smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

FRIDAY
12.18.20
Volume 20 Issue 31

Santa is coming
See Santa from a safe distance
Page 4

Letter to the Editor
Art is not enough.
Page 11

@smdailypress @smdailypress Santa Monica Daily Press smdp.com

The Godmother of beers appears in iconic Brew Works X Bay Cities collaboration







Courtesy photos

BEER: The local brewery is using a beloved local bread to make their next Santa Monica specific beverage.

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

When titans of the grain industry unite truly legendary beers appear — take the "Works" and "Godmother" IPAS, birthed with grain from Bay Cities' crackly filone bread and nurtured under Santa Monica Brew Works' loving care.

The two IPAs launch today as the latest release in SMBW's series of beers paying homage to iconic Santa Monica establishments.

"For nearly 100 years our neighbors at Bay Cities have been artfully crafting sandwiches using the freshest and highest quality ingredients available," said Scott Francis, SMBW's co-founder, president & CEO. "As Santa Monica's first and only brewery we take pride in stacking our grains with the same commitment to excellence."

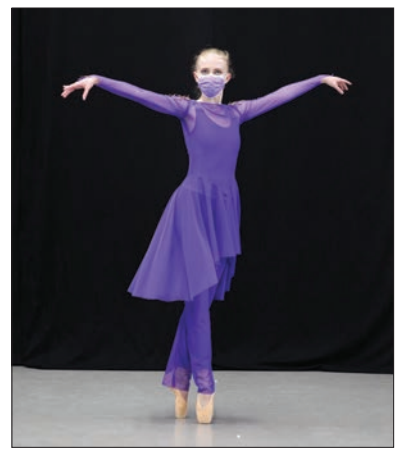
The collaboration celebrates the tenacity of local businesses who are finding inventive ways to keep the soul of Santa Monica alive in an extraordinarily challenging year.

SMBW shut down and reopened its beer garden three times due to shifting restrictions and consistently pivoted its business model as

SEE **BEER** PAGE 7

The Nutcracker returns with a new format and dances





Courtesy photo

DANCE: Westside Ballet is producing a holiday classic.

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

For 47 years, dancers at Westside Ballet of Santa Monica have captivated audiences over the holidays with a production of "The Nutcracker," and the local studio isn't going to let COVID-19 ruin Southern California's longest running production of the holiday classic.

Per tradition, Westside Ballet students have selected pieces from the beloved score but this year the performances will be viewed virtually. "Kingdom of the Sweets," is the official title of the abbreviated 2020 Nutcracker showcase and it's now available on Vimeo to be

SEE **NUTCRACKER** PAGE 11

Hot spot: California hospitals buckle as virus cases surge

ALANNA DURKIN RICHER AND JOHN ANTCZAK
Associated Press

Hospitals across California have all but run out of intensive care beds for COVID-19 patients, ambulances are backing up outside emergency rooms, and tents for triaging the sick are going up as the nation's most populous state emerges as the latest epicenter of the U.S. outbreak.

On Thursday, California reported a staggering 52,000 new cases in a single day — equal to what the entire U.S. was averaging in mid-October — and a one-day record of 379 deaths. More than 16,000 people are in the hospital with the coronavirus across the state, more than triple the number a month ago.

"I've seen more deaths in the last nine months in my ICU than I have in my entire 20-year career," said Amy Arlund, a nurse at Kaiser Permanente Fresno Medical Center.

While the surging virus has pushed hospitals elsewhere around the country to the breaking point in recent weeks, the crisis is deepening with alarming speed in California, even as the nationwide rollout of COVID-19 vaccinations this week

SEE **HOT SPOT** PAGE 11



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DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 36 CALLS ON DECEMBER 16

EMS 2700blk 3rd St 1:56 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 2:48 a.m.
EMS 2400blk Virginia Ave 3:18 a.m.
EMS 1100blk 7th St 5:32 a.m.
Fire Out Investigation 600blk Ashland Ave 5:46 a.m.
EMS 900blk 9th St 6:18 a.m.
EMS 1000blk Wilshire Blvd 8:32 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 8:45 a.m.
EMS 26th St / Washington Ave 9:10 a.m.
EMS 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:50 a.m.
EMS 900blk 10th St 9:57 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 10:04 a.m.
Arcing Wires 1000blk 17th St 10:24 a.m.
EMS 2400blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:37 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 500blk Ocean Ave 10:38 a.m.
EMS 500blk Olympic Blvd W 10:51 a.m.
EMS 2800blk Neilson Way 11:28 a.m.
Wires Down 1700blk 21st St 11:45 a.m.
EMS 1100blk Pico Blvd 12:04 p.m.
EMS 2900blk 4th St 12:17 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 12:37 p.m.
EMS 900blk 7th St 12:45 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 3rd St 12:50 p.m.
EMS 300blk 16th St 2:07 p.m.
Wires Down 1600blk Centinela Ave 2:27 p.m.
EMS Euclid St / Montana Ave 2:48 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 23rd St 3:15 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Hill St 4:50 p.m.
EMS 700blk Raymond Ave 6:34 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 12th St 6:43 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 200blk Ocean Ave 6:58 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 6th St 6:59 p.m.
EMS 1300blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:22 p.m.
EMS 900blk Pico Blvd 7:42 p.m.
EMS 400blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:38 p.m.
EMS 2700blk Main St 11:59 p.m.

SMMUSD
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SANTA MONICA MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) will receive sealed qualifications and proposals from contractors holding a type **"B"** license, on the following: **RFQ/P #21.07.M, Malibu High School Campus Plan Phase 1 New Building Lease-leaseback (LLB) Project at the former Juan Cabrillo Elementary School Campus. The total project cost is estimated to be between $90,000,000 to $100,000,000** and includes the following: The abatement and demolition of the existing 9 Buildings at the former Juan Cabrillo ES campus, the construction of a new High School Core Building, "Building C" which will include classrooms, student support spaces, state of the art kitchen, café, outdoor learning areas, administrative offices, and pitch spaces connected by common areas designed to add to the collaborative learning environment, extensive grading of the site, with a substantial amount of cut and fill and the export of surplus dirt if necessary, extensive amount of landscape and hardscape within the Phase I limits, new bus/vehicle turnaround and parking and other associated improvements per the projects bidding documents. All submittals must be submitted to the SMMUSD Facility Improvement Office, 2828 4th Street, Santa Monica, California 90405 on or before 1/27/21 no later than 3:00 PM. Each submittal must be sealed and marked with the RFQ/P name and number. **All interested firms must attend the Mandatory Pre-Response meeting to be held via Zoom on 12/17/20 at 10:00 AM.** All General Contractors and Mechanical, Electrical and Plumping (M/E/P) Subcontractors must be pre-qualified for this project per bidding documents. To view the projects bidding documents, please visit ARC Southern California public plan room www.crplanwell.com and reference the project RFQ/P #.

Prequalification Due Date & Instructions for Application Submission: All applications are due no later than 1/12/21 - Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has contracted with Colbi Technologies, Inc. to provide a web-based process for prequalification called QualityBidders. To submit an application at no cost please visit www.qualitybidders.com. Once you have been approved, you will receive an email indicating your approval expiration date and limit. The Districts approved contractors listing can be obtained via the FIP website at https://www.smmusd.org/domain/4172.

Mandatory Pre-Response Zoom Meeting (attendance is required for all Prime Contractors): 12/17/20 at 10:00 AM

Zoom Information: https://zoom.us/j/99873406932?pwd=R0F5OElkcXlaNGNNVHliSHIycFdTdz09

- Meeting ID: 998 7340 6932
- Passcode: 9FdGNq

Submittal Due Date: 1/27/21 no later than 3:00pm

Any further questions or clarifications to this bidding opportunity, please contact Sheere Bishop-Griego at smbishop@smmusd.org directly. In addition, any pre-qualification support issues relative to Colbi Technologies, Inc., website or for technical support please contact support@qualityBidders.com directly.

California sets teachers, first responders for next vaccines

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

Teachers, first responders, and grocery and restaurant workers were among those recommended Wednesday to get the next round of scarce vaccines in California, as were florists and sawmill operators who fall into the same broad category of those deemed essential workers.

"We've got to figure who we're going to prioritize," said Dr. Oliver Brooks, co-chairman of a 16-member panel of medical experts recommending who makes the potential life-and-death cut after the first round of about 3 million vaccines began going this week to health care workers and those in long-term care facilities.

They're divvying up the next round of about 8 million doses expected early next year, and settled on three broad sectors in no particular order:

— 1.4 million education and child care providers, a category that includes preschools, K-12, and higher education including trade schools.

— 1.1 million emergency services providers, including not only police and firefighters but those who provide child and youth services, shelters, social services for the elderly and those with disabilities, the criminal justice system, and businesses that provide goods used by the safety workers.

— 3.4 million food and agriculture workers, from farm to table including those working in food and drinking establishments as well as farmworkers and grocers, bakers and butchers. Plant nurseries, florists and sawmills all fall into that category, as do community food services and pharmacies.

The nearly 6 million in those sectors make up about half of all those deemed essential workers in California — and that roughly 12 million makes up nearly two-thirds of the state's entire workforce.

"Two-thirds of us are essential. That's nice to know," said Brooks, who is immediate past president of the National Medical Association and heads the Watts Health Care Corporation.

In picking which groups go first, the panel prioritized what they termed the "societal impact" of the job; equity — making sure low-income workers and those working in vulnerable communities are included; the jobs' impact on the economy; and the risk of each occupations' exposure to the coronavirus, including workers' risk of death and risk of spreading the virus in the community.

Yet there won't be enough vaccine to protect even that narrower group of educators, first responders and food providers until next spring. Officials expect 2 million doses by year's end, 4 million by the end of January and more than 20 million by the end of April.

So the experts are trying to further decide who goes first within those categories.

"We'll be grappling with trying to determine criteria that can be used practically and efficiently to sort between worthy recipients of scarce vaccine, whether that's using age or medical condition or other factors to ... let the highest-risk priority go first," said Dr. Robert Schechter, co-chairman of the expert panel and chief of the California Department of Public Health's Immunizations Branch.

The panel and a broader committee of 60 community organizations' representatives were lobbied by dozens of professions that want their members included in the next round of vaccines, including ride-hailing drivers and news reporters.

Of 142 written public comments to the committees, 131 were from groups hoping to be near the front of the line to get the first vaccines after health care workers.

Among them were the state's chief justice seeking protections for court workers, public defenders wanting vaccines for themselves and their jailed clients, multiple groups representing the elderly, cemetery workers, public transit workers, nonemergency health care workers like dentists and podiatrists, NASA employees, dock workers, Amazon employees, solid waste workers, cleaning services, retailers, pharmacists and power grid workers.

By contrast, three people, each over age 78, wrote what the committee described as passionate letters urging that essential workers get the vaccines before them.

The discussion comes as the virus surges across California, straining the state's health care system. State health officials on Wednesday reported 53,711 new coronavirus cases and 293 additional deaths, setting new records. The public meeting took place as other states are holding closed discussions about vaccine allocation and receiving criticism.

The massive surge led committee members to warn against allowing even the perception that some Californians can unfairly push to the front of the line, a process complicated by the difficulty in proving who belongs to which group.

"There's a social solidarity here that we all say, 'Yes, the health care workers go first,'" said Anthony Wright, executive director of the consumer advocacy group Health Access. "But once people think that other people are sort of cutting the line, that dissolves the social compact that we're all in, and I'm really scared about that."

Many eligible workers will get their vaccines at their work sites or through appointments with providers at which their employment can be verified.

But "there may be many settings that need to rely on the honor system rather than more sophisticated validation," Schechter acknowledged.

Mitch Steiger, legislative advocate of the California Labor Federation, urged strict uniformity across California instead of allowing counties to make their own potentially conflicting decisions that could set up disparities within broad state and federal distribution guidelines.

"We also need to figure out what we do when angry people who can't get the vaccine show up and you've got a pharmacy tech who ... has to deal with someone screaming at them, really angry that this lifesaving care isn't going to be offered to them," he said.

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 248 CALLS ON DECEMBER 16

Loud Music 500blk California Ave 12:15 a.m.
Loud Music 2300blk 20th St 12:57 a.m.
Battery 1700blk Broadway 1:37 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1800blk Euclid St 1:54 a.m.
Encampment 1800blk Main St 5:22 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1900blk 22nd St 5:41 a.m.
Encampment 1600blk The Beach 6:22 a.m.
Burglary Report 1900blk Lincoln Blvd 6:30 a.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 400blk Hollister Ave 6:31 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1500blk 11th St 8:28 a.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 900blk 18th St 8:39 a.m.
Violation Of Temporary No Parking Signs 800blk 4th St 8:54 a.m.
Encampment 1700blk 16th St 9:12 a.m.
Panic Alarm 800blk 21st St 9:26 a.m.
Violation Of Temporary No Parking Signs 800blk 4th St 9:30 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1500blk 4th St 9:35 a.m.
Battery 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:35 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 2200blk Cloverfield Blvd 9:43 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1400blk 7th St 9:49 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 100blk California Ave 9:49 a.m.
Traffic Control Request - Level 1 6th St / Santa Monica Blvd 9:58 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1000blk Yale St 10:17 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 500blk Olympic Blvd W 10:38 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 1700blk Wellesley Dr 11:25 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2400blk Oak St 11:31 a.m.
Loud Music 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 11:34 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1000blk 10th St 11:38 a.m.
General Parking Problem 300blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:40 a.m.
Red Zone Violation 1500blk Ocean Ave 11:40 a.m.
Missing Person 300blk Olympic Dr 11:46 a.m.
Battery 1100blk Pico Blvd 12:04 p.m.
Violation Of Temporary No Parking Signs 1100blk 7th St 12:05 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 800blk Washington Ave 12:25 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 900blk 16th St 12:33 p.m.
Encampment 2300blk The Beach 12:33 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1600blk Washington Ave 12:42 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 2800blk Pearl St 12:56 p.m.
Fraud Report 600blk 21st Pl 1:19 p.m.
General Parking Problem 900blk 5th St 1:24 p.m.
Petty Theft 1800blk 17th St 1:38 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1700blk 10th St 1:46 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 400blk Broadway 1:47 p.m.
Found Property 1700blk Montana Ave 1:53 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1300blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:56 p.m.
Burglary Report 500blk Broadway 2:04 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 900blk 3rd St 2:13 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1600blk Arizona Ave 2:38 p.m.
Red Zone Violation 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:46 p.m.
Traffic Collision With Injuries Euclid St / Montana Ave 2:48 p.m.
Report Of Shots Fired 5th St / Colorado Ave 2:58 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1500blk Ocean Front Walk 3:00 p.m.
Illegal Weapon Ocean Ave / California Ave 3:15 p.m.
Sexual Assault 26th St / Colorado Ave 3:26 p.m.
Person Down 2500blk Colorado Ave 3:33 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 300blk Montana Ave 3:55 p.m.
Battery 2nd St / Colorado Ave 4:24 p.m.
Fraud Report 1200blk 5th St 4:38 p.m.
Battery 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 4:40 p.m.
Loud Music 1700blk Ocean Front Walk 4:50 p.m.
Fraud Report 2100blk Colorado Ave 4:58 p.m.
Found Property 300blk Olympic Dr 5:00 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 00blk Seaview Ter 5:09 p.m.
Battery Now 1400blk Santa Monica Blvd 5:26 p.m.
Battery 14th St / Santa Monica Blvd 5:27 p.m.
Encampment 1200blk Palisades Beach Rd 5:34 p.m.
Out Of Order Traffic Signals Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 6:12 p.m.
Person With A Gun 6th St / Broadway 6:54 p.m.
Petty Theft 400blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:16 p.m.
Battery Report 1300blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:19 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 900blk 5th St 7:31 p.m.
Person With A Gun 900blk Ocean Front Walk 7:46 p.m.
Battery 1100blk Pico Blvd 8:03 p.m.
Fight Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 8:31 p.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries Centinela Ave / Interstate 10 9:10 p.m.
Loud Music 2000blk Ocean Ave 9:14 p.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 2500blk 6th St 9:14 p.m.
Party Complaint 500blk Wilshire Blvd 9:22 p.m.
Public Intoxication 1900blk Main St 10:00 p.m.
Party Complaint 1200blk Ocean Park Blvd 10:29 p.m.
Assault W/Deadly Weapon Report 2100blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:39 p.m.
Missing Person 300blk Santa Monica Pier 10:59 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1500blk Maple St 11:06 p.m.

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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: #280 TANSIT RIDERSHIP SOFTWARE FOR NTD REPORTING

- **Submission Deadline is January 26, 2021 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL.** The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm. There is no charge for the RFP package.

City of Santa Monica

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

NOTICE OF COMPLETION/AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE 1242 20TH STREET WELLNESS CENTER PROJECT DECEMBER 17, 2020

OFFICIAL NOTICE is hereby given of the completion and availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for the proposed 1242 20th Street Wellness Center Project located in the City of Santa Monica (City). The Draft EIR (State Clearinghouse No. 2018011001) has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

PROJECT LOCATION: The project site is located in Mid-City, north of Santa Monica Boulevard within the City's Healthcare Mixed Use (HMU) District. The approximately 45,009 sf (1.03 acre) project site includes two parcels addressed as 1925 Arizona Avenue and 1242 20th Street. The Assessor Parcel Numbers (APN) associated with these two parcels are 4276-013-033 and 4276-013-032, respectively. Specifically, the project site is bordered by 20th Street on the east, Arizona Avenue to the south, the 19th Court alley to the west, and the Lighthouse Church and School to the north. Pursuant to Section 15087(c)(6) of the CEQA Guidelines, the project site is not on any of the lists enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed 1242 20th Street Wellness Center Project (proposed project) would involve the development of approximately 72,812 square feet (sf) of medical research and development (R&D) and clinical/medical office space within a "Wellness Center" located at 1925 Arizona Avenue and 1242 20th Street in the City of Santa Monica. The proposed project would include the construction of a new 3-story building adjacent to an existing historic Tudor-style building, which would be partially preserved in its current condition, and partially renovated/adaptively reused as part of the Wellness Center. The proposed on-site parking garage would consist of five subterranean parking levels and would provide approximately 275 vehicular parking spaces.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ANALYZED: The Draft EIR analyzed potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project, including Aesthetics, Air Quality, Construction Effects, Cultural Resources, Geology/Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Land Use and Planning, Noise, Transportation, Tribal Cultural Resources, Utilities and Service Systems, and Energy. No significant and unavoidable impacts were found.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: In recognition of the COVID-19 pandemic, an extended 60-day public review period will be provided for all interested persons to submit comments on the adequacy of the Draft EIR, which exceeds the 45 days required by CEQA. **The comment period will start on December 17, 2020 and end at 5:30 p.m. on February 18, 2021.** Written comments should be sent to:

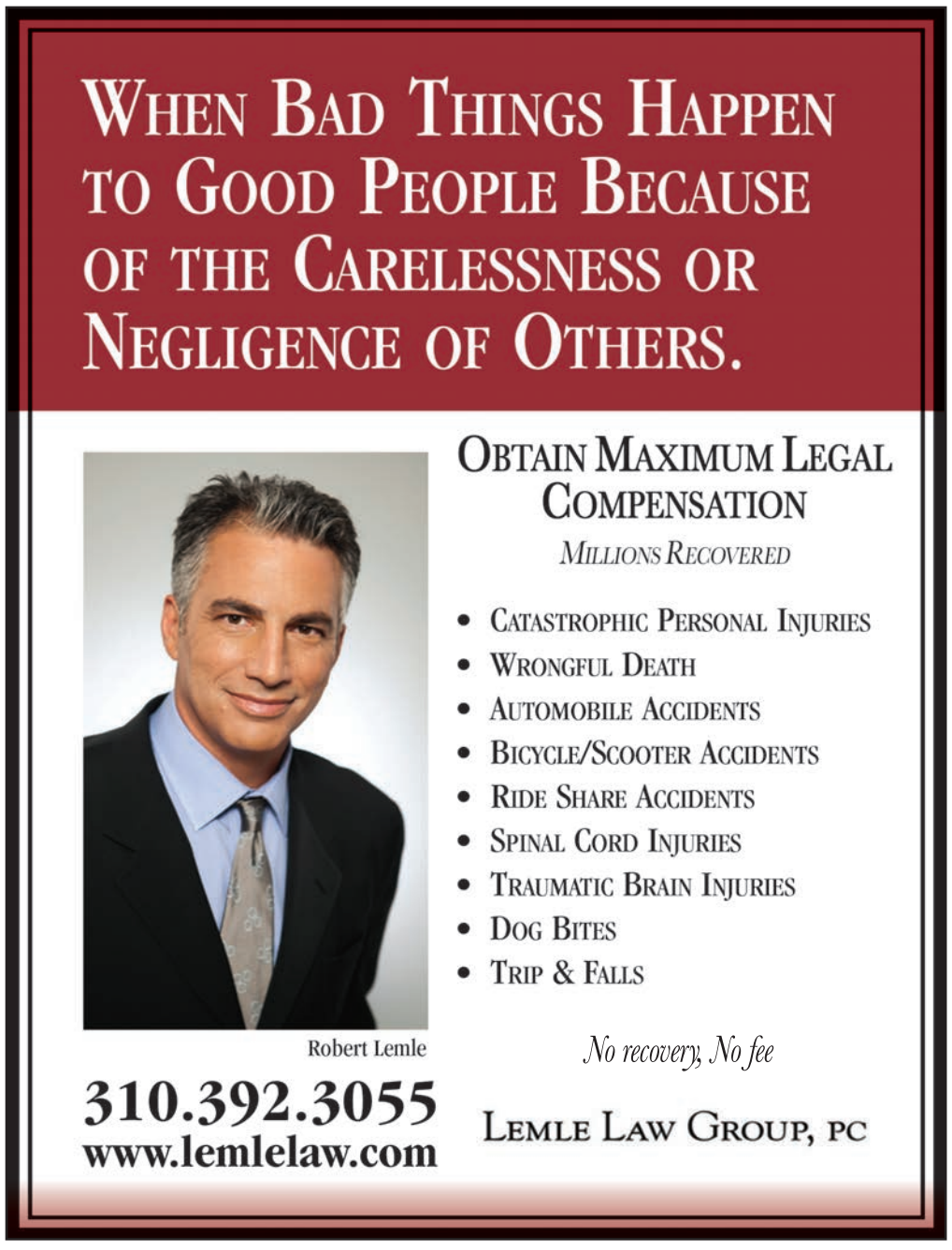
Rachel Kwok, Environmental Planner
City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Mail Stop 28
Santa Monica, CA 90401
Email: Rachel.kwok@smgov.net

AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION: To reduce the risk of COVID19, City Hall remains closed to the public. The Draft EIR and background materials may be viewed online:

https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Environmental-Reports/1242-20th-Street-Wellness-Center-Project/

ESPAÑOL: Esta es una advertencia de que la Ciudad ha preparado un informe que describe los posibles efectos ambientales de la construcción propuesta de un proyecto de centro de salud, que puede ser de su interés. Para más información, llame a Carmen Gutiérrez al 310 458 8341.





COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Santa Claus is Safely Coming to Town!

The Santa Monica Police Officers Association and Santa Monica Firefighters Local 1109 are partnering to bring Santa Monicans some much needed holiday cheer. For the last 25 years, public safety officials in Santa Monica have brought Santa to area parks as part of the annual Candy Cane Drive, this year some creativity was required to bring Santa and his helpers to locals.

This Saturday, December 19, Santa and his helpers will move from neighborhood to neighborhood so residents can come out, wave a socially distant hello and snap some photos while adhering to all public health guidelines including mask wearing and remaining physically distant from those not in their households.

"This year has been hard on all of us and I think we all take comfort in our traditions, we wanted to give folks a chance to safely indulge in the spirit of the holiday season. The Candy Cane Drive always brings a smile to faces young and old," said Santa Monica Police Lieutenant Rudy Flores

This year Santa can be tracked at, https://bit.ly/SAMOSanta so people can avoid gathering or waiting for Santa's arrival, an approximate schedule of the procession's timing is below:

10 - 10:30 a.m.
Start on 23rd and Navy
North on 23rd - West on Ashland - South on 17th – West on Marine
North on 16th- West on Hill Street - South on 14th - West on Ashland - South on 11th - West on Marine West on Navy - Continue West across Lincoln - North on 7th

10:20 - 10:50 a.m.
West on Marine. - North on Main
East on Pico - South on 4th - East on Ocean Park- North on 6th
West on Hollister- South on 5th- East on Ocean Park
North on 11th- East on Pearl- North on 28th- East on Exposition
South on Warwick - West on Delaware - South on Stewart
West on Kansas- North on Cloverfield - West on Virginia- North on 20th - West on Delaware
North on 17th - West on Michigan- North on 11th
West on Broadway- North on Ocean Ave - East on Santa Monica Blvd
North on 5th - West on Wilshire

10:40 - 11:10 a.m.
North on Ocean - East on Montana - South on 4th. - East on California
North on Lincoln - East on Alta - South on 9th
East on Montana Ave - South on 17th
East on Washington- South on Chelsea- East on California

11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
South on 25th, West on Wilshire - North on Chelsea. - West on California- North on 20th
North on 20th. -West on Alta
North on Ocean- East on Marguerita
South on 26th - East on Washington
South on Stanford - East on Lipton - South on Centinela
West on Wilshire -South on 14th - East on Ocean Park
Return to North Pole
Overview map of Santa's Route: https://bit.ly/SMSantaRoute

SUBMITTED BY ROB SCHWENKER

SANTA MONICA

SMC Speech & Debate Team Wraps up Successful Fall Season

The Santa Monica College (SMC) student Speech and Debate Team has wrapped up a successful fall season, having competed in four online tournaments during the Fall 2020 semester. Due to COVID-19, the team's participation was limited to virtual platforms where they still excelled.

Here is a quick look at the Fall 2020 season in numbers, the team's wins and other accomplishments:

· Participated in four online tournaments: The Warm Up held Oct. 3, hosted by the Pacific Southwest Collegiate Forensics Association (PSCFA); Crossman Invitational held Oct. 18, hosted by El Camino College; October Surprise, held Oct. 25 at Mt. San Antonio College; and Fall Champs on Dec. 5-6, hosted by PSCFA (Forty-two colleges and universities competed at the PSCFA Fall Champs from across the nation including CSU Northridge, UC Berkeley, and University of Utah).

· Twelve SMC students competed in these four tournaments, in a total of 102 different debate rounds.

· Eleven awards won by seven individual debaters: Arman Hedayat won Gold in IPDA debate at three tournaments: the Warm Up, the Crossman Invitational, and Fall Champs. Team Captains Dexter Cypress and Ariyana Tavakoli won Silver in team NPDA debate at the October Surprise, and also won Gold in NPDA debate at Fall Champs. Jules Shinbrot won Silver in IPDA debate at Fall Champs. Thomas Rhalter won Bronze in IPDA debate at the Crossman Invitational. Nate Alpern won Bronze in IPDA debate at the October Surprise. And Carter Francis won Bronze in IPDA debate at Fall Champs.

SEE **BRIEFS** PAGE 7

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

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AWARD WINNER
AWARD WINNER
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States grapple with next steps on evictions as crisis grows

SARA CLINE
Associated Press/Report for America

Ryan Bowser looked somber as he sat in his cramped Oregon apartment, worried whether he, his pregnant girlfriend and her 10-year-old daughter would have a roof over their heads in the new year. It may well depend on state lawmakers.

The family is three months behind on the $1,165 in rent they pay for their two-bedroom unit in the college town of Corvallis. Bowser, a custodian at Oregon State University, took eight weeks off because he was sick and couldn't afford child care.

They're among thousands hoping Oregon extends an eviction moratorium until July 1 in a special legislative session next week. The proposal also would create a $200 million fund mainly to compensate landlords. If passed, it would go further than a one-month extension of a federal eviction moratorium expected in a coronavirus relief package nearing consensus in Congress.

"We are forced to make decisions between which bills to pay — rent, car or groceries," said Bowser, adding that they may have to sleep in their car, stay on friends' couches or move to another state to crash with distant relatives. "We don't know if we will have a home next year."

The plight of Bowser and other renters on the edge foreshadows a national crisis that's expected to grow next year, with states and cities that granted renters a reprieve amid the coronavirus-battered economy now wrestling with what comes next. While states like Oregon and California are trying to pass much longer moratoriums, some don't have more protections in the works.

"This has the potential of being the biggest housing crisis of our lifetime," said David Dworkin, president and CEO of the National Housing Conference, a nonprofit dedicated to affordable housing for all Americans.

About one-third of U.S. households say they're behind on rent or mortgage payments and likely to face eviction or foreclosure in the next two months, according to data collected by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Eyes are on congressional leaders who are closing in on a massive COVID-19 relief package, including an extension of the federal eviction moratorium until February and $25 billion in rental assistance as well as a new round of stimulus checks, bonus unemployment benefits and many other efforts to deliver aid.

Eviction moratoriums instituted by 44 states beginning in March have mostly expired. In response, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued the federal moratorium in September that broadly prevents evictions through the end of 2020. The nationwide directive was seen as the best hope to prevent more than 23 million renters from being displaced.

Now, some states want to extend eviction bans further than the federal government. Lawmakers in heavily Democratic California are proposing their moratorium last until 2022, as long as renters pay at least 25% of their rent and attest to financial hardship.

And a six-month extension is the top issue for the Democratic-led Oregon Legislature in a special session Monday. Its one of 15 states where eviction moratoriums are now in place through year's end, according to the Eviction Lab at Princeton University.

"The consequences of not acting before the expiration of the eviction moratorium would be catastrophic," said Rep. Julie Fahey, a Democrat from the city of Eugene who helped write the proposal.

A main sticking point is that for landlords to receive back rent through a proposed compensation fund, they must forgo 20% of past-due payments. A Republican leader called it "dramatically unfair."

"It's not right to tell (landlords) that they have to pay to get support when the government is the one who asked them to share this responsibility and bear this burden to keep renters housed, which they have done that," said Rep. Christine Drazan, leader of the House Republican Caucus.

Democratic Senate President Peter Courtney said there will be "some concerns, but I am convinced that we will pass something."

While moratoriums have helped people stay in their homes during the pandemic, experts warn that extending them isn't a long-term solution.

"This is just kicking the can down the road, because it doesn't actually pay the rent," Dworkin said. "If a tenant cannot afford to pay three months of rent or one month of rent, then they are not going to be able to pay nine or 12 months of rent — and they are eventually going to get evicted unless we pay their rent."

He suggests states fund efforts that cover both rent and back payments for landlords. Through October, the National Low Income Housing Coalition estimated states and cities have set aside over $4 billion for rental assistance — far less than what they say is needed.

Like Oregon, Hawaii, Nebraska and New Jersey are among those offering payments to landlords for missed rent.

But with states' tax revenue shrinking during the pandemic and recession, expensive efforts to combat the eviction crisis are further straining resources.

"States are under severe stress themselves financially," Dworkin said. "In many ways, the states are being put in the situation of robbing Peter to pay Paul."

Bowser said delays by lawmakers, locally and nationally, have crippled his family.

"All (lawmakers) have to do right now in this situation is the bare minimum to keep people in their homes," Bowser said.

He and his girlfriend, Taylor Wood, have closely followed updates on possible extensions to state and federal moratoriums as they debate which bills to pay that month and which necessities to sacrifice. They're desperately developing a plan for what to do if they find an eviction notice tacked to their door in the new year.

"It's frustrating, and I know we are not the only people in this situation — there are thousands like us," Wood said. "I just keep thinking, 'Well, (lawmakers) won't just let us go homeless ... right?'"

Sarah Cline is a corps member for the Associated Press/Report for America Statehouse News Initiative. Report for America is a nonprofit national service program that places journalists in local newsrooms to report on undercovered issues.

Judge says strip club ruling also protects restaurants

ELLIOT SPAGAT AND JULIE WATSON
Associated Press

A California judge said Thursday that all restaurants in San Diego County can resume on-site dining with safety protocols, marking a major setback to the governor's stay-at-home order to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

San Diego Superior Court Judge Joel Wohlfeil said the ruling he issued Wednesday that protected two strip clubs from being forced to stop indoor activity also extended to the thousands of eateries in the county of 3 million people.

Hours after the ruling, San Diego County suspended enforcement of its restrictions barring indoor and outdoor dining and live entertainment. Officials then requested the hearing to get clarification from the judge about the scope of his ruling.

Wohlfeil said Thursday that his order was "straightforward" and goes beyond the two strip clubs, Cheetahs Gentlemen's Club and Pacers Showgirls International, that sued the county over an order in October to shut down.

"It is intended to encompass all restaurants

SEE **JUDGE** PAGE 7

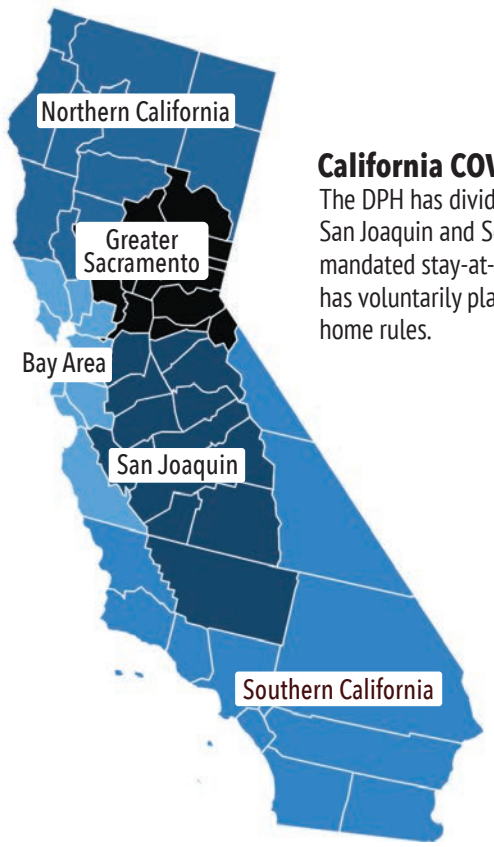
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Primer: Stay-at-home

On December 3, the California Department of Public Health issued a regional stay-at-home order in response to rapidly increasing COVID-19 infections Implementation of the order occurs when a region's ICU capacity drops below 15%. Southern California has been under the stay at home order since December 7.

Below is a map of the 5 regions, as well as a color coded list of activities that are allowed, allowed with restrictions or prohibited.



California COVID-19 Stay-at-home regions
The DPH has divided the state into 5 regions. San Joaquin and Southern California are under mandated stay-at-home orders. The Bay Area has voluntarily placed itself under stay-at-home rules.

Activities Impacted by Stay-at-home order

KEY: Open / Limited / Closed	
Open	Child care/pre-K, subject to local rules
Limited	Gyms & fitness centers, outdoor services only
Closed	Hair salons and barbershops
Limited	Hotels, only to house critical infrastructure workers
Closed	Indoor recreational facilities
Closed	Indoor use of libraries
Closed	Movie theaters, family entertainment centers and casinos
Closed	Museums, zoos & aquariums
Open	Non-urgent medical and dental care, subject to local rules
Limited	Restaurants, breweries and wineries, take/delivery only, no onsite dining
Limited	Parks (except some amenities)
Closed	Personal care services
Limited	Places of worship, outdoor services only
Open	Playgrounds (reopened Dec 11)
Limited	Retail stores & shopping centers, open but limited to 20% capacity

Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Hanukkah In Santa Monica



Courtesy photo

HOLIDAYS: Best wishes to all.

Tonight is the last night of Hanukkah. Since I missed writing about the first of the eight-night holiday, the least I can do is to wish everyone a Happy Hanukkah on the last. Ironically, when I was growing up, despite my mother being on our Temple's Board of Directors for over 50 years, our family didn't celebrate Hanukkah until I was ten which I'll explain shortly.

However, for three years (ugh) I dutifully went to Hebrew School and not only did I have a Bar Mitzvah, it was on TV! Live for one hour on Sunday, KTLA replaced the long-running "Christ Hour of Power" with yours truly. Instead of viewers taking comfort in the words of their Lord Jesus, assuming they didn't switch the channel when they saw me, an extremely nervous, high-pitched 13-year old not yet 5 feet tall, proclaiming, "Today I am a man."

But when my family showed up at the studio at 7 am, we were informed there were "minor changes" in my speech. Concerned, my father asked why. I couldn't make this up as the producer said of my speech, "It's a little too Jewish." (The program went off without a hitch other than when my Uncle Benny, who was carrying the Torah to me, froze, mesmerized by seeing his image on the monitor.)

As for why our family didn't celebrate Hanukkah, it was because my father owned a men's clothing store and the Christmas season accounted for a huge part of his annual income. During December he worked long hours and was under considerable strain. My mother, my older sister and I helped out at the store, which my father kept pristine.

My sister was a whiz at the cash register, my mother waited on customers and did the bookkeeping and I swept the sidewalk and wiped the cabinets. At noon, I also walked to the popular Jewish deli in this African-American neighborhood, to bring back lunch for everyone.)

The Christmas season was such a part of our consciousness that we even had a Christmas tree, much to the dismay of some of my Conservative and Orthodox Jewish friends. We belonged to Temple Isaiah on Pico, a Reform temple. (Which makes me think of Woody Allen's joke about the Reform Jew who "was very reformed. He'd been a Nazi.")

On Christmas Eve we had a family tradition that when my understandably weary dad came home after work we greeted him appreciatively and celebrated with a light dinner. On Christmas morning, rested and remarkably refreshed, my father made a giant pancake and sausage breakfast and then we opened the presents. (Praising my late father, I'm reminded of Mark Twain who wrote, "When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished by how much he'd learned in seven years.")

At Crescent Heights Elementary school, where most of the kids were Jewish, we nonetheless celebrated Christmas with no such Hanukkah festivities. I'm not complaining because in the auditorium every year we were treated to wonderful Christmas songs sung by perhaps our most beloved school employee. Mr. Finus was our janitor, an older African-American gentleman with a magnificent and soulful voice. I can still remember his mesmerizing rendition of "Silent Night."

Then one year my mother brought out our seemingly antique menorah and led my sister and me in the prayers while lighting the Hanukkah candles. I loved the heroic story of Judah Maccabee defending his country against the Syrian Greeks and I also liked that we got a small present each night. (These days all 8 presents might be bought at the 99 cent store.)

Strictly from a marketing standpoint, Hanukkah can't hold a candle to Christmas. (Pun intended) First, there are 16 different spellings, the two in English being Hanukkah and Chanukah. Also, while Christmas is on December 25, Hanukkah, can be different dates each year on the Jewish calendar which this year is 5781. (No offense, but who can remember?)

Christmas features: Santa and Mrs. Claus; the North Pole; flying reindeer including Rudolph with a red nose, pulling a sleigh in the sky; Christmas trees; mistletoe where it's okay to sneak kisses; and heartwarming Christmas songs. (Many written by Jews!) Other than Adam Sandler's classic "Hanukkah Song" and the rap "Hanukkah Homeboy" the standard is the "Dreidel Song"which goes, "I have a little dreidel I made it out of clay/And when it's dry and ready/Then dreidel I shall play!" Cute, but definitely no match for Bing Crosby's 1942 classic "White Christmas."

With Christmas in one week, may it be merry and safe. So, with one last spin of the dreidel, I say goodbye to Hanukkah with a heartfelt shalom aleichem to all!

Mazel Tov to Aleah Hurwitz, Geffen Academy at UCLA senior who received the best Hanukkah gift getting accepted to Wesleyan University in Connecticut. She'll be rowing on the Connecticut River for Wesleyan under the direction of Coach Patrick Tynan. Jack who isn't rowing or going anywhere is at: jackdailypress@aol.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS
FROM PAGE 4

· Beyond winning awards and competing this fall, many SMC students (not just Debate Team members) also gave back and helped nurture the next crop of college debaters: 35 students performed 156 hours of service volunteering to help judge at local online high school tournaments including the Los Angeles Metropolitan Debate League (LAMDL) Season Opener as well as two subsequent LAMDL tournaments; the National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) Screaming Eagles, the NSDA Fall Varsity Debate, and the NSDA Fall Varsity Speech.

Some of the topics debated by SMC students included "California should allow all K-12 schools to re-open," "The United States should reform the Supreme Court," "Human Rights courses should be mandatory in K-12 education," "The USFG should adopt Senate Bill 66 (assault weapons ban)," and more.

SMC Communication and Media Studies Professor Nate Brown, who coaches the team said that the online format was "interesting, and ultimately, very successful and satisfying." "Great debaters continued to do well. New debaters continued to get good experience and helpful feedback. And the students on the Debate Team continued to socialize and form strong friendships," Brown added.

Team captain Dexter Cypress said that being on the Debate Team has been "the best decision I could have made. Nothing else has given me the sense of community and friendship - and the fact that this was able to continue with the same force into distance learning is something I am grateful for every day. . . having received Gold with my partner at Fall Champs two years in a row is something I am extremely proud of."

Cypress added that debate "really is the thing that has gotten me through the pandemic, and I am very excited to finish my last semester with SMC strong."

Nate Alpern added that "debating has given me insight on what it means to work under stress. I train to reduce my flaws and improve my speaking skills, and hopefully, I can engage in public speaking better and use these advantages beyond our debate team and be a better speaker in general."

The Associated Students of Santa Monica College sponsored the SMC Speech and Debate Team's presence at all four of these tournaments.

Santa Monica College is a California Community College accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH

BEER
FROM PAGE 1

restaurant closures rattled keg orders. Creativity has been key to their survival.

"This year has challenged small companies like ours to dig deep and get scrappy. We know from first-hand experience how difficult it's been to stay afloat," said Johnny Wardell, SMBW marketing director. "It's our belief that local businesses shape the character of a city; that's why we're proud of our limited release series celebrating iconic neighborhood establishments."

The latest IPAs incorporate fresh baguettes from Bay Cities Deli, giving the beer a slightly toasty flavor. The artwork features Bay Cities' wax paper sandwich wrapper dressed up in festive green and red.

The "Godmother" IPA pays tribute to Bay Cities' iconic top-selling sandwich that draws droves of meat lovers to the deli. It's a hazy IPA with 7.5% ABV, which is SMBW's most awarded beer style. "The Works" is a West Coast-style IPA stacked with a juicy blend of Simcoe, Hallertau Blanc, Nelson Sauvin, and Mosaic hops.

Bay Cities subs are known for their exceptional handmade bread, so in order to give these beers an authentic Bay Cities constitution, brewers added loaves right into the mash.

"Mashing happens at the beginning of the brewing process, where crushed grains—and in this case, fresh bread—are mixed with water to form a porridge-like mixture," said Drew Pomatti, SMBW Head Brewer. "This "mash" is then transformed into sugars and proteins creating a sweet fermentable liquid called wort. Over time, yeast consumes the sugars turning them into alcohol and carbon dioxide – once that process is complete, you've got fresh beer!"

Previous locally inspired beer releases include an IPA honoring LA's oldest operating skate shop Rip City Skates and a 310 Stomped Shandy made with fresh lemonade from Hot Dog on a Stick.

"As Santa Monica's first and only craft brewery we have a unique platform to literally raise a toast to our community," said Wardell. "Since April we've teamed up with UCLA Health to support frontline healthcare workers and we've helped nourish our homebound neighbors with Meals on Wheels West in tandem with local artists Corrie Mattie and Ruben Rojas of Beautify Earth."

As much as Santa Monica Brew Works contributes to the community, community members give back to the brewery, which is leaning heavily on to-go orders to stay afloat. With no signs of outdoor dining returning in the near future, this support is now more essential than ever.

"We are struggling along with all breweries in the Los Angeles area," said Francis. "The most recent closure is the hardest as we are still feeling the cumulative effect from the first two closures, and there is no government stimulus package in sight at the moment. Things feel to be more unknown this time around."

These uncertain times required innovation and fueled SMBW's creative collaborations. This works out well for Santa Monicans, most of whom could use a good drink right about now.

The Godmother" Hazy IPA and "The Works" West Coast-Style IPA can be purchased to-go from SMBW's Tasting Room (1920 Colorado Ave., Santa Monica, CA 90404). They are available for a limited time in 16 oz cans in combo 4-packs.

Clara@smdp.com

JUDGE
FROM PAGE 5

within the county of San Diego," he said in a brief hearing.

The judge's ruling against the state restrictions comes as California registered a record 379 coronavirus deaths and more than 52,000 new confirmed cases Thursday.

Citing the "record number of new infections, deaths and ICUs at capacity," county officials, nonetheless, urged people not to gather and to socially distance, wear face coverings and wash their hands.

Wohlfeil said in his ruling that it applies to "San Diego County businesses with restaurant services," including the strip clubs. The injunction exempts them from shutdowns and "any related orders" that bar live adult entertainment and go beyond protocols "that are no greater than essential" to controlling the spread of COVID-19.

The judge noted that before being ordered to close in October the clubs, Pacers Showgirls International and Cheetahs Gentlemen's Club, operated for five weeks during the pandemic under their own safety measures — including keeping strippers 15 feet from tables, allowing no more than one stripper per stage and requiring them and other employees to wear masks.

County supervisors had vowed to appeal if the judge extended his temporary Nov. 6 injunction exempting strip clubs.

Gov. Gavin Newsom's office said in a statement that it was disappointed in the court's decision, though "we remain steadfast in our commitment to protecting the health and safety of all Californians."

Three restaurant owners, including one who owns several establishments in San Diego, said they were planning to reopen by the weekend. They did not want to be named for fear of being targeted by officials.

Angie Weber, the owner of Cowboy Star and Butcher Shop in downtown San Diego, said she was waiting to see if officials appeal before calling her staff to return to work.

"For now we are very hopeful that the ruling will be upheld and we'll be able to reopen with all of the safety protocols that we had previously put in place," Weber said in an email Thursday.

Weber's business was among two San Diego restaurants and two gyms that sued on behalf of their industries, asking that California's four-tier system of pandemic restrictions be declared illegal. The judge in that case denied their request to resume indoor activity.

In a similar lawsuit in Los Angeles County, a judge found the health director acted "arbitrarily" and didn't prove that health benefits outweigh the negative economic effects before issuing a ban on indoor and outdoor dining. But then the state issued its order restricting restaurants to takeout and delivery services.

Steve Hoffman, an attorney for Cheetahs, said he was "very pleased" with Wednesday's ruling.

"Cheetahs and Pacers will continue to operate in a manner that takes all appropriate and essential measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 while at the same time providing a means for their staff to earn a livelihood," he wrote in an email.

The ruling came after Newsom's Dec. 3 stay-at-home order barred indoor and outdoor dining and prohibited social gatherings in response to a surge of coronavirus cases that has hammered hospitals across the state.

The judge's ruling followed a spirited argument about whether the shutdown violates the 1st Amendment, which protects naked dancing as free expression.

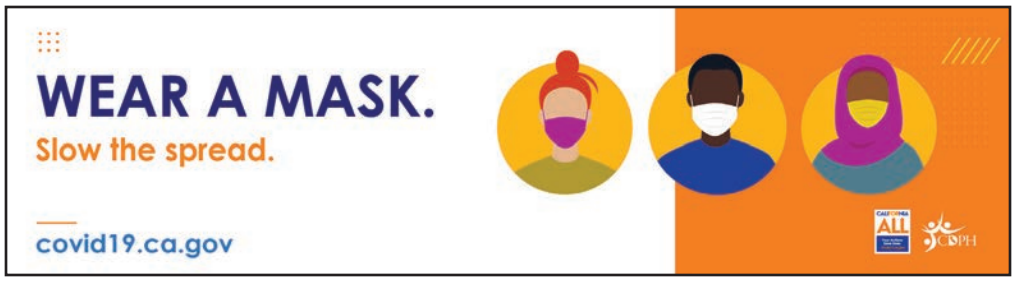
"What's going to happen next when there is some greater emergency? Are we all going to be under house arrest? Are we going to even have a Constitution?" said lawyer Jason Saccuzzo, who represents Pacers.

Patty Li, an attorney for the state, highlighted the extreme scarcity of intensive-care unit beds and growing waits in hospital emergency rooms to justify what she emphasized were temporary measures.

"It really is about the entire community, the entire state," Li said. "This is the most serious moment of this pandemic in the state, in the nation so far."

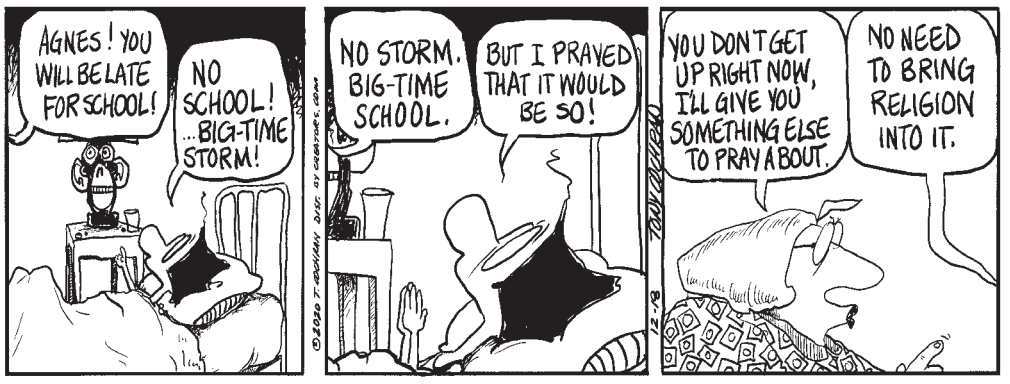
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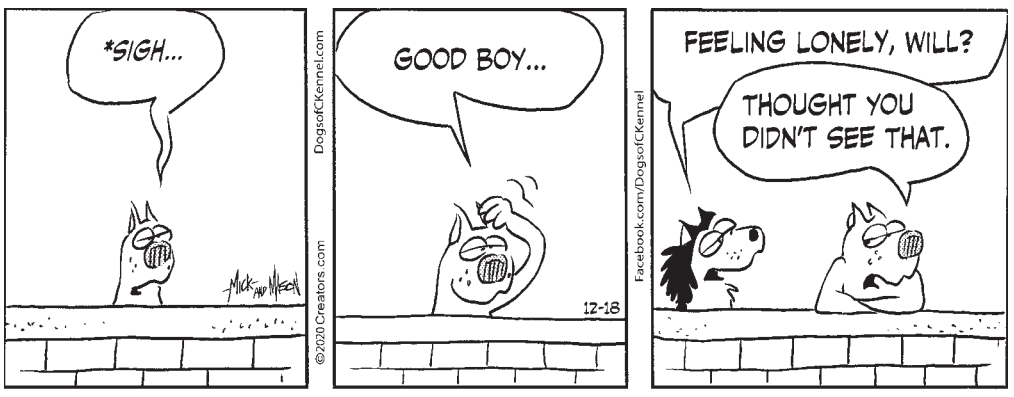
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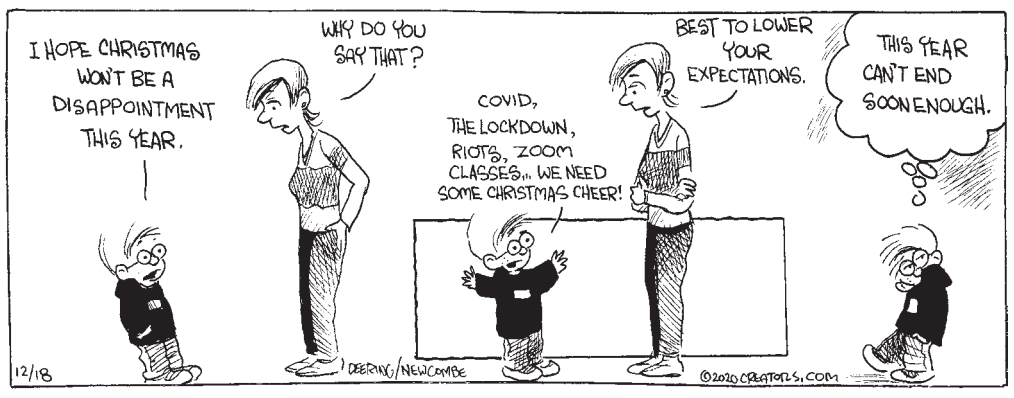
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By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



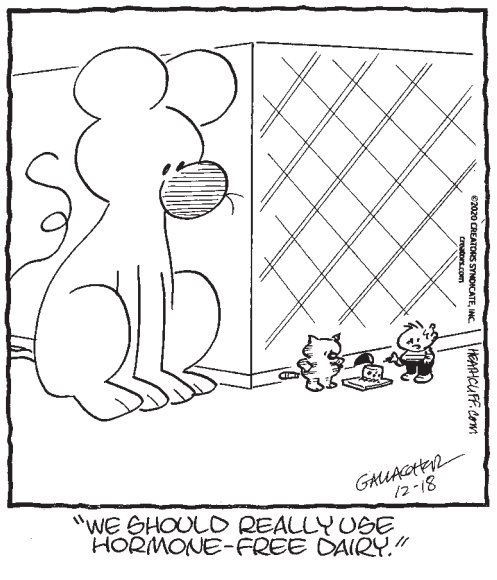
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 57.7°

FRIDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ Waist to stomach high
AM offshores and some peaks. WNW swell-mix eases but there will be some added NW windswell mixing in from the blow-through of NW wind Thursday.

SATURDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft Thigh to waist high
Small WNW swell-mix for exposures, mainly west of Pt. Dume.

WEATHER

Friday: Sunny, with a high near 66.
Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 48. North wind 10 to 15 mph.
Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 67.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2020/12/18	Fri	12:36 AM	3.82	H
2020/12/18	Fri	04:59 AM	2.62	L
2020/12/18	Fri	11:06 AM	5.55	H
2020/12/18	Fri	6:35 PM	-0.48	L
2020/12/19	Sat	01:38 AM	3.84	H
2020/12/19	Sat	06:04 AM	2.81	L
2020/12/19	Sat	11:58 AM	4.87	H
2020/12/19	Sat	7:27 PM	0.03	L
2020/12/20	Sun	02:42 AM	3.95	H
2020/12/20	Sun	07:32 AM	2.89	L
2020/12/20	Sun	1:01 PM	4.19	H
2020/12/20	Sun	8:22 PM	0.51	L
2020/12/21	Mon	03:39 AM	4.15	H
2020/12/21	Mon	09:30 AM	2.67	L
2020/12/21	Mon	2:26 PM	3.62	H
2020/12/21	Mon	9:18 PM	0.93	L
2020/12/22	Tue	04:25 AM	4.40	H
2020/12/22	Tue	10:57 AM	2.16	L
2020/12/22	Tue	4:01 PM	3.28	H
2020/12/22	Tue	10:09 PM	1.29	L
2020/12/23	Wed	05:03 AM	4.67	H

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERball
Draw Date:12/16
4 23 37 61 67
Power#: 7
Jackpot: 304 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/15
1 10 18 20 46
Mega#: 15
Jackpot: 310 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 12/16
4 6 11 12 17
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: 16 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/16
1 11 16 19 38

Daily 3
Draw Date: 12/16
Evening: 1 9 2
Draw Date: 12/16
Midday: 0 2 2

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 12/16
1st: 03 - HOT SHOT
2nd: 01 - GOLD RUSH
3rd: 12 - LUCKY CHARMS
RACE TIME: 1:49.25

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (DECEMBER 18)

You make decisions to support long-term relationships, finances and health. The action required may not be as convenient or fun as some options, and yet your choice will still be intensely satisfying. This is a pleasurable journey to a prosperous future. In May, you'll be paid-off and use the money for a new venture. Virgo and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 1, 4, 7, 11 and 20.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You call yourself "easy-going" because you're pretty accepting of situations and people. Although, when it comes down to it, you're not so easily won. It takes a special combination to light you up, which happens today.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If life's a journey, then follow the rules of a savvy traveler; don't overpack. If you bring half as much as you want to, you'll be unencumbered. Rule two: Take twice as much money as you think you'll need.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). If you have a choice, it's better to copy someone who is already doing the work than to gather up theoretical knowledge. You could spend hours learning and still not have the practical experience necessary to do the job.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You've the sense that you're getting ready for something, though you may not be sure what. The vision is as faint as a drive-in movie played in the dead of noon. Don't you worry. Dusk comes soon enough.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). If the best you can say of a connection is that it's easy, then you've said a lot. Sometimes the best camaraderie is lighthearted, breezy and even somewhat insubstantial, as it gives you a break from the burdensome side of life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You have the urge to share what you know, and it's important that you do so. People will be better for it. Just don't expect a response. This is new information, will need to be repeated and will take time to soak in

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Charm may be your go-to, but it won't be your bread and butter. (Man does not live by bread alone.) Give extra attention to the tangible takeaway. What are you really offering?

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You successfully resist the urge to react to frustrating circumstances. Cool people keep their cool. Also, the calm allows your mind to move easily into problem-solving mode.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your attitude impresses others and makes your life a lot more pleasant. It boils down to this: No matter what you encounter, you turn it into something good.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). No matter how spectacularly enticing the deal is, it still isn't worth chasing after. If the other people involved get that your offering is valuable, they'll come after it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Much of your success hinges on sticking with the focus and topics that inspire, entertain, forward the action, engender trust and feel all-around wholesome and healthy.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Fear can topple you, or you can topple fear. When you think about all the things you do now that you couldn't do before, you realize just how effective you are when you face fear head-on.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

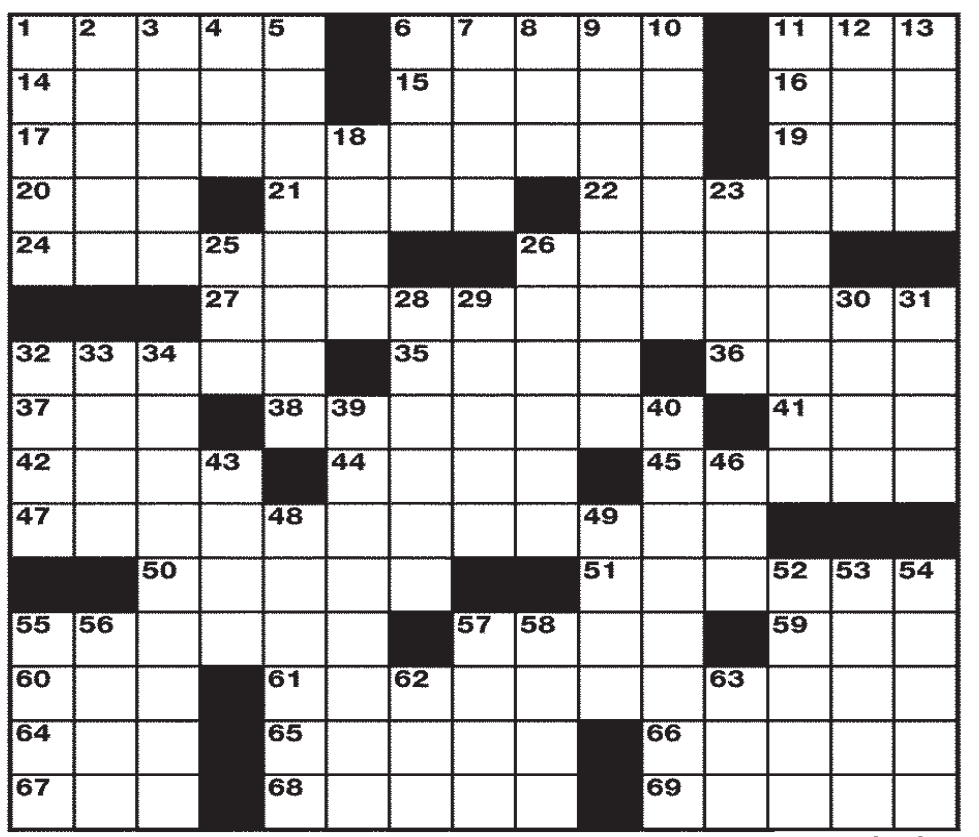
				5			3	4
				3		5		6
7	5		4		6		8	
1		7	3					
			8	7	1			
					2	6		1
	8		2		7		6	5
6		4		9				
5	7			8				

Newsday Crossword

BUILDING BLOCKS by Doug Peterson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 English Derby site
6 Loved ones
11 Cotillion honoree
14 Actress Tierney
15 On the highest shelf
16 Out of sorts
17 Dairy case item
19 Flightless bird
20 Approx. figure
21 Threat ender
22 Masthead word
24 Crave
26 Fall guy
27 Landscapers' machines
32 Domed home
35 Denny's rival
36 Gush
37 Low in a lea
38 Joan Rivers' daughter
41 Mermaid's milieu
42 Oaxaca water
44 Taft's alma mater
45 Patterned blanket
47 Word for something tangible
50 Raise a stink
51 Cereal morsel
55 Singer Easton
57 Corner space in Monopoly
59 Star pitcher
60 Photo
61 Twangy musical instrument
64 Letters between names
65 Brilliance
66 Seemingly forever
67 41 Across, in Arles
68 Endangered beast
69 Beyond breezy

DOWN
1 Fix firmly
2 Dissect, in a way
3 Befits
4 Tolkien creature
5 Scoot over, perhaps
6 Head slappers' cries
7 Summer Olympics event
8 Put away
9 Fruits of a flower
10 Hit the gas
11 Coca-Cola Zero alternative
12 *Sesame Street* regular
13 Become fuzzy
18 Royal role for Liz
23 Little rascals
25 __ Jima
26 Singled out
28 Widen
29 Easter Island's owner
30 Totter
31 Powerful blow
32 Apple for the teacher, maybe
33 Energetic
34 Luxury train feature
39 Pirate costume accessory
40 Diving apparatus
43 Farm parcel
46 Half of bi-
48 Kitchen helper
49 Not a dup.
52 Overfills
53 Defeatist's cry
54 Hardly hip
55 Unwanted email
56 Boost
57 French dramatist Racine
58 Choir part
62 44 Across student
63 Debt reminder



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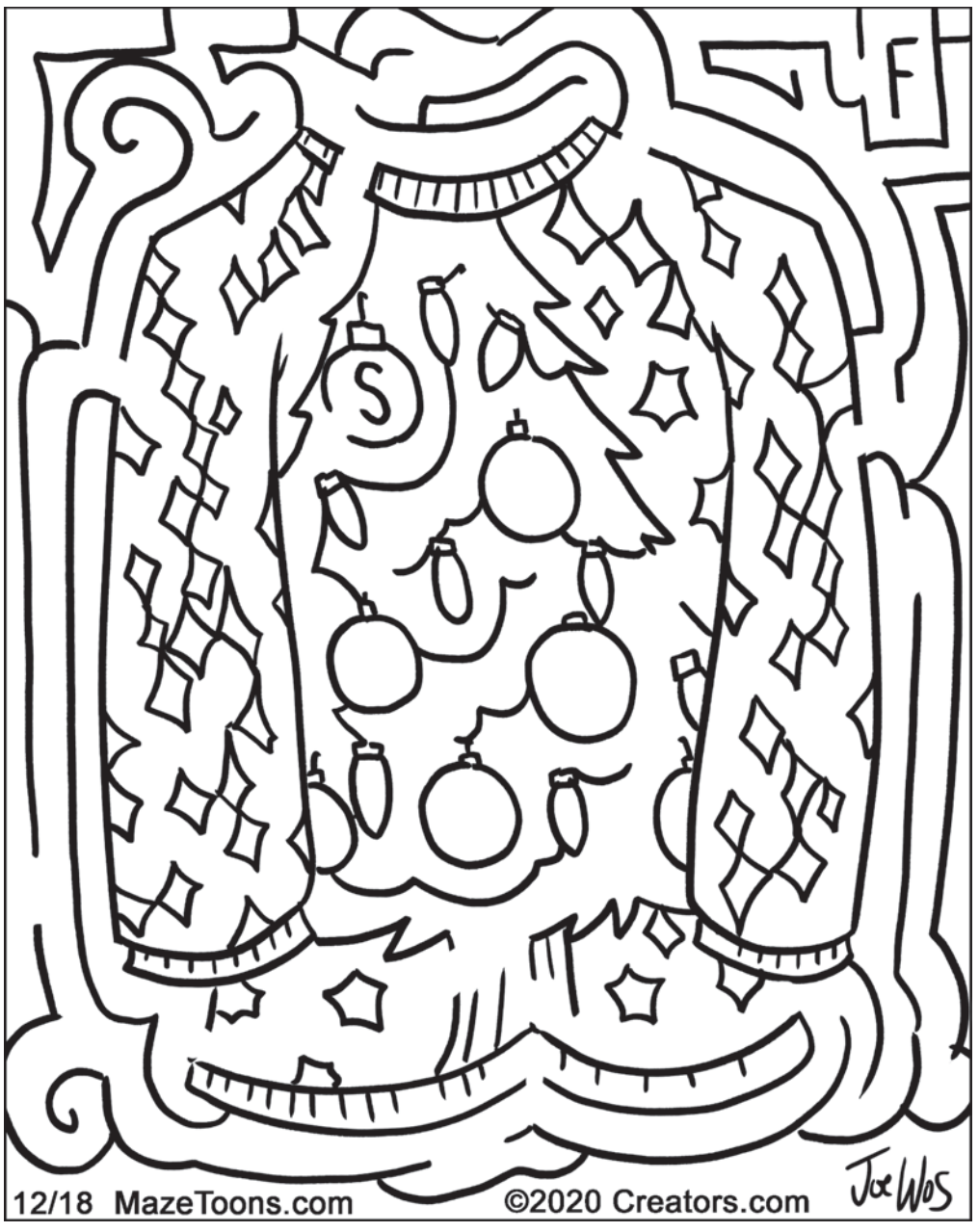
Binary Puzzle

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1
1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0
0	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1
1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1

0			0					1			
				0				0		1	
				0		1			0		0
								1			0
		0				0		1			
	0									0	
						0					0
			0	0						1	
1		0		0				0			
						0				1	1
	0		0				1				
	0			1				0	0		



"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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Santa Monica Daily Press

FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 4966

Transport industry

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

Accident
Axle
Bunk
Cabin
Cattle
Coal
Cows
Dalby
Damage
Depot
Dips
Dirt
Emergency
Ford
Fuel
Goods
Haul
Horses
Hubs
Idle
Loads
Loner
Mechanic
Night
North
Outback
Plates
Prangs
Produce
Quilpie
Race
Rigs
Rims
Roos
Rope
Semi
Stop
Tax
Tipper
Tray
Triple
Truck
Tyres
Weary
Western
Star

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Not just sandy beaches

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HOT SPOT

FROM PAGE 1

and the impending release of a second vaccine have boosted hopes of eventually defeating the scourge.

Intensive care unit capacity is at less than 1% in many California counties, and morgue space is also running out, in what is increasingly resembling the disaster last spring in New York City.

Patients are being cared for at several overflow locations, including a former NBA arena in Sacramento, a former prison and a college gymnasium. Standby sites include a vacant Sears building in Riverside County.

At St. Mary Medical Center in Southern California's Apple Valley, patients are triaged outside in tents, and the hospital put up temporary walls in its lobby to make more room to treat those with COVID-19. Patients are also being treated in the halls on gurneys or chairs, sometimes for days, because there is nowhere else to put them, said Randall Castillo, the hospital's chief executive.

Dr. Nasim Afsar, chief operating officer at UCI Health in Orange County, described an unrelenting churn of patients, many of them left to wait in the ER until a bed elsewhere in the hospital opens up.

"Every day we work through and we discharge the appropriate number of people, and by the next day all of those beds are again filled up," she said.

Dr. Denise Whitfield, an emergency room physician at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, said ambulance crews are left waiting around for patients to be seen.

"Over the last nine months that we've been dealing with this COVID pandemic, I can say that it's been the worst that I've seen things in terms of looking at our capacity to care for our patients," she said.

The virus has killed more than 300,000 Americans, and the nation is averaging over 2,500 deaths and more than 215,000 new cases per day. Nationwide the number of patients in the hospital with COVID-19 has climbed to an all-time high of more than 113,000.

Around the country, other hospitals are likewise parking patients in ERs because they have run out of ICU beds, and also moving adults into pediatric hospitals and bringing in staff from out of state to treat the sick in makeshift wards.

Doctors are being forced to make tough decisions. Some hospitals are sending lower-risk COVID-19 patients home with oxygen and monitors to free up beds for the seriously ill.

Some states are preparing for the possibility of rationing care if hospitals are further swamped. If a hospital doesn't have enough ventilators, for example, doctors would have to make the agonizing decision of which patients should get them.

Idaho's top public health leaders last week cleared the way for the state to resort to rationing — or impose what are called crisis standards of care — if necessary. Hospitals would have to reserve scarce, potentially lifesaving resources for those patients most likely to survive.

In Texas, many intensive care units are either full or approaching capacity. On Wednesday, authorities reported having just over 700 ICU beds open across the entire state.

In St. Louis, where intensive care units are about 90 percent full, hospitals have had to double up patients in ICU rooms and pull nurses out of the operating room so they could help those who are seriously ill, said Dr. Alex Garza, head of the St. Louis Metropolitan Pandemic Task Force.

Garza said overworked health care workers can only keep this up for so long: "You are just going to burn them out or you're going to make them sick or something is going to happen."

California's hospitalizations are now are double the summertime peak. The state has brought in more than 500 extra staff and deployed them around the state, though most don't have the skills to help in ICUs. The state is seeking a total of 3,000 contracted medical staff members.

Fresno County's hospital system is under so much strain that officials hired an outside team of 31 doctors, nurses and support staff to help treat patients in a makeshift ward.

In the farm-heavy Central Valley, where hospital space is dwindling fast, health officials say the heavily Latino and migrant farmworker region is burdened by a lack of access to transportation and health care; higher rates of disease, mistrust of medicine; crowded households; and jobs that do not allow people to work from home.

"They're front-line workers, they work in our grocery stores, they work in sanitation. They cannot stay at home. They don't have the luxury of work at home," Dr. Piero Garzaro, an infectious-disease specialist at Kaiser Permanente Central Valley. "How can you isolate when you live in a 1,000-square-foot apartment when there are five people there, including Grandpa and Grandma?"

Richer reported from Boston. Associated Press reporters Amy Taxin in Orange County, Haven Daley and Olga R. Rodriguez in San Francisco and Paul Weber in Austin, Texas contributed to this report.

NUTCRACKER

FROM PAGE 1

viewed by the world for free.

Several beloved characters like the Sugar Plum Fairy, her Cavalier and the Dew Drop Fairy make their return in the online showcase this year. And thanks to the work of a recently formed diversity committee and local students like Samara Koseff and Jasmine Harrison, the Arabian role has been reimagined and recostumed to show greater cultural appreciation, Koseff and Harrison said in an interview this week.

"I think that originally Westside kind of modeled the costume after a lot of professional companies and what they were doing, but when the Nutcracker was originally created it was created with a limited frame of reference," Harrison said. "But as the world changes and we become more culturally aware of the rest of the world, we realized that we had to change some things."

Like Harrison, Koseff said she is very committed to social justice advocacy so it was only natural the two joined the Diversity and Inclusive Committee, which is group of student representatives and adults who focus on creating a more inclusive environment at the studio and in dance in general.

"Samarra and I specifically were on the costume part of the committee so we really tried to help give ideas on how we can make the costumes more culturally sensitive," Harrison said, detailing how there is no longer just a bra in the costume and the pair decided to go with purple as the main color because it represents royalty.

"I didn't want to be part of something that I didn't feel like was striving for the right direction, and I have to say it was nice to see how Westside was really receptive," Koseff said. "They immediately agreed to change the dances and I think they're much more culturally appropriate; they borrow rather than mimic the culture, and I think it was quite successful."

Both of the young dancers encouraged residents to head online and watch the different pieces.

"Everyone had such a good time making all of the different pieces, and it's a really good show of resilience," Koseff added. "Westside is an organization that is trying to stay afloat during this time and this is a simple way to support the arts."

"There is no doubt that we have all been challenged throughout 2020, but Westside Ballet was committed to find a way to continue to share the beauty and joy of dance and also provide our graduating high school seniors an opportunity to perform their dream roles," Westside's Artistic Director Martine Harley said. "So, until our resilience is rewarded and we can perform again for audiences, we decided to present an abbreviated version of the Nutcracker this year to our community –– and that in itself is reason to celebrate."

Brennon@smdp.com

Letter to the Editor

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Art is not enough

Editor:

Although the $20,000 effort to apply attractive painted motifs on some of Main Street's sad K-rails has certainly improved the spiritual well being of their proponents as they express in this story, who can possibly expect they will provide the vital rescue Main Street businesses need to survive?

"Gee whiz, let's hurry down to eat at the Main Street outdoor dining spots because we can see the murals on the ground level K-rails as we drive by!" seems a very unlikely sentiment to expect. Maybe I'm so culturally deprived that I can't see how such a miracle will happen.

Tim Tunks, Santa Monica

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

SANTA MONICA
ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
VIA TELECONFERENCE

Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20 Issued by
Governor Gavin Newsom

DATE/TIME: MONDAY, December 21, 2020, 7:00 PM
LOCATION: In an effort to reduce the risk of spreading Coronavirus (COVID-19), members of the Architectural Review Board and City Staff will participate via teleconference. The public may join the teleconference via https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/ejufjsxu or by dialing in at +1 (415) 466-7000 (US) PIN: 3899560 #.

PROPERTIES:
- 18ARB-0367: 1443 18th Street: Residential
- 20ARB-0312: 1404-1408 3rd Street Promenade: Retail/Commercial

DISCUSSION ITEM:
Additional Streamlining of Architectural Review Board Procedures

More information is available online at https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Architectural-Review-Board/ or at (310) 458-8341 (en espanol tambien). The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Those wishing to give public comment must make that request via email to planningcomment@smgov.net. Written information received prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Board prior to the meeting and posted online. Written information received after 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be read aloud at the meeting subject to time constraints. For disability-related accommodations, please contact 310-458-8701 or TTY 310-450-8696 a minimum of 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request.Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

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