



FRANCINE ORR Los Angeles Times



JAY L. CLENDENIN Los Angeles Times



FRANCINE ORR Los Angeles Times

COLORFUL BROCCOLI and other produce adorn the Trader Joe's float, top. Above left, the L.A. Unified School District All-City Honor Band marches in the event. Above right, Banda Municipal de Zarcero, a group hailing from Costa Rica, performs in the parade.

135th Rose Parade welcomes 2024

Growing up in Texas, Donna Patton watched the Rose Parade on TV with her family, the house smelling of cinnamon rolls and coffee.

She cherished those times. But she always wanted to see the parade in person. On Monday, she made it happen.

The 58-year-old youth pastor who now lives in Colorado landed in Southern California at 7 p.m. Sunday and was on Colorado Boulevard two hours later. She traveled alone — but immediately found community among the overnight campers.

The event kicks off on New Year's Day in Pasadena, aiming to bring people together with the theme 'Celebrating a World of Music: The Universal Language'

By Defne Karabatur, Caroline Petrow-Cohen, Angie Orellana Hernandez, Anthony De Leon, Ashley Ahn and Hailey Branson-Potts

They introduced her to bacon-wrapped hot dogs and replaced her thin, airport-purchased blanket with a thick, fluffy one.

For her, the parade was about coming together. But it also was about a newfound hope. She had just gone through a divorce and was finally ready to branch out again.

"Sometimes," she said, "we hold back on doing new adventures." She wished to do that no longer.

For so many like Patton, the 135th Rose Parade, which rolled [See **Rose Parade**, A10]

Some patients are hit by dual viruses

Hospitals are seeing more COVID-19 and flu — and a number of viral co-infections.

By RONG-GONG LIN II

California's hospitals are getting busier with more COVID-19 and flu patients, some of whom are suffering from both viruses at the same time.

The simultaneous sickness is another wrinkle in an already hectic respiratory virus season. Although hospitals are not nearly as crowded as during the emergency phase of the pandemic, they are becoming increasingly so — with Los Angeles County recently entering the "medium" COVID-19 hospitalization category outlined by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the first time this winter.

"Some of these patients are testing positive for more than one virus — influenza definitely likes to travel with COVID. [And] we're seeing an outbreak of RSV," said Dr. Daisy Dodd, an infectious disease specialist with Kaiser Permanente Southern California.

The viral cocktail could also include coronavirus or flu with RSV, or respiratory syncytial virus, simultaneously. Sometimes a common cold virus, like rhinovirus, is in the mix.

And it's not just the very young and the very old who are getting hit with a double whammy of disease — younger and middle-aged adults have also been afflicted. Dodd said she's seen some patients reporting fevers lasting more than a week.

"Now it seems like everyone has this hacking cough that doesn't want to go away," she said. "It's making them fairly sick and ... it's not very gentle."

For many of the patients who need medical attention, "they're miserable. No doubt about it."

[See **Infections**, A10]

Netanyahu's judicial overhaul takes a hit

Supreme Court in Israel strikes down a key component of the contentious plan.

By JOSEF FEDERMAN AND MELANIE LIDMAN

JERUSALEM — Israel's Supreme Court on Monday struck down a key component of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's contentious judicial overhaul, delivering a landmark decision that threatens to reopen the fissures in Israeli society that preceded the country's ongoing war against Hamas.

The planned overhaul sparked months of mass protests, threatened to trigger a constitutional crisis between the judicial and legislative branches of govern-

ment and rattled the cohesion of the powerful military.

Those divisions were largely put aside after Hamas militants carried out a bloody cross-border attack in southern Israel on Oct. 7, triggering a war that has raged in Gaza for nearly three months. But Monday's court decision could reignite those tensions, even while the country remains at war.

Justice Minister Yariv Levin, a Netanyahu ally and the architect of the overhaul, lambasted the court's decision, saying it demonstrated "the opposite of the spirit of unity required these days for the success of our soldiers on the front."

The ruling "will not discourage us," Levin said without indicating whether the government would try to revive his plan in the short term. "As the campaigns are [See **Israel**, A4]



WALLY SKALIJ Los Angeles Times
MICHIGAN'S Colston Loveland, left, is tackled after a catch.

Michigan wins overtime thriller

Top-seeded Wolverines stage a comeback to beat Alabama in the Rose Bowl. **SPORTS, B10**

What's in store for AI in 2024?

Experts give their predictions for the polarizing technology. **BUSINESS, A6**

Weather
Increasing clouds.
L.A. Basin: 66/50. **B6**



Desperate to help his son

Asael Roblero frequents L.A. County supervisors' meetings, seeking aid for mentally ill jailed offspring

By JACLYN COSGROVE AND DANIA MAXWELL

As he gets ready for the meeting, Asael Roblero doesn't need to look far to remember why he keeps going.

When he wakes up, he isn't in a bed because his son destroyed it.

When he reaches for a shirt, he has few to choose from because his son threw out most of his clothing.

When he walks into his kitchen for breakfast, he is met with the "F— you" that his son spray-painted on the wall next to the refrigerator.

Because his son is deeply ill.

Roblero, a 50-year-old restaurant worker, has spent the last year attending as many Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors meetings as possible to seek more treatment services for his son and others.

[See **Father**, A7]



DANIA MAXWELL Los Angeles Times
ASAEAL ROBLERO holds a photograph of his son, taken years before his diagnosis of schizophrenia.

TROOPS BEING PULLED: Israel will remove thousands of soldiers from the Gaza Strip. **WORLD, A4**



Get the story as it's happening.
Download the app for instant breaking news alerts.

