Seaview HOTEL
1760 Ocean Avenue
Santa Monica, CA 90401
310.393.6711
Starting from $88 + Taxes
Parking | WiFi Available
SeaviewHotel.com

INSIDE THE DAILY PRESS PODCAST
smdp.com/pod
ALSO AVAILABLE ON

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press
WEEKEND EDITION
12.19.20 - 12.20.20
Volume 20 Issue 32

Candy Cane Drive canceled
Santa will not drive through the city this year.
Page 3

Pet of the Week
McCartney
Page 6

@smdailypress @smdailypress Santa Monica Daily Press smdp.com

Dire scenarios predicted for hospitals

BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press

When Gov. Gavin Newsom provided a dire view of California's out-of-control surge of coronavirus cases and hospitalizations this week, he referred to projection models of future death and misery that he said were becoming "alarmingly" more accurate.

If true, then over the next four weeks the state's hospitals could be overflowing with 75,000 patients — about five times the current level — and an average of 400 people will die every day.

Hospitals were on the brink of being overrun with nearly 15,000 coronavirus patients when Newsom made the announcement Tuesday. The hospitalization projection is based on cases continuing to increase at the current rate of infection without people taking additional precautions to prevent spreading the virus.

At that trajectory, it doesn't take long before the state is in a very bad place, said Marm Kilpatrick, an infectious disease expert at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

"One thing that's worrisome is that for quite a while in California we've had exponential growth in hospitalizations and cases, despite recent restrictions," Kilpatrick said. "That's kind of terrifying."

The models posted online by the California Department of Public Health largely show one key indicator — the transmission rate — improving in recent days. But that number still remains at a point where each person with the virus infects more than one other person, leading to out-of-control spread.

The state uses multiple models to try to predict hospitalizations. When they are combined into an "ensemble" projection, the total is less dire but still shockingly high by mid-January: more than 33,000. That would still create an overwhelming load for hospitals.

The model for the increase in deaths does not include an estimate

SEE **COVID-19** PAGE 7

Kaiser Permanente staff receive vaccine





Emily Guardado

VACCINE: On Tuesday, Dec. 15, five health care workers from the Kaiser Permanente West Los Angeles Medical Center made history after receiving the much-anticipated Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine.

City Council member de la Torre refuses to step down from School Board

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Conflict broke out in a Dec. 17 School Board meeting when City Council member Oscar de la Torre attempted to continue serving as a Board member and was told he could only speak as a member of the public.

The District believes that per Government Code Section 1099, which prohibits elected officials from holding "incompatible offices", de la Torre forfeited his Board position when he assumed a seat on City Council on Dec. 8. De la Torre disagrees and said it is up to a judge and not the District to decide whether the positions are incompatible.

De la Torre attempted to speak as a Board member several times in the meeting, which Board President Jon Kean would not allow, and was continually muted as a result. In order to deal with the conflict, the Board voted to move to a closed session mid-meeting. After resuming open session, de la Torre was only allowed to speak during public comment.

Under Gov. Code Section 1099 public officials cannot hold two offices if they have "overlapping and conflicting public duties." De la Torre intends to have a judge rule on whether his positions are incompatible, but said he does not expect the judge to rule in his favor.

"I don't think that's going to happen. I think you read the law. I read the law," said de la Torre. "But again it's about process."

The District believes that the code does apply in de la Torre's case and that he is no longer legally a Board member.

"Upon being sworn into the City Council, Councilmember de la Torre would be deemed by law to have forfeited any prior incompatible position, which would have been his position on the School Board. Therefore, by operation of law Mr. de la Torre is no longer a member of the Santa Monica School Board," said Jay Fernow, legal advisor to the District, during the meeting.

Attorney Kevin Shenkman spoke in support of de la Torre during public comment. Shenkman is a friend of de la Torre and represents de la Torre's wife in the voting rights lawsuit against the City of Santa Monica.

Shenkman said the District does not have the legal authority to remove de la Torre from his position. According to Shenkman, that can only happen if de la Torre submits a letter of resignation or the Attorney General rules that de la Torre's elected positions are incompatible.

The California Attorney General's office has issued three rulings declaring City Council and School Boards are incompatible where the city and district have territory in common.

The office first ruled City Council and School Board seats to be incompatible in 1966. The Attorney General's office reiterated that ruling in 1982 stating the logic had not changed over the years and again in 1990 when the office authorized a lawsuit against Edward L. Chavez who attempted to hold on to his Bassett Unified School District seat after being elected to the La Puente city council.

According to California's

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 7

Divided community bridges gaps on school reopenings

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

Teachers are scared to return to the classroom. Many parents say their children need to be there. From these seemingly irreconcilable sides, School Board members approved a reopening model that, while fully satisfying no one, made strong headway in bridging community demands.

In a Dec. 17 meeting, members of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education approved a "Distance Learning Plus" model for when L.A. County enters Tier 2 of COVID-19 restrictions.

Distance learning will serve to maintain educational consistency and prioritize safety, while the 'plus' will create opportunities for students to have two valuable in-person experiences a week.

The decision was watched with heated community interest.

Over 350 people attended the six-hour meeting and 50 members of the public registered to speak. Board President Jon Kean implored people to speak with "empathy for those who might disagree with you" and "without belittling and

SEE **REOPENING** PAGE 11

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT FOR 2019 PROGRAM YEAR

Notice is hereby given that the City of Santa Monica has developed the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the 2019 Program Year. The CAPER is submitted annually to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and provides a status report on how the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME grant funded projects and activities are meeting the City's overall housing and community development needs as specified in the 2015-19 Consolidated Plan and the 2019-20 Action Plan adopted by City Council in April 2019 and submitted to HUD.

The CAPER is now available to the public for a 15-day community review period ending on December 24, 2020. The report is accessible at www.smgov.net/hsd, and written comments may be submitted by email to humanservices@smgov.net or by mail to: Housing and Human Services Division, 1685 Main Street, MS22, Santa Monica, CA 90401.

TAXES

ALL FORMS • ALL TYPES • ALL STATES

BACK TAXES • BOOKKEEPING • SMALL BUSINESS

(310) 395-9922

SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA
100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1800 Santa Monica 90401

SIMON BEARDMORE

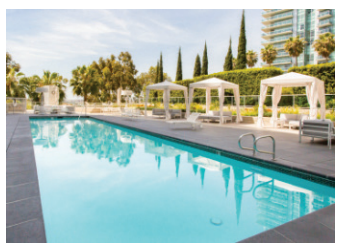
Top 1% of real estate professionals nationally
Committed to personalized service, confidentiality and attention to detail.











13600 Marina Pointe Drive, Unit 1007

2BR | 2.5 BA | 1,728 sq. ft. | $1,200,000

Impeccably maintained 2 BR, 2.5 BA with stunning city/mountain views in Marina del Rey. An abundance of natural light, floor to ceiling windows with direct access to sprawling terrace from every room. Luxurious building amenities: 24 hr valet/front desk/security, pool w/cabanas & fire pits, spa, gym & screening/recreation rooms!

SIMON BEARDMORE | Luxury Estates Director | 310.892.6454

simon.beardmore@compass.com DRE 01321605 COMPASS

Winter travel raises more fears of viral spread

DAVID KOENIG AND DEE-ANN DURBIN
AP Business Writers

Tens of millions of people are expected to travel to family gatherings or winter vacations over Christmas, despite pleas by public health experts who fear the result could be another surge in COVID-19 cases.

In the U.S., AAA predicts that about 85 million people will travel between Dec. 23 and Jan. 3, most of them by car. If true, that would be a drop of nearly one-third from a year ago, but still a massive movement of people in the middle of a pandemic.

Jordan Ford, 24, who was laid off as a guest-relations worker at Disneyland in March, said he plans to visit both his and his boyfriend's families in Virginia and Arkansas over Christmas.

"It is pretty safe — everyone is wearing a mask, they clean the cabin thoroughly," said Ford, who has traveled almost weekly in recent months from his home in Anaheim, California, and gets tested frequently. "After you get over that first trip since the pandemic started, I think you'll feel comfortable no matter what."

Experts worry that Christmas and New Year's will turn into super-spreader events because many people are letting down their guard — either out of pandemic fatigue or the hopeful news that vaccines are starting to be distributed.

"Early on in the pandemic, people didn't travel because they didn't know what was to come," said Dr. Peter Chin-Hong, an infectious-disease expert at the University of California, San Francisco, "but there is a feeling now that, 'If I get it, it will be mild, it's like a cold.'"

The seven-day rolling average of newly reported infections in the U.S. has risen from about 176,000 a day just before Thanksgiving to more than 215,000 a day. It's too early to calculate how much of that increase is due to travel and gatherings over Thanksgiving, but experts believe they are a factor.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says "postponing travel and staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others from COVID-19." People who insist on travel should consider getting tested for the virus before and after their trip and to limit non-essential activities for seven days after travel with a negative test result and 10 days if they don't get tested.

Other countries have imposed restrictions ahead of the holidays. Last month, England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland agreed to permit a maximum of three households to mix between Dec. 23 and Dec. 27, regardless of what local restrictions are in place.

In Latin America, a few countries have imposed some restrictions to try to keep people from traveling or meeting during the holidays, but others advised people only to practice social distancing and skip parties.

Panama has some of the strictest measures, including a curfew through Jan. 4 and a prohibition on leaving home at all from Dec. 25 to 28 and Jan. 1 to 4 unless it's for essential activities such as buying food or medicine. Peru, one of the region's hardest-hit countries, has banned the use of private cars on Christmas Eve and Day and New Year's Eve and Day in hopes of discouraging people from traveling.

In the U.S., Rachel Watterson delayed her New Year's Eve wedding because her fiance's family can't travel to the United States from their home in Germany. Instead, the couple plans to elope and will fly from their home in Chicago to Hawaii with her parents, her brother and a friend. They picked Hawaii because of requirements that include coronavirus testing before arrival and a rapid test at the airport.

"We felt this was one of the very few safe choices we can make if we are going to travel," Watterson said.

Tim Brooks, a 37-year-old engineer in Long Beach, California, canceled a trip to Grand Cayman because of a ban on international visitors, then scrapped a Christmas visit to his parents in North Carolina as infections spiked in California and around the country.

"If it were just us, it wouldn't be so bad, but we have older parents and we are trying to keep them safe," Brooks said.

Airports and planes will be far less crowded this year in what is normally a high travel season. So far in December, air travel in the United States is down 67% from last year. If Thanksgiving is any indication, the number of travelers will rise the rest of the month, but airlines are warning that bookings have slowed down since the latest surge in COVID-19 cases.

The nation's top four airlines now show December and January schedules that are anywhere from 33% to 46% smaller than a year earlier, according to figures from Airline Data Inc.

Last week, the average flight within the U.S. was only 49% full compared with more than 80% full a year ago, according to the trade group Airlines for America.

The short-term outlook remains grim for other travel-related businesses, including those that rely on winter tourism.

In Vermont ski country, the Trapp Family Lodge in Stowe is usually sold out during Christmas week, but only half the 96 rooms were booked by last week. It was a similar story at the nearby Lodge at Spruce Peak. Operators of both lodges blamed travel restrictions, especially quarantine requirements that are triggered by crossing state lines.

"It is frustrating as a business to basically be forbidden to do your job and to not be able to support your employees or your community," said Sam von Trapp, executive vice president of the family's lodge. "At the same time we understand that there is very good intention behind all these restrictions."

Cruise ships often command their highest prices at Christmas and other holidays when kids are off school, but few ships are sailing this season. Carnival, Royal Caribbean, Norwegian and Disney have all canceled U.S. sailings through Feb. 28. Voyages in other parts of the world have mostly been delayed.

Florida, which relies heavily on winter tourism, is also taking a big hit. The two-week period around Christmas is normally the busiest time of year for Walt Disney World in Orlando, says Len Testa, the president of TouringPlans.com, which forecasts park attendance. But this year, the Magic Kingdom has capped park attendance at 35%, so Testa only expects around 32,000 people on those days.

Testa also expects crowd levels to be lower

SEE **TRAVEL** PAGE 4

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 228 CALLS ON DECEMBER 17

Battery Just Occurred 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 12:59 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 1:34 a.m.
Prowler 200blk Palisades Ave 2:20 a.m.
Indecent Exposure Now 1500blk Ocean Ave 3:28 a.m.
Encampment 1100blk Palisades Park 5:36 a.m.
Fraud Report 2100blk Colorado Ave 7:32 a.m.
Encampment 2200blk Virginia Ave 7:48 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:53 a.m.
Health & Safety Code Violation 1400blk 2nd St 8:00 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 2400blk Michigan Ave 8:21 a.m.
Grand Theft Report 1900blk High Pl 8:44 a.m.
Loud Music 800blk Broadway 9:00 a.m.
Encampment 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 9:03 a.m.
Fight 600blk Wilshire Blvd 9:09 a.m.
Red Zone Violation 1100blk Centinela Ave 9:13 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 700blk 14th St 9:23 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1400blk Broadway 9:26 a.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 900blk Pacific Coast Hwy 9:40 a.m.
Fraud Report 2100blk Colorado Ave 9:42 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 1500blk 6th St 9:43 a.m.
Violation Of Temporary No Parking Signs 200blk San Vicente Blvd 9:46 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 400blk Pacific St 9:54 a.m.
Auto Burglary Report 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:57 a.m.
Traffic Control Request - Level 1 4th St / Hollister Ave 10:11 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 14th St / Wilshire Blvd 10:16 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1300blk 12th St 10:30 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 400blk Ocean Ave 10:33 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 2400blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:36 a.m.
Handicap Zone Violation 1600blk Appian Way 10:41 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1700blk Dewey St 10:44 a.m.
Overdose 300blk Santa Monica Pier 11:10 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 900blk 20th St 11:16 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 500blk Olympic Blvd W 11:23 a.m.
Critical Missing Person Ocean Ave / Wilshire Blvd 11:28 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 2700blk Pico Blvd 11:37 a.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 900blk 11th St 11:50 a.m.
Encampment 1200blk The Beach 12:01 p.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation 1000blk Idaho Ave 12:11 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1200blk 25th St 12:16 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1200blk 11th St 12:35 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 1100blk 4th St 12:53 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 2000blk Stewart St 12:59 p.m.
Family Disturbance 1300blk 14th St 1:01 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 2900blk Main St 1:07 p.m.
Vehicle Parked On Sidewalk 3100blk 5th St 1:15 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 2100blk Virginia Ave 1:16 p.m.
Person Down 1300blk 4th St 1:22 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 300blk Olympic Dr 1:23 p.m.
Found Property 600blk Colorado Ave 1:28 p.m.
Found Property 1500blk 4th St 1:44 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 2600blk Kansas Ave 2:20 p.m.
Theft Of Recyclables 1400blk 17th St 2:20 p.m.
Found Property 300blk Olympic Dr 2:36 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 200blk Broadway 3:01 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 2400blk Washington Ave 3:03 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 3300blk Barnard Way 3:14 p.m.
Counterfeit Money Report 300blk Pico Blvd 3:16 p.m.
Burglary Report 800blk Bay St 3:16 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 400blk 23rd St 3:18 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto In Progress 2100blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:27 p.m.
Runaway 1000blk 3rd St 3:27 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 2000blk 6th St 3:48 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 600blk 18th St 3:49 p.m.
Mark & Tag Abandoned Vehicle 700blk Idaho Ave 3:56 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 2800blk Airport Ave 4:13 p.m.
Alcohol & Beverage Code Violation 800blk Pico Blvd 4:26 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1600blk Lincoln Blvd 4:35 p.m.
Check Temporary No Parking Signs 1200blk Lincoln Blvd 4:39 p.m.
Lost Property 900blk 15th St 4:40 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 2200blk Colorado Ave 5:02 p.m.
Person With A Gun 400blk Palisades Beach Rd 5:05 p.m.
General Parking Problem 300blk Olympic Dr 5:12 p.m.
Attempt Auto Theft Report Stanford St / Santa Monica Blvd 5:18 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 6th/ Wilshire 5:51 p.m.
Civil Dispute 500blk Wilshire Blvd 6:14 p.m.
Out Of Order Traffic Signals Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 6:28 p.m.

BRIEFS

Citywide

Candy Cane Drive Canceled

The Santa Monica Police Officer's Association has canceled their Candy Cane Drive.

"Out of an abundance of caution and concern for the health and safety of our fellow community members, we have decided to cancel this Saturday's annual Candy Cane Drive," said a statement from the POA. "Though we're saddened to not be Santa's official escort around our city this year, the big guy has told us to rest assured that Santa Monica is on the nice list for his rounds next Thursday night. Happy Holidays to everyone and we're confident we'll be back to this great tradition next year."

SMDP STAFF

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 33 CALLS ON DECEMBER 17

EMS 1300blk 11th St 12:48 a.m.
Carbon Monoxide Alarm 800blk 4th St 1:38 a.m.
EMS 2800blk Pico Blvd 1:50 a.m.
EMS 2300blk Oak St 3:17 a.m.
EMS 1500blk 5th St 5:27 a.m.
EMS 300blk California Ave 6:53 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300blk 20th St 8:32 a.m.
EMS 1900blk 6th St 9:10 a.m.
EMS 600blk Wilshire Blvd 9:12 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 9:22 a.m.
EMS 900blk 3rd St 10:02 a.m.
EMS 1300blk Ozone Ave 10:03 a.m.
Wires Down 2500blk 4th St 10:05 a.m.
EMS 900blk 10th St 10:18 a.m.
EMS 900blk Lincoln Blvd 10:24 a.m.
Carbon Monoxide Alarm 1000blk 19th St 10:50 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 10:55 a.m.
EMS 700blk Pier Ave 11:04 a.m.
EMS 900blk 2nd St 11:23 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 11:30 a.m.
EMS 1600blk Arizona Ave 11:46 a.m.
EMS 2200blk Virginia Ave 12:55 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 1:21 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 4th St 1:22 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 1:57 p.m.
EMS 2700blk Wilshire Blvd 2:46 p.m.
EMS 300blk California Ave 3:09 p.m.
EMS 2300blk Wilshire Blvd 4:01 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 6th St 5:36 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 2600blk Washington Ave 6:05 p.m.
EMS 700blk Raymond Ave 7:17 p.m.
EMS 1700blk Bryn Mawr Ave 10:08 p.m.
EMS 800blk 4th St 11:15 p.m.

CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

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

ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10 AT 12:20 A.M.

A report of a stolen vehicle was made to the Santa Monica Police Department, the details of the call stated that the reporting party had a GPS location of the car south of 26th St. and Wilshire Blvd. The Officers contacted the reporting party via telephone, while they drove the mentioned location in search of the vehicle. The reporting party stated he had parked his car in a lot in the Southeast corner of Euclid Court and Wilshire Blvd. and did not find the vehicle there upon his return. Officers located the vehicle in an alley, where an individual was found asleep on the driver's side. Officers spoke to Jose Aponte and inquired about the vehicle's owner. Aponte stated it belonged to a friend but could not give details on who the friend was. Aponte was arrested for a 10851(a) VC - Auto Theft and later issued a citation.

City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS
PERSONNEL BOARD
UNSCHEDULED VACANCY

Personnel Board:
One seat available for a term ending June 30, 2025.
Applicants must be residents of the City of Santa Monica.

Applications due by noon, Tuesday, January 19, 2021.
Appointment to be made by City Council, Tuesday, January 26, 2021.

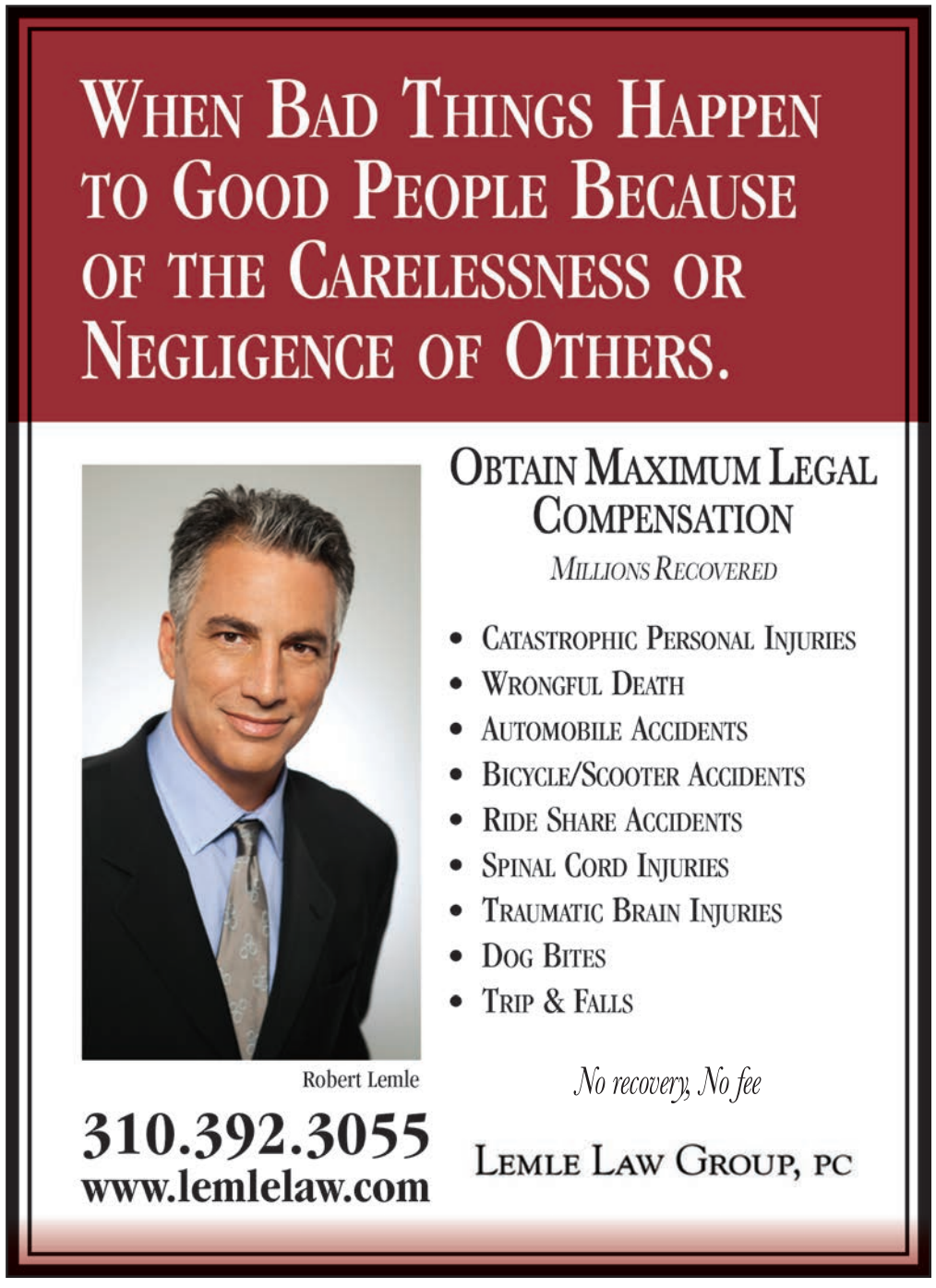
No Santa Monica City Employee may serve as a member of any Board or Commission.

The State Political Reform Act requires certain officeholders to disclose their interest and income which may be materially affected by their official action. The applicants appointed to serve in these positions will be required to file a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) upon assuming office, and annually thereafter.

Applications are available on-line at: www.smgov.net/boards
All current applications on file will be considered.

Disability related assistance and alternate formats of this document are available upon request by calling (310) 458-8211.





More people stop seeking work in California as virus surges

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

More than 327,000 people stopped looking for work in California last month, a worrisome trend that has clouded the state's economic picture during its worst outbreak of the coronavirus.

California's unemployment rate dropped to 8.2% in November, falling for the sixth month in a row since reaching an all-time high of 16.4% in April and May. But the state only added 57,100 jobs in November, down from 145,500 gained in October.

Experts said the falling unemployment rate is mostly because so many people have stopped looking for work. Since November of last year, nearly 600,000 people have ended their search — more than half of them in November, according to data released Friday by the state Employment Development Department.

The numbers likely represent parents staying home to care for children, people going back to school to learn new skills, and others frustrated with the lack of available jobs, said Sung Won Sohn, a professor of finance and economics at Loyola Marymount University.

"I would rather see an unemployment rate rising with an increase in labor force, because that tells you people have hopes of getting jobs," he said.

Sohn said the latest jobs report is likely the "calm before the storm" because it does not include impacts from Gov. Gavin Newsom's recent coronavirus decisions, including imposing a curfew and ordering businesses in most of the state to either close or drastically reduce the number of customers they allow inside at one time. Newsom announced those decisions in mid-November, after the state surveyed workers for the jobs report.

While the state accounts for 11% of the nation's workforce, California had more than 21% of all unemployment benefits filed nationally last week. Job postings have fallen 23.4% since January, and small business revenue is down 28.3%, according to data compiled by Opportunity Insights at Harvard University.

The pain has not been evenly distributed. The unemployment rate for people in California who earn more than $60,000 a year has fallen 0.5% since January, while the rate for people earning less than $27,000 a year has fallen 26.8%, according to Opportunity Insights. That divide is reflected in the state's tax collections, which rely heavily on wealthy earners.

Through the end of November, California collected $13.7 billion more in taxes than it had predicted — largely because higher-income earners still have their jobs and are paying taxes. The unexpected growth means state lawmakers could have as much as $26 billion in one-time money to spend next year, according to the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office, money that could reverse some previous budget cuts or help businesses and workers recover.

"The main divide of the pandemic now is not by occupations or sectors, as much as by those largely new class workers who can work remotely," said Michael Bernick, an attorney with the Duane Morris law firm and a former director of the California Employment Development Department. "That's the sharp divide, and that has only increased."

Nationally, unemployment rates fell in 25 states and the District of Columbia while rising in seven states and staying flat in 18, according to data released Friday by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. California added the second-most jobs of any state in November, trailing only Texas and its 61,000 new jobs.

But since November 2019, California has lost more than 1.3 million jobs — the most of any state.

All but two California industry sectors added jobs in November, led by 27,800 new jobs in leisure and hospitality, which includes restaurants and hotels. Those numbers are expected to decline in December following the recent stay-at-home order, which bans indoor and outdoor dining at restaurants and prevents hotels from booking out-of-state guests.

Businesses have pinned their recovery hopes on a COVID-19 vaccine, and Congress is debating a $900 billion relief package that would include $300 billion for small businesses. The bill would also extend an extra $300-per-week supplement to unemployment benefits, which is set to expire next week.

"We call on the federal government to do its part to help us recover," California Labor Secretary Julie Su and Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development director Dee Dee Myers said in a joint statement.

TRAVEL

FROM PAGE 2

than usual from January through March, with many visitors rescheduling their trips to May or later.

"Many families will put off their Spring Break trips until they're vaccinated," he said.

Tara Kelley had planned to drive seven hours from her home in Milligan, Florida, to Orange City, Florida, to visit her mother and stepfather for Christmas. But Kelley's wife recently had surgery and spent a day at a hospital where there was a risk of exposure to the coronavirus, so they called off the trip.

"We had literally been planning this since February," Kelley said. "It's a blow."

Theresa Medina, a 55-year-old retiree from South Boston, is still deciding whether she and her husband will visit his mother in the Dominican Republic this winter. She's 80% sure they will, and she's already packing a box to ship ahead of their arrival. But the couple plans to discuss it with her husband's doctor in January.

If they go, Medina said they will get coronavirus tests and wear protective gear, including face shields and masks.

"We may look silly on the plane, but precautions are precautions," she said

Lisa Rathke in Montpelier, Vermont and Wilson Ring in Stowe, Vermont contributed to this report.

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Jenny Rice
jenny@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Rose Mann
rose@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Brennon Dixson
brennon@smdp.com
Clara Harter
clara@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra.

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Achling Holliday
ross@smdp.com
Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press
1640 5th Street, Suite 218
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

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.

Published by Newlon Rouge, LLC

© 2019 Newlon Rouge, LLC, all rights reserved.

AWARD WINNER

AWARD WINNER

Sustainable Quality Awards
WINNER

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

Demand is low for COVID-19 antibody drugs but shortages loom

MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP Chief Medical Writer

U.S. health officials are seeing an astonishing lack of demand for COVID-19 medicines that may help keep infected people out of the hospital, drugs they rushed out to states over the past few weeks as deaths set new records.

Red tape, staff shortages, testing delays and strong skepticism are keeping many patients and doctors from these drugs, which supply antibodies to help the immune system fight the coronavirus. Only 5% to 20% of doses the federal government allocated have been used.

Ironically, government advisers met Wednesday and Thursday to plan for the opposite problem: potential future shortages of the drug as COVID-19 cases continue to rise. Many hospitals have set up lottery systems to ration what is expected to be a limited supply, even after taking into account the unused medicines still on hand.

Only 337,000 treatment courses are available and there are 200,000 new COVID-19 cases a day, "so the supply certainly cannot meet the demand," said Dr. Victor Dzau, president of the National Academy of Medicine, whose experts panel met to discuss the drugs.

Antibodies are made by the body's immune system to fight the virus but it can take several weeks after infection for the best ones to form. The drugs aim to help right away, by supplying concentrated doses of one or two antibodies that worked best in lab tests. The government is providing them for free, but there's sometimes a fee for the IV required to administer the drugs.

Eli Lilly and Regeneron Pharmaceuticals have emergency authorization to supply their antibody drugs while studies continue. But the medicines must be used within 10 days of the onset of symptoms to do any good. Confusion over where to find the drugs and delays in coronavirus test results have conspired to keep many away.

"It can take anywhere between two and four days for results to come back and that's absolutely precious time" for the drugs to have a chance to help, Dr. Keith Boell of Geisinger Health System in Pennsylvania told the experts panel.

"Our clinics have everything from a bus stop to a buggy stop," serving big cities and horse-driven Amish communities, he said. "We really want to get these into anybody they can help" but it's hard, he said.

Many states and health centers were not ready for the sudden availability of the drugs, said Dr. Ryan Bariola of the University of Pittsburgh's 30-hospital system. It can be a nightmare for doctors or urgent care centers to figure out if a patient qualifies.

"How do you get it done? Do you call your local hospital? They may not have an infusion center set up. For a lot of independent physicians, this is very hard," he said.

The crunch comes as vaccine efforts begin across the United States, monopolizing attention and staff.

States "didn't see this coming ... and have limited bandwidth" to deal with this on top of allocating vaccines, said Connie Sullivan, president of the National Home Infusion Association.

Many hospitals such as the University of Michigan's quickly set up outpatient infusion centers but a shortage of nurses and other staff has been "the biggest problem we've had," said a pharmacy resident, Megan Klatt.

Skepticism also is hurting use. The evidence that the drugs help is thin, several leading medical groups have not endorsed them, and many patients who feel only mildly ill see them as a risk: Half who have been offered them in the Michigan system have declined, Klatt said.

"It doesn't help when physicians themselves are not totally convinced," said Mohammad Kharbat, a pharmacy chief at a hospital system in Madison, Wisconsin, where half of patients also have declined.

At Wake Forest Baptist Health System in North Carolina, "we've had very little activity, very few referrals," and not much interest from patients or doctors, said Dr. John Sanders.

The University of Utah has seen interest from patients and developed a formula to figure out who most needs the drugs, but getting the infusion "requires going to a website, being notified of your test result ... doing some of the legwork yourself" and many people can't manage that, said Dr. Emily Sydnor Spivak.

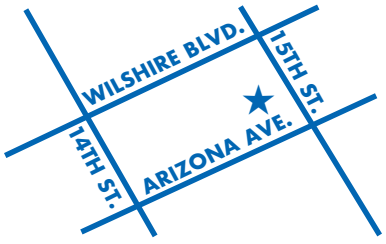
"We're going to have to go out and find people" who qualify and offer them the drugs, she said.

That's how Lance Harbaugh wound up receiving one. Harbaugh, 58, of Cumberland, Maryland, started feeling ill around Thanksgiving, tested positive for the coronavirus the following Monday and was given Lilly's drug at the University of Pittsburgh's Western Maryland hospital a few days later.

Harbaugh said he was "down and out" with pneumonia, chills, fever and lots of coughing. When the staff suggested the drug, he added, "I was all for it."

Harbaugh avoided hospitalization but said he still has many symptoms.

"I don't think I'll ever be back to the way I once was," he said.

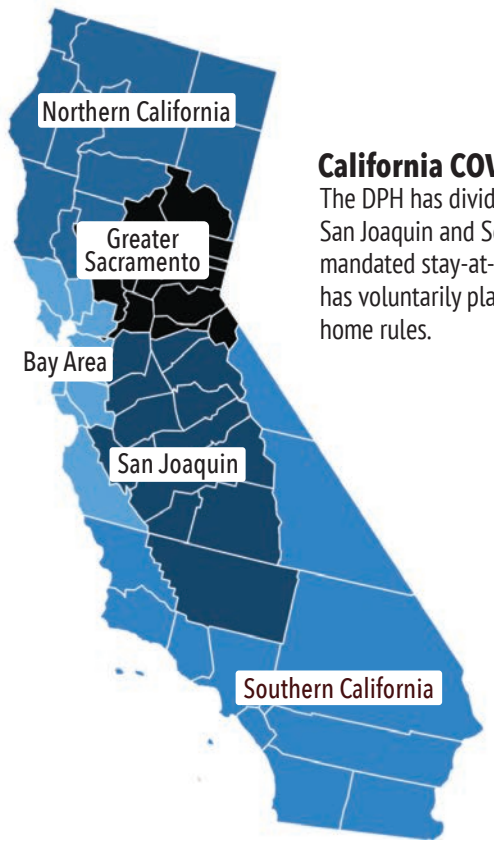
FINDING A NEW DENTIST IS TOUGH!
(BUT WE MAKE IT EASY!!!)
If you don't like what we have to say we will give you a copy of your x-rays at no charge
DENTAL CARE WITHOUT JUDGEMENT!
WE OFFER UNIQUE SERVICES
*Nitrous Oxide available *No interest payment plans
*Emergencies can be seen today
*Our dentists and staff members are easy to talk to
AND OF COURSE WE DO
• Invisalign • Periodontist on Staff • Oral Surgeon on Staff
• Cosmetics and Implants • Zoom bleaching • and more
YOUR CHOICE
TRY OUR NO OBLIGATION
$20 EXAM INCLUDES FULL XRAYS
*Offer to non insured patients
OR
TRY OUR NO OBLIGATION
$99 EXAM AND CLEANING
For New Patients
INCLUDES FULL XRAYS
*Offer to non insured patients


SANTA MONICA FAMILY DENTISTRY | DR. ALAN RUBENSTEIN
1260 15th ST. SUITE #703 (310) 736-2589
WWW.ALANRUBENSTEINDDS.COM

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

Pet of the Week



Martin Hernandez

PET: The Adoptable Pet of the Week is available from the Santa Monica Animal Shelter.

McCartney

Hi, I'm McCartney. A three-month-old male orange tabby kitten and I am vying for a spot to tug Santa's sleigh! The competition with other kittens this year is fierce, but I have a lot to offer. I live for being around people, even the big ones. The mere sight of them makes my spirit bright! Tail up, purrs raging, I'll adorably pounce in what looks like a high-octane dance when approached. Uncontrolled rubs when petted, and intense headbutts are guaranteed. Don't let me get started on playtime! My hunting, chasing, and stalking of toys are a tour de force. Watch out Rudolph because my speed for a laser toy pointed my way will upstage your dashing any day! Alas, I was recently notified that my application was deferred due to being way too much fun. Apparently, I'm a bad influence on the reindeer because they would much rather party with me, than focus on leading the way to the next child's chimney. On the strength of my magnetic personality, and my unstoppable desire to prance to the sounds of bells, Santa's elves have encouraged me to reapply. Once I add maturity to my charm, I'm a shoe-in to be among the ranks of Santa's reindeers. And, perhaps even outshine Rudolph's red nose, laughing all the way! McCartney ID# A06024 is available for adoption at the Santa Monica Animal Shelter and adoptions are by appointment only by calling the shelter at (310) 458-8595. You can learn more about McCartney online at smanimalshelter.petfinder.com

PET TIP OF THE WEEK: DECIDING IF A PET IS THE PERFECT HOLIDAY GIFT

Gifting a pet for the holidays can seem extra special for animal loving friends or family. There are many ways to determine if a pet is an appropriate gift, and also other options to gift experiences with pets that are just special.

Investigate whether your recipient has expressed a serious interest in adopting a pet. This interest should be sustainable and include a commitment to being a responsible pet owner.

Inquire as to what type of pet they want, age, disposition, and size. Each pet has their own unique requirements. A pet's type, age, temperament, and any behavioral or medical needs may require your recipient to have extra time, money, and resources readily available to them.

Find out if they are looking to adopt immediately. While people may want pets, sometimes it's not just the right time.

Before Christmas, planning a trip to the Santa Monica Animal Shelter by calling the shelter and making an appointment at (310) 458-8595, can help you to make a definitive determination that they want a pet now. And, if they fall in love with a pet that they meet, you may be able to gift them a pet that their heart is already set on.

Adopting a new pet takes time and resources. Make sure that your recipient has a schedule with extra time. Consider gifting accessories with the pet like bedding, toys, food, a paid first visit to a veterinarian, a month of pet insurance, a gift certificate to a pet care company, or even a pet trainer.

When you are ready to adopt the pet, choose to adopt from an animal shelter, rescue group, or someone you are familiar with so that may offer you the pet's history. This will help your recipient to be prepared to address and meet their pet's specific needs.

If a pet is not the right gift, there are many other options that can fulfill their love and desire to spend time with animals. You can sponsor a shelter pet in the name of the recipient, provide them with an application and information about volunteer opportunities at an animal shelter, take them on a day trip to an aquarium, zoo, safari park, or all of the above!

Whether you gift a pet, or an experience with one, determining which is the right fit can help to ensure that your recipient has more reasons to enjoy a happy holiday season! .

Pet of the Week is provided by Carmen Molinari, a long-time volunteer at the Santa Monica Animal Shelter and founder and CEO of Love At First Sit, a pet care and dog training company in Santa Monica. Learn about her, pet tips, and Love At First Sit services at loveatfirstsit.net

COVID-19

FROM PAGE 1

based on the current rate of infection. But an average of dozens of different models shows deaths increasing by about 25% from the current figure to nearly 27,000 by Jan. 9.

Other models on the graph predict a range of deaths as low as 22,000, which the state surpassed Friday, to a high of 43,000 in about three weeks.

The nation's most populous state, which for months maintained a very low per capita number of infections while other states were slammed, is coping with its own crisis as it records daily record numbers of cases and deaths.

On Thursday, a record 379 deaths were recorded. There were more than 1,000 deaths in the past five days and more than 100,000 newly confirmed cases over just two days this week.

Most of the models posted on the state's website show the situation getting worse before an improvement as repercussions of Thanksgiving gatherings and travel are borne by hospitals that have already begun to run out of beds.

"Our modeling is becoming more and more accurate, alarmingly so," Newsom said Tuesday when he also announced 5,000 additional body bags have been ordered and more than 50 refrigerated trucks are ready to serve as temporary morgues.

Early on in the pandemic, some modeling indicated that if no public health safety measures were put into place the outcome would be dire.

In March, Newsom said the state of nearly 40 million was on pace to record 25 million cases of COVID-19 within two months. Nine months later, after a series of stricter and more lenient restrictions, the state has had more than 1.7 million cases, the highest in the nation but a fraction of the earlier prediction.

The wide variation in some models is due to using different mathematical formulas and data, including mobility patterns from cell phones and demographic data such as population density, as well as weighting some data more heavily.

Bradley Pollock, an epidemiologist at the University of California, Davis, said recent models have been more accurate. He said the value of the models is that they help guide public policy, showing trends that are likely unless action is taken.

"What we're seeing right now is exactly what we predicted," Pollock said. "The major use of models is to tell you what could happen not what is going to happen."

As cases have exploded since November, Newsom has taken action that has rankled businesses and frustrated some residents. He placed most of the state under a new stay-at-home order that halted dining at restaurants and put a stop to hair cuts and manicures and shuttered many other types of businesses. Capacity at retailers has been slashed.

If those orders have an impact, it will likely take weeks to show up in case counts and even longer in hospitalizations because there are lags from infection to detection to the point when an illness is serious enough to lead to a stay in the hospital and typically even longer for a death to occur.

Some models by Stanford University incorporate stay-home orders and also account for the rise in cases from Thanksgiving. They project several scenarios that show hospitalizations beginning to decline by the end of the year, though deaths would continue rising at least until Jan 20.

While models have been helpful to public health authorities, they could be more accurate and useful to the public if they compiled a wider group of available data that could then be presented almost like a weather forecast so people could better evaluate their risks, said Dr. Eric Topol, head of the Scripps Research Translational Institute in San Diego.

Topol has been critical of not having a national approach to tackling the virus in the U.S. and said that extends to not taking a multi-layered approach of data collection for modeling. He referred to the various efforts as "solo acts."

He said there's so much available data that could be used to create better models.

"The modeling is based on so many assumptions without complete data," Topol said. "You have some crude data to see that people are in big trouble."

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

government code "When two public offices are incompatible, a public officer shall be deemed to have forfeited the first office upon acceding to the second. This provision is enforceable pursuant to Section 803 of the Code of Civil Procedure."

"They don't have the authority to take me off the School Board like they did last night," said de la Torre. De la Torre said his treatment was an example of the Board seeking to marginalize the voices of minorities and believes it is important for him to continue representing Latinx community members by serving on School Board.

Board President Jon Kean was frustrated by de la Torre's interruptions in the meeting, which was attended by over 350 community members and intended to focus on selecting a plan to safely re-open schools.

"De la Torre repeatedly interrupted the meeting stating that he considered himself both a Council member and a School Board member, ignoring the fact that the two offices are not legally compatible and that he had been campaigning in public and private about his preferred replacement," said Kean. "As our country lives through a non-peaceful transition of power in the White House, Mr. de la Torre brought the divisiveness of DC to Santa Monica last night and made a meeting intended to address the educational futures of 10,000 students all about himself and his ego."

While de la Torre will seek legal action to retain his position, he is willing to step down from School Board under other conditions.

"So there's a couple of ways to get me off the School Board. One: appoint Jason Feldman. Two: address the issues that I have brought forward around racial justice. Three: have a judge decide," said de la Torre.

De la Torre is hesitant to leave the Board as he said his racial justice agenda is not complete, citing issues such as the achievement gap for minority students, an unreleased diversity in hiring report, and an authentic ethnic studies curriculum.

De la Torre said he supports Jason Feldman, the first runner up in the November School Board election, because he will pursue this agenda.

Clara@smdp.com

Tool Repair & Servicing

Bourget Bros. offers expert repair on all of your tools:

Rotary Hammers
Strip Nailers
Power Grinders
Cordless Drills
Orbital Jig Saws
Pneumatic Scalers
Demolition Hammers



DEWALT



Milwaukee
SKIL
BOSCH
SENCO
Makita

Bourget Bros. Building Materials
1636 - 11th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90404
bourgetbros.com • (310) 450-6556

All repair work meets factory regulations and comes with a 90-day warranty. Stop in or call us to schedule service.



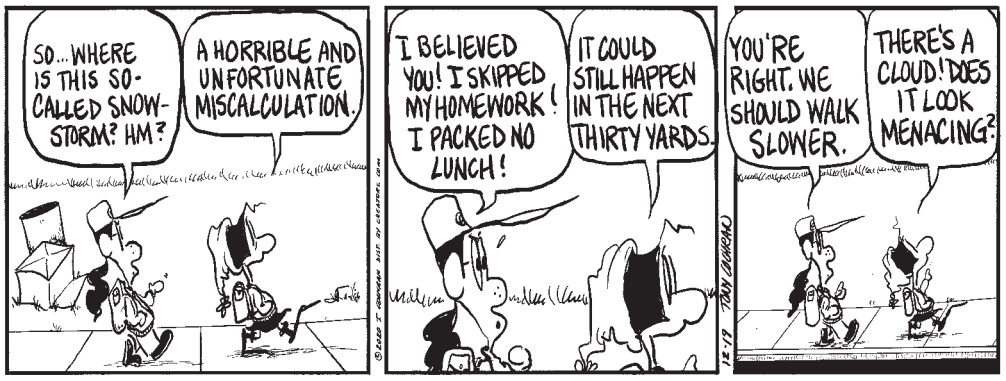
114 Wavecrest Ave, Venice
3BR | 2.5BA | 3 Car Pkg
Rare 1912 Venice Airplane Craftsman Bungalow
only 1.25 BLKs from Beach.
Vintage Charm with modern amenities. Lush garden, waterfall koi-fish pond and historic walk-street.
Amazing Opportunity $201,000 price reduction from original list price of $2,450,000



Golda Savage
310-770-4490
CalBRE # 01308198
BULLDOG REALTORS

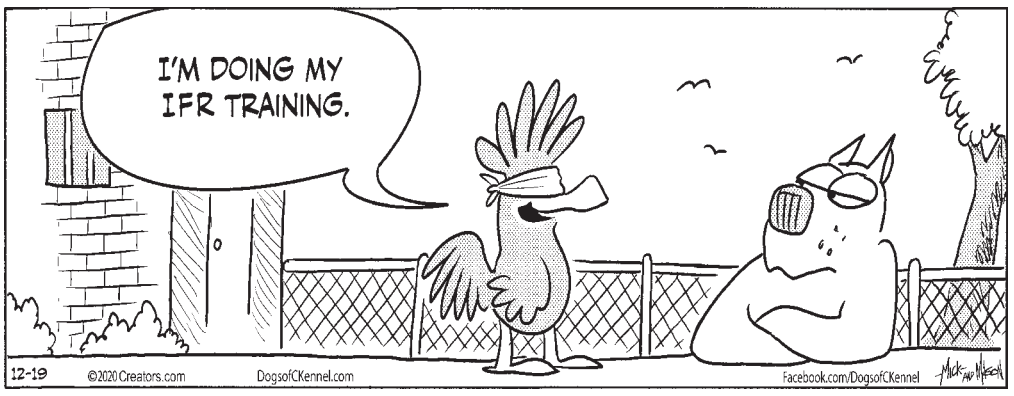
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



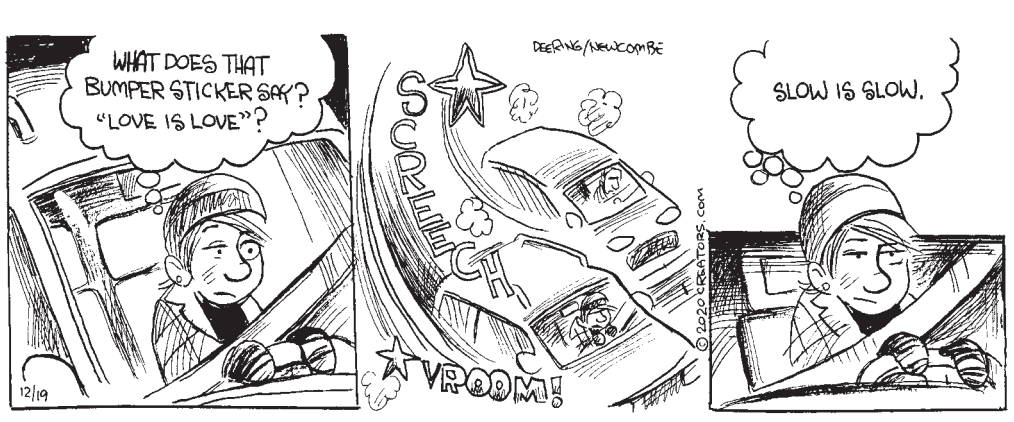
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"GRANDPA HAS BED HEAD."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 57.4°

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

SUNDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft Thigh to waist high
May see a fresh new round of steep-angled NW swell.

WEATHER

Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 68
Saturday Night: Clear, with a low around 50.
Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 73.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
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
2020/12/23	Wed	11:56 AM	1.57	L
2020/12/23	Wed	5:25 PM	3.19	H
2020/12/23	Wed	10:53 PM	1.58	L
2020/12/24	Thu	05:35 AM	4.95	H

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date:12/16
4 23 3 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: 12/17
4 16 23 34 36

Daily 3
Draw Date: 12/17
Evening: 7 9 9
Draw Date: 12/17
Midday: 7 2 9

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 12/17
1st: 09 - WINNING SPIRIT
2nd: 06 - WHIRL WIN
3rd: 10 - SOLID GOLD
RACE TIME: 1:45.44

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

RUN YOUR DBAs IN THE DAILY PRESS FOR ONLY $80
INCLUDES RECEIPT AND PROOF OF PUBLICATION. Call us today!
Santa Monica Daily Press office **(310) 458-7737**

DO YOU HAVE COMMUNITY NEWS?
Santa Monica Daily Press office **(310) 458-7737**

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (DECEMBER 19)

You're the cause for the party, the reason people meet each other, work together and maybe fall in love. You are also the benefactor of your own social savvy, your circle enhanced by a steady flow of new energy and exciting happenings. You'll earn through teaching and investing. Virgo and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 40, 15, 7, 22 and 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You can't prepare for everything. In fact, if you prepare for nothing, you'll still be OK today. You'll dip into the scene, figure out exactly what you need and go from there.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The one who avoids the question is hiding something. It's the reason that matters most though. Secrets can be kept out of graciousness, privacy or deceit.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Of course, you want the shiny, bigger-than-life, exciting enticement that's being dangled before you. Maybe you wouldn't want it under different circumstances though. Take yourself out of the situation and see what sticks.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Where wants are well-provided for, stagnation sets in. There's no need to pursue the breakthrough, innovate or elevate the thought process. Being deep and wanting more means that you are, to a certain degree, insatiable.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). In certain friendship circles the levels of disclosure are high, as are the competitive vibes. You're conversationally generous. You've been waiting for your turn to talk, and you should run with it when it comes.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You'll be intrigued by those who talk about the common things a little differently. You're being introduced to a different worldview and may be inspired to explore edgier terrain.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You realize that you have, to some degree, overcome that which once would have activated your defenses and ego. You now see the game in something you used to take quite seriously.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Calm people make better decisions. Decisions made in the heat of anger, passion or retail pressure are likely to be regrettable. Hold your tongue -- also your receipts.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). As much as you want to share, the timing of your sharing is crucial to the development of the relationship. You want to stay in charge of it. Being overly emotional results in a loss of control.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You are like the others in a group in a few key ways that matter. You're also different. Highlight the values you share for now. There will be plenty of time to challenge one another in the future.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Alexander the Great learned how to govern a state from Aristotle. As Alexander applied his firsthand experience to modify his learning, he surpassed his mentor in knowledge and power. You'll do the same.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It behooves you to create offers that are a win-win. You need support. It is only when others want to see your objectives met just as badly as you do that things start moving.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

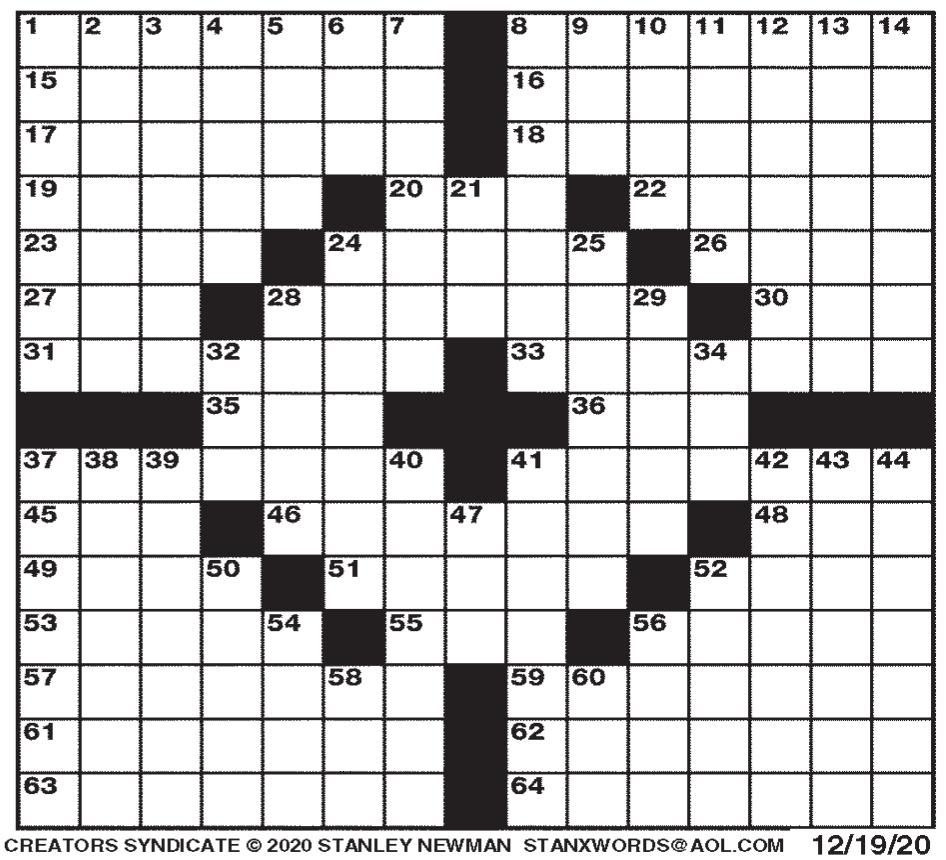
				8		7	4	
8			5		7			
6					4		8	1
		3	1			6		
			3	5	6			
		6			2	3		
9	4		2					7
			8		1			9
	7	2		3				

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Lester Ruff
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Snow job
8 Prince Philip, for one
15 Kind of spray
16 Trapped
17 Drink with steak
18 Giant of the classical guitar
19 Pens that don't write
20 Barbecue by-product
22 Potato servings
23 Clementine's shoe size
24 Astronaut's outfit
26 Different
27 St. with a panhandle
28 Steel source
30 Luminous
31 Symbol of Louisiana
33 Straightens up
35 Otter-foot feature
36 Fleming foe
37 Most assuredly
41 Supplements
45 Tourist prefix
46 Western associate
48 Unified
49 Joule per second
51 Hopeless case
52 Saturn's second-largest moon
53 Wolf down
55 Spot of trouble
56 *Casa* parts
57 __ Islands (where Guam is)
59 Pass as, perhaps
61 Extended
62 Amazon, e.g.
63 They're hysterical
64 Lavalava wearers

DOWN
1 Carrot kin
2 It's flowing with the wind
3 1st or 2nd
4 Exultation exclamation
5 Adoration target of ancient Egyptians
6 Start to stick
7 '60s TV superstar
8 Shock absorber
9 Reveal, in verse
10 Doesn't let forget
11 Stir up
12 Half of a famous air pair
13 Curbs
14 China groups
21 Day starter, in two ways
24 Miscellany
25 Certain sci-fi fan
28 Freeze
29 Keen
32 '45 battleground, for short
34 Onetime *Dinner and a Movie* airer
37 Sort of weekly
38 Calixa Lavallée's best-known tune
39 Foolish folks
40 Pac-12 team
41 They're not talking
42 Exultation exclamation
43 Like leftovers
44 "Free gift" ads
47 Strand in a lab
50 Pursues, with "for"
52 Pi, for example
54 Lose strength
56 *Bridge on the River Kwai* setting
58 ". . . __ any drop to drink"
60 Commuter train org. in many cities



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2020 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 12/19/20

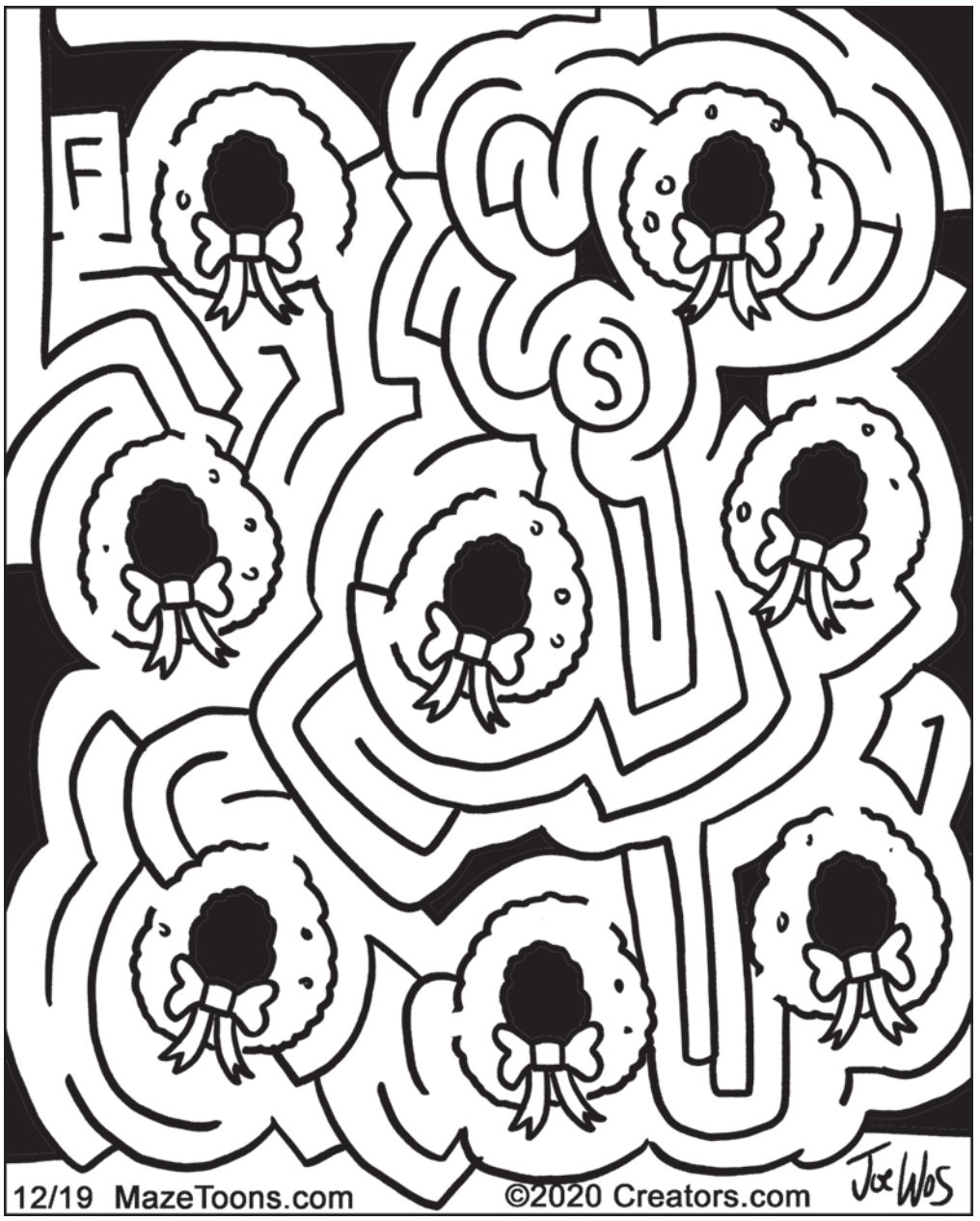
Binary Puzzle

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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



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

Locally owned, and committed to local news reporting since 2001.
smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

FIND THE WORDS

This is a theme puzzle with the subject stated below. Find the listed words in the grid. (They may run in any direction but always in a straight line. Some letters are used more than once.) Ring each word as you find it and when you have completed the puzzle, there will be 20 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com.au 4967

Favourite fruit

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

Akee
Almond
Ananas
Arnot
Ceriman
Cheap
Citron
Custard apple
Date
Egriot
Elk nut
Fox grape
Gage
Gean
Grout
Guava
Kaki
Kiwi
Loganberry
Mammee
Mast
Medlar
Melon
Morel
Muscat
Ogen
Olive
Orange
Pear
Pecan
Peel
Pips
Plum
Pome
Quandong
Raisin
Rambutan
Rasp
Rennet
Skeg
Sloe
Stone
Tamarind
Ugni
Whort

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Many parcel deliveries

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER
Santa Monica Daily Press
office (310) 458-7737

With Trump silent, reprisals for hacks may fall to Biden

ERIC TUCKER, FRANK BAJAK AND MATTHEW LEE
Associated Press

All fingers are pointing to Russia as the source of the worst-ever hack of U.S. government agencies. But President Donald Trump, long wary of blaming Moscow for cyberattacks, has been silent.

The lack of any statement seeking to hold Russia responsible casts doubt on the likelihood of a swift response and suggests any retaliation — whether through sanctions, criminal charges or cyber actions — will be left in the hands of President-elect Joe Biden's administration.

"I would imagine that the incoming administration wants a menu of what the options are and then is going to choose," said Sarah Mendelson, a Carnegie Mellon University public policy professor and former U.S. ambassador to the U.N.'s Economic and Social Council. "Is there a graduated assault? Is there an all-out assault? How much out of the gate do you want to do?"

To be sure, it's not uncommon for administrations to refrain from leveling public accusations of blame for hacks until they've accumulated enough evidence. Here, U.S. officials say they only recently became aware of devastating breaches at multiple government agencies in which foreign intelligence agents rooted around undetected for as much as nine months.

But Trump's response, or lack thereof, is being closely watched because of his preoccupation with a fruitless effort to overturn the results of last month's election and because of his reluctance to consistently acknowledge that Russian hackers interfered in the 2016 presidential election in his favor.

Exactly what action Biden might take is unclear, or how his response might be shaped by criticism that the Obama administration did not act aggressively enough to thwart interference in 2016. He offered clues in a statement Thursday, saying his administration would be proactive in preventing cyberattacks and impose costs on any adversaries behind them.

U.S. government statements so far have not mentioned Russia. Asked about Russian involvement in a radio interview Monday, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo acknowledged that Russia consistently tries to penetrate American servers, but quickly pivoted to threats from China and North Korea. Speaking to reporters Friday, Trump economic adviser Larry Kudlow did not commit to blaming the Kremlin, saying, "People are saying Russia. I don't know that. It could be other countries."

Democratic Sens. Dick Durbin and Richard Blumenthal, who were briefed Tuesday on the hacking campaign in a classified Armed Services Committee session, were unequivocal in blaming Russia.

There are other signs within the administration of a clear-eyed recognition of the severity of the attack, which happened after elite cyber spies injected malicious code into the software of a company that provides network services. For instance, the civilian cybersecurity agency warned in an advisory Thursday that the hack posed a "grave risk" to government and private networks.

A response could start with a public declaration that Russia is believed responsible, already a widely shared assessment in the U.S. government and cybersecurity community. Such statements often aren't immediate.

It took weeks after the incidents became public for the Obama administration to blame North Korea in the Sony Pictures Entertainment hack in 2014 and for then-national intelligence director James Clapper to confirm China as the "leading suspect" in hacks of the Office of Personnel Management.

Public naming-and-shaming is always part of the playbook. Trump's former homeland security adviser Thomas Bossert wrote this week in a New York Times opinion piece that "the United States, and ideally its allies, must publicly and formally attribute responsibility for these hacks." Republican Sen. Mitt Romney said in a SiriusXM interview that it was "extraordinary" the White House has not spoken out.

Another possibility is a federal indictment, assuming investigators can accumulate enough evidence to implicate individual hackers. Such cases are labor-intensive and often take years, and though they may carry slim chances of courtroom prosecution, the Justice Department regards them as having powerful deterrent effects.

Sanctions, a time-honored punishment, can have even more bite and will almost certainly be weighed by Biden. President Barack Obama sanctioned Russian intelligence services after the 2016 election interference and expelled Russian diplomats. The Trump administration and Western allies similarly expelled diplomats over Moscow's alleged poisoning of an ex-intelligence officer in Britain.

Exposing Kremlin corruption, including how Russian President Vladimir Putin accrues and hides his wealth, may amount to even more formidable retaliation.

"This isn't just a tit-for-tat or hacking back into their systems," Mendelson said. "It's, 'We're going to go for what you really care about, and what you really care about is the funds that are stashed, and revealing the larger network and how it's connected to the Kremlin.'"

The U.S. can also retaliate in cyberspace, a path made easier by a Trump administration authorization that has already resulted in some operations.

Former national security adviser John Bolton told reporters at a 2018 briefing that offensive cyber operations against foreign rivals would now be part of the U.S. arsenal and that the U.S. response would no longer be primarily defensive.

"We can totally melt down their home networks," said Jason Healey, a Columbia University cyberconflict scholar. "And any time we see their operators popping up they know that we are going to go after them, wherever they are."

U.S. Cyber Command has also taken more proactive measures, engaging in what officials describe as "hunt forward" operations designed to detect cyber threats in other countries before they reach their intended target.

Military cyber fighters, for instance, partnered with Estonia in the weeks before the U.S. presidential election in a joint operation aimed at identifying and defending against threats from Russia.

While the U.S. is also prolific in its offensive cyberintelligence-gathering — tapping allied foreign leaders' phones and inserting spyware into commercial routers, for instance — such efforts are measured compared with the infection of 18,000 government and private-sector organizations in the SolarWinds hack, Healey said.

The better response — since espionage itself is not a crime — is to triple down on defensive cybersecurity, Healey said.

David Simon, a cybersecurity expert and former Defense Department special counsel, said there must be consequences for those responsible for attacks — and the Trump administration "has fallen far short in holding the Kremlin accountable."

"Until it's clear the U.S. will impose meaningful costs on adversaries," he said in an email, "a material change in the Kremlin's behavior is not likely to be seen."

REOPENING

FROM PAGE 1

demeaning those who feel differently."

His entreatment was understandable as tensions flared high in the run up to the meeting.

A group of parents organized a petition advocating for returning students to the classroom and staged a re-open schools car rally in front of District headquarters. A group of teachers created a nine page document rebutting each of the points parents used to argue for increased in-person activities.

Both parties walked away — or in this case clicked away — from the Board meeting with key parts of their demands satisfied.

For teachers, 85 percent of which opposed a hybrid learning model, the selection of distance learning plus allayed fears of a forced classroom return in the spring.

"I know parents are struggling and their kids are suffering, but so are my teachers. They have the same fears for themselves and their families while they work seven days a week to create a five day a week learning community for our students," said Teachers' Union President Sarah Braff. "As this global pandemic continues to rage unabated, we need to focus on what we can do well in distance learning plus."

For the parent organization, whose members originally preferred a hybrid model, the District's willingness set up meetings and Dr. Drati's decision to receive their petition in person at the car rally fostered a productive dialogue.

The organizers adapted their demands to maximizing the 'plus' aspect of the District's plan and were pleased to hear Board members support their propositions in Thursday's meeting.

"Not only did the SMMUSD school board feel the pressure from this petition and from yesterday's rally in front of district headquarters; they embraced each and every one of our policy recommendations at the public meeting last night," stated a Dec. 18 petition update.

The 'plus' aspect of the plan, while drawing some criticism for its fuzzy definition, is intended to be an adaptable concept, allowing in-person activities to ramp up as the threat of COVID-19 recedes.

"We should set standards for 'plus'. We should be incredibly flexible in letting site administrators and families define what those are and how to meet those standards for their schools sites," said Board Member Richard Tahvildaran Jesswein.

The concept's flexibility does not mean it will be without clear expectations. Board members urged the District to define 'plus' activities in the coming weeks and said they should focus on supporting special education students, English language learners, and students with individualized education programs.

Once L.A. County enters Tier 2, the District has committed to providing at least two meaningful on-campus experiences per week including at least one with a classroom teacher.

While in Tier 1, the District is also pursuing waiver approval for a hybrid reopening of Transitional Kindergarten through Grade 2. Parent advocates are pushing the District to work now on a concrete plan for moving ahead if this is granted.

"When and if waivers are approved — because I don't know if it's when or if it's if the way things are looking — we need to find a coalition of the willing," said Kean, emphasizing the need to gain the support of both families and teachers to move forward with TK - 2 reopening.

Clara@smdp.com



Explore Life on the water

Stand Up Paddleboard & Kayak Lessons & Rentals

Team Building Events | Excursions | Paddle Cruises | Board Sales







PRO SUP SHOP

Discover the beauty of Marina del Rey from the water

Our calm, flat waters are the best place in Los Angeles to go for a paddle, whether you're trying your hand at Stand Up Paddleboarding for the first time or looking to have a leisurely kayak cruise, Pro SUP Shop has you covered

prosupshop | prosupshop | prosups

Pro SUP Shop is located at the Southwest end of the Jamaica Bay Inn parking lot
4175 Admiralty Wy. Marina del Rey, CA | prosupshop.com | 310.989.4350 | info@prosupshop.com