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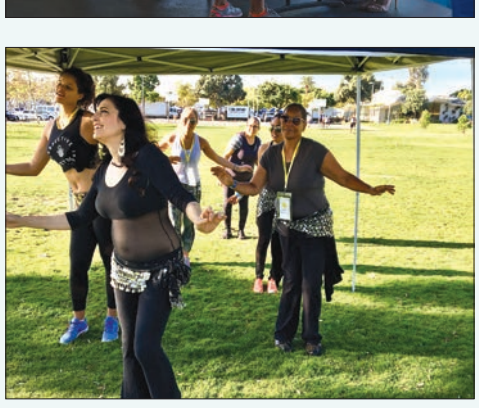
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It's called a Crawl but you'll jog, row, dance or sweat on Pico this weekend







Courtesy Photos

FITNESS: Pico's annual Fitness Crawl returns this weekend. Participants will have access to multiple workouts along the street.

ANGEL CARRERAS
Daily Press Staff Writer

Santa Monica has seen its fair share of themed crawls over the years. Some of the bar variety, food versions, and yes, even a zombie crawl. This weekend, however, a crawl returns to Santa Monica with no bells and whistles. This crawl's goal? Introduce residents to their Pico neighbors. And ya know, help out with the whole New-Year-New-Me-getting-in-shape thing, too.

The Pico Improvement Organization will host the third annual Pico Fitness Crawl this weekend, starting at Virginia Avenue Park and ending at the beach.

While fitness is the key component of the Crawl, the Pico Improvement Organization says shining a light on the Pico neighborhood is part of the day's heavy-lifting.

"It's such a fun way to get to know a neighborhood," Magdalena Davis, coordinator of the Crawl said. "You get to see the street in all its diversity. Check in at the Farmers Market, hit up resistance training on the beach down to yoga and Folklorico by the freeway and everything in between. Pose by a mural, bike down the paths. It's a

SEE **PICO** PAGE 6

Developer fees total $5.6 million last year

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Fees developers paid last year are funding a preschool at Santa Monica College, low-flow toilets and new bike lanes.

The City of Santa Monica collected $5,643,129 from developers in the 2017-2018

SEE **FEES** PAGE 7

California pot taxes lag as illegal market flourishes

MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press

Deep in Gov. Gavin Newsom's new budget is a figure that says a lot about California's shaky legal marijuana market: The state is expecting a lot less cash coming in from cannabis taxes.

SEE **POT** PAGE 7

California governor offers $144B budget, sees big surplus

JONATHAN J. COOPER
Associated Press

California Gov. Gavin Newsom proposed a $144 billion general fund budget on Thursday that's up 4 percent from the current year and predicts a $21.4 billion surplus from robust tax collections and slower growth of state health care costs.

It's the largest projected surplus since at least 2000, according to state finance officials.

The new governor's budget devotes $13.6 billion of the windfall to build the state's reserves and to pay down state debt and its growing pension liability. It's in keeping with his promise to follow the fiscally frugal path of his predecessor, termed-out Gov. Jerry Brown.

Like Brown, Newsom said he is girding the state against an inevitable recession.

"The message we are advancing here is discipline, building a strong foundation on which everything else can be built," Newsom told

SEE **BUDGET** PAGE 3

Isabel A. Ash Esq.
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ATTENTION PROPERTY OWNERS & RESIDENTS

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Historic District Designation 18ENT-0166
11th Street between Wilshire Boulevard & Arizona Avenue

APPLICANT: Santa Monica Mid-City Neighbors
PROPERTY OWNER: Various Property Owners

A public hearing will be held by the City Council to consider the following request:

Designation of a new proposed historic district on 11th Street consisting of certain properties located along the east side of 11th Street, between Wilshire Boulevard and Arizona Avenue (1221-1253 11th Street), and properties along the north side of Arizona Avenue between 11th Street and 11th Court Alley (1107-1115 Arizona Avenue). The Landmarks Commission considered a recommendation to City Council on the proposed historic district application at the November 12, 2018 and December 10, 2018 Landmarks Commission meetings.

DATE/TIME: **TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2019 at 6:30 PM**

LOCATION: City Council Chambers, Second Floor, Santa Monica City Hall
1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California



HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the City Council public hearing, or by writing a letter. Written information will be given to the City Council at the meeting.

Address your letters to: City Clerk
Re: 11th Street Historic District
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

Or email to councilmtgitems@smgov.net

MORE INFORMATION
If you want more information about this project or wish to review the project file, please contact Steve Mizokami, Senior Planner, City Planning Division, at (310) 458-8341 or by email at steve.mizokami@smgov.net.

The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation requests, please contact (310) 458-8431 or TTY (310) 458-8696 at least three days prior to the event. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request Santa Monica Big Blue Bus Lines 1, 2, 3, Rapid 3, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 18 serve City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is located at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 65009(b), if this matter is subsequently challenged in Court, the Challenge may be limited only to 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
Este es un aviso de una audiencia publica sobre una solicitud para remodilar un edifecio que tiene valor historico importante. Para mas informacion, por favor llame a Carmen Gutierrez en City Planning Division al numero (310) 458-8341.

Healthy Lunches for Seniors!

WISE Diner

For information call:
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WISE & Healthy Aging offers a weekday lunch program for Santa Monica residents age 60 and older. Your trusted community source for a nutritious meal.

Registration Required!

Locations: Ken Edwards Center & Reed Park in Santa Monica

What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, Jan. 11

Yoga
All levels. Drop in for $15/class or sign up for series. Annenberg Community Beach House 9:00am-10:00 am.

Coffee, Conversation and Change
Santa Monica Homeless Steering Committee: "How Can This Poor Woman Still Be on the Streets?" Friday January 11, 9 - 10:30 a.m. 2509 Pico Blvd. Topic: Mental Illness, Behavioral Health and Homelessness Guest speakers include: Coley King D.O., street medicine doctor, Venice Family Clinic Zach Coil LCSW, Program Director, street teams, The People Concern. Residents are invited to join organizers for coffee and conversation to discuss mental illness, behavioral health, and homelessness. Come to hear what service organizations in your community are doing to address this epidemic To RSVP please email: Homelessness@smgov.net

Guest House Open
Visit anytime between 11am-2pm for a self-guided or docent tour. No reservations needed Annenberg Community Beach House 11:00am-2:00 pm.

Craft, Swap, or Create @ Your Library
Do you have leftover yarn, extra buttons, or scraps of ribbon you haven't used in months? Join us at the library to share your crafting supplies or find new crafting treasures, and while you are at it, make some time to create, invent and learn a new craft or skill. Sewing machine, crochet tools, and other items available for your use. Pico Branch Library 2:30pm-4:30 pm.

Mat Pilates
Learn the techniques of Pilates, a system of controlled exercises that engage the mind and condition the total body. Please bring a yoga or Pilates mat. Montana Avenue Branch Library 3:00pm-4:00 pm.

Saturday, Jan. 12

Santa Monica Certified Farmers Market
The Saturday Downtown Farmers Market, also known as the Organic Market, opened in May 1991. As Santa Monica's second CFM, it had a different mission to fulfill. With the passage of the California Organic Foods Act of 1990, consumers were eager for more organic produce and another market for weekend shopping. The Organic Market boasts the largest percentage of Certified Organic growers of the City's four markets.2nd @ Arizona Avenue 8:00am-1:00 pm.

Kitchenware Percussion Group with DaEun Jung
Join Studio Resident and choreographer DaEun Jung and assemble a percussion set out of kitchenware. Explore variation of rhythm in a small group and learn basic percussion skills and patterns. Cost: Free! Register online or call 310.458.2239. Palisades Park 11:00am-12:30pm.

Meet Me At Reed - Family Fun
Come by to play, meet neighbors, and connect. Supervised games and activities led by Santa Monica Community Recreation, kid-friendly entertainment by special guests and community partners, and a selection of food trucks will rotate weekly. Rain may affect programming. Call (310) 458 - 8300 to find out about rain delays or cancellations. Reed Park 1133 Seventh st 2:00pm-4:00 pm.

Roseate - Pop-Up Exhibit by Laura Darlington
View the Camera Obscura with rose-colored glasses! Projected through a tinted filter, rosy visions of reality are forecast by the apparatus and illuminated in an opti-mystic exhibition. Works of photography and sculpture will be on view. Presented concurrently with Laboratory of Synchronous Planes, an experimental augmented reality workshop with Selwa Sweidan.

For help submitting an event, contact us at
310-458-7737 or submit to events@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

UCLA

Two Charged with Vandalizing UCLA Bear Statue

Two men have been charged with causing more than $10,000 in damages to UCLA's bruin bear statue during "rivalry week," the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Louie Raider Torres (12/13/99) of Studio City and Willie Saul Johnson (5/12/00) of Van Nuys both face one felony count of vandalism over $400 damage.

Arraignment is scheduled today in Department W30 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Airport Branch. Case SA099759 was filed yesterday.

On Nov. 13, Torres and Johnson allegedly painted the bear with red and yellow paint, including the letters "SC" written with red paint on the statue's mantel, prosecutors said.

If convicted as charged, both defendant face a possible maximum sentence of three years in jail.

SUBMITTED BY RICARDO SANTIAGO, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

LOS ANGELES

Judge sees no reason to delay Los Angeles teachers strike

A Los Angeles judge on Thursday found no reason to delay an expected teachers strike next week against the nation's second-largest school district over wages and class sizes.

Superior Court Judge Mary H. Strobel ruled on the issue of whether United Teachers Los Angeles had given legally proper notice of a work stoppage to the Los Angeles Unified School District.

The district, with 640,000 students, said in a statement after the ruling that it's willing to negotiate "around the clock" and urged UTLA to work with it to resolve contract issues and avoid a strike.

Talks were set to resume Friday. Schools would stay open during a possible strike. The district has hired hundreds of substitutes to replace teachers and others who could leave for picket lines.

The district has offered a 6 percent raise over the first two years of a three-year contract. The union wants a 6.5 percent hike that would take effect all at once and be retroactive to fiscal 2017. Health care fully paid by the district and a pension plan would be unchanged under both proposals.

The union also wants significantly smaller class sizes, which routinely top 30 students, and more nurses, librarians and counselors to "fully staff" the district's campuses in Los Angeles and all or parts of 31 smaller cities, plus several unincorporated areas.

The district has said the union's demands could bankrupt the school system, which is projecting a half-billion-dollar deficit this budget year and has billions obligated for pension payments and health coverage for retired teachers.

Union officials previously said its 35,000 members would walk off the job Thursday for the first time in three decades if a deal wasn't reached on higher pay and smaller class sizes.

They delayed the strike until Monday while awaiting the court ruling to avoid confusion and give teachers, parents and others time to prepare.

CHRISTOPHER WEBER, ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

2nd man who died at California home of political donor ID'ed

A second man who died at the Southern California home of a Democratic donor in less than two years was identified Thursday.

The Los Angeles coroner's office said 55-year-old Timothy Dean of West Hollywood was the man pronounced dead at the donor's apartment on Monday.

Dean is the second black man in a year and a half to have died at the West Hollywood residence of Ed Buck, a 64-year-old white man who has donated tens of thousands of dollars to California candidates and is well known in LGBTQ political circles.

Activists have been calling for Buck's arrest, saying if Dean and the other man who died, 26-year-old Gemmel Moore, had been white, there would be more attention and action on the case.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department said the investigation into Dean's death will include a review of Moore's death.

Moore died of a methamphetamine overdose in July 2017. He was found naked on a mattress in Buck's living room, which was littered with drug paraphernalia.

Buck's attorney, Seymour Amster, has said Buck and Moore were friends and that his client had nothing to do with his death.

He told The Los Angeles Times this week that Buck was cooperating with the investigation into Dean's death and called it accidental.

"From what I know, it was an old friend who died of an accidental overdose, and unfortunately, we believe that the substance was ingested at some place other than the apartment," Amster told The Los Angeles Times. "The person came over intoxicated."

Amster did not immediately respond to a message seeking comment Thursday.

Buck came to political notice in Arizona in the 1980s as a leader of a recall drive against then-Republican Gov. Evan Mecham, who had attracted widespread publicity for canceling a Martin Luther King Jr. holiday for state workers.

During the campaign it was disclosed that Buck had been arrested twice, in 1983 for fondling another man in an adult bookstore and in 1987 for trying to obtain a drug without the proper prescription. The public indecency charge was reduced to disturbing the peace, and Buck paid a $26 fine. Prosecution in the drug case was suspended after he agreed to counseling.

At the time, Buck said he was gay and acknowledged that he had tried to obtain a painkiller with a photocopy of a prescription his dentist had given him earlier.

In California, Buck ran unsuccessfully for the West Hollywood City Council about a decade ago. He has frequently opened his checkbook in recent years to support Democratic candidates. His donations include $2,000 to then-candidate and now Gov. Gavin Newsom's campaign and $5,000 to the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.

In a statement, U.S. Rep. Ted Lieu, a Democrat from California, said he was "deeply disturbed" by the disclosure of a second death at Buck's home and would donate $18,500 in contributions he received from Buck to charity.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Sundance adds documentary about Michael Jackson accusers

Sundance said Wednesday that a documentary about two boys who accused Michael Jackson of sexual abuse will premiere at its film festival later this month, while the Jackson estate called the film "just another rehash of dated and discredited allegations."

The Sundance Institute announced the addition of "Leaving Neverland" to its festival lineup along with "The Brink," a documentary about former Donald Trump adviser Steve Bannon.

The Jackson estate promptly denounced the "Leaving Neverland," which was co-produced by HBO and British public broadcaster Channel 4 and will air on the channels this spring. The 233-minute, two-part documentary will be shown only once at the festival on the morning of Jan. 25.

"This is yet another lurid production in an outrageous and pathetic attempt to exploit and cash in on Michael Jackson," an estate statement said.

A description of "Leaving Neverland" says it will tell the story of two men who are now in their 30s and began long-running relationships with Jackson at ages 7 and 10 when Jackson was at the height of his fame.

Jackson was acquitted of molestation charges in 2005.

The film is produced and directed by BAFTA-winning director Dan Reed. A representative for Reed did not immediately reply to an after-hours email seeking comment Wednesday, but in a press release Thursday, Reed said in a statement that, "If there's anything we've learned during this time in our history, it's that sexual abuse is complicated, and survivors' voices need to be listened to."

Reed continued: "It took great courage for these two men to tell their stories and I have no question about their validity. I believe anyone who watches this film will see and feel the emotional toll on the men and their families and will appreciate the strength it takes to confront long-held secrets."

LINDSEY BAHR & ANDREW DALTON ASSOCIATED PRESS

BUDGET

FROM PAGE 1

reporters in Sacramento.

Newsom's proposal kicks off negotiations with the Legislature. Lawmakers have until June 15 to approve a balanced spending plan or lose pay.

Newsom previously outlined more than $2.5 billion in spending proposals focused on early childhood education and health care. He's also asking lawmakers to vastly expand the state's paid leave program for new parents. He's framed his budget as a "California for All" agenda that looks to close the gaps between rich and poor.

The Democratic governor announced his plans during a time of sustained prosperity in California, which clawed back from a $27 billion deficit following the Great Recession that required deep and painful cuts to education, health care and just about every other service offered.

This year, state revenue has soared since lawmakers and Brown approved a $139 billion budget for the fiscal year that ends June 30.

The nonpartisan legislative analyst projected in November that lawmakers would have a $15 billion surplus to allocate next year on top of $15 billion in the rainy day fund, which is at the maximum allowed under the state Constitution.

Newsom emphasized paying off debts accumulated over the years. He wants to make a $3 billion one-time payment to California's teacher pension fund on behalf of schools to help districts that are seeing more of their budgets eaten up by pension obligations.

He's proposing $1.4 billion for higher education. The bulk, about $400 million, would go to the community college system with the goal of making tuition free for two years.

He wants to invest $500 million in infrastructure to provide more childcare and $750 million for kindergarten programs. And he's calling for boosting a tax credit for the working poor by a total of more than a half-billion dollars.

Saying California is "not playing small ball," Newsom is also seeking more than $1 billion to combat the most populous state's homeless problem by encouraging new affordable housing.

Among the budget items that Newsom has already outlined are a nearly $2 billion plan to support low-income children, with much of the money earmarked for construction of childcare facilities and kindergarten classrooms.

Taking a page from Brown's budget playbook, which targets as much new spending as possible on one-time expenditures that don't carry a long-term cost, Newsom has focused much of his new early childhood spending on construction projects. That would limit the long-term cost of his initiative and help Newsom maintain his pledge to preserve rainy day savings.

Eighty-six percent of his spending is for one-time efforts, he said.

Helping low-income children in the crucial early years of life, when brains are developing rapidly, was a central campaign promise for Newsom, who has four young children and was elected with an overwhelming majority in November.

Newsom has also proposed expanding state-funded health care to low-income people living in the country illegally until their 26th birthday, up from a current cutoff age of 19. He wants to increase subsidies for people who buy their own insurance, rather than getting it from an employer or government program. His health proposals would cost $760 million a year.

And he plans to propose a significant expansion of California's paid leave program, which allows new parents to receive a portion of their paycheck while away from work following the birth or adoption of a child. Newsom wants to eventually offer six months of leave to be split between the parents, though his initial budget will include a smaller step in that direction.

California currently replaces a portion of wages for six weeks for new parents, and birth mothers can take an additional six weeks of disability leave. The program is funded through a payroll tax. It's unclear how Newsom would pay for a full six-month program.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

U.S. government workers shut out of their jobs

Editor:

Wouldn't it be cool if thousands of federal employees assembled and surrounded the White House until the president paid them? Trapped in the Oval Office, he'd tweet how he felt such support, "coming from this beautiful wall of humans."

HANK ROSENFELD
Santa Monica

Unfair to Vons

Editor:

I am concerned that you ran an opinion piece about the Vons on Lincoln and Broadway that recommends people not patronize the store. Why would you publish something that criticizes a local business that many people in the neighborhood depend on? What proof does Mr. Andrews have that there is a "worsening situation"? He even admits that the employees wont talk about it. It's amazing that you would publish something with no proof recommending people not patronize a store. I go to Vons regularly never had a problem and wish to go there in the future. Why would you give Mr. Andrews a forum to complain about how a business is run? I am sure you wouldn't like it if someone ran an opinion piece in the Los Angeles Times and reported that employee's at the Santa Monica Daily Press were un-happy with how you ran things but wouldn't comment on the record. Is the food wholesome at Vons? Is the store clean? Is the produce of good quality? Yes to all. Those are the reasons the community patronizes Vons and they should do so in the future. How management runs the store is no one's business but the employees (they are union) and the management as long as they are getting a legal wage.

ANDREW GOLDSTEIN
Santa Monica

Consumer Corner

Gary Rhoades — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Landlords Cannot Avoid Paying Tenants' Attorney Fees in Housing Rights Cases

Naomi sends out a group text message asking if friends are free to help her and her wife Emily to move this coming weekend.

"Bonus friend points for babysitting Erin," chimes in Emily. Erin is their newly adopted three-month-old daughter.

"Giving up your sweet Santa Monica pad??!" texts back their friend Brad. Naomi and Emily have lived happily in their large, one-bedroom near downtown Santa Monica and the beach for five years.

"Not our choice," replies Naomi. "Our landlord just gave us notice that he doesn't allow kids in one-bedrooms. : ("

"Hold on there," texts Beth, an attorney. "That's a civil rights violation."

"You oughta sue the jerk," adds Peter.

"He's a smart jerk though," responds Emily. "He already sent us an official "change-of-lease-terms" notice 2 months ago that says we have to pay our own attorney fees for ANY legal dispute."

"So staying here is a civil right we just can't afford to fight for."

A flood of sympathy texts are exchanged among the friends, and their moving plans are put on hold until Beth can double-check the legality of the owner's actions with the Santa Monica City Attorney's Office.

Can a landlord in Santa Monica unilaterally change a rental lease to avoid paying attorney fees when they lose a civil rights case?

The short answer is no. Normally, parties must bear their own attorney fees. But in a civil rights case, attorney fees are paid by the losing defendant. This exception applies in many federal and state anti-discrimination laws as well as Santa Monica's own ordinances that prohibit housing discrimination and tenant harassment.

The public policy behind these laws is to encourage cases that are in the public interest, especially for those who cannot afford to hire attorneys. Returning to the hypothetical, if Naomi and Emily sue their landlord and win the right to keep the apartment — which they should since their landlord's occupancy limit violates the fair housing laws — the court should void the owner's attempt to change the lease and then order him to pay the tenants' reasonable attorney fees for the entire case.

Landlords should also be aware that they can be sued for attempting to include what they know are illegal or voidable provisions in their leases. Attempting to dupe a tenant into thinking he no longer has right to pursue fees undermines the public policy goal and is likely an illegal business practice.

FOR TENANTS, THERE ARE THREE KEY STEPS TO TAKE IF YOUR LANDLORD ATTEMPTS A CHANGE TO LEASE TERMS REGARDING ATTORNEY FEES:

1. Respond in writing that you do not accept a term that prohibits fees in any case, especially in civil rights cases such as fair housing or tenant harassment.
2. Contact a private tenants-rights attorney or the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles if you are an eligible, low-income tenant.
3. Contact the Consumer Protection Division of the Santa Monica City Attorney's Office at 310-458-8336 or through our website at smconsumer.org.

Gary Rhoades is a Deputy City Attorney with the Consumer Protection Division (CPD) of the Santa Monica City Attorney's Office. In addition to taking complaints about housing discrimination and illegal attorney fees terms, the CPD also takes complaints about tenant harassment and unlawful business practices.

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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Mensch on the Bench

Tuesday was my good friend and Santa Monica resident since 1963, Jerry Rosenblum's 97th birthday. The word that best describes Jerry is "mensch," Yiddish for a high character, stand up guy. Remarkably well-informed, he often gives me updates of the news, politics and even the latest book he's reading. He's 97 and frankly I have to be on my toes to keep up.

Jerry leads such a full life, he ought to do an infomercial. He's actually too busy living, and singing, which is his greatest passion. A perfect example was this past Saturday night and his fun-filled birthday party at a Culver City karaoke club.

Fifty of Jerry's friends, including BFF, Katie, 28, had a great time as Jerry sang his favorite songs, including Frank Sinatra's "My Way." (Jerry, who has 18,500 Instagram followers, including Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, received over 100 birthday cards from all over the country.)

When I called to wish Jerry a happy birthday it was Day 19 of the Trump shutdown and also Don the Con's fake "Border crisis" address to the nation. I swore I wouldn't watch and so did Jerry, but we ultimately got off the phone to see what additional havoc our perplexing POTUS would perpetuate.

"Individual 1's" Oval Office address was boring as he struggled to read from the teleprompter a demagogic litany of his anti-immigrant greatest hits. If presidential addresses are designed to calm a frightened population, Trump's was designed to frighten a calm population. It was also filled with a falsehood every 34 seconds. (That's not easy unless you're pathological.)

Reportedly, that noon, in an off the record lunch with TV news anchors, Trump said he didn't want to give the address and that his visit to the border yesterday would be a pointless photo op. He blamed his PR team for both. Clearly his delivery of the address had all the enthusiasm of someone who didn't want to be there. Can you say, "low energy?"

You might be asking how does a pu**y-grabber who cheated with a porn star and Playboy model on his 3rd wife, pregnant with his 5th child, even get to be in the Oval Office? Answer: Russia. (See below.)

As I watched Trump's speech I wondered why does he sniff so much? And then there's his excessive hair spray. Given the current hit movie, "Aquaman," I call Trump "Aqua Net Man."

Optically, Nancy Pelosi and Chuck Schumer's "rebuttal," sharing one seemingly tiny podium, left a great deal to be desired. The Dems couldn't afford a 2nd podium? That said, they sounded rational and logical whereas Individual l sounded delusional.

Prior to the address, Trump's staff sent out an urgent email to supporters asking for donations to "The official Border Security Fund." (Fine print revealed it's really his re-election campaign.) The massive missive (sorry about that) gave his followers until 9 p.m.

After the speech another email was sent out extending the deadline. (It's so crass, all it needed was "operators are standing by.") Trump doesn't have "followers," he has "marks." I'm surprised he didn't offer donors a case of Trump wine and two Trump steaks.

As Trump's government shutdown approaches the longest in history, let's never forget in December he said "I'll be proud to shut the government down." On Wednesday he met with Democrats but the meeting didn't last long. After shouting like a child, "You won't give me what I want!" temper-tantrum Trump slammed the table with his fist and stormed out of the room. (Can you say "2-year-old?")

Today marks the 1st missed paycheck for some 800,000 federal workers, many of whom live paycheck to paycheck. Absurdly, Trump said of these poor folks, "I can relate" adding, "they'll just have to adjust as they always do." (Too bad they can't call daddy like he did throughout his life.) Instead, Trump suggested that "federal workers should paint their landlord's property in exchange for rent."

In the latest developments of Trump's shutdown, TSA workers are calling in sick in droves so our airports may be unsafe. And the FDA is stopping food inspections which may make what we eat unsafe. All for a vanity project wall that will serve as a perpetual monument to government waste and an impulsive, child-like president. Ironically, reasoning with Trump is like talking to a wall. (Meanwhile, it appears in 2016 that Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort shared internal GOP polling with the Russians! Can you say "collusion?")

On a brighter note, Jerry's charming memoir "What Goes Around, Comes Around," is due out in June. Currently, he's busy editing it with his publishers. Imagine being 97 and having the energy to do all that and remain ever upbeat and optimistic. Jerry's already talking about a sequel. As for Trump, he's the exact opposite of a mensch.

To see a genuine Oval Office address by an adult, Google "YouTube JFK Cuban Missile Crisis." Jack is at: facebook.com/jackneworth, twitter.com/jackneworth and jackdailypress@aol.com

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

RFP: # 214 HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM CONSULTANT

- **Submission Deadline is March 1, 2019 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**

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

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CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that bids will be received by the City of Santa Monica located at **1717 4th Street Suite 250**, Santa Monica, California, 90401 until 3:00 p.m. on the date indicated at which time they will be publicly opened, read and posted for:

BID # 4375 PROVIDE PERMANENT FENCING AND GATE SERVICES, INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE

Submission Deadline is January 31, 2019 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Bids must be submitted on forms supplied by the City of Santa Monica. Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL**. The website for this Notice of Inviting Bids and related documents is: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm. There is no charge for bid package and specifications.

BENCHMARK Contractors, Inc.

Job Opportunity in Construction

Introduction

In order to provide opportunities for talented, committed, and willing to learn candidates, applications are invited from job seekers that meet the criteria below. Benchmark Contractors, Inc. can put you in contact with various subcontractors that are in need of help. If you are interested, don't hesitate to contact us for more information.

Job Location

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Project Description

- 4-level subterranean parking structure
- 7-1/2 -level new hotel (includes partial subterranean back-of-house areas and rooftop mechanical central plant)
- Hotel (Floors 2-6)
- Offsite: Street hardscape / landscape
- Onsite: Podium courtyard; rooftop pool deck

Looking to hire

- Looking for full-time field labor force for various trades to build the above named project.

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- High School Diploma or equal
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- Desire to Learn
- Ability to work in fast-paced environment

Contact Us

Wendy McKnight | Project Administrator |
Morley Construction Company | Benchmark Contractors, Inc.
3330 Ocean Park Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA 90405
Office (310) 399-1600 | www.morleybuilders.com

MORLEY BUILDERS

PICO

FROM PAGE 1

great way to get a Saturday morning sweat in by discovering and supporting your local businesses."

Instead of, say, bouncing from local watering hole to local watering hole, the 2.5-mile long Fitness Crawl will be peppered with pit stops featuring local fitness studios offering health stalwarts such as boxing, CrossFit, pilates and offbeat fitness such as Folklorico, belly dancing and kundalini yoga.

For Pico fitness practitioners, the crawl has been a boon for them. If not a monetary boon, at least a rewarding, intrinsic one.

"Last year['s Crawl], no one had heard of kundalini yoga when they walked in," Bonnie LaVallo, owner of Breath of Life studio, said. She has participated in the Crawl since it's inception, her studio offering meatheads (or anyone, really) a yoga routine infused with singing and self-expression. It's one of the stranger stops, and LaVallo takes pride in that. "But everyone that came in left peaceful and centered, relaxed. They knew more about me and the neighborhood, and that's a success to me."

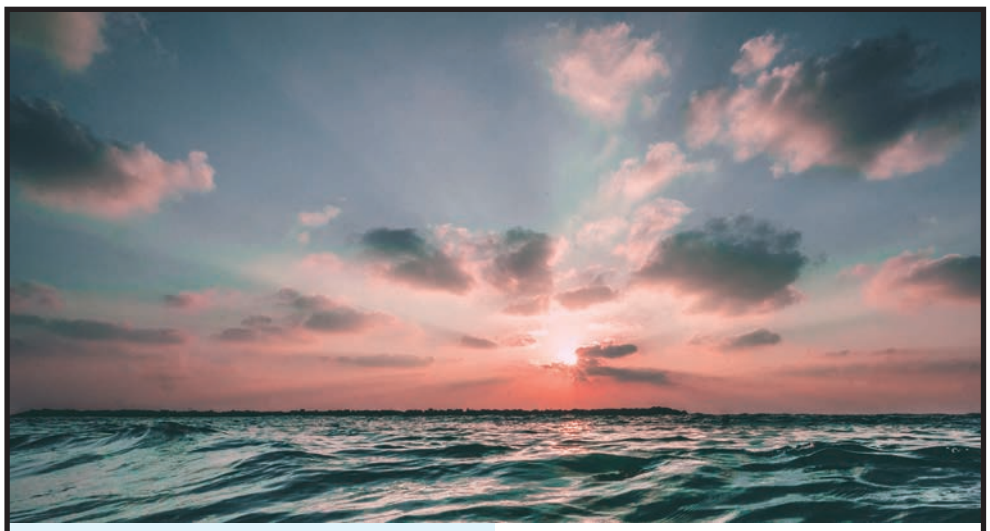
Davis says businesses like LaVallo's are key to the crawl. The Pico neighborhood and their relationships with their surrounding businesses are important and intimate she says, and the Crawl and it's diverse businesses -- even just within the fitness community -- is proof of that.

Last year attendance capped out at a sold-out 150 people running down Pico, a number Davis says will be hit again. Residents in Santa Monica and abroad, she hopes. Will find something to like in the Pico neighborhood.

"The whole day is choose-your-own-adventure," Davis said. "If you feel ambitious, you can do a lot and if not, you can do as little as you want. There're enthusiasts and amateurs and so much more to this event than just working out. We want people to discover Pico. Everyone's welcome."

The Pico Fitness Crawl takes place Saturday, January 12. Check-in is at 8 a.m. while the crawl takes place between 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. An afterparty occurs from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Admission is $10. For more information, visit www.PicosFitCrawl.eventbrite.com

angel@smdp.com



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FEES

FROM PAGE 1

fiscal year and spent $2,520,596 on child care, transportation, affordable housing loans and water sustainability projects. It's also planning to use the fees to finance improvements to city parks.

The City collects fees from new developments by the square foot on the grounds that new housing creates new demand for services like child care and parks. It's been collecting money for water projects since 1991 and child care since 2006. Between 2013 and 2015, it also started levying fees to fund transportation, parks and affordable housing projects.

$1,098,598 went toward the construction of the Early Childhood Lab School, a drop in the bucket compared to its $16 million design and construction budget. Other funding comes from Santa Monica College's 2004 voter-approved bond Measure S, the 2016 bond Measure V and the RAND Corporation.

Construction on the school started in spring 2018 and is expected to be completed by August 2020. The building replace 230 parking spaces in the parking lot of the Civic Center.

The school is a joint project with Santa Monica College and will be operated by the Growing Place. It will hold up to 110 children, with a minimum of 30 percent Santa Monica residents and 15 percent low-income families. Slots also will be open to the children of those who work in the city, including City, SMC and RAND employees.

The City spent just $205,506 of the $2,136,138 it collected for transportation on new projects because most of those fees are earmarked for nine projects approved in 2016, including a protected bike lane along 17th Street, better bike and pedestrian connections to Bergamot Station and better connections to the beach bike path from the Santa Monica Pier.

$105,917 was spent on the design of a project that will improve crosswalks and reduce speed limits near John Adams Middle School, Lincoln Middle School, Will Rogers Learning Community and Roosevelt Elementary. Construction will start in May.

$99,589 was spent on engineering design services to install new medians, crosswalks, lighting and landscaping on Lincoln Boulevard between the I-10 Freeway and Ozone Avenue.

Although the City only collected $248,219 for water projects in FY 2017-2018, it reached into its balance of almost $3 million to spend $1,166,734 on turf removal and drip irrigation systems, smart irrigation controllers and other landscape improvements at city parks, Woodlawn Cemetery and public right of ways. The money also funded the installation of water-efficient toilets in low-income housing.

The City didn't use development fees for park improvements last fiscal year, but it's planning to spend $1,858,701 on constructing new bathrooms at Clover Park and expanding Memorial Park and Airport Park.

The Airport Park will quadruple in size after the Santa Monica Airport closes in 2028, adding two sports fields, community gardens and a sports track. Memorial Park is expanding and getting new baseball and softball fields.

Finally, developers contributed $49,758 to assist in the financing of the acquisition and rehabilitation loan for 12 affordable housing units at 2621, 2622, and 2627 26th Street. The City collected $505,674 for affordable housing in FY 2017-2018.

madeleine@smdp.com

POT

FROM PAGE 1

The Democrat's proposed spending plan, released Thursday, projects the state will bank $355 million in marijuana excise taxes by the end of June. That's roughly half of what was once expected after broad legal sales kicked off last year.

Industry experts say the diminished tax income reflects a somber reality: Most consumers are continuing to purchase pot in the illegal marketplace, where they avoid taxes that can near 50 percent in some communities.

Tax collections are expected to gradually increase over time, but predicting what that amount will be remains something of a guess.

Tax collections for "a newly created market are subject to significant uncertainty," the budget said.

Josh Drayton of the California Cannabis Industry Association credited Newsom with taking "a realistic look at the challenges" after a bumpy first year of broad legal sales.

Newsom also recommended a sharp increase in spending for cannabis programs, although it's an open question whether it will be enough to help steady the state pot economy. The budget recommends just over $200 million for marijuana-related activities in the fiscal year that starts July 1, which would be over a 50 percent boost from the current year.

Initially "the state was too optimistic about how the implementation of legalization was going to work. This governor has paid attention to that," Drayton said.

That said, Drayton added that legal businesses need a break from hefty tax rates that are driving consumers to the illicit economy. Various proposals have been made to cut state pot taxes.

State taxes include a 15 percent levy on purchases of all cannabis and cannabis products, including medical pot. Local governments are free to slap on taxes on sales and growing too, which has created a confusing patchwork of tax rates around the state.

The state's top marijuana regulator, Lori Ajax, has said the state intends to get more businesses licensed and operating in 2019, while cracking down on rogue operators who continue to proliferate across the state.

At year's end, California's effort to transform its longstanding illegal and medicinal marijuana markets into a unified, multibillion-dollar industry remained a work in progress. By some estimates, up to 80 percent of sales in the state remain under the table, snatching profits from legal storefronts.

Drayton said more than half the municipalities in the state do not have laws governing the industry. That means pot businesses cannot locate there, since companies are required to have a local license before seeking one from the state.

The budget also includes an additional $2.9 million for the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration to help chase down tax cheats.

Meanwhile, the courts budget includes nearly $14 million for resentencing of thousands of drug offenders whose offenses are no longer crimes since California legalized recreational pot.

Associated Press Writer Don Thompson in Sacramento contributed.

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SURF FORECASTS

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft waist to stomach high
Old WNW swell leftovers.

SATURDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft knee to waist high
New WNW swell due to fill in.

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CRIME WATCH BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

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

ON DECEMBER 30, AT ABOUT 7:04 P.M.

Officers responded to a radio call for service at Luna Cocina - 2720 Main Street - regarding a battery that just occurred involving a former employee of the restaurant. Prior to arriving, officers were informed the female subject had left the location and was being followed by the restaurant manager. Officers located the female subject and manager in the area of Main Street and Ashland Street. Officers learned the former employee was at the restaurant creating a disturbance, bothering customers and appeared to be drunk in public. The subject made her way to the manager's office, an area restricted to the public. The manager told the subject that she needed to leave the restaurant. The subject yelled at the manager and began to walk out. The manager followed the subject as she was walking out of the restaurant. As she was walking to the front door, she scratched the arm of an employee and stuck the manager in the face with her fist. The manager grabbed her and escorted her out of the restaurant. The manager/victim was desirous of prosecution. Jennifer Elizabeth Staas, 40, from Marina Del was arrested for battery and public intoxication. Bail was set at $20,000.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To Calls For Service.
HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

Assault w/deadly weapon 700blk Broadway 12:17 a.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 14th St / Pico Blvd 1:04 a.m.
Public intoxication 1800blk 9th St 1:06 a.m.
Auto burglary 500blk 11th St 1:32 a.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 1400blk 2nd St 2:23 a.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries city prop involved 1600blk 9th St 7:04 a.m.
Battery 16th St / Montana Ave 8:15 a.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 800blk Olympic Blvd E 8:16 a.m.
Person with a gun 1700blk Cloverfield Blvd 8:27 a.m.
Traffic collision with injuries 700blk Olympic Blvd E 8:30 a.m.
Indecent exposure 1400blk Ocean Park Blvd 9:10 a.m.
Fraud 1800blk Ocean Ave 9:18 a.m.
Speeding 7th St / Colorado Ave 9:21 a.m.
Stalking 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 9:28 a.m.
Loud music 2200blk Main St 9:38 a.m.
Indecent exposure 1700blk Expo Line 9:39 a.m.
Arson 4th St / Bay St 9:44 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 2200blk Ocean Park Blvd 10:14 a.m.
Grand theft 1000blk Montana Ave 10:27 a.m.
Traffic collision - unknown injuries 1800blk Cloverfield Blvd 10:42 a.m.
Grand theft auto 1600blk 11th St 10:48 a.m.
Battery just occurred 1700blk Ocean Front Walk 11:33 a.m.
Indecent exposure just occurred 6th St / Pico Blvd 11:35 a.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 2500blk 29th St 11:53 a.m.
Burglary report 500blk Montana Ave 11:53 a.m.
Traffic collision - unknown injuries 1500blk Centinela Ave 11:58 a.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 800blk 19th St 12:16 p.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 2500blk Lincoln Blvd 12:20 p.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 1500blk 2nd St 12:28 p.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 900blk 7th St 12:38 p.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1500blk Lincoln Blvd 12:48 p.m.
Fraud report 1800blk Ocean Ave 12:51 p.m.
Fraud report 1600blk Lincoln Blvd 1:56 p.m.
Petty theft report 300blk Santa Monica Pl 2:16 p.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1200blk 7th St 2:22 p.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries city prop involved 1200blk Lincoln Blvd 3:40 p.m.
Hit and run misdemeanor investigation 1500blk 2nd St 3:41 p.m.
Hit and run misdemeanor investigation Lincoln Blvd / Pico Blvd 3:45 p.m.
Elder abuse 2700blk 4th St 3:47 p.m.
Theft of recyclables 1300blk 14th St 3:47 p.m.
Hit and run misdemeanor investigation 1500blk 2nd St 3:51 p.m.
Defrauding innkeeper in progress 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 3:59 p.m.
Exhibition of speed Cloverfield Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 4:49 p.m.
Hit and run misdemeanor investigation 1600blk Lincoln Blvd 5:10 p.m.
Burglary report 2400blk Virginia Ave 5:18 p.m.
Exhibition of speed 17th St / Colorado Ave 5:27 p.m.
Auto burglary report 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 5:51 p.m.
Auto burglary report 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 6:19 p.m.
Grand theft auto just occurred 1300blk 14th St 6:34 p.m.
Burglary report 400blk Pico Blvd 6:58 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To Calls For Service.
HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

EMS 1600blk Ocean Ave 5:30 a.m.
EMS 200blk Ocean Ave 8:21 a.m.
EMS 1100blk 11th St 8:28 a.m.
EMS 100blk Broadway 9:18 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:33 a.m.
EMS Cloverfield Blvd / Interstate 10 10:17 a.m.
EMS 1800blk Cloverfield Blvd 10:43 a.m.
EMS 1300blk Lincoln Blvd 11:54 a.m.
Traffic collision with injury 1500blk Centinela Ave 11:59 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 12:02 p.m.
EMS 1300blk Lincoln Blvd 12:04 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 16th St 1:07 p.m.
EMS 2300blk Pearl St 1:09 p.m.
Automatic alarm 600blk 21st Pl 2:07 p.m.
EMS 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:21 p.m.
EMS 1200blk Franklin St 2:31 p.m.
Structure fire 1500blk 6th St 2:35 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 14th St 2:46 p.m.
EMS 1600blk Lincoln Blvd 6:24 p.m.
Odor investigation 200blk 15th St 9:11 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1400blk 6th St 10:11 p.m.

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 1/9
6 19 37 49 59
Power#: 22
Jackpot: 96M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 1/8
13 26 29 38 64
Mega#: 5
Jackpot: 50M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 1/9
3 28 29 43 44
Mega#: 18
Jackpot: 9M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/9
8 9 11 16 17

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 1/9
MIDDAY: 6 4 3
Draw Date: 1/9
EVENING: 4 5 0

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 1/9
1st: 05 California Classic
2nd: 10 Solid Gold
3rd: 04 Big Ben
RACE TIME: 1:48.58

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**

WORD UP!

impresario
1. a person who organizes or manages public entertainments, especially operas, ballets, or concerts.
2. any manager, director, or the like.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Body of Knowledge

■ Information travels at different speeds within the body depending upon the type of central nervous system cell involved. Some messages travel as "slow" as half a meter (1.6 feet) per second, while others cover 120 meters (393 feet) in the same time. Given the actual distances involved, it's all quite speedy.

Best Medicine

■ My doctor took one look at my gut and refused to believe that I work out. So I listed the exercises I do every day: jump to conclusions, climb the walls, drag my heels, push my luck, make mountains out of molehills, bend over backward, run around in circles, put my foot in my mouth, go over the edge and beat around the bush.

MYSTERY REVEALED

SPONSORED BY ice THE PLAZA AT SANTA MONICA



Justin Landrum correctly identified the photo as an illustrated utility box at the corner of Lincoln and Pico. He wins a prize from the Daily Press.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

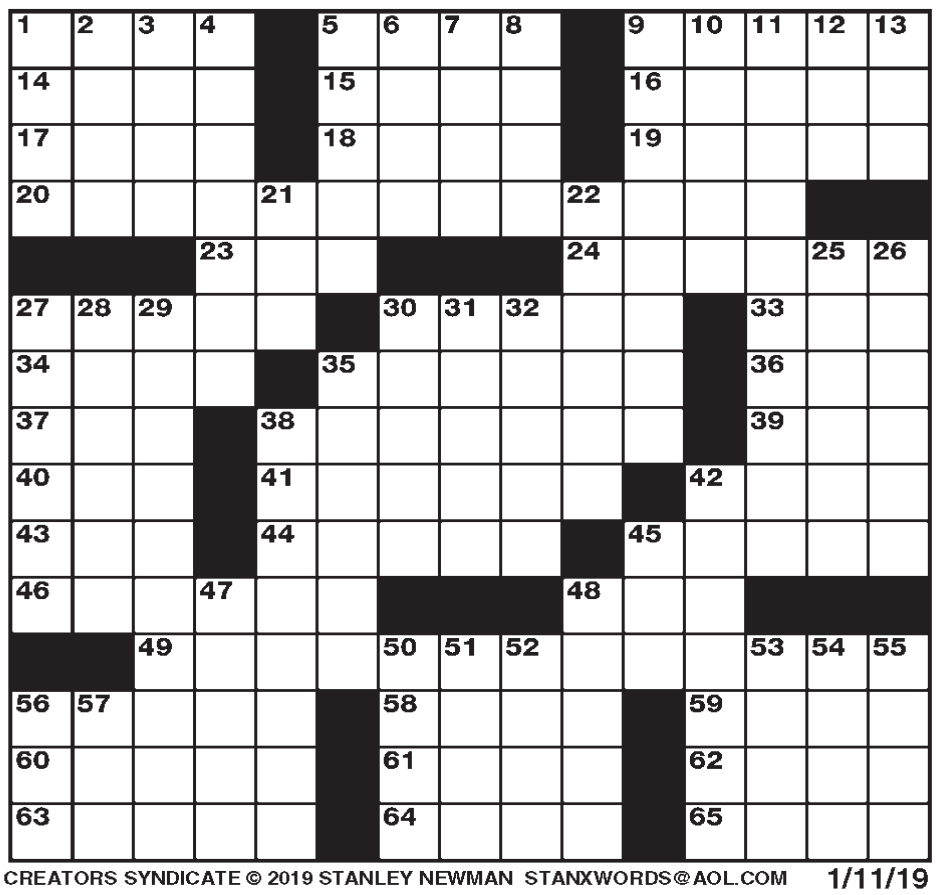
			9	4			7	
4						9		8
	8			2	5	4		
		7				5		1
	5		8		1		6	
1		3				2		
		1	4	6			3	
9		6						7
	3			5	9			

Newsday Crossword

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ACROSS
1 Colombian currency
5 Continuing, on road signs
9 Extended stories
14 Island made of lava
15 Hold it
16 Savory taste
17 Carnegie, by birth
18 Father-and-son acting surname
19 Road inconveniences
20 BACK
23 Jamaica's __ Fleming Airport
24 Created, as contracts
27 Attacks with snowballs, say
30 Motown music
33 Japanese leader
34 Bemoans
35 Oil source of biodiesel
36 *Solo* director's first name
37 Significant span
38 FRONT
39 Brown of novels
40 Spearheaded
41 Scramble cousin
42 "Sneaky" guy
43 Alias introducer
44 Affirmations
45 Member of the violet family
46 Pungent condiment
48 First Chief Justice
49 BACK AND FRONT
56 Yeshiva study
58 Flimflam
59 Of speech
60 Capital of Bangladesh
61 Eye rudely
62 Plottage measure
63 Not as assertive
64 Step on the salary ladder
65 Batted only

DOWN
1 Trading venue
2 For one
3 It may be running or bowling
4 Surpasses in smarts
5 Faulkner's "father of American literature"
6 Hold it
7 Emulate Revere
8 Highest birth-rate state
9 Geographically outlying
10 Divert
11 Job in conservation
12 Boost, with "up"
13 Family nickname
21 Consumes
22 Small sale of securities
25 WWII craft
26 Retail chain founder
27 College track (rather than a major)
28 California's motto
29 Be a bad influence on
30 Running things
31 Where a shank ends
32 Parts of clown costumes
35 Finished, as 30 Down
38 *The View* cohost
42 Launch-vehicle capacity
45 Confidante
47 No longer out
48 Class clown
50 Make haste slowly, maybe
51 Guru's student
52 Charitable allotment
53 3 Down supporter
54 Practically nonexistent
55 Runner thing
56 Bowl objectives
57 "I get it at last"



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2019 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 1/11/19

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 11)

Being able to recognize the profound beauty in a moment is your cosmic birthday gift. This solar return will bring you many such moments -- sacred, loving experiences that, for years to come, will flood your heart with gratitude when recalled. March brings a reunion. June shows a stellar financial opportunity. Cancer and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 4, 28, 2 and 15.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Only a fool would go looking for trouble. However, when trouble comes with the territory, dive right in. Employ your emotional and spiritual facilities like faith, courage and passion. Left unused, they will diminish.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
In the past, there were vast stretches of unspoiled, unknown land to explore. Now all the unknown territories are in the land of ideas. You're an adventurer, prepared to discover something there today.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
Today's success secret: Prime yourself with a positive self-talk session before the main actions of the day. Decide how you want things to play out, and then psych yourself into the frame of mind that will make it go that way.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
In families, everyone takes a role. Those roles fit together to create a unit. It's like you become who you need to be to make that unit function. And it doesn't always fit your idea of who you would like to be or who you are.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
There's a spirit of independence taking hold in you, and you'd really like to see what you can accomplish on your own before you seek advice or partnership.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Because you know how to laugh at life, you don't get stressed out over the same things that make other people so nervous. It's beautiful to be around, and it's the quality that will put you in a unique position today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Knowing that people see in others what they recognize in themselves, you will very carefully choose what you call out in others, as well as what you praise and compliment.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
When you enter a room, the energy of the room changes as everyone gets a sample of what you bring in. You can hide what you feel, and others might consciously miss it, but unconsciously they cannot help but sample it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
While some strive to be well-liked, others are actually afraid of coming into favor. It can be uncomfortable to be liked, as it can come with expectations and more attention than some people want to receive.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Pretending is an important part of development. It's how people learn. So while pretentiousness gets a bad rap, it's part of the process, and utterly forgivable.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
You embrace responsibility. The essence of responsibility is ownership. It claims things, relationships and other situations and says "mine," to figure out, care for, take pleasure in; mine to lose or keep.

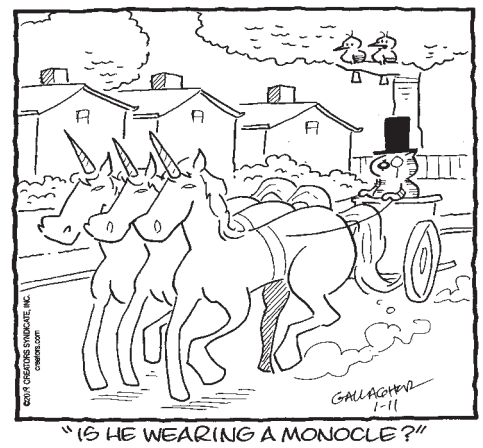
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
The biblical proverb suggests, "As you sow, so shall you reap." The trouble is that many seeds look alike. This is true both figuratively and literally. Just plant what you have and hope for the best.

Sun and Pluto Push Toward Goals

The sun and Pluto align in Capricorn, motivating a push toward New Year's resolutions, especially health and fitness goals. You'll reach them through communicating well with your body. The language of the body is chemistry. It's touch, exertion, rest, food, hormones, temperature and the like. Speak the body's language to achieve your goals.

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Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER

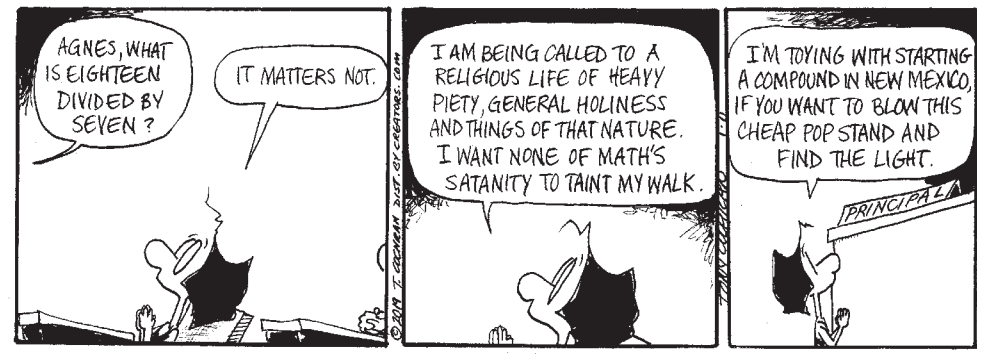


"IS HE WEARING A MONOCLE?"

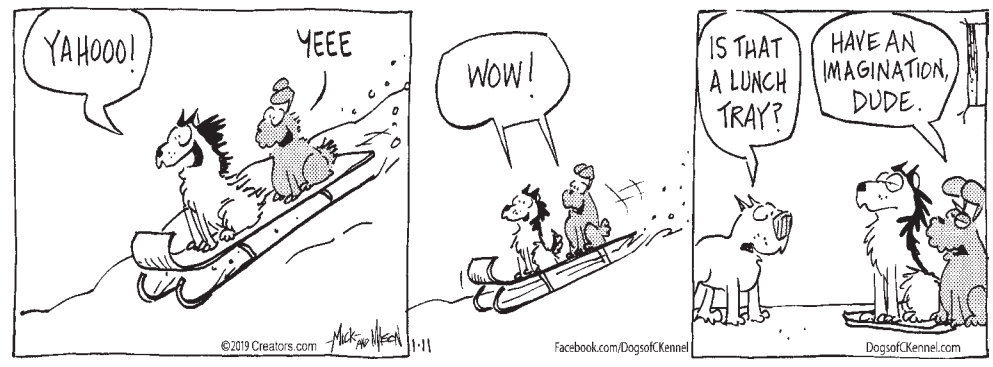
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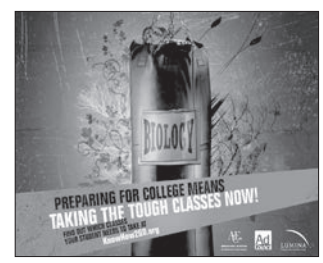
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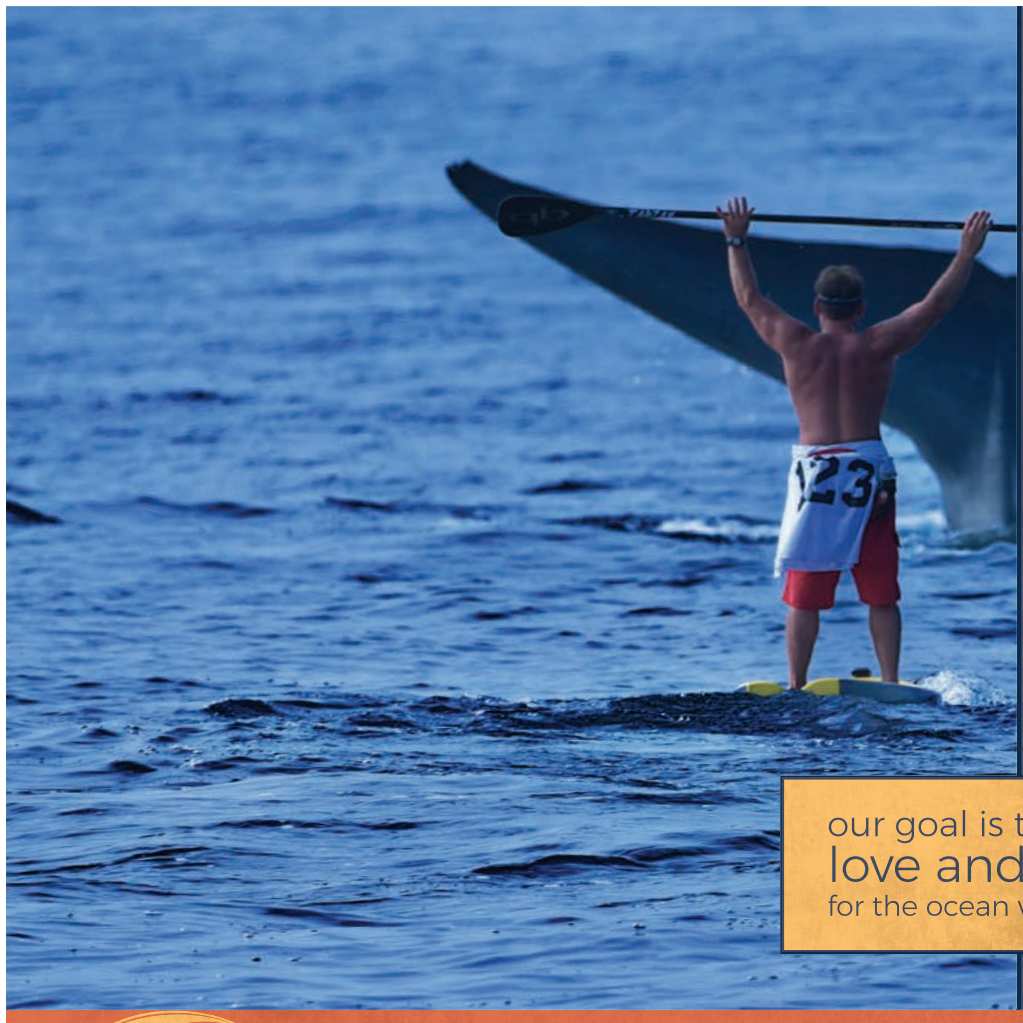
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