NICK THE GREEK SOUVLAKI & GYRO HOUSE
@NICKTHEGREEK

AUTHENTIC GREEK STREET FOOD



219 Arizona Ave Corner of 3rd Street Promenade Santa Monica, CA 90401

Southern California Locations
Santa Monica
Westwood UCLA
Westlake/Thousand oaks
Woodland Hills
Ventura
Newport Beach
Fullerton
San Diego
www.nickthegreek.com

smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press

WEDNESDAY
12.22.21
Volume 21 Issue 33

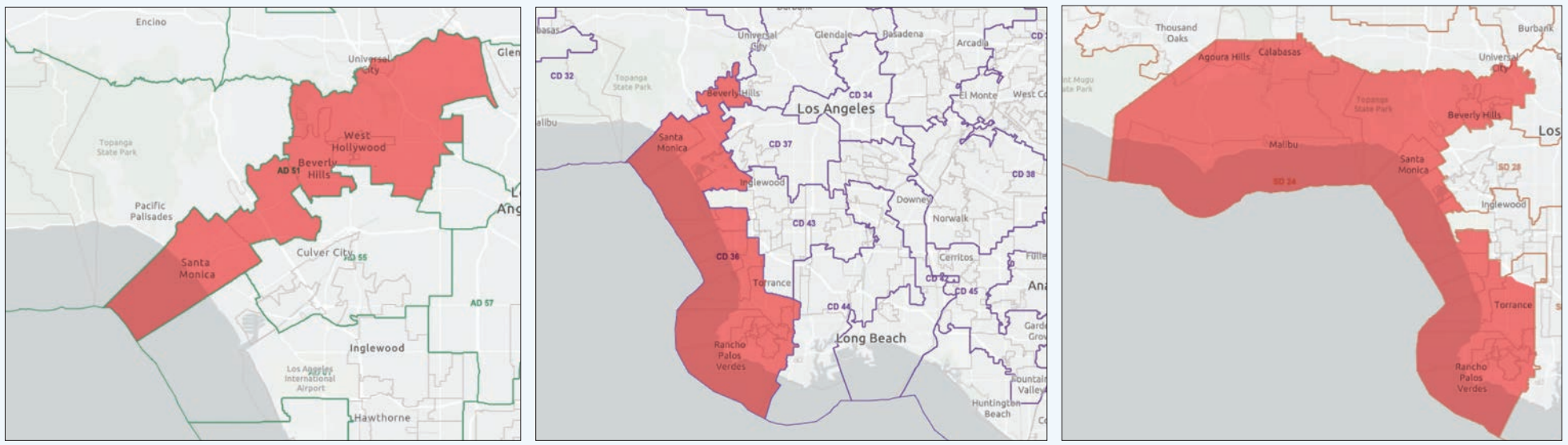
@smdailypress @smdailypress Santa Monica Daily Press smdp.com

Mortgage payments
State offering aid.
Page 11

Letter to the Editor
Residents want to buy houses.
Page 3

Redistricting creates strange bedfellows for Santa Monica

The new Assembly District 51 cuts a corridor inland along Santa Monica Boulevard through Hollywood, encompassing Griffith Park. Previously, the city was in the coastal Assembly District 50, which stretched from Malibu to West Hollywood.



SMDP Image

DISTRICTS: **Redrawn districts for State Assembly, Congress and State Senate are a mixed bag for Santa Monica with additions and subtractions depending on the map.**

EMILY SAWICKI & KATHLEEN RONAYNE

Beginning in 2022, Santa Monica's assembly district will include some new territory: Griffith Park. The new Assembly District 51 cuts inland, rather than along the coast, combining Santa Monica's two-and-three-quarter miles of coastline with 4,210-acre Griffith Park, and most everything in between along Santa Monica Boulevard.

Assemblymember Richard Bloom, who previously announced his candidacy for LA County supervisor, will not be running to retain his seat in the new AD-51.

Speaking to the Daily Press on Tuesday, Bloom called the new district lines "a net loss for Santa Monica," adding that the previous

SEE **REDISTRICTING** PAGE 11

Planning Commission greenlights dog hotel and 24/7 BevMo delivery

CLARA HARTER
SMDP Staff Writer

In their last meeting of the year, planning commissioners approved a permit for the Wag Hotels chain to open a kennel in Santa Monica and gave the Wilshire Blvd. BevMo! permission to extend online order and delivery service to 24/7 for non-alcoholic products and until 2 a.m. for alcoholic products.

The dog kennel will be located in two adjacent buildings at 1634 and 1653 19th Street. The complex will host 146 private dog rooms and eight private cat rooms, while the surface parking lot in between the buildings will be converted into five individually fenced-in outdoor play areas surrounded by sound blocking walls.

The hotel will have a maximum overnight occupancy of 190 guests and an anticipated average daycare

SEE **PLANNING** PAGE 7

DTSM CEO leaves for Hollywood

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Longtime Downtown Santa Monica (DTSM) CEO Kathleen Rawson has announced her departure from the position to become CEO of The Hollywood Partnership.

Rawson has been with DTSM for 25 years and will depart Santa Monica in January.

"It has been an absolute privilege to serve this incredible community for the last 25 years. I am immensely proud of the work we have done at DTSM and would like to thank all those who I have had the pleasure of working with along the way," said Rawson in a statement. "It has been my honor to serve alongside the many DTSM staff and board

SEE **DTSM** PAGE 11



Gary Limjap
(310) 586-0339
In today's real estate climate ...
Experience counts!
garylimjap@gmail.com
www.garylimjap.com
COLDWELL BANKER
CalRE # 00927151

Let Us Help Address Early Memory Loss
www.wiseandhealthyaging.org
(310) 394-9871
A Veterans Benefit!
A Program of WISE & Healthy Aging
WISE Minds

TAXES
ALL FORMS, ALL TYPES, ALL STATES
BACK TAXES • BOOKKEEPING • SMALL BUSINESS
SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA
(310) 395-9922
100 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1800 Santa Monica 90401



City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION
VIA TELECONFERENCE
Pursuant to AB361

SUBJECT: 21ENT-0197 (Conditional Use Permit)
1416 Wilshire Boulevard
APPLICANT: Harvest of Santa Monica, LLC
PROPERTY OWNER: BRLS Properties CA-Santa Monica, LLC

A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission to consider the following request:

The applicant requests approval of a Conditional Use Permit (21ENT-0197) to establish a medicinal cannabis retailer use occupying an approximately 2,480 square foot tenant space in the Mixed-Use Boulevard (MUB) zoning district. Pursuant to Santa Monica Municipal Code Section 9.31.185, as amended by Interim Zoning Ordinance No. 2631, a Conditional Use Permit is required to establish a medicinal cannabis retailer use.

DATE/TIME: **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2022 AT 5:30 PM**

LOCATION: In an effort to reduce the risk of spreading Coronavirus (COVID-19), members of the Planning Commission and City Staff will participate via teleconference. The meeting will be broadcast on CityTV Channel 16 and streamed on the City's website as normal but participants may also join the teleconference via https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/daqajcsq or by dialing in at 1-415-466-7000 (PIN: 9881342 #)

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Those wishing to give written public comment shall email comments to planningcomment@smgov.net. Comments received prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Planning Commission prior to the meeting and posted online. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

Additionally, public comment can be made by telephone by calling 1-408-740-7256 (Meeting ID: 790463640 and Passcode: 0675 followed by #) when the caller queue opens for the item on which you wish to comment. Remarks from the public made by telephone will be limited to up to 3 minutes per item. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment.

Address your comments to: Tony Kim, Principal Planner
Re: 21ENT-0197

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

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

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 281 CALLS ON DECEMBER 20

Audible Burglar Alarm 2000Blk 6th St 12:04 a.m.
Petty Theft Now 2500Blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:38 a.m.
Burglary Report 2900Blk Neilson Way 12:42 a.m.
Party Complaint 1400Blk 2nd St 1:13 a.m.
Drunk Driving Investigation Lincoln Blvd / Ocean Park Blvd 1:41 a.m.
Overdose 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 1:50 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 700Blk 7th St 2:29 a.m.
Fraud Report 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 2:34 a.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 700Blk 7th St 3:48 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 2100Blk La Mesa Dr 4:15 a.m.
Encampment 1100Blk Palisades Park 5:43 a.m.
Critical Missing Person 2000Blk Arizona Ave 6:06 a.m.
Encampment 4th St / Arizona Ave 6:35 a.m.
Encampment 2100Blk The Beach 7:05 a.m.
Burglary Report 3300Blk Barnard Way 7:32 a.m.
Grand Theft Just Occurred 3200Blk Wilshire Blvd 7:39 a.m.
Domestic Violence Just Occurred 400Blk Bay St 7:50 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1800Blk Ocean Ave 8:02 a.m.
Fraud Report 300Blk Pacific St 8:42 a.m.
Encampment 1100Blk Palisades Park 8:48 a.m.
Traffic Hazard 1300Blk 26th St 8:55 a.m.
Encampment Ocean Ave / Pico Blvd 9:02 a.m.
General Parking Problem 300Blk Olympic Dr 9:03 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1100Blk Harvard St 9:09 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1400Blk 4th St 9:15 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1600Blk 9th St 9:32 a.m.
Person With A Gun 700Blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:41 a.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1300Blk Palisades Beach rd 9:44 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1300Blk 23rd St 9:49 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2100Blk 20th St 9:50 a.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1600Blk Appian Way 9:52 a.m.
Fraud Report 300Blk Pacific St 9:57 a.m.
Death Investigation 3000Blk 3rd St 10:00 a.m.
Expired Registration 1200Blk 24th St 10:01 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 2500Blk 28th St 10:04 a.m.
Burglary Report 2400Blk Beverley Ave 10:05 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 400Blk Broadway 10:10 a.m.
Vehicle With Excessive Parking Violations 1100Blk Broadway 10:22 a.m.
Encampment 10th St / Arizona Ave 10:46 a.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 200Blk Broadway 11:00 a.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1200Blk 20th St 11:10 a.m.
Traffic Collision - Unknown Injuries Lincoln Blvd / California Ave 11:28 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1500Blk 17th St 11:30 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 2000Blk Arizona Ave 11:39 a.m.
Traffic Control Request - Level 1 Lincoln Blvd / California Ave 11:41 a.m.
Animal Related Incident 1400Blk 7th St 12:02 p.m.
Encampment 2000Blk Ocean Front Walk 12:09 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 2400Blk 20th St 12:09 p.m.
Expired Registration 3000Blk Arizona Ave 1:19 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 1200Blk 4th St 1:23 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 900Blk 21st St 1:49 p.m.
General Parking Problem 700Blk Navy St 1:52 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1300Blk Harvard St 1:58 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1900Blk Warwick Ave 2:05 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1200Blk Grant St 2:10 p.m.
Expired Registration 1800Blk Yorkshire Ave 2:49 p.m.
Overdose 1000Blk Pico Blvd 2:52 p.m.
Failure To Pay Parking Fee 1500Blk Pacific Coast Hwy 3:09 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 2800Blk Kansas Ave 3:12 p.m.
Fraud Report 2500Blk Beverley Ave 3:15 p.m.
Person With A Gun Euclid St / Grant St 3:20 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 1500Blk Stanford St 3:45 p.m.
Critical Missing Person 2300Blk 31st St 3:58 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1000Blk Broadway 4:12 p.m.
Battery Now 2000Blk Ocean Ave 4:16 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1800Blk Michigan Ave 4:33 p.m.
Fraud Report 2900Blk 4th St 4:34 p.m.
Violation Of Posted Sign 1100Blk 12th St 4:51 p.m.
Traffic Control Request - Level 1 1400Blk 3rd Street Prom 5:34 p.m.
Lost Property 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 5:40 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 200Blk Santa Monica Blvd 5:54 p.m.
Grand Theft Auto Report 800Blk 5th St 5:57 p.m.
Out Of Order Traffic Signals 20th St / Olympic Blvd 5:58 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1700Blk Ocean Park Blvd 6:19 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1400Blk 20th St 6:46 p.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper Just Occurred 1400Blk 4th St 6:59 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries Main St / Bicknell Ave 7:18 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1400Blk 5th St 7:34 p.m.
Public Intoxication 300Blk Santa Monica Pier 7:39 p.m.
Out Of Order Traffic Signals 20th St / Colorado Ave 7:45 p.m.
Person Down 1500Blk 14th St 7:50 p.m.
Grand Theft Now 2600Blk Centinela Ave 8:19 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 2200Blk Stewart St 8:51 p.m.
Violation Of Preferential Parking Zone 1300Blk 18th St 8:56 p.m.
Traffic Hazard 100Blk Colorado Ave 8:57 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 2800Blk Pico Blvd 8:59 p.m.
Animal Related Incident 1200Blk 11th St 9:13 p.m.
Audible Burglar Alarm 1300Blk 3rd Street Prom

SEE **POLICE LOG** PAGE 5

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 24 CALLS ON DECEMBER 20

EMS 400Blk Ocean Ave 2:15 a.m.
EMS 1100Blk 12th St 3:42 a.m.
EMS 2000Blk Arizona Ave 4:44 a.m.
EMS 2500Blk 3rd St 7:56 a.m.
EMS 3000Blk 3rd St 9:56 a.m.
EMS 1500Blk 14th St 10:28 a.m.
Traffic Collision With Injury Lincoln Blvd / California Ave 11:28 a.m.
EMS 2200Blk 29th St 11:38 a.m.
EMS 2000Blk Arizona Ave 11:40 a.m.
EMS 500Blk Colorado Ave 11:44 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 1600Blk Main St 11:58 a.m.
EMS 3000Blk Main St 12:13 p.m.
EMS 1500Blk 4th St 12:42 p.m.
EMS 1800Blk 9th St 1:05 p.m.
EMS 1400Blk Grant St 1:15 p.m.
EMS 2500Blk 20th St 1:23 p.m.
EMS 3rd Street Prom / Wilshire Blvd 2:00 p.m.
EMS 700Blk Raymond Ave 2:51 p.m.
Public Assist 1500Blk California Ave 2:55 p.m.
EMS 2400Blk 34th St 4:08 p.m.
Wires Down 600Blk 11th St 4:56 p.m.
EMS 1500Blk 5th St 5:29 p.m.
EMS 1500Blk 14th St 7:50 p.m.
EMS 2300Blk 2nd St 9:58 p.m.

Letter to the Editor

Peter Borresen Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Editor

Residents are desperate to buy their own homes.

Santa Monica massively penalizes condo construction relative to apartment construction.

This city is must equalize the fees and parking requirements for condos and apartments, otherwise it will crush the hopes and savings of our future residents. The city should encourage condo construction relative to apartment construction at all stages of planning and permitting.

Santa Monica is drowning in new and upcoming, expensive, luxury apartment buildings.

Where are the new condo buildings that residents can buy, and put down roots, and grow multi-generational wealth from?

At the moment only the corporate apartment building owners will get rich, everyone else will struggle to find homes, and will never grow long term wealth to fund their retirement from.

Renters do not stay in expensive, new, luxury apartments for long. They will stay in condos they own for many years.

People are crying out to own, and the city is ignoring them.

The city does not need more, new luxury apartments. We have enough already. We need homes to buy.

Peter Borresen, Santa Monica.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SAN DIEGO

Judge rules against San Diego schools in COVID vaccine suit

A judge has ruled against the San Diego public school system's COVID-19 vaccine mandate for students, saying the requirement set to begin Jan. 24 conflicts with state law.

San Diego Superior Court Judge John Meyer ruled Monday that the San Diego Unified School District does not have the authority to establish its own vaccine mandate, KNSD-TV reported.

The tentative ruling sided with the parent group "Let Them Choose," which filed the lawsuit in October arguing that the decision to mandate vaccines must be made at the state level and also needs to include a "personal belief exemption" – unless the state Legislature acts to eliminate the exemption.

All California public schools will eventually come under a state mandate requiring the COVID-19 vaccine for in-person school attendance, but a deadline has not been set yet because the state requirement is tied to full approval of the vaccine by the Food and Drug Administration.

Gov. Gavin Newsom has encouraged local districts in the meantime to impose their own student mandates for the COVID-19 vaccine.

San Diego Unified announced in September it would require all students 16 and older to get the COVID-19 vaccine to attend in-person classes starting Jan. 24. Unvaccinated students, unless they have a medical exemption, would have to transfer into the district's remote learning program, according to the mandate that does not include religious or personal belief exemptions.

In his ruling, Meyer said that San Diego Unified will be required to allow students to attend in-person as long as they have received the 10 vaccines mandated by the state, which does not include the COVID-19 vaccine.

The judge also said that state law requires independent study programs to be voluntary – and a forced transfer into such a program violates state law.

Meyer has five days to sign Monday's ruling, and the school district can decide to appeal, during which the ruling can't be enforced.

Mark R. Bresee, an attorney for San Diego Unified, expressed disappointment with the ruling and said the district is considering its options for how to respond.

The judge "concluded only the state can act regarding vaccinations, even though the law specifically allows and encourages local vaccination programs," Bresee said in a statement. "Even Judge Meyer acknowledged in his ruling that the vaccine mandate 'appears to be necessary and rational, and the district's desire to protect its students from COVID-19 is commendable.'"

San Diego Unified is one of several large school districts in California to announce such mandates. Other districts with similar mandates include Los Angeles, Oakland, Sacramento and West Contra Costa Unified school districts.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thank you for buying local.

Buy Local SANTA MONICA

buylocalsantamonica.com TM

It makes a difference!

City of Santa Monica

**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION
VIA TELECONFERENCE
Pursuant to AB361**

SUBJECT: 21ENT-0106 (Development Review Permit)
21ENT-0107 (Vesting Tentative Parcel Map)
1674 20th Street
APPLICANT: BH 1674 20th Street Santa Monica, LLC
PROPERTY OWNER: Jan Properties LLC

A public hearing will be held by the Planning Commission to consider the following request:

Development Review Permit and Vesting Tentative Parcel Map to a Tier 2, 51,000 SF public storage facility with three levels above ground, two subterranean levels, thirteen covered parking spaces are provided at grade.

DATE/TIME: **WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2022 AT 5:30 PM**

LOCATION: In an effort to reduce the risk of spreading Coronavirus (COVID-19), members of the Planning Commission and City Staff will participate via teleconference. The meeting will be broadcast on CityTV Channel 16 and streamed on the City's website as normal but participants may also join the teleconference via https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/daqajcsq or by dialing in at 1-415-466-7000 (PIN: 9881342 #)

HOW TO COMMENT

The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. Those wishing to give written public comment shall email comments to planningcomment@smgov.net. Comments received prior to 12 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Planning Commission prior to the meeting and posted online. Please note the agenda item in your comments.

Additionally, public comment can be made by telephone by calling 1-408-740-7256 (Meeting ID: 790463640 and Passcode: 0675 followed by #) when the caller queue opens for the item on which you wish to comment. Remarks from the public made by telephone will be limited to up to 3 minutes per item. Please check the agenda for more detailed instructions on how to comment.

Address your comments to: James Combs, Associate Planner
Re: 21ENT-0106 & 21ENT-0107

MORE INFORMATION

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

ESPAÑOL

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Los Angeles

'Summer of Soul,' 'Drive My Car' make Oscars shortlist

Documentaries about Julia Child, "Black Woodstock," the pandemic and The Velvet Underground and acclaimed international films like Japan's "Drive My Car," Iran's "A Hero" and Norway's "The Worst Person in the World" just got a little closer to scoring Oscar nominations.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences on Tuesday Wednesday unveiled its shortlists for several categories, including documentary feature, international feature, original song, original score, visual effects and makeup and hairstyling. Nominations for all categories for the 94th Oscars will be announced on Feb. 8.

Members of the documentary branch of the academy culled from 138 eligible films to pick 15 shortlist selections, including two pandemic-themed films ("In the Same Breath," "The First Wave"), Questlove's "Summer of Soul (...Or, When the Revolution Could Not Be Televised)" about a near-forgotten 1969 music event, Julie Cohen and Betsy West's "Julia" and Todd Haynes' "The Velvet Underground." Other notable selections are "The Rescue," about the Thai soccer team and their rescue for a remote cave, "Procession," "Attica" and "Flee." "Billie Eilish: The World's a Little Blurry" also made the cut.

"Flee," an animated documentary about an Afghan refugee made by Danish filmmaker Jonas Poher Rasmussen was also among the films that advanced in the international feature category. Other strong contenders include Ryusuke Hamaguchi "Drive My Car," which has been a critics group darling, Asghar Farhadi's Iranian drama "A Hero," Italian director Paolo Sorrentino's semi-autobiographical "The Hand of God" and Joachim Trier's dark romantic comedy "The Worst Person in the World," from Norway. France's entry, "Titane," did not make the cut despite having won the top prize at the Cannes Film Festival earlier this year.

Original songs in contention include some from major music stars like Beyoncé's "Be Alive," from "King Richard," Billie Eilish's James Bond song "No Time To Die," Van Morrison's "Down to Joy" from "Belfast," U2's "Sing 2" song, Kid Cudi and JAY-Z's "Guns Go Bang" from "The Harder they Fall," Brian Wilson's "Where I Belong" and Ariana Grande's "Don't Look Up."

Composers Jonny Greenwood ("The Power of the Dog," "Spencer") and Hans Zimmer ("Dune," "No Time To Die") could be in store for double original song nominations come Feb. 8. Blockbusters like "Dune" and "No Time To Die" also advanced in a number of categories including visual effects, sound and makeup and hairstyling.

Winners will be revealed at the ceremony on Sunday, March 27, which will be broadcast live on ABC.

LINDSEY BAHR AP FILM WRITER



PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra,
Matthew King,
Kimberly Jaffe.

CIRCULATION
Guadalupe Navarro
ross@smdp.com
Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

AWARD WINNER

STAFF WRITERS
Clara Harter
clara@smdp.com

Emily Sawicki
emily@smdp.com

DIRECTOR OF ADVERTISING
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Dina Araniva
dina@smdp.com

PRODUCTION
Esteban Inchaustegui
production@smdp.com
Diana Corona
diana@smdp.com
Julio Davalos
julio@smdp.com

AWARD WINNER

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.

WINNER

Biden pivots to home tests to confront omicron surge

JOSH BOAK, RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR AND COLLEEN LONG
Associated Press

Fighting the omicron variant surging through the country, President Joe Biden announced the government will provide 500 million free rapid home-testing kits, increase support for hospitals under strain and redouble vaccination and boosting efforts.

At the White House on Tuesday, Biden detailed major changes to his COVID-19 winter plan, his hand forced by the fast-spreading variant, whose properties are not yet fully understood by scientists. Yet his message was clear that the winter holidays could be close to normal for the vaccinated while potentially dangerous for the unvaccinated.

His pleas are not political, he emphasized. He noted that former President Donald Trump has gotten his booster shot, and he said it's Americans' "patriotic duty" to get vaccinated.

"It's the only responsible thing to do," the president said. "Omicron is serious and potentially deadly business for unvaccinated people."

Biden chastised social media and people on cable TV who have made misleading statements to discourage people from getting vaccinated.

The outbreak from this latest strain of the coronavirus has required the federal government to get more aggressive in addressing the wave of infections, but Biden promised a weary nation that there would not be a mass lockdown of schools or businesses.

"I know you're tired, and I know you're frustrated. We all want this to be over. But we're still in it," Biden said. "We also have more tools than we had before. We're ready, we'll get through this."

Scientists don't know everything about omicron yet, but they do know that vaccination should offer strong protection against severe illness and death. The variant has spread at such an alarming rate since it was identified in South Africa about a month ago that the Biden administration snapped into action to offer new tests and additional aid. Still more is needed, some medical experts said.

A cornerstone of the plan is for the government to purchase 500 million coronavirus rapid tests for free shipment to Americans starting in January. People will use a new website to order their tests, which will then be sent by U.S. mail at no charge. The 500 million could be increased, depending on developments.

It marks a major shift for Biden, who earlier had called for many Americans to purchase the hard-to-find tests on their own and then seek reimbursement from health insurance. For the first time, the U.S. government will send free COVID-19 tests directly to Americans, after more than a year of urging by public health experts.

Experts had criticized Biden's initial buy-first, get-paid-later approach as unwieldy and warned that the U.S. would face another round of testing problems at a critical time. Testing advocates point to nations including the U.K. and Germany, which have distributed billions of tests to the public and recommend people test themselves twice a week.

The federal government will also establish new testing sites and use the Defense Production Act to help manufacture more tests. The first new federally supported testing site will open in New York this week. The new sites will add to 20,000 already available. White House officials said they're working with Google so that people will be able to find them by searching "free COVID test near me."

Still, Biden's testing surge would need to be supported by a further jump in production for all Americans to test at the recommended rate of twice weekly. The U.S. would need 2.3 billion tests per month for everyone 12 and older to do that, according to the nonprofit Kaiser Family Foundation. That's nearly five times the half-billion tests Biden will deploy.

Currently, the U.S. can conduct about 600 million tests per month, with home tests accounting for about half, according to researchers from Arizona State University.

In another prong to Biden's amped-up plan, he is prepared to deploy an additional 1,000 troops with medical skills to assist hospitals buckling under the virus surge. Also, he is immediately sending federal medical personnel to Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Arizona, New Hampshire and Vermont. And there are plans to ready additional ventilators and protective equipment from the national stockpile, expanding hospital resources.

As a backstop, the Federal Emergency Management Agency will deploy hundreds of ambulances and paramedic teams so that if one hospital fills up, it can transport patients to open beds in another. Ambulances are already headed to New York and Maine, and paramedic teams are going to New Hampshire, Vermont and Arizona.

But vaccination remains the main defense, since it can head off disease in the first place. The government will support multiple vaccination sites and provide hundreds of personnel to administer shots. New rules will make it easier for pharmacists to work across state lines to administer a broader range of shots.

Biden said in response to a question that he may lift the Southern Africa travel ban that was imposed to delay omicron from reaching the U.S.

Some prominent experts said that Biden's new actions are a step in the right direction but he hasn't gone far enough, given the risks of infections and hospitals being overwhelmed.

"I don't know that the measures being proposed are going to be adequate," said Dr. Peter Hotez, dean of the National School of Tropical Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

Hotez said the government may need to authorize a second booster shot for health care workers to prevent infections that would sideline clinicians when all hands are needed.

Dr. Eric Topol, professor of molecular

SEE **BIDEN** PAGE 11

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.

US population growth at lowest rate in pandemic's 1st year

MIKE SCHNEIDER
Associated Press

U.S. population growth dipped to its lowest rate since the nation's founding during the first year of the pandemic as the coronavirus curtailed immigration, delayed pregnancies and killed hundreds of thousands of U.S. residents, according to figures released Tuesday.

The United States grew by only 0.1%, with an additional 392,665 added to the U.S. population from July 2020 to July 2021, bringing the nation's count to 331.8 million people, according to population estimates released by the U.S. Census Bureau.

The U.S. has been experiencing slow population growth for years but the pandemic exacerbated that trend. This past year was the first time since 1937 that the nation's population grew by less than 1 million people.

"I was expecting low growth but nothing this low," said William Frey, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution's metropolitan policy program, Brookings Metro. "It tells us that this pandemic has had a huge impact on us in all kinds of ways, and now demography."

Once there's a handle on the pandemic, the U.S. may eventually see a decrease in deaths, but population growth likely won't bounce back to what it has been in years past because of fewer births. That will increase the need for immigration by younger workers whose taxes can support programs such as Social Security, Frey said.

"We have an aging population and that means fewer women in child-bearing ages," Frey said. "We see younger people putting off having children and they're going to have fewer children."

The decision not to have children by young families may be driven by financial worries as much, if not more, than health concerns, said Linda Kahn, a professor at New York University and lead researcher in a study that showed that almost half of New York City mothers who had been trying to become pregnant before the pandemic began in the U.S. in March 2020 stopped in the first few months of the outbreak.

"COVID really was a stress test of our whole system and how it fails to support women and families," Kahn said. "Women were much harder hit in the pandemic. They lost their jobs at greater rates and had to give up their jobs, often to do home-schooling. The pressures on women were enormous and there's really no safety net in the U.S."

The population estimates are derived from calculating the number of births, deaths and migration in the U.S. For the first time, international migration surpassed natural increases that come from births outnumbering deaths. There was a net increase of nearly 245,000 residents from international migration but only about 148,000 from new births outnumbering deaths.

International migration dropped by about half from the previous year because of COVID-19 restrictions, such as borders being closed for nonessential travel and the closure of many consulates abroad where visas are issued. As recently as 2016, the U.S. had a net increase of more than 1 million international migrants.

In more than two dozen states, most notably Florida, deaths outnumbered births. Deaths exceeded births in Florida by more than 45,000 people, but the state's saving grace was a migration gain of more than 259,000 people, the nation's highest.

University of New Hampshire demographer Kenneth Johnson described the decline in the United States' natural population increase as "stunning," saying it was the smallest spread of births over deaths in more than 80 years.

"Of course most of this is COVID, but not all of it," Johnson said. "U.S. natural increase was already at a low ebb prior to COVID with the fertility rate hitting a new record low each year and deaths steadily rising due to the population aging."

Between 2020 and 2021, 33 states saw population increases, primarily through domestic migration, while 17 states and the District of Columbia lost population.

States in the Mountain West saw the biggest year-over-year growth rate, with Idaho growing by almost 3%, and Utah and Montana each seeing population increases of 1.7%. The District of Columbia lost 2.9% of its population, while New York and Illinois lost 1.6% and 0.9% of their populations, respectively. In pure numbers, California had the greatest net population loss of any state from people leaving: almost 353,000.

While the pandemic gave some people the option of working remotely, data released last month by the Census Bureau shows there was no great migration in the U.S. because of it.

Some did take advantage of the opportunity, however. Tired of the heat, hurricane threats and traffic in Houston, tech worker Heidi Krueger moved to a small town south of Knoxville, Tennessee, in September. She can see the Great Smoky Mountains from her front porch.

"Because I was working from home during the pandemic, it made it feasible to move and still keep my same job," Krueger said. "As long as I have internet, I can still connect to our clients."

POLICE LOG

FROM PAGE 2

9:17 p.m.
Oversize Vehicle Violation 500Blk Georgina Ave 9:24 p.m.
Construction Noise 2200Blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:35 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 00Blk Seaview Ter 9:57 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1700Blk Appian Way 9:58 p.m.
Loud Music 2400Blk 6th St 10:03 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1300Blk 15th St 10:04 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 2nd St / Colorado Ave 10:16 p.m.
Loud Music 1700Blk Robson Ave 10:39 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop Lincoln Blvd / Olympic Blvd E 10:41 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 1800Blk Lincoln Blvd 11:11 p.m.
Traffic/Vehicle Stop 1600Blk Pico Blvd 11:31 p.m.

Santa Monica Daily Press
Classifieds
FOR QUOTES PLEASE CALL 310-573-8074
or email cindy@smdp.com

CLASSIFICATIONS					
Announcements	Pets	Rent	Storage Space	Business Opportunities	Lost and Found
Creative	Boats	Houses for Rent	Vehicles for Sale	Yard Sales	Personals
Employment	Jewelry	Roommates	Massage	Health and Beauty	Psychic
For Sale	WantedvvTravel	Commercial Lease	Services	Fitness	Obituaries
Furniture	Vacation Rentals	Real Estate	Computer Services	Wealth and Success	Tutoring
	Apartments/Condos	Real Estate Loans	Attorney Services		

Help Wanted

Mgrs of Data Intel/Strategy at William Warren Properties in Santa Monica, CA. Anlyze/ dvlp math models to optimize operating efficiency across biz domains w/ large datasets. Email resume to: recruiting@ williamwarren.com; Subject: Job ID# MDIS42.

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED HERE

Santa Monica Daily Press 1640 5th Street, Suite 218, Santa Monica, CA 90401

FINDING A NEW DENTIST IS TOUGH!!!
(BUT WE MAKE IT EASY!!!)
YOUR CHOICE

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

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

AND OF COURSE WE DO
• Invisalign • Periodontist on Staff • Oral Surgeon on Staff
• Cosmetics and Implants • Zoom bleaching • and more

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



WWW.ALANRUBENSTEINDDS.COM

Pumps, Hoses & More



Don't end up underwater this rainy season. Bourget Bros. carries a full line of:

Utility & Submersible Pumps For Your Pool

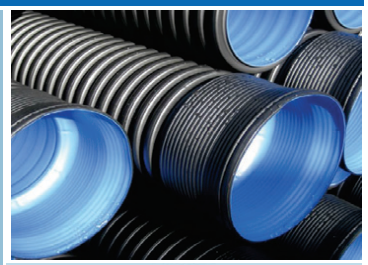
Engine Driven Pumps

Discharge Hoses

Fountain Pumps

Drain Pipes

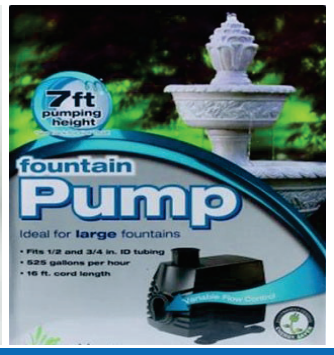
Water Boots & More













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

FIX YOUR CREDIT CONSULTING

Better Credit.
Better Life.

We are a top rated and fully bonded credit repair consulting company. We are extremely aggressive and also teach you how to maintain good credit. After reviewing your credit report, our Credit Consultants determine a customized fee based on your situation.

5 stars on yelp



Give Us A Call Today! (877) 212-2450
fixyourcreditconsulting.com

California more prepared for latest surge of new virus cases

ADAM BEAM
Associated Press

California is poised for a surge in new coronavirus infections as a far more contagious version of the disease spreads among holiday parties and family gatherings forced indoors by a series of winter storms.

But experts say the nation's most populous state is likely to avoid the worst scenario — spikes in hospitalizations and deaths — because most Californians have either been vaccinated or already been infected. That gives the state a higher level or protection against the omicron variant that, while not guaranteeing people won't get sick, means they are less likely to need to go to the hospital.

"It's a highly transmissible respiratory virus and people are going to get it. And they are going to get it every winter," said Dr. Monica Gandhi, a professor of infectious diseases at the University of California, San Francisco. "We have to go toward measuring our true success with a disease, which is how we're doing with hospitalizations."

California has fared far better than many other states so far, with areas in the Midwest and Northeast seeing the biggest surge in cases and hospitalizations amid frigid temperatures that have kept people indoors.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention lists California as a place with "high" transmission of the virus, along with nearly everywhere else in the country. But in the last week California averaged 114 new cases per 100,000 people, less than half of the national rate.

Meanwhile, coronavirus related hospitalizations have been rising slowly in California, up 9% in the last two weeks to 3,523. That's less than half of what it was during the late summer peak fueled by the delta variant and one-fifth what it was a year ago, before vaccines were widely available.

But while hospitals overall have fewer patients than last winter, many have fewer workers to treat the patients they do have. The staffing shortage comes as businesses in general are having trouble finding workers, including hospitals. A recent study by the University of California-San Francisco estimated the state's nursing shortage could persist until 2026.

"The staffing shortages we are experiencing are worse than ever," said Kiyomi Burchill, group vice president for policy for the California Hospital Association.

More than 70% of the state's nearly 40 million residents have been fully vaccinated while 42% have gotten a booster shot.

But as of Monday a new variant, omicron, is now the dominant version of the coronavirus in the United States.

Much about the omicron coronavirus variant remains unknown, including whether it causes more or less severe illness. Scientists say omicron spreads even easier than other coronavirus strains, including delta. Early studies suggest the vaccinated will need a booster shot for the best chance at preventing an omicron infection but even without the extra dose, vaccination still should offer strong protection against severe illness and death.

Computer models used by state officials to forecast the virus say hospitalizations will stay steady through the holidays and dip slightly in mid-January.

"I'm on the fence a little bit about how horrible is this," said Dr. Brad Pollock, associate dean for public health sciences at the University of California, Davis School of Medicine. "We're going to have more people infected because of the more transmissible variant. It may be a little less virulent, which means it causes less symptoms."

Indeed, on Monday, the state reported about 26,000 new cases, the largest single-day tally in nearly a year. In San Diego, researchers recently discovered the highest levels of coronavirus since February in a wastewater treatment plant that serves about 2.3 million people.

"Every time we've seen that kind of increase in the wastewater, a couple of weeks later we see an increase in cases," said Rob Knight, a professor at the University of California-San Diego School of Medicine.

Last week, Gov. Gavin Newsom, who imposed the fist statewide shutdown order in March 2020, warned that cases would likely rise and re-imposed a rule requiring everyone to wear masks at public indoor gatherings. Los Angeles, the nation's second-largest city, once again canceled its in-person New Year's Eve celebration, moving to a virtual event as the number of daily new cases tripled over the week.

Mayor Eric Garcetti said Tuesday that he didn't anticipate another lockdown because "I think we're so much better protected than we were."

However, Garcetti said he believed restrictions such as masking indoors will continue into February and perhaps even March, depending on vaccination, hospitalization and infection rates.

While 70% of Californians have been fully vaccinated, that still leaves 30% — or roughly 12 million people — who haven't. The California Department of Public Health says people who are not vaccinated are seven times more likely to get infected, nearly 13 times more likely to be hospitalized and nearly 16 times more likely to die from the coronavirus.

Places in California with lower vaccination rates, including Riverside and San Bernardino counties, have seen jumps in hospitalizations recently.

"The problem is there are counties in California, particularly in central California and eastern California, where they have had neither high vaccination coverage or a lot of prior infections," said Dr. Jeffrey Klausner, a professor of infectious diseases at the University of Southern California's Keck School of Medicine. "We can expect in those communities that there may be an increase in hospitalizations for people at high risk for severe consequences."

PLANNING

FROM PAGE 1

occupancy of 75 dogs.

Commissioners' biggest concern with the proposed business was the potential noise disturbance barking dogs might cause to nearby tenants. The kennel is in an industrially zoned arena, so it is subject to more lenient decibel restrictions than residential areas, however commissioners wanted to ensure the business would be a good neighbor.

After a public hearing on the proposed dog hotel permit during the Dec. 1 Planning Commission meeting, commissioners requested that a noise study be conducted before they take a final vote on the project during the Dec. 15 meeting.

In light of the noise study, staff amended the permit to require that Wag Hotels take several mitigation measures to insulate the indoor and outdoor areas. These include acoustically treating rooms, installing dual pane glazing window systems, ensuring frames seal air tight and installing rubber gasketing on doors. Wag Hotels will also install acoustic sound walls on the open ends of the courtyard containing the play areas.

Some business owners still have concerns. Glenn Martin, the Director of Nomad Editing Company, expressed worries over how the kennel could disrupt the work occurring on his company's nearby sound stages.

"We record sound on the other side of that wall for commercials and films and if there's even the faintest amount of a dog bark, we can't do our business and we've been doing it here for 25 years," said Martin. "So I'm a little concerned that the mitigation sounds great in practice, but may not work out the way it is designed."



Renderings courtesy of AREA Architecture

WAG: The proposed boarding facility could hold an average of 75 dogs per day.

Commissioners were sympathetic to Martin's sentiments, but agreed that these potential fears were not enough to prevent the project from going forward given the conclusions of the noise study.

"I would like to incentivize both the applicant and the neighbors to kind of work it out, but what I don't want to do is hold new business hostage to prior business in a given industrial zone," said Commissioner Shawn Landres.

To add accountability, Landres suggested adding a condition to the permit approval requiring that after a year Wag Hotels must provide a report to the Planning Commission demonstrating compliance with all terms of its permit, including noise mitigation, in order to retain it.

Commissioner Nina Fresco added a request that Wag Hotels provide a telephone number where they can be reached 24 hours a day if neighbors have a complaint. This was added into the conditional approval, which was passed unanimously by the Commission.

The alteration of BevMo!'s existing permit to add additional service hours passed with little discussion from commissioners.

BevMo! is located at 1312 Wilshire Blvd. and was only allowed to process online/app orders during its regular business hours from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. (or 10 p.m. during holidays). The business requested to be able to extend operations from the building so that online orders and deliveries could be fulfilled after regular business hours.

Per its newly approved permit modification the store will service online/app orders 24/7 for non alcoholic products and between 6 a.m. and 2 a.m. for alcoholic products.

Clara@smdp.com



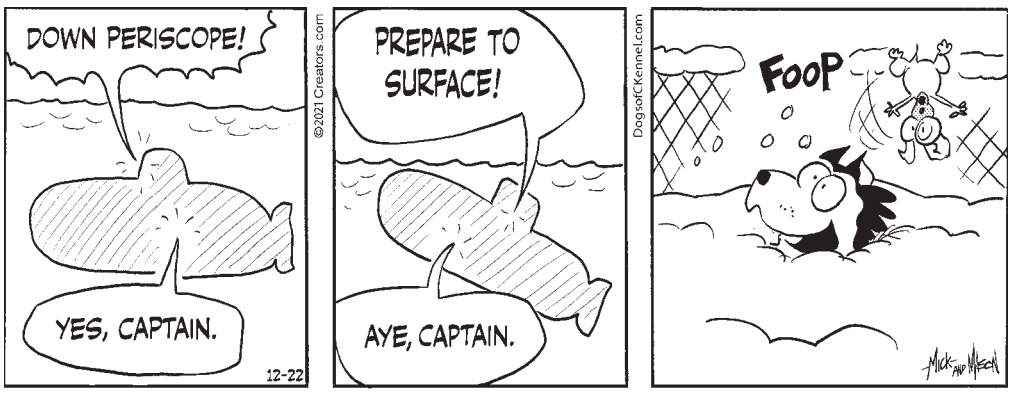
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



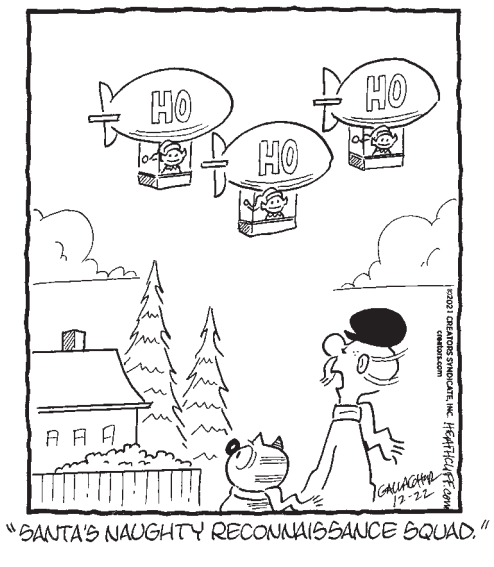
Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"SANTA'S NAUGHTY RECONNAISSANCE SQUAD."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING





SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 58.5°

WEDNESDAY - **POOR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high
WNW swell mix continues. Wind doesn't look too bad but there isn't a whole lot of swell/surf to work with -- big high tide in the morning will be slow.

THURSDAY - **POOR** - SURF: 1-2ft Knee to thigh high
NW swell mix may drop off before a rebuild late week. AM high tide still an issue and there's potential for rising southerly winds.

WEATHER

Wednesday: A 10 percent chance of rain after 4pm. Cloudy, with a high near 60.
Wednesday Night: Rain likely, mainly after 4am. Cloudy, with a low around 52.
Thursday: Rain. High near 56. Southeast wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 80%.

Date	Day	Time (LST/LDT)	Predicted (ft)	High/Low
2021/12/22	Wed	03:49 AM	2.71	L
2021/12/22	Wed	10:04 AM	5.50	H
2021/12/22	Wed	5:43 PM	-0.28	L
2021/12/23	Thu	12:46 AM	3.43	H
2021/12/23	Thu	04:34 AM	2.83	L
2021/12/23	Thu	10:42 AM	5.18	H
2021/12/23	Thu	6:22 PM	-0.06	L
2021/12/24	Fri	01:37 AM	3.53	H
2021/12/24	Fri	05:33 AM	2.94	L
2021/12/24	Fri	11:27 AM	4.75	H
2021/12/24	Fri	7:04 PM	0.21	L
2021/12/25	Sat	02:28 AM	3.74	H
2021/12/25	Sat	06:55 AM	2.95	L
2021/12/25	Sat	12:25 PM	4.23	H
2021/12/25	Sat	7:50 PM	0.53	L
2021/12/26	Sun	03:14 AM	4.07	H
2021/12/26	Sun	08:49 AM	2.67	L
2021/12/26	Sun	1:48 PM	3.69	H
2021/12/26	Sun	8:41 PM	0.85	L
2021/12/27	Mon	03:54 AM	4.51	H
2021/12/27	Mon	10:22 AM	1.99	L

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 12/20
2 13 23 34 66
Power#: 2
Jackpot: 378 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 12/17
21 32 38 48 62
Mega#: 10
Jackpot: 171 M

SuperLotto Plus
Draw Date: 12/18
26 33 35 37 42
Mega#: 18
Jackpot: 8 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 12/20
1 9 11 17 31

Daily 3
Draw Date: 12/20
EVENING: 7 0 5
Draw Date: 12/20
MIDDAY: 7 1 0

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 12/20
1st: 12 - Lucky Charms
2nd: 09 - Winning Spirit
3rd: 04 - Big Ben
Race Time: 1:42.00

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!
office **(310) 458-7737**

DO YOU HAVE COMMUNITY NEWS?
office **(310) 458-7737**

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (DECEMBER 22)

Appreciation is your general attitude, which tunes you into experiencing deeper levels of loveliness. Nuanced talents will send you in a fresh trajectory and at the end of the solar cycle, you'll feel like a new person. Family additions will turn up the energy levels; children and/or brainchildren will reflect brilliantly on you. Aries and Leo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 25, 38, 11 and 4.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The problem needs a creative solution. Don't skip the brainstorm. Write down everything that comes to your mind on the subject: good, bad, realistic, fantastic... Workable ideas are oddly similar to ridiculous ones.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Getting yourself to do what you know you should can be tricky. When you resist your own self-discipline, assume you have your reasons. Maybe your approach is too harsh. Go easy. Try tenderness.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're in the mood to get right to the point. It's a style that will be appreciated by efficient types who don't need a lot of fluff and extras. As for those with sweeter preferences, do it your way but add lots of sugar.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). All your relationships feed your soul. It's just that some serve cake and others serve vegetables. Today, your soul is most fortified by solid types serving sandwiches.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Today's success formula is very simple: Recognize where you made a bad choice, make a better one and enjoy the difference this creates in your world.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). What would your life look like if you didn't have a worry in the world? Get a vision of yourself as a completely carefree person, and then analyze the vision for hints about your best next move.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Watch your words, especially when you talk to yourself. Keep it sunny and warm. Fortune is truly smiling on you, and recognizing your good luck brings about even more of it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Look again at your finances. You are paying someone to do what you would have more satisfaction doing all by yourself. Can you cut expense and do more with less?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You've been too hard on yourself in some regard. A gentle approach will reduce, if not erase, the hurt and tension. There's much to be gained by simply settling down.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). A paradox: Sometimes you have to stop "doing you" in order to become who you really are. You're daring today and will let go of a comfortable pattern for the sake of self-knowledge.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Michel de Montaigne wondered if he was playing with his cat or if he was a toy to his cat. Such questions apply to your role in a nonfeline relationship. You'll be keenly aware inside the games people play.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Aesthetics matter to you more than usual, not just because you want to be surrounded by beauty but because a greater sense of order occurs around well-thought out environments.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

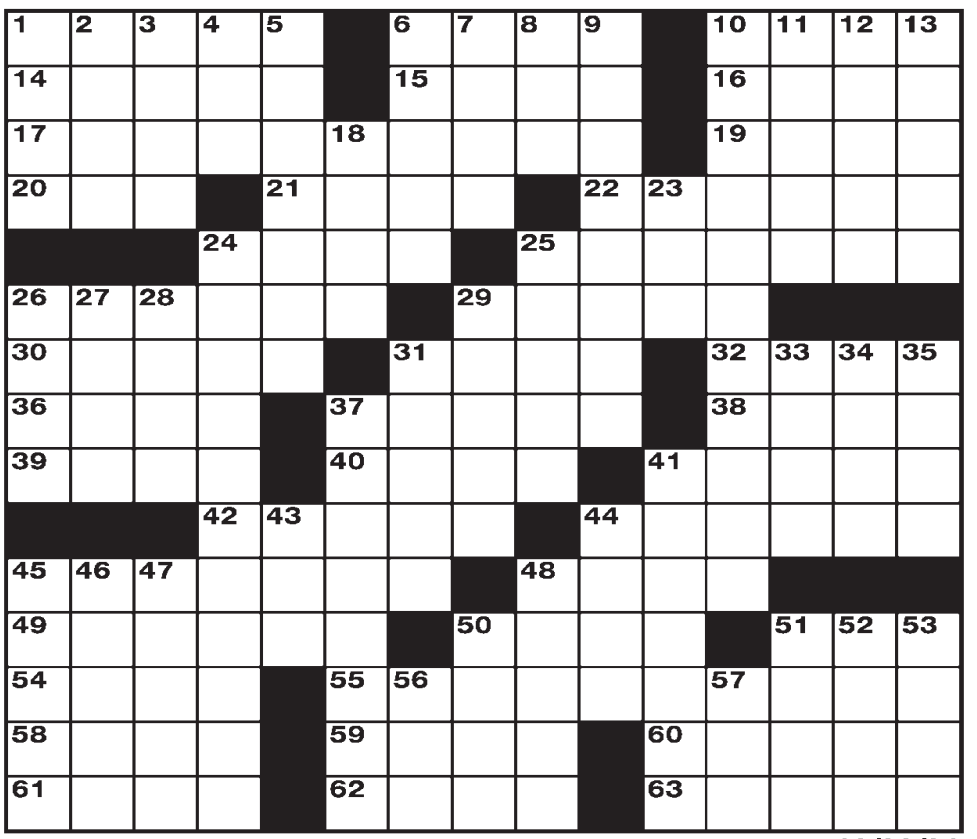
					5			7
5		1		7				3
	8				3	4		
				4				6
	4		2	9	6		8	
7				3				
		2	9				7	
3				5		9		4
6			3					

Newsday Crossword

IN THE TRUNK by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Locked in conflict
6 Courage, informally
10 Blacken on a grill
14 High-speed pursuit
15 Mount Everest's continent
16 Part for a performer
17 One clearing an Olympic bar
19 Shakespeare's river
20 Three letters in "nanny"
21 Mine's mineral deposits
22 Not all that bad
24 Makes unfair
25 Green slices for sandwiches
26 Given a makeover
29 Boat like a kayak
30 Triple-decker cookies
31 Remove, as a rind
32 Chessboard castle
36 Thailand's former name
37 Jobs for a detective
38 Be in harmony
39 Mailed away
40 Long walk on a trail
41 Church law
42 Starts the bidding
44 Electrical outlet
45 Scam victims
48 Champagne plug
49 One who fled to wed
50 Shy away from
51 Network with an eye logo
54 Tot's pop
55 Sun's sudden flash
58 Love, in Spain
59 Aroma
60 Spine-tingling
61 Be defeated
62 Small salamander
63 No longer in style

DOWN
1 Muscle soreness
2 Vanish into __ air
3 Dog's tail movements
4 Fire remnant
5 Comes back to a club
6 Video arcade attractions
7 Letter carriers' org.
8 Office neckwear
9 Tightly packed fish
10 Caramel popcorn brand
11 Humble abode
12 Without peer
13 Has tenants
18 Suggest strongly
23 __-friendly (good for the environment)
24 Plenty of space
25 French capital, humorously
26 Flagmaker Betsy
27 Cleveland's lake
28 College official
29 Wine barrels
31 Takes great __ (is very careful)
33 Cry from a sty
34 Woodwind instrument
35 Superman's reporter alias
37 Roots for
41 Nourished well, as some cattle
43 Dessert with a crust
44 Tasting like lemons
45 Foot lever
46 San Antonio attraction
47 Big commotions
48 Statistical diagram
50 Decelerate
51 Golfer's vehicle
52 Soft French cheese
53 Edible sunflower bit
56 Verse of praise
57 Pasture



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2021 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 12/22/21

Binary Puzzle

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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



"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 22 letters left over. They spell out the alternative theme of the puzzle. © australianwordgames.com 5336

Back at the office

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

Admin	Copy	Late	Quarto
Apron	Cost	Lift	Redundant
Bags	Crowd	Loan	Report
Balance	Deal	Log in	Risk
Biro	Desk	Order	Scissors
Booklet	Drawers	Paid	Secretary
Boss	Dress	Pastels	Taxi
Busy	Employees	Pens	Train
Buy	File	Perk	Type
Car	Glue	Pins	
Chairs	Hours	Printed	
Cleaner	Items	Puzzles	

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S WORDS PUZZLE.
Building permission

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

REDISTRICTING

FROM PAGE 1

district made sense as it shared a school district, coastal concerns and much of the PCH. He said Santa Monica may have a reduced level of influence at the legislative level but the city won't be ignored.

"Santa Monica will always get some level of respect in conversations about the coast as Santa Monica is recognized as a critical community along the coast and the Santa Monica Bay," Bloom said. "I don't think we'll lose all our influence."

The California Citizens Redistricting Commission (CCRC) finalized new maps on Monday, Dec. 20, placing Santa Monica into new assembly, congressional and state senate districts.

Santa Monica's state senator will remain Ben Allen, who is up for reelection for the newly-drawn Senate District 24 at the end of 2022. The district now includes Calabasas, Malibu and Topanga, Pacific Palisades, Beverly Hills and West Hollywood, and South Bay cities like Redondo Beach, Torrance, and Rancho Palos Verdes. It essentially replaces the current District 22, but no longer includes LAX, Westchester, Del Rey and Playa Vista.

U.S. Representative Ted Lieu will continue to represent Santa Monica in a new district, Congressional District 36. While previous Congressional District 33 covered mostly coastal areas encompassing the Santa Monica Mountains down through Rancho Palos Verdes, District 36 ends at Santa Monica to the northwest and expands to include Westchester, Mar Vista and Palms. Beverly Hills will also remain in Lieu's district.

Lieu will be up for reelection again in 2022.

CCRC communications director Fredy Ceja said the new maps would become official as early as next week: "As soon as we submit them to the secretary of state, and that is Dec. 27," Ceja explained in a brief phone interview.

On Dec. 27, the CCRC is expected to provide certified maps to the secretary of state's office. By Jan. 3, candidates for various offices with June 7, 2022, primaries may begin filing nomination signatures. Feb. 10 marks the final day maps can be challenged in court, followed by the candidate filing period, which opens Feb. 14 and runs through March 11.

New districts will all be official by the November 2022 general election, and will remain in place until the next redistricting cycle begins in 2031.

The CCRC was tasked with drawing new state political maps based on census data, a process that happens once every 10 years. California lost a U.S. House seat for the first time, going from 53 to 52, because the state grew more slowly than others. But the state of nearly 40 million people still has by far the largest House delegation.

The borders of each California seat shifted slightly to fit the requirement that they represent 760,000 people.

California is one of 10 states that relies on an independent commission to draw lines, rather than judges or partisan lawmakers, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Commissioners aren't allowed to consider a district's partisan makeup when drawing lines. Alongside creating districts with even population, the state constitution requires the commission to consider geographic continuity and compliance with the Voting Rights Act, which sets rules for racial representation.

Latinos, who account for 40% of California's population, will make up a majority of the voting-age population in 16 of the 52 new districts, said Evan McLaughlin, a redistricting expert who works with Democrats.

The 14-member commission included five registered Republicans, five registered Democrats and four people registered without a political party. They were selected through a lengthy process run by the state auditors office. Voters created the commission in 2008 in an effort to remove partisanship from the process of drawing new political lines.

"I'm so proud of the work that together we have completed to serve all Californians," Commissioner Pedro Toledo, who has no party affiliation, said as the commission finished reviewing the proposed lines. "Despite a difference of opinion at times, there was always commitment to our common goal: The goal of creating representative and fair maps for all Californians."

The commission faced some criticism for a lack of transparency. Commissioners regularly made map changes in live meetings and sometimes did not upload the new maps for days, making it difficult for the public to understand the changes. Delayed Census data due to the pandemic shortened how much time the commission had to complete its work.

Sawicki is a Staff Writer for SMDP and Ronayne writes for the Associated Press.

BIDEN

FROM PAGE 4

medicine at Scripps Research in La Jolla, California, said the administration "finally sees the light" with Biden's plan to ship 500 million tests, but "we need to pull out all the stops, and we're not doing that still."

"We don't have control of this pandemic here," said Topol.

He said the government could redefine "fully vaccinated" as three shots instead of two of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, Biden could order a ban on air travel by people who are not fully vaccinated, and the government could use its authority to ramp up production of high quality masks for free distribution.

"There's a lack of boldness," Topol said. "I am disappointed."

Scientists say omicron spreads even more easily than other coronavirus strains, including delta. It accounted for nearly three-quarters of new U.S. infections last week.

Underscoring the reach of the virus, the White House said late Monday that Biden had been in close contact with a staff member who later tested positive for COVID-19. The staffer spent about 30 minutes around the president on Air Force One on Friday. The staffer, who was fully vaccinated and boosted, tested positive Monday, White House press secretary Jen Psaki said.

Psaki said Biden has tested negative twice since Sunday and will test again on Wednesday. He cleared his throat several times at Tuesday's event but spoke firmly and appeared fine.

In New York City, nearly 42,600 people citywide tested positive from Wednesday through Saturday — compared with fewer than 35,800 in the entire month of November. The city has never had so many people test positive in such a short period of time since testing became widely available.

DTSM

FROM PAGE 1

members, businesses, property owners, and citywide partners that have been dedicated to this community during my time here. I look forward to my next adventure in Hollywood but will miss Santa Monica dearly."

DTSM flourished for most of Rawson's tenure.

Downtown became the largest property-based assessment district in the state of California with a budget of just over $10 million annually and received accolades for its hospitality, marketing, program and maintenance efforts.

Rawson oversaw development of cultural events including celebrations of Día de los Muertos, Black History Month, and SaMo PRIDE. She is also credited with establishing the now beloved ICE at Santa Monica. The ice rink attracted an average of 200,000 spectators and 50,000 skaters each season pre-Covid

SMTT CEO Misti Kerns Praised Rawson for her work.

"Kathleen has been a leader in Santa Monica for 25 years, overseeing needed improvements to the resident and visitor experience in Downtown as the city has evolved and matured," she said. "Her efforts are to be celebrated and her passion for championing Santa Monica will be missed. We wish her much success on her next adventure."

However, DTSM struggled in recent years with vacancies, crime, homelessness and blight tarnishing its reputation. Pre-pandemic, critics argued the retail mix skewed too heavily toward generic retailers and away from options that attracted locals. During Covid, the area saw a massive reduction in foot traffic and has struggled to attract new businesses.

DTSM does not control the retail stores in Downtown and it can't mandate landlords rent to any specific tenant. The non-profit organization receives a share of taxes levied on Downtown property owners for programming, maintenance, marketing and advocacy services.

In recent months, DTSM released the Third Street Promenade Stabilization and Economic Vitality Plan to address current problems. The plan calls for more entertainment and hospitality options while improving the underutilized alley space.

"There is no overstating the positive impact Kathleen and her work with DTSM have had on the downtown district and city as a whole," said Santa Monica City Councilmember Gleam Davis. "She has carried out the best vision for this community that we could hope for and we're confident the foundation she has built will take the organization to even greater heights during its next chapter."

Rawson worked in Santa Monica for more than 30 years. Prior to joining DTSM, she held roles with the Holiday Inn Hotel at the Pier (now the Wyndham), The Huntley Hotel and the Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau. She currently serves as the Board Chair for the International Downtown Association and previously served as chair of the Santa Monica Malibu Education Foundation and the Venice Land Use and Planning Committee for the Venice Neighborhood Council.

"Kathleen has been an invaluable presence at DTSM, providing sound leadership and insight over the past 25 years," said Board Chair Barry Snell in a statement. "We, as a Board, are extremely grateful for the dedication and hard work she has devoted to the prosperity of the district and only hope to continue to grow upon what she has accomplished."

The DTSM Board of Directors will engage in an executive search for a new CEO in early 2022.

editor@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SACRAMENTO

State to help homeowners catch up on mortgage payments

California will help up to 40,000 homeowners catch up on their mortgage payments.

Gov. Gavin Newsom announced Monday the federal government approved his mortgage relief plan. California will use about $1 billion in federal money to help people who fell behind on their mortgage payments during the pandemic.

The program will pay past due housing payments in full, up to a maximum of $80,000 per household. The money would go directly to the banks or mortgage servicers.

Only people who own and occupy one property and make at or below 100% of their area median income will be eligible. The program covers single-family homes, condos and manufactured homes. Owners also must attest they have faced a pandemic-related financial hardship after Jan. 21, 2020.

California also has a program to pay people's past due rent. So far, the state has paid $1.6 billion to more than 137,000 households.

ASSOCIATED PRESS





WE HAVE BIKES!

OPEN DAILY 10AM-5PM

Santa Monica's MOST LOVED BIKE SHOP SINCE 2017



THE BIKE SHOP SANTA MONICA

310.581.8014 BikeShopSantaMonica.com 10am-5pm

2400 Main Street. Santa Monica, CA 90405 - Across from Urth Cafe