and the Democratic Congress' ambitious agenda, soundly defeating the Republican Recall of Governor Newsom, and providing a monthly virtual forum for the community to convene and discuss critical issues such as housing, education, the environment, and reproductive justice, SMDC is pleased to their annual SMDC Holiday Party will be in person.

Dec. 12, 4 - 6 p.m. at Santa Monica Brew Works, 1920 Colorado Ave, 90404 (free parking lot on site). Light snacks and beverages will be provided.

They will host a holiday Toy Drive in coordination with the Church in Ocean Park (CIOP). The CIOP is requesting unwrapped, newly purchased toys for ages 0 to 17 valued at no more than $25. Please bring your gift to the Holiday Party as your admission ticket.

The event is being held at an outdoor bar space and therefore will be following all LA County Health Code guidelines pertaining to Covid.

SUBMITTED BY SMDC

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WEEKLY ARRESTS

SMPD MADE 27 ARRESTS FROM NOVEMBER 29 TO DECEMBER 5.

Date	Sex	Age	Charged With
Mon, Nov 29	M	38	Indecent Exposure
Mon, Nov 29	M	21	Shoplifting
Tue, Nov 30	M	31	Vandalism
Tue, Nov 30	M	34	Drunk in Public
Tue, Nov 30	M	30	Drunk in Public
Tue, Nov 30	F	26	Assault & Battery
Tue, Nov 30	F	40	Drunk in Public
Thu, Dec 2	M	21	Vandalism
Thu, Dec 2	M	21	Possession of a Controlled Substance
Thu, Dec 2	M	50	Battery Against a Custodial Officer
Thu, Dec 2	M	33	Assault with a Deadly Weapon
Fri, Dec 3	M	46	False Identification to a Police Officer
Fri, Dec 3	M	27	Battery Against a Custodial Officer
Fri, Dec 3	M	21	Larceny
Fri, Dec 3	M	46	Parole Violation
Fri, Dec 3	M	37	Possession of Methamphetamines
Sat, Dec 4	F	31	Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol
Sat, Dec 4	M	38	Drunk in Public
Sat, Dec 4	M	19	Shoplifting
Sat, Dec 4	F	42	Shoplifting
Sat, Dec 4	F	21	Vandalism
Sat, Dec 4	M	22	Domestic Battery
Sun, Dec 5	M	34	Possession of Methamphetamines
Sun, Dec 5	M	23	Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol
Sun, Dec 5	F	22	Corporal Injury To Spouse
Sun, Dec 5	M	44	Vandalism
Sun, Dec 5	M	30	Reckless Evading of a Peace Officer

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 DECEMBER 3 AT APPROXIMATELY 8:50 A.M.

Officers were dispatched to the 2800 Block of the beach for a stolen bike. The suspect, later identified as Cammerron Setters, was accused of taking the unlocked bike left leaning against a trash can. The owner of the bike was able to describe the bike along with providing the key to remove the lock that was simply affixed to the tire and frame, but not a stationary object. Setters was charged with petty theft and the bike was returned to its rightful owner.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

OKLAHOMA CITY

Flight to LA diverted to Oklahoma due to unruly passenger

A flight from Washington, D.C., to Los Angeles was diverted to Oklahoma City after an unruly passenger assaulted a flight attendant, police said.

An air marshal who was on board the Delta Air Lines flight had the passenger in custody when the flight landed Thursday night, Oklahoma City Police Capt. Arthur Gregory told TV station KFOR.

The Transportation Security Administration says the air marshal was also assaulted during the response and was injured but didn't need medical attention.

The flight continued on to Los Angeles after the passenger was removed.

In a statement, Delta praised the "quick action and professionalism" of its crew and air marshals for their handling of the situation.

Last month, Attorney General Merrick Garland directed U.S. attorneys across the country to prioritize prosecutions of federal crimes that occur on commercial flights amid a historic spike in cases involving unruly passengers.

Federal law prohibits interfering with a flight crew, including assaulting, intimidating or threatening crew members.

The Federal Aviation Administration said last month that it had referred 37 cases involving unruly airline passengers to the FBI for possible criminal prosecution since the number of disruptions on flights began to spike in January.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

THOUSAND OAKS

Mountain lion kittens found under picnic table in California

Two mountain lion kittens that survived after a litter of four was found under a picnic table are being cared for at a Southern California veterinary hospital, officials said.

The four tiny cats estimated to be about six weeks old were spotted Nov. 29 outside an office building near foothills in the Los Angeles suburb of Thousand Oaks, according to a statement Thursday from the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.

After the mother never showed up, biologists with the state's wildlife agency gave the kittens a checkup and outfitted them with small radio collars. The biologists then set the kittens up in a makeshift den monitored by cameras, in the hopes that the mother was returning at night.

Officials soon determined the mother had either died or abandoned the litter.

Two of the kittens were found dead early on Dec. 2, and biologists took the other two to a veterinary hospital in Orange County, the statement said.

The animals will be temporarily housed at the Orange County Zoo until a permanent home can be found for them.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOSTON

Varsity Truce: Last parent in college bribery scandal pleads

The last parent ensnared in Operation Varsity Blues – the captivating nationwide college admissions bribery scandal – has agreed to plead guilty, federal prosecutors said.

Authorities said I-Hsin "Joey" Chen, 67, of Newport Beach, California, paid $75,000 to have someone correct his son's answers on a college entrance exam. Under a plea deal, the owner of a warehousing company for the shipping industry will plead guilty to wire fraud and honest services wire fraud in exchange for serving a nine-week prison term, according to a statement Thursday from the U.S. attorney's office in Boston.

The terms of the deal also call for Chen to serve a year of probation, perform 100 hours of community service and pay a $75,000 fine, prosecutors said.

Chen paid William "Rick" Singer, a college admissions consultant and the ringleader of the scheme, $75,000 to bribe a test administrator to allow a proctor to change his son's ACT exam answers and boost his score, prosecutors said.

Singer, the test administrator and the proctor have all pleaded guilty to their roles and await sentencing.

The plot involved dozens of famous and wealthy parents, including actors Lori Loughlin and Felicity Huffman, paying large bribes to help their undeserving children gain admission to elite U.S. universities with rigged test scores or phony athletic accomplishments.

Chen will be the 38th and final parent to either plead guilty or be convicted in the case, which also ensnared several college coaches and athletic administrators, prosecutors said.

Chen had been scheduled for trial on Jan. 13. A date for the plea hearing, which is subject to court approval, has not been set.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

"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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EXPLAINER: Why US inflation is so high, and when it may ease

PAUL WISEMAN
AP Economics Writer

Inflation is starting to look like that unexpected — and unwanted — houseguest who just won't leave.

For months, many economists had sounded a reassuring message that a spike in consumer prices, something that had been missing in action in the U.S. for a generation, wouldn't stay long. It would prove "transitory," in the soothing words of Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell and White House officials, as the economy shifted from virus-related chaos to something closer to normalcy.

Yet as any American who has bought a carton of milk, a gallon of gas or a used car could tell you, inflation has settled in. And economists are now voicing a more discouraging message: Higher prices will likely last well into next year, if not beyond.

On Friday, the government reinforced that message with its report that the consumer price index soared 6.8% last month from a year earlier — the biggest 12-month jump since 1982.

And the sticker shock is hitting where families tend to feel it most. At the breakfast table, for instance: Bacon prices are up 21% over the past year, egg prices 8%. Gasoline has surged 58%. Furnishing your living room, dining room or kitchen will set you back 14% more than it would have a year ago. Used cars? Up 31%.

And though pay is up sharply for many workers, it isn't nearly enough to keep up with prices. Last month, average hourly wages in the United States, after accounting for inflation, actually fell 2.4% compared with November 2020.

Economists at Wells Fargo have joked grimly that the Labor Department's CPI — the Consumer Price Index — should stand for "Consumer Pain Index." Unfortunately for consumers, especially lower-wage households, it's all coinciding with their higher spending needs right before the holiday season.

The price squeeze is escalating pressure on the Fed to shift more quickly away from years of easy-money policies. And it poses a threat to President Joe Biden, congressional Democrats and their ambitious spending plans.

WHAT CAUSED THE PRICE SPIKES?

Much of it is the flipside of very good news. Slammed by COVID-19, the U.S. economy collapsed in the spring of 2020 as lockdowns took effect, businesses closed or cut hours and consumers stayed home as a health precaution. Employers slashed 22 million jobs. Economic output plunged at a record-shattering 31% annual rate in last year's April-June quarter.

Everyone braced for more misery. Companies cut investment. Restocking was put off. And a brutal recession ensued.

Yet instead of sinking into a prolonged downturn, the economy staged an unexpectedly rousing recovery, fueled by massive government spending and a bevy of emergency moves by the Fed. By spring, the rollout of vaccines had emboldened consumers to return to restaurants, bars and shops.

Suddenly, businesses had to scramble to meet demand. They couldn't hire fast enough to plug job openings — a near record 11 million in October — or buy enough supplies to fill customer orders. As business roared back, ports and freight yards couldn't handle the traffic. Global supply chains became snarled.

Costs rose. And companies found that they could pass along those higher costs in the form of higher prices to consumers, many of whom had managed to sock away a ton of savings during the pandemic.

"A sizeable chunk of the inflation we're seeing is the inevitable result of coming out of the pandemic," said Jason Furman, an economic adviser in the Obama White House now at the Harvard Kennedy School.

Furman suggested, though, that misguided policy played a role, too. Policymakers were so intent on staving off an economic collapse that they "systematically underestimated inflation," he said.

"They poured kerosene on the fire."

A flood of government spending — including President Joe Biden's $1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package, with its $1,400 checks to most households in March — overstimulated the economy, Furman said.

"Inflation is a lot higher in the United States than it is in Europe," he noted. "Europe is going through the same supply shocks as the United States is, the same supply chain issues. But they didn't do nearly as much stimulus."

Biden has acknowledged that inflation hurts Americans' pocketbooks and said that containing inflation is a priority. But he said his $1 trillion infrastructure package, including spending on roads, bridges and ports, will help ease supply bottlenecks and therefore inflationary pressures.

HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

Consumer price inflation will likely endure as long as companies struggle to keep up with consumers' prodigious demand for goods and services. A resurgent job market — employers have added 6.1 million jobs this year — means that Americans can continue to splurge on everything from lawn furniture to new cars.

"The demand side of the U.S. economy will continue to be something to behold," says Rick Rieder, chief investment officer for global fixed income at Blackrock, "and companies will continue to have the luxury of passing through prices."

Megan Greene, chief economist at the Kroll Institute, suggested that inflation and the overall economy will eventually return to

SEE **INFLATION** PAGE 7

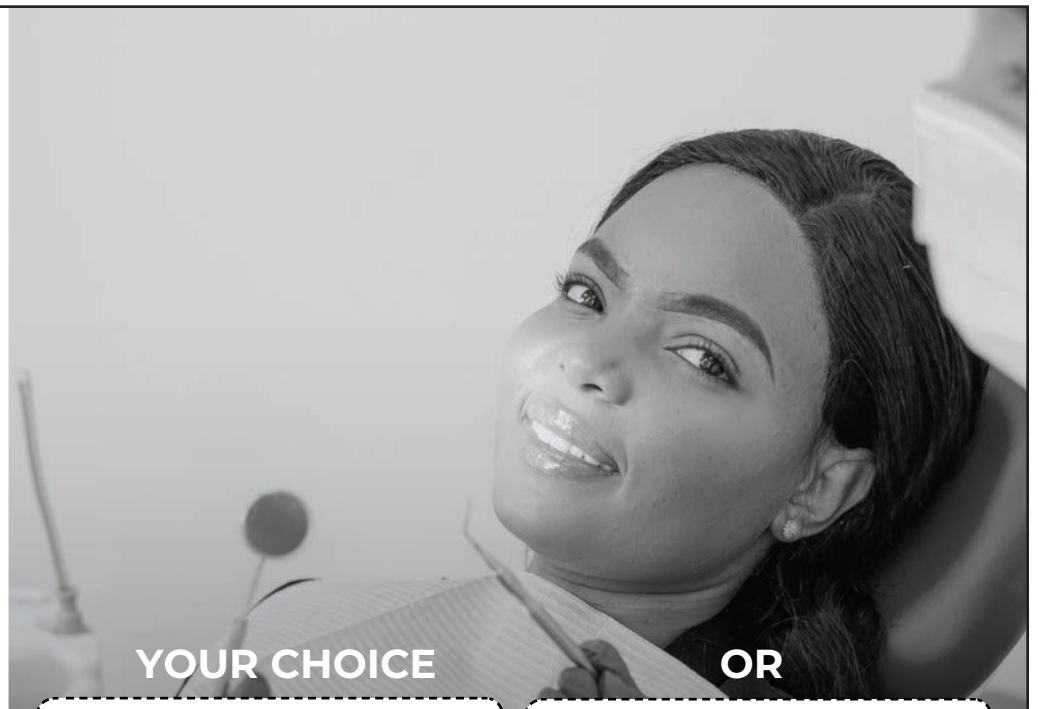
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• and more

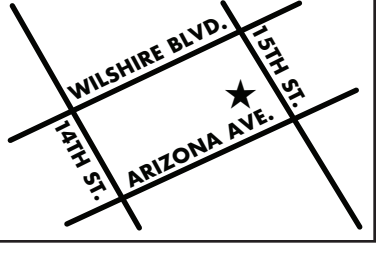


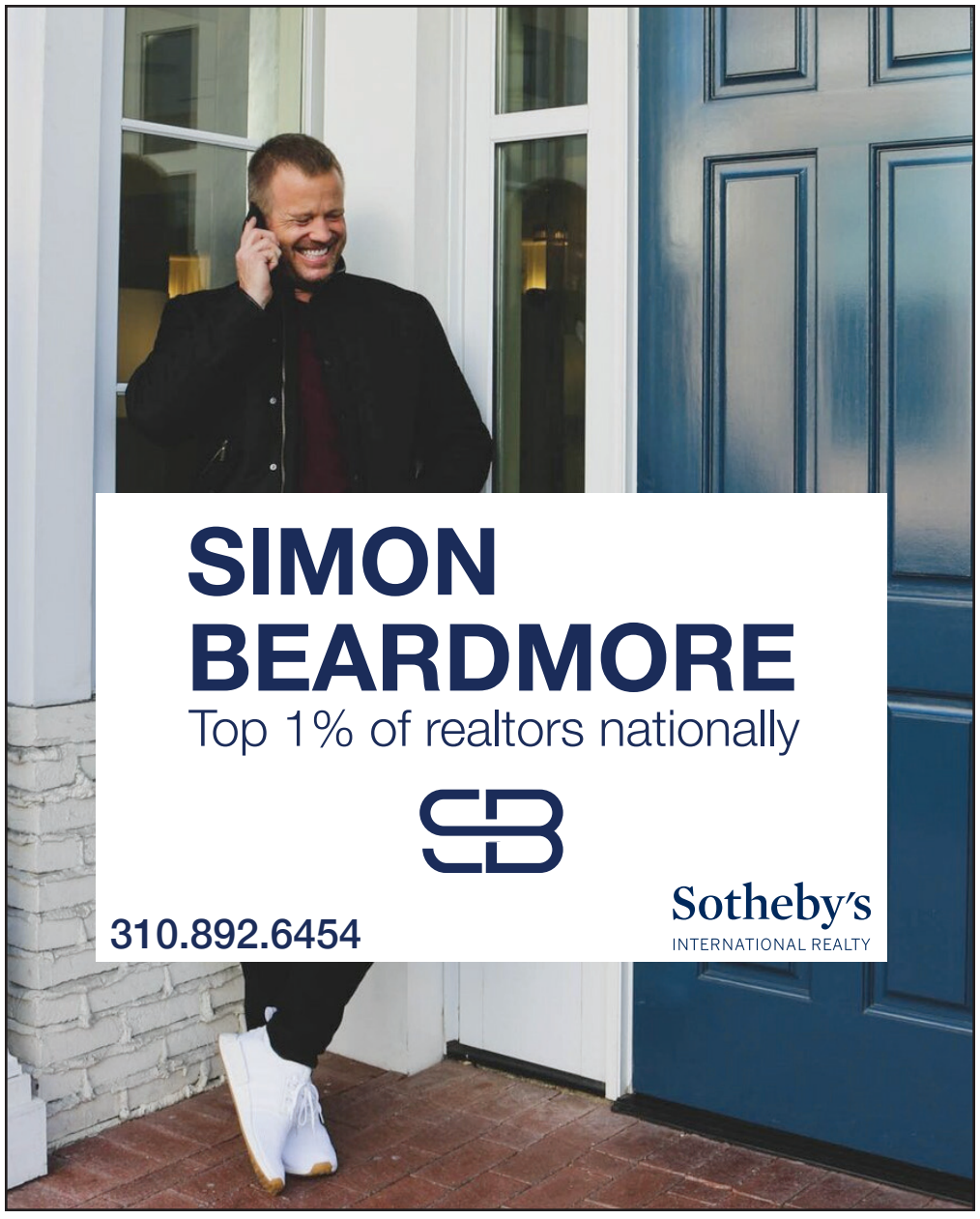
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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

We Are Santa Monica Fund to Accept Donations for Broader Uses to Support Local Recovery, Equity and Vulnerable Residents

At its meeting last night, the Santa Monica City Council approved through a consent item the expansion of donation categories for the We Are Santa Monica Fund, a donor-advised fund managed by the California Community Foundation. The Fund was established in March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to support vulnerable residents and businesses, and to enhance equity through the Black Agenda for Santa Monica. Since September 2021, the fund has raised $1,176,521.

In June 2021, the We Are Santa Monica Advisory Fund was created to build on the success of the Fund. In keeping with the initial goals of the advisory body, an expanded set of donation categories was recommended to City Council to both meet the emerging needs of the pandemic and community-wide recovery as well as to create a strong framework for the long-term vitality of the Fund.

"One of the bright spots of the pandemic was the open-hearted way donors came forward to support their fellow community members by donating to the We Are Santa Monica Fund," said Mayor Sue Himmelrich. "The Fund has the potential to continue to do a tremendous amount of good in our recovery and in the longer-term future to offer a helpful boost to those who need it."

The expanded categories now are:

VIBRANT LOCAL ECONOMY

Promoting opportunities for workers, creators, and entrepreneurs to survive and thrive.

Supporting cultural organizations that make up the fabric of our city.

Partnering with nonprofits that ensure that small businesses have the resources they need to keep their doors open, care for employees, and serve customers.

SANTA MONICA FOR ALL

Investing in programs that advance equity, protect human rights and dignity, increase and celebrate diversity, foster inclusion, address injustice, and ensure access.

Providing resources for the Santa Monica Black Agenda and groups and programs led by and serving Black, Hispanic, AAPI, and Indigenous Santa Monicans, the LGBTQIA+community, and people with disabilities.

Per Council's previous direction, 10% of all undesignated donations will continue to be set aside for the Santa Monica Black Agenda.

HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS

Offering residents of all ages access to nutritious food, spaces to exercise and play, places to live, and ways to improve physical and mental wellness.

Investing in the health and sustainability of our community and planet by conserving energy and protecting our air, water, and natural places.

LENDING A HAND

Sharing resources with people and families who need extra support and care.

INVESTING IN COMMUNITY RESILIENCY.

Providing relief for emergency occurrences, natural disasters, and other unexpected community needs that require immediate funds, supplies, or repairs.

These expanded categories will now be used to evaluate funding requests from community-serving nonprofit organizations. If you are a nonprofit that would like to submit a funding application, visit www.santamonica.gov/topic-explainers/volunteer-opportunities. If you are a community member who would like to contribute to the We Are Fund, visit https://www.calfund.org/wearesantamonica/.

"Anyone who is looking to make charitable contributions before the year ends is encouraged to give to the We Are Santa Monica Fund. Show your local love by bolstering community members in need this season!" said the City's Chief Communications Officer Debbie Lee.

SUBMITTED BY CONSTANCE FARRELL, SANTA MONICA PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

SHOPPING

FROM PAGE 1

with people in person is almost a novelty.

"I think shopping in brick and mortar is actually becoming more attractive because you get to get back to the touch and feel of items, of being able to experience what you're going to purchase upfront," she said. "And you get to engage with people and I think we're craving that now that we've had to be away for people for so long."

Those moments can have lasting effects on individuals who begin to feel a sense of connection to their community based on the interaction.

"So when they leave, it's not just the transaction, they've had a conversation," she said. "They've gotten to know the person working a little bit better. And they feel really good about spending their money locally because they're speaking to the people in the store in a different way. They're very connected to people that work here and live in Santa Monica."

The Associated Press contributed to this report.



INFLATION

FROM PAGE 5

something closer to normal.

"I think it will be 'transitory,'' she said of inflation. "But economists have to be very honest about defining transitory, and I think this could last another year easily.''

"We need a lot of humility talking about how long this lasts," Furman said. "I think it's with us for a while. The inflation rate is going to come down from this year's blistering pace, but it's still going to be very, very high compared to the historical norms we have been used to.''

WILL WE SUFFER A RETURN OF 1970'S-STYLE 'STAGFLATION'?

The run-up in consumer prices has raised the specter of a return to the "stagflation'' of the 1970s. That was when higher prices coincided with high unemployment in defiance of what conventional economists thought was possible.

Yet today's situation looks very different. Unemployment is relatively low, and households overall are in good shape financially. The Conference Board, a business research group, found that consumers' inflation expectations last month were the highest they'd been since July 2008. But their overall confidence remains at high levels.

Economic growth, after slowing from July through September in response to the highly contagious delta variant, is thought to be bouncing back in the final quarter of 2021.

"Most economists are expecting growth to accelerate in the fourth quarter," Greene said. "So it doesn't suggest that we're facing both a tanking of growth and higher inflation. We're just facing higher inflation.''

WHAT SHOULD POLICYMAKERS DO?

The pressure is on the Fed, which is charged with keeping a lid on inflation, to control prices.

The central bank has begun to counter inflation pressures by reducing its $120 billion in monthly bond purchases by $15 billion a month. Those purchases, launched last summer, were intended to hold down long-term interest rates to spur borrowing and spending.

But with inflation pressures persisting longer than the Powell Fed had expected, the central bank is widely expected to announce as soon as next week that it will accelerate its pullback of the bond purchases.

Doing so would put the Fed on a path to begin raising its key short-term interest rate as early as the first half of next year. That rate has been pegged at nearly zero since March 2020, when the coronavirus sent the economy into a deep recession. Raising rates that soon would be much earlier than was expected as recently as this summer, when Fed policymakers forecast that they wouldn't do so until late 2023.

"We've been fighting non-existent inflation since the 1990s,'' said Diane Swonk, chief economist at the accounting and consulting firm Grant Thornton, "and now we're talking about fighting an inflation that is real.''

AP Economics Writer Christopher Rugaber contributed to this report.

OFFICE

FROM PAGE 2

development company in Manhattan, said its 65 employees returned to the office in fall 2020 on a hybrid basis and went to five days a week in the office in May, after all were vaccinated.

However, Swig says he's now closely monitoring the new variant and will consider mandating masks and even requiring COVID-19 testing a few times a week if the threat increases. He said he will reverse course and start hybrid or remote work if the situation gets worse.

"My first and foremost job is to protect all my staff," Swig said. "I am going to err on the side of caution."

Levin-Scherz noted many employers have set multiple dates for return to the workplace over the past year, and at this point are looking to resolve more uncertainty before they set new dates.

Target CEO Brian Cornell recently told The Associated Press that it's "avoiding putting dates on the calendar" for a mandated return to its Minneapolis headquarters. Target started gradually opening collaboration areas and workspaces in the fall for employees who wanted an option to work on-site.

"We're going to learn along the way and make sure we make the right steps for our team," Cornell said.

Lyft said the decision to let workers choose to work remotely for all of 2022 wasn't tied exclusively to omicron but said new variants are a factor contributing to uncertainty.

"We've heard from our team members that they value continued flexibility in determining where they work and would benefit from additional time to plan," said Ashley Adams, a Lyft spokeswoman.

Meanwhile, Google is indefinitely delaying the mandatory return to its offices. A company spokesperson said in an email that the update was in line with its earlier guidance that a return would start no sooner than Jan. 10 and depend on local conditions. The company said it safely opened more than 90% of its U.S. offices and nearly 40% of U.S. workers came into the office in recent weeks.

Ford said Monday that it will delay plans for hybrid work at its Dearborn, Michigan, headquarters until March and plans to start a pilot phase for select employees in February. It had previously said it wouldn't start the hybrid work model before January.

Ford said that the hybrid work model affects approximately 18,000 employees in North America. Hourly manufacturing employees returned to work in May 2020.

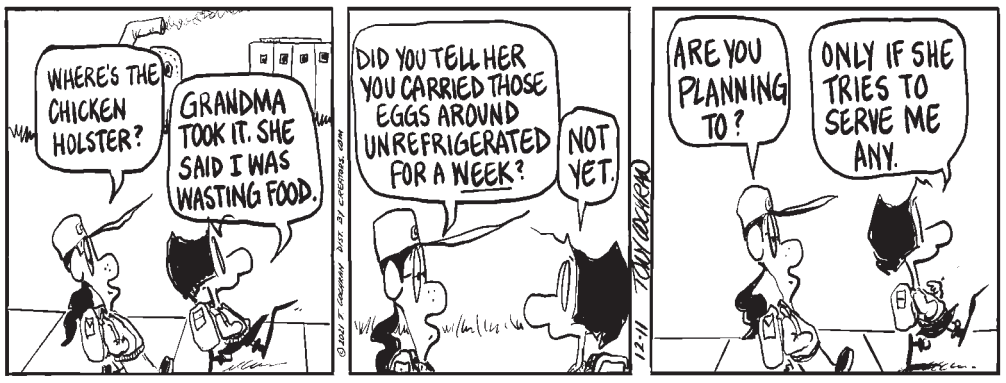
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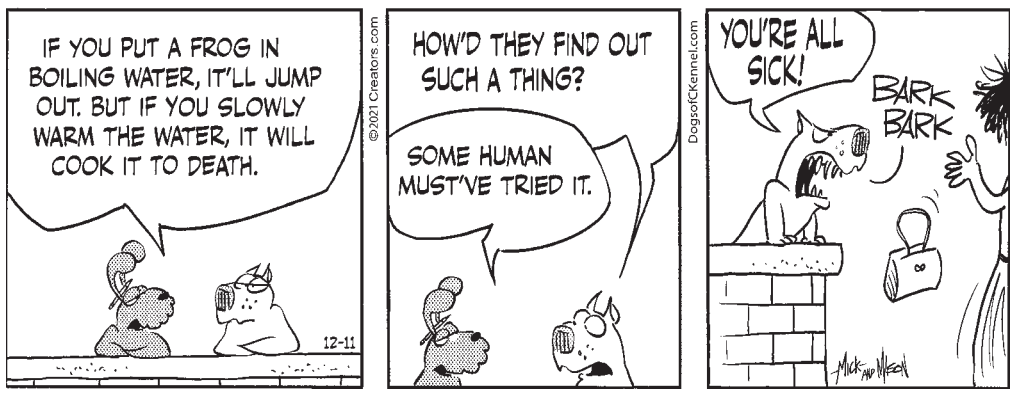
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



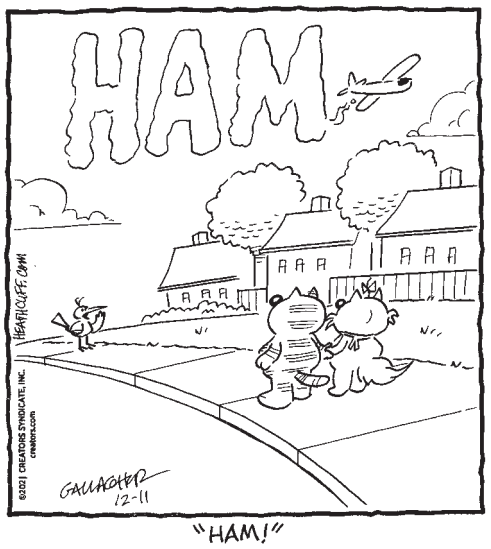
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

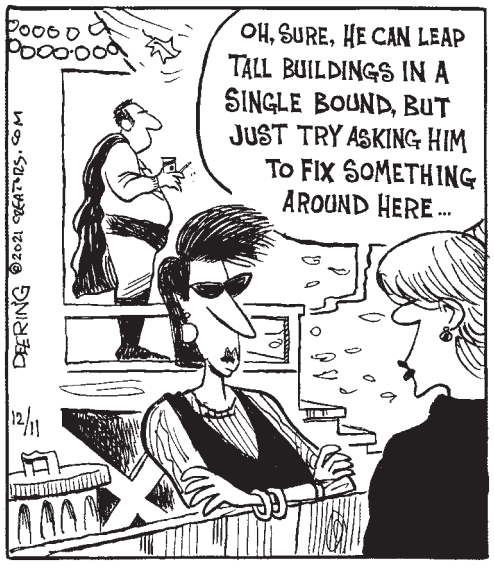
By PETER GALLAGHER



"HAM!"

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 59.5°

SATURDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high
Little SSW swell is up a notch further and peaking as small NW swell mix blends in. Should be enough combo for a few peaks at the exposed beachbreaks.

SUNDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft Thigh to waist high
SSW swell lingers and small NW swell mix keeps limping in. The little blend offers a few decent waves through the morning.

WEATHER

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 59. North northeast wind around 5 mph.
Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 47. Calm wind.
Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 58. Calm wind becoming southwest around 5 mph.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2021/12/12	Sun	11:35 AM	1.63	L
2021/12/12	Sun	5:02 PM	3.63	H
2021/12/12	Sun	10:58 PM	1.07	L
2021/12/13	Mon	05:39 AM	5.19	H
2021/12/13	Mon	12:28 PM	1.01	L
2021/12/13	Mon	6:14 PM	3.55	H
2021/12/13	Mon	11:38 PM	1.42	L
2021/12/14	Tue	06:10 AM	5.44	H
2021/12/14	Tue	1:10 PM	0.47	L
2021/12/14	Tue	7:13 PM	3.55	H
2021/12/15	Wed	12:12 AM	1.73	L
2021/12/15	Wed	06:38 AM	5.64	H
2021/12/15	Wed	1:46 PM	0.06	L
2021/12/15	Wed	8:00 PM	3.56	H
2021/12/16	Thu	12:43 AM	1.99	L
2021/12/16	Thu	07:05 AM	5.79	H

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 12/8
3 7 33 50 69
Power#: 24
Jackpot: 307 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/7
1 7 40 43 68
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 135 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 12/8
4 6 23 41 46
Mega#: 4
Jackpot: 10 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/9
4 7 12 13 14

Daily 3
Draw Date: 12/9
EVENING: 4 3 6
Draw Date: 12/9
MIDDAY: 8 6 7

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 12/9
1st: 04 - Big Ben
2nd: 11 - Money Bags
3rd: 02 - Lucky Star
Race Time: 1:44.85

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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Your trusted source for adult day care for your loved one. Let us give you the break you need.
Somos Amigos
"Somos Amigos" (we are friends) is our Spanish Language Program offering mental stimulation, exercise-strength training and recreation.
Let Us Help You Address Early Memory Loss
A Program of WISE & Healthy Aging
WISE Minds
A Veterans Benefit!

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (DECEMBER 11)

You'll be granted a wish -- the one you are willing to give your best to and put dozens of attempts behind. The work is more than expected and the satisfaction and reward will be triple that expectation! You'll come into a new version of your power in 2022 and you'll like how you can help people with your position. Aquarius and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 10, 4, 44 and 16.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The machines don't seem to be on your side, though their failure to perform as expected will make your day even better. Your workarounds will be nothing short of brilliant.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You're tempted to deliver something different from the order. What you have in mind is more generous and of a higher quality, but that won't necessarily make it well-received. People want what they want for a reason.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). A good plan will prevent wasted resources. And a bad plan, oddly enough, will do the same if you approach it with an open and adaptive mind. Either way you're thinking ahead, which is what the day calls for.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Judging from your reaction to today's events, you still care what someone thinks of you. You might be surprised at how much! Regardless, base your next move solely on what's best for you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'd love to know, once and for all, the perfect diet for you. Or maybe it's your ideal clothing style or other personal agenda for which you seek answers. Alas, even if there is a perfect prescription for now, it will change next season.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There are those who work very hard to make it look easy, then there are those who make it look easy because for them it actually is. You'll learn more from people who fall into the first category.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The secret behind today's success is your open heart. You include people, consider their ideas and say yes even when you're not sure what you're getting into. Extending love and trust will pay off for you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Being busy doesn't convey status and neither does having too much leisure. You give people higher ranking when they pace themselves well and do enjoyable work that matters to them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You are even more curious than usual, especially on subjects you already know a little about. Your astute questions will flatter those who aren't used to attracting such focused attention.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Emotions are released in you for reasons. The triggers are real. Look at what excites you, what makes you laugh or cry. Investigate what makes you angry. Greater knowledge of your feelings will help you control them better.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Everyone is quirky in some way. You like finding out exactly what that way is. It's even more delightful when you discover your own idiosyncrasies, which are made easier to see by an astute person getting to know you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There are definite perks to remaining nonjudgmental. People feel comfortable around you. They learn that they can be honest versions of themselves and you get to know how things really are.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

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

Newsday Crossword

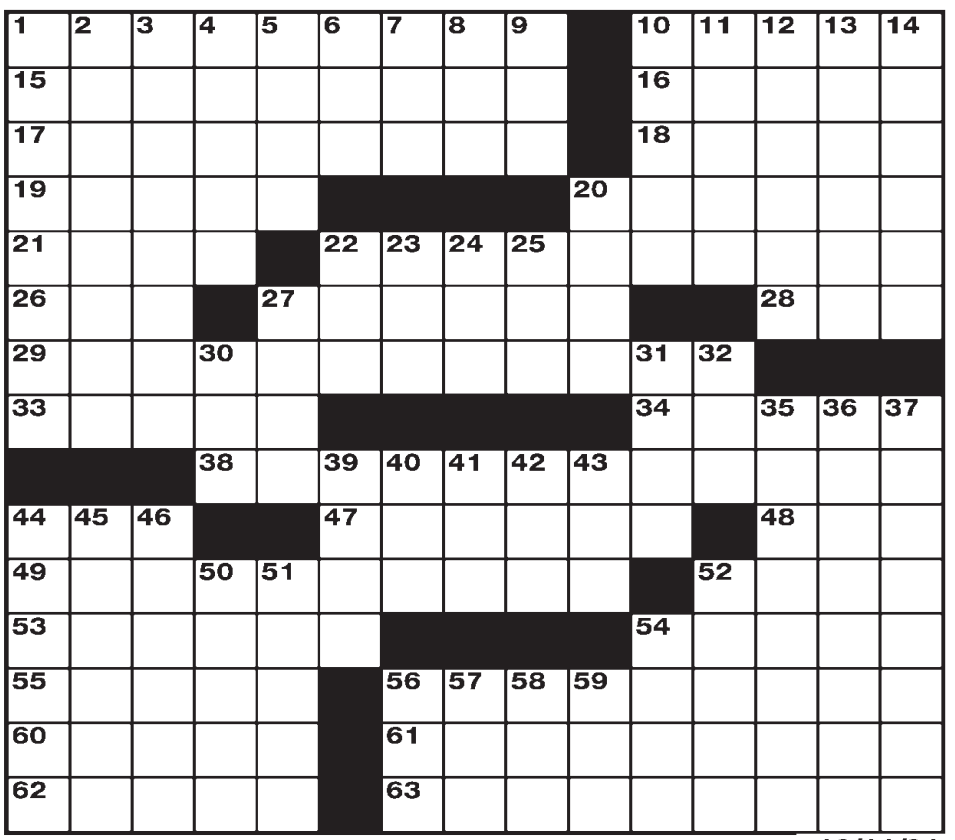
SATURDAY STUMPER by Anna Stiga
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Physician, at times
10 Surly
15 "Court of public opinion" venues
16 It's on the Red River
17 Scare
18 Extra
19 Much
20 Certain time-out
21 *The Haj* author
22 Some screens
26 Cane juice product
27 "And a few more"
28 Fixed
29 Yukon Quest and La Grande Odyssée
33 Inspiring jitters
34 Land __
38 What follows a successful shakedown
44 Shuttle, perhaps
47 Beaux
48 Farm product
49 James River tributary
52 Sweet starter
53 Origami subjects
54 Opposite
55 Land under two flags
56 Jersey's edge
60 Vex
61 Onetime Universal Studios owner
62 Tablespoon fractions
63 Caddy accommodation

DOWN

1 Proceeding smoothly as planned
2 Autonomy
3 Cheat
4 East end of Inverness
5 Warning sign
6 Something trained by the backstroke
7 Sponsor of the Give Kids a Smile program
8 Up to
9 Henry V, per the Bard
10 Seventh UN head's homeland
11 Part of the uranium decay chain
12 Reverses
13 Blunder
14 Ultimate
20 Investment activity, so to speak
22 Back again
23 Don't keep up
24 __ bag
25 Wand wavers' employer
27 Thought
30 Turn down
31 Psyche consort
32 Ink source
35 Personal-care brand name since 1872
36 Extreme entitlement
37 Divert
39 Rollover candidates
40 Speck
41 Occupation symbolized by the Star of Life
42 Relative of ceno-
43 Caesar's voice
44 Went to bat for
45 To-do
46 Peloponnesian War victor
50 Two bells, to bosuns
51 Choice of cuts
52 Milestone flights
54 Irritant
56 Lotion letters
57 Pine product
58 "Is that __?"
59 Hazel's cousin



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What's Up Westside
out and about in Santa Monica

SATURDAY | DEC 11

18TH STREET COMMUNITY WINTER OPEN HOUSE
Stop by 18th Street Arts Center and join staff, artists-in-residence, friends, and community members in a festive gathering to mark the end of a year and the beginning of another. Join them outside for a warm drink, friendly catch up, some fun tunes, and pick up a special postcard with images made by artists.

MIRACLE ON MAIN STREET
Kids activities starting at 1 p.m., followed by Santa and the tree lighting at 4 p.m. at the Heritage Museum lawn. The holidays are all about tradition, which is why the 40-foot tall Shopping Cart Tree inside the Frank Gehry designed Edgemar building, will be lit up for the 27th year in a row. 84 shopping carts will be staged in the shape of a Christmas tree and lit up with 1,500 lightbulbs, held together with 4,000 zip ties.

PICO FARMERS MARKET
Visit https://www.smgov.net/portals/farmers_market/market_days/saturdays_virginia_ave/saturday_pico.aspx for more information on Santa Monica Farmers Markets. Pico Blvd. & Cloverfield Blvd. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

BOOK LAUNCH
Journalist and peace activist Francesco Da Vinci will host a book launch at Fresh Cafe in Westwood Village, 10923 Weyburn Avenue (between Westwood Blvd. and Broxton Avenue) for his book - I REFUSE TO KILL: My Path to Nonviolent Action in the 1960s. The book promotes social justice and peace through nonviolence. It also honors conscientious objectors to war. 1 p.m. Proof of vaccination required. Contact francescoproductionsl@gmail.com for more information.

SANTA MONICA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA - WINTER CONCERT
Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 5
Free admission but registration required at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/santa-monica-symphony-winter-concert-tickets-204012556047. 7:30 - 9 p.m. John Adams Middle School Performing Arts Center, 1630 Pearl Street

SUNDAY | DEC 12

MAIN STREET FARMERS MARKET
The Sunday Main Street Farmers Market features some of California's freshest produce plus prepared foods from local Main Street restaurants as well as artisanal foods prepared with ingredients sourced from California farmers. 2640 Main Street. 8:30 - 1:30 p.m.

MONDAY | DEC 13

CITIZENSHIP CLASSES
Classes are taught by Adult Education Center instructors. Students must be 18 years or older to attend. Community and SMMUSD parents have priority enrollment. Enrollment is through the SMMUSD Adult Education Center, located at 2510 Lincoln Blvd., Room 203, Santa Monica, 90405. Contact Olga Saucedo at (310) 664-6222, ext. 76203 or osaucedo@smmusd.org to enroll. 12 - 2:30 p.m.

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.

TUESDAY | DEC 14

STORY TIME & CRAFT AT THE MAIN LIBRARY
11 to 11:30 a.m. / Central Courtyard
Celebrate the winter season with stories, songs, rhymes, and fingerplays. Make a snow globe craft. For ages 2 & up. Space is limited. To register, email ingha.chopra@santamonica.gov.

MYSTERY BOOK GROUP DISCUSSION
We Begin at the End by Chris Whitaker
7 to 8 p.m. Register using the email address below. Thirty years ago, Vincent King went to prison for killing his childhood sweetheart's sister. Now, he's returning to his hometown where his sweetheart still lives, and his best friend is the chief of police. To register, email karen.reitz@santamonica.gov.

BOB BAKER MARIONETTE THEATER
This iconic group is back for one night of puppetry, sing-a-longs and holiday cheer. Santa Monica Pier Merry Go-Round Building. 7 p.m. Free and open to the public

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 24 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 5325

The circus

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

Arena
Band
Bear
Cage
Canvas
Cats
Clem
Clown
Colour
Comedy
Crier
Crowd
Dog
Drinks
Droll
Elephants
Fair
Farce
Fold
Fool
Gate
Graft
Horses
Joey
Joker
Josh
Jumbo
Lion
Magic
Merry go round
Noise
Pretend
Red nose
Ride
Roar
Safety net
Seal
Shill
Show
Strong man
Swing
Take
Tame
Tickets
Trapeze
Trip
Witty
Zany

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
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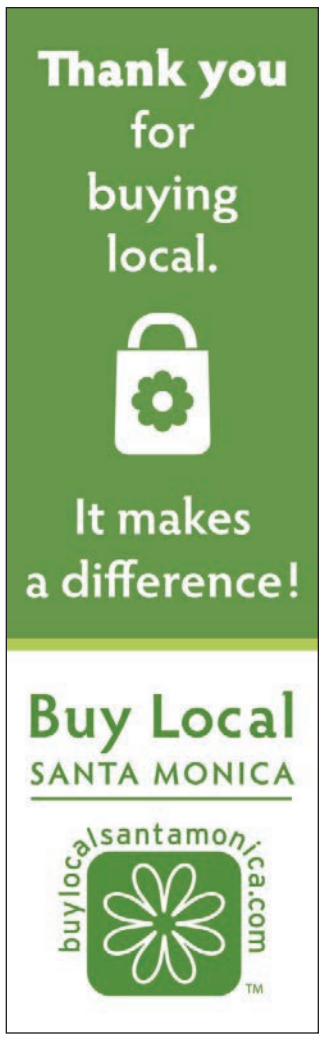
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