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Santa Monica Daily Press
WEDNESDAY
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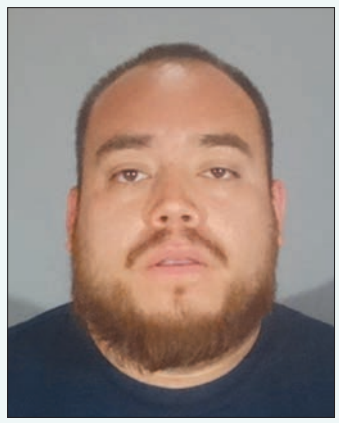
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Guns, narcotics and money seized in drug bust

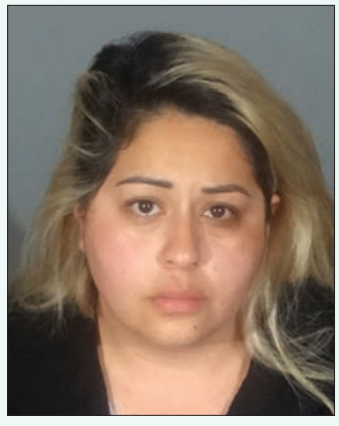


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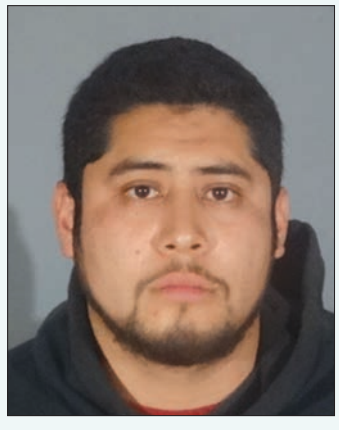
SEIZURE: Police made a significant seizure at the conclusion of a local drug investigation.



PEDRO CESAR ISAIS



VALARIE MARIE CRUZ



ALEJANDRO CRUZ

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica Police Department has arrested three people and seized 21 handguns, eight long guns/rifles, over 4000 rounds of ammunition, cocaine, methamphetamine and heroin in a Feb. 15 raid triggered by local drug sales. Over $200,000 in cash was also found at the scene.

According to SMPD, the local narcotics unit and Santa Monica SWAT team executed search warrants for two homes, one in Lennox and another in Hawthorne, Lt. Saul Rodriguez said the case was entirely a result of Santa Monica investigations but other law enforcement agencies may be on site when an arrest occurs in other cities.

"Due to the evidence recovered and information gathered, detectives arrested three subjects, two males and a female, for their involvement in narcotics distribution and criminal activity. The three subjects were booked at the Santa Monica Police Department Jail," said a statement from SMPD.

Pedro Cesar Isais, a 28 year-old male from Los Angeles, was arrested for possession of heroin for the purpose of sales, possession of methamphetamine for the purpose of sales, possession of narcotics with a loaded firearm and child endangerment.

Valarie Marie Cruz, a 30 year-old female from Inglewood CA, was arrested for possession of heroin for the purpose of sales, possession of methamphetamine

SEE **ARREST** PAGE 7

Santa Monica celebrates Section 8 protections

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

David Van Court has lived in his apartment off Pico Boulevard for almost 19 years. He has furnished it with armchairs and rugs inherited from his parents, trailing houseplants and teddy bears.

Last year, he almost lost his home when his landlord refused to accept his Section 8 voucher.

Van Court has a severe disability that makes it impossible for him to

SEE **SECTION 8** PAGE 11

Special Council meeting scheduled to plan CVRA response

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

City Council is holding a special meeting Thursday to discuss a court ruling that found the City of Santa Monica's election system discriminated against its Latino population.

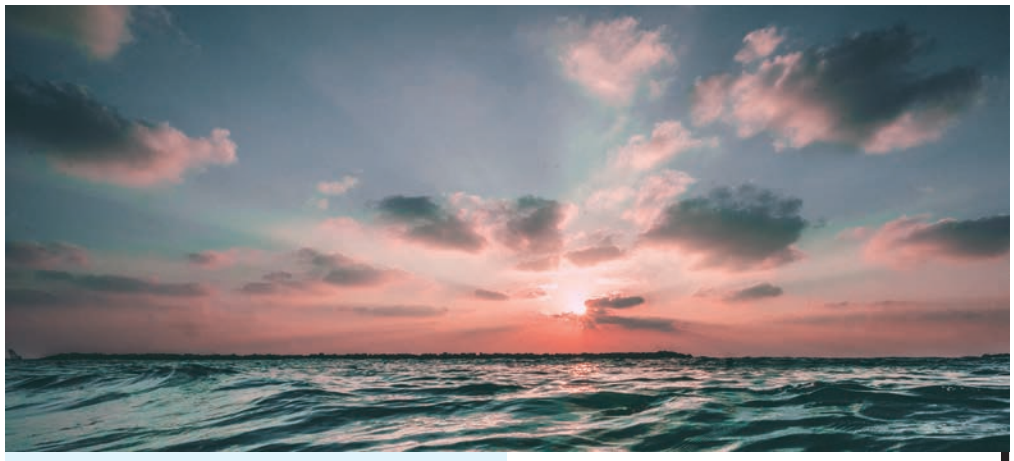
Judge Yvette Palazuelos issued a final ruling in the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) case against the City last week, ordering that future City Council elections

SEE **CVRA** PAGE 7

Isabel A. Ash Esq.
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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE SANTA MONICA PLANNING COMMISSION

SUBJECT: A Public Hearing will be held by the Planning Commission on the following:

1618 Stanford Street, Development Review Permit 18ENT-0182. Development Review Permit to allow a new four-story, 47-foot high, 45,599 square-foot (including subterranean floor area), mixed-use building with 47 residential units, 4,004 square feet of ground floor commercial space, 11,733 square feet of subterranean creative office space, and a two-level subterranean parking garage designed to accommodate 102 automobiles and 75 bicycles. [Planner: Scott Albright, AICP] APPLICANT: Michael W. Folonis Architects. PROPERTY OWNER: Michael Sabourian.

WHEN: **Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**

WHERE: Council Chambers, City Hall
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, California

HOW TO COMMENT
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment. You may comment at the Planning Commission public hearing, or by writing a letter or e-mail. Information received prior to the hearing will be given to the Planning Commission at the meeting.

MORE INFORMATION
If you want additional information about this project or wish to review the project, please contact Scott Albright at (310) 458-8341. The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. If you have any disability-related accommodation request, please contact (310) 458-8341, or TYY Number: (310) 458-8696 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, Rapid 3, #7, #8, #9, #10R, and #18 service the City Hall and the Civic Center. The Expo Line terminus is at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall 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 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 Peter James en la División de Planificación al número (310) 458-8341.

What's Up Westside
OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, Feb. 20

Poets & Writers Roundtable with Wally Rudolph
Poets & Writers, the nation's largest nonprofit organization serving creative writers, convenes Literary Roundtable Meetings in different parts of California and select cities outside the state. These meetings are open to people from all areas of the literary community–writers, teachers, editors, and organizations that host literary events–to exchange ideas, news, and resources. It's also a chance for P&W staff to share information about the Readings & Workshops program, which helps to provide fees to writers who give public readings and/or teach creative writing workshops. If you're interested in attending and for more information, please RSVP to rw-west@pw.org. Special guest speaker for this session is Annenberg Community Beach House Writer-in-Residence Wally Rudolph, who speaks about diversity and inclusion in the literary sphere. Cost: Free! Register online or call (310) 458-2239. Palisades Park 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 21

Current Events Discussion Group
Join The Fairview Branch Library for a lively discussion of the latest news with your friends and neighbors. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd. 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Citizenship Classes
An ongoing series of classes taught by Adult Education Center instructors, who help students complete and submit their application, and prepare them to pass the official review. Enrollment is through the SMMUSD Adult Center (310) 664-6222, ext. 76203. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Soundwaves Concert: Vicki Ray PianoSpheres Preview
Contemporary piano music performed by Vicki Ray. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 7:30 p.m.

Making Black History: #ArtInAction
Raise your voice through art and draw inspiration from contemporary artists like Kara Walker and Diedrick Brackens to contribute to a collective work of art. See your artwork displayed at the Greens Festival in Virginia Ave Park. All supplies provided and no experience necessary. Grades 8 - 12 in The Annex. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd.6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 22

Mat Pilates
Learn the techniques of Pilates, a system of controlled exercises that engage the mind and condition the total body. Montana Avenue Branch Library 3 - 4 p.m.

Fireside at the Miles; music and theatre by the historic fireplace
Jazz Singer Angie Wells brings her unique talents to fireside for the first time. Come and enjoy some classics and a few surprises with Angie and her Jazz Quartet. Part of Fireside at the Miles Series. Cost $5-$10 on Eventbrite. The Miles Memorial Playhouse 1130 Lincoln Blvd. 8 - 10 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 23

Get Started with 3-D Printing
Learn the basics of 3D printing and design by completing a guided project. To register, email ideashappen@smgov.net one week before event. For ages 7-12. Montana Avenue Branch Library 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

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

Trump says he has 'absolute right' to declare emergency

CATHERINE LUCEY
Associated Press

President Donald Trump declared Tuesday that he would prevail over a multistate lawsuit challenging his emergency declaration to pay for a U.S.-Mexico border wall.

Speaking to reporters at the White House, Trump said he expected to do "very well," against the suit, adding that he had an "absolute right" to make the declaration.

"I think in the end we're going to be very successful with the lawsuit," Trump said. "I actually think we might do very well, even in the 9th Circuit, because it's an open and closed case."

A group of 16 states, including California, New York and Colorado, filed a lawsuit Monday against Trump's emergency declaration. The lawsuit filed in the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco alleges Trump's declaration is unconstitutional.

All the states involved in the lawsuit have Democratic attorneys general.

Using a broad interpretation of his executive powers, Trump declared an emergency last week to obtain wall funding beyond the $1.4 billion Congress approved for border security. The move allows the president to bypass Congress to use money from the Pentagon and other budgets.

Democrats have seized on the move as an example of executive overreach. The office of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., issued a press release Tuesday that stated: "No one is above the law. Republicans must join Democrats to uphold the Constitution and

SEE **TRUMP** PAGE 7

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

Nicole Gougis Selected to Lead Criminal Division of the Santa Monica City Attorney's Office

City Attorney Lane Dilg has selected Nicole Gougis as the new Chief of the Criminal Division beginning today, February 19. She comes to Santa Monica from the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office where she has been a prosecutor in the Metropolitan and Central Trials branches since 2007.

"Keeping neighborhoods safe is among the most important work that we do in the City Attorney's Office. Nicole is a proven prosecutor known for effective collaboration with law enforcement and innovation in criminal justice policy," said City Attorney Lane Dilg. "She will be an able leader of the Criminal Division and a tremendous asset to our overall efforts to prevent and prosecute crime in Santa Monica."

As the Assistant Supervisor of the Central Trials Branch, Gougis oversaw approximately 34 attorneys and 30 support staff members. During her time in Los Angeles, Gougis played a leading role in major projects to address challenges involving the Proposition 47 population, including LA DOOR, a $6 million grant for mobile outreach and prebooking diversion, and programming through the Recidivism Reduction and Drug Diversion (R2D2) unit. Before becoming a prosecutor, Gougis worked as a civil litigator at the law firm of Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP.

"I am excited to have the opportunity to serve the people of Santa Monica and to lead the community through the new criminal justice landscape," said Gougis.

The Criminal Division comprises the Chief Deputy City Attorney, five prosecuting attorneys, a victim advocate, an investigator, and four staff members. Together, they are responsible for prosecuting thousands of misdemeanor criminal offenses in Santa Monica each year, including domestic abuse, drunk driving, burglary, assault, and other offenses.

The Division works hand-in-hand with the Santa Monica Police Department in the prosecution of offenses and also provides regular roll call trainings on topics ranging from the Fourth Amendment to body worn cameras to key aspects of effective domestic violence and driving under the influence investigations.

The Division has also been a leader in innovative restorative justice models. Together with the Los Angeles Superior Court, the Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office, the Santa Monica Human Services Division and homeless service providers, the Division designed and runs a Homeless Community Court that addresses root causes of criminal behavior by homeless individuals and connects these individuals to supportive services like job training, rehabilitation, mental health care, and permanent housing.

Gougis holds a B.A. in Psychology and an M.A. in Cognitive and Social Psychology from UCLA as well as a J.D. from Boalt Hall School of Law. She replaces Terry White, who served as Criminal Chief since 2008. Gougis began today, February 19, with an annual salary of $211,104.

SUBMITTED BY CONSTANCE FARRELL, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Citywide

Man Charged with Stabbing Elderly Parents, Killing Mother

A 42-year-old man has been charged with stabbing his mother and father at their Santa Monica home, killing his mom, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced yesterday.

Stephen Lloyd Fader (dob 9/10/76) of Brentwood faces one felony count each of murder and attempted murder.

Deputy District Attorney Morgan Mallory said the charges include special allegations that Fader used a knife as a deadly and dangerous weapon and that he inflicted great bodily injury upon his father who is older than 70 years old.

The defendant pleaded not guilty today and is scheduled to return on March 11 in Department W31 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Airport Branch. Case SA099891 was filed on Feb. 4.

Howard Fader, 82, and Sharon Fader, 75, both were stabbed multiple times on or between Jan. 23 and Jan. 24, according to the criminal complaint. Sharon Fader died as a result of her injuries.

If convicted as charged, Stephen Fader faces a possible maximum sentence of 32 years to life in state prison. Bail is set at $3 million.

The case remains under investigation by the Santa Monica Police Department.

SUBMITTED BY RICARDO SANTIAGO, D.A. PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

SACRAMENTO

16 states sue Trump over emergency wall declaration

California and 15 other states filed a lawsuit Monday against President Donald Trump's emergency declaration to fund a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border.

California Attorney General Xavier Becerra released a statement Monday saying the suit alleges the Trump administration's action violates the Constitution.

"President Trump treats the rule of law with utter contempt," Becerra said. "He knows there is no border crisis, he knows his emergency declaration is unwarranted, and he admits that he will likely lose this case in court."

Joining California in filing the lawsuit are the attorneys general of Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, and Virginia. All the states involved in the lawsuit have Democratic attorneys general.

Trump declared a national emergency to fulfill his promise of completing the wall.

The move allows the president to bypass Congress to use money from the Pentagon and other budgets.

The states say diversion of military funding to wall-building will hurt their economies and deprive their military bases of needed upgrades. They say taking away funds from counter-drug efforts for the wall will also cause damage. California and New Mexico, the two Mexican border states in the lawsuit, say the wall will harm wildlife.

California has repeatedly challenged Trump in court.

"President Trump is manufacturing a crisis and declaring a made-up 'national emergency' in order to seize power and undermine the Constitution," said California Gov. Gavin Newsom in a statement. "This 'emergency' is a national disgrace."

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

California shivers ahead of 2 more storm systems

California is cold and dry for the time being, but two weather systems are expected this week.

Freeze warnings and frost advisories were in effect early Tuesday in the Central Valley, the Central Coast, around Los Angeles and down through the interior of Southern California.

A cold system is expected on Wednesday but isn't expected to bring much rain or snowfall.

But the Los Angeles-area weather office says Thursday looks to be an interesting day.

A very cold system from the Canadian interior is predicted to move into the state from Nevada, meaning the air mass won't be modified by passage over relatively warm ocean waters.

Forecasters say snow levels around Southern California could fall as low as 1,500 feet almost anywhere, except along the coast.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

3 men fatally shot at home in gated Los Angeles community

Los Angeles police interviewed neighbors Tuesday as they investigated the shooting deaths of three men inside a home in a gated community.

Firefighters responding to a 911 call found the gunshot victims at about 4 p.m. Monday and called police to the residence in the affluent Porter Ranch neighborhood.

Nobody was in custody in connection with the killings, Officer Drake Madison said. He declined comment when asked if police are searching for suspects.

All of the victims were men in their 30s or 40s who died at the scene, Madison said. They were not immediately identified and it was not clear if they were residents of the large, two-story house in the Renaissance housing development in the northwestern San Fernando Valley.

The 911 call came from someone "associated" with the people inside house, police said.

U.S. Congressman Brad Sherman, who lives in Porter Ranch, told KTTV he feels safe but said the killings in a small community "shakes you up a bit."

Guests and residents must drive past a guarded gate to enter the development, where homes list for over $1 million.

CHRISTOPHER WEBER AND JOHN ANTCZAK ASSOCIATED PRESS

PASADENA

New California medical school waives tuition for 1st classes

Tuition will be waived for the first five classes of students at the new Kaiser Permanente School of Medicine in Southern California.

Kaiser Permanente announced Tuesday that the school being built in Pasadena has received preliminary accreditation and it will begin accepting applications in June for the first class in summer 2020.

Students in the school's first five classes will have tuition waived for the full four years.

Pasadena was announced as the site for the school in 2016.

Clinical education will primarily take place in the greater Los Angeles area in Kaiser Permanente hospitals and clinics and in partnered community health centers.

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Curious City

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Here's Our Chance

THE OTHER SHOE

Has finally dropped. Is it a game changer? Or just an adjustment, a gnat to be flicked away by our entrenched corruption cabal here, "business" as usual?

On Friday Judge Yvette Palazuelos issued her final ruling in the district voting lawsuit the City lost. She ruled that Santa Monica must have a special City Council election, by districts rather than at large, on July 2. Which means that every current Council member will be out, deemed to have been seated by "unlawful elections," and have to run in their own districts if they want back on the Council. All seven seats are now up for grabs.

This is quite an opportunity for change, but before you dance your jig of hallelujah, understand that the same ugly heads will be lurking in all seven districts, funding six-figure PACs to elect their favored folk who will do their bidding. Union 11 will organize to back and support, with phone calls, mailers and demonstrations, candidates who will give them as many union wage-paying hotels as possible, hotels everywhere, hotels to the sky.

SMRR will still bestow their crucial endorsement on their hand-picked candidates, still crying Renters' Rights but doing little to stop the continuing loss of truly affordable rent-controlled apartments, instead focusing on begging developers for a handful of "affordable units" that aren't very affordable, as they advocate for building more, more, more in already jam-packed Santa Monica. (That is a terrible strategy. Unless your goal is simply to remain the kingmaker, to continue having control of city politics, by adding more and more renters, never mind the longtime residents who get forced out in the process.)

BUT DON'T DESPAIR!

District elections may not be sure salvation but it is cause for hope. Despite the continuing influences I cited above, it is now possible for a candidate to knock on the door and speak to every voter in their district. You couldn't do that with city-wide elections; you couldn't even consider running for City Council unless you had a war chest of at least $120,000. The advantage went to those wealthy enough to at least partially fund their own campaigns, like Sue Himmelrich. Anyone else had to be beholden to the groups who provided them the necessary funds to campaign and win. Campaign funds — a nice term for bribery.

I love seeing candidates twist themselves in knots declaring they have nothing to do with PACs and don't even know who funds them. Right. Council member Kevin McKeown loves to righteously announce that he has never taken funding from developers. Probably technically true. But we all know where the money comes from that buys all those ads and flyers that promote his candidacy each election.

Terry O'Day ran a PAC in 2014 ostensibly to support the candidacies of Pam O'Connor and Frank Gruber for City Council, but the law is loose on reporting where the money comes from and where it goes.

THIS IS OUR OPPORTUNITY

To elect Council members who will always put residents first, truly adhere to transparency in government, and will not be owned by special interests.

Look to the SMDP reporting on this issue to see the map of the new voting districts. Which one are you in? Who among the sitting Council members is in your district? Incumbency is worth a ton of votes, you know.

District 1 - O'Day, Jara; District 2 - Morena; District 3 -Davis, Himmelrich, McKeown; Districts 4, 5, 6 - no incumbents; District 7 - Winterer.

Some observations: I don't believe that City Council voted for Ana Jara to fill the vacant CC seat because they thought she was the most qualified. I believe they backed her because she was a Latina who opposed the lawsuit calling for district elections, good for their possible appeal. I believe she is a token sitting on Council to show, look, we have Latinas on CC — two of them! Even though only one Latino in the last 73 was elected. Gleam Davis was appointed before she was elected, and she never ran as a Latina. Advantage: O'Day.

Morena, new kid, sometimes bucking the CC wave, but I'm sure he got slapped down for it. Will he become his own man? I doubt it but I'm open.

District 3, really interesting: CC doesn't like Sue because she asks hard questions, but then votes with the majority, to get along. McKeown has never been a CC favorite, he could move to a different district, leaving Davis as the favorite. Himmelrich is the one we need to keep!

District 7, Ocean Park — Ted was very popular to begin with, now has lost cred among most voters in OP. Will someone give him a run?

QUESTION OF THE WEEK: For years people have been begging me to run for City Council. Is this the moment? I could run on two simple standards: I will always represent the interests of the residents of Santa Monica, fighting all the special interests that now control our city; and, as a longtime Ocean Park resident — I'm not Ted. I'm sure I would face a lot of SMeaRR tactics but I think that even without campaign funds I could pull enough votes, don't you?

… nah.

Charles Andrews has lived in Santa Monica for 33 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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Rotary News

By Alanna Shepard

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The Rotary Club of Santa Monica is Active in the Community



Courtesy photo

ROTARIANS: The Rotary Club works on various community service projects.

THE FOUR-WAY TEST OF THE THINGS ROTARIANS THINK , SAY OR DO ARE:

First……..Is it the TRUTH?

Second……Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Third…….Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Fourth……Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

With these tenets in mind and as people of action, Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Santa Monica participate in a number of hands-on service projects to support our community throughout the year.

Recently members participated in two annual projects, food sorting at the Westside Food Bank and assembling and delivering Valentines Day Gift bags to local senior citizens.

Rotarians and staff from the Westside Food Bank sorted, organized and boxed hundreds of pounds of donated canned goods and other food items that are then provided to low-income or food insecure individuals that are served by more than 70 local agencies, including food pantries, shelters and transitional living sites.

Many seniors in our community are isolated, live alone or don't have family. Valentine's Day can be especially lonely. Joining staff and volunteers from WISE & Healthy Aging, Rotarians assembled gift bags and hand-delivered them to clients during lunch at the agency. It was heartwarming to visit with the elders and listen to their stories of remarkable lives.

Additionally, Rotarians arrived at the Fairmont Hotel and volunteered to give blood at our the annual blood drive which provides much-needed blood to the American Red Cross.

The Community and Youth Grants committee has also been busy. Grants were given to The Westside Food Bank where the money will be used to purchase a generator that may be necessary to preserve food in emergency situations and to Orchestra Santa Monica to purchase projection equipment and microphones.

The Rotary Club of Santa Monica Foundation also gave out money to help the community with checks being given to SaMoHi Grad Night and Step Up on 2nd.

We honored another of our Unsung Heroes. This time the award was presented to Walt Walston, a long-time dedicated volunteer for Meals on Wheels West. A few years ago on Thanksgiving, Walt volunteered through his synagogue to deliver meals. He was hooked. At first he was volunteering one day a week, which quickly became three. When interviewed Walt said, "Meals on Wheels introduces us to a lot of people we may not normally meet, which is a lot of fun...you feels good about being able to deliver a meal to someone who may not be able to get out of the house much. Through all these years, I've gotten to know many very interesting people and hear their stories." Thank you Walt for making our community a better place.

For more information on the Rotary Club of Santa Monica, visit https://www.rotaryclub ofsantamonica.org, or for details on membership, please call 310-917-3313.

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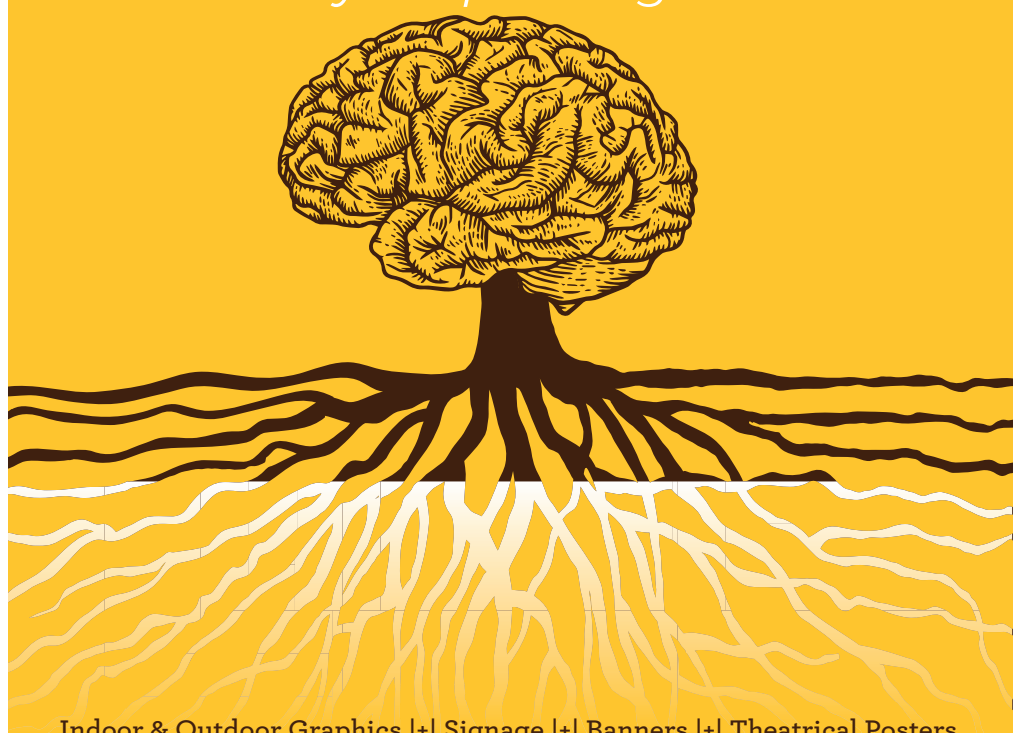
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Don't let lawyers steal your six votes

Editor:

Right now you get to vote for all seven of your City Councilmembers. Lawyers who've made a handsome living by suing cities up and down California are trying to take six of your votes away.

The writers of this letter are the longest-serving Councilmember and the most recently appointed. We each represent all of our city, not just one-seventh of the voters, although we are, of course, deeply rooted in our neighborhoods.

We believe it is best to keep our current system, where every Councilmember, no matter what neighborhood they live in, answers to every voter, no matter where they live.

The litigation to force districts on Santa Monica would mean that each resident votes for only one Councilmember, and gets to vote only once every four years. Right now, you get to vote every two years, and every one of the seven Councilmembers is accountable to you. With districts, six of the seven Councilmembers would have no reason to consider you as their constituents.

Have Santa Monica voters ever considered district elections? Indeed they have. In 1975, and again in 2002, Santa Monicans voted no to districts, and affirmed having every Councilmember elected by all the voters in our city.

Would districts, as claimed, increase minority representation? Perhaps in some other communities, but in Santa Monica minorities are not concentrated such that any district could further empower them. There is no minority that is a majority in the Pico neighborhood, and, in fact, in total, more Santa Monica Latinos live in other neighborhoods than in Pico.

The current lawsuit, which financially benefits the plaintiffs' lawyers, has been expensive for Santa Monica taxpayers. We did not initiate this lawsuit. The lawyers who did have sued a number of cities, walking away with generous fees and settlements. They started this litigation. The blame for the costs falls on them. When we win on appeal, they won't get the money they came here for, and that is justice.

The two of us believe your right to vote for all seven Councilmembers, and to have a City Council that represents all of you, is worth fighting for.

ANA MARIA JARA
Kevin McKeown

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ARREST

FROM PAGE 1

for the purpose of sales, possession of narcotics with a loaded firearm and child endangerment.

Alejandro Cruz, a 25 year-old male from Los Angeles was arrested for possession of heroin for the purpose of sales.

Lt. Saul Rodriguez said the narcotics unit is focused on distributors and their investigations often begin with a tip about local sales but expand into other jurisdictions.

"This is common with narcotics investigations," he said. "We start with individuals selling narcotics in the City of Santa Monica and the cases take us elsewhere. (The narcotics unit) gathers information from multiple sources ... but it all started with a sales investigation here and they may not be only distributing here but are distributing in all of Los Angeles County."

He said detectives will be presenting the case to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office for filing consideration.

Anyone with information related to narcotic activity in the City of Santa Monica is encouraged to call the anonymous Narcotics Tip Line at (310) 458-2292; or the Santa Monica Police Department at (310) 458-8491.

editor@smdp.com

TRUMP

FROM PAGE 3

stand with the American people - against the President's brazen assault."

Trump argued Tuesday that the wall was needed to "stop drugs and crime and criminals and human trafficking." He has repeatedly sought to paint a dire picture of conditions at the border, though illegal border crossings are down from a high of 1.6 million in 2000.

After weeks spent battling with Congress over border funding and what constituted a wall versus a fence, Trump said: "I can call it a barrier, but I think I don't have to do that so much anymore, we'll call it whatever we want."

Trump's use of the emergency declaration has drawn bipartisan criticism and is expected to face numerous legal challenges. A top White House adviser said Sunday that Trump was prepared to issue his first veto if Congress votes to disapprove his declaration of a national emergency.

Earlier Tuesday, Trump singled out California for its lead role in the suit, seeking to link the state's high-speed rail project to his plan for the wall.

On Twitter, Trump claimed the "failed Fast Train project" was beset by "world record setting" cost overruns and had become "hundreds of times more expensive than the desperately needed Wall!"

The estimated cost for a San Francisco-to-Los Angeles train has more than doubled to $77 billion. That's about 13 times more than the $5.7 billion Trump sought unsuccessfully from Congress to build the wall.

Last week, California Gov. Gavin Newsom said the rail project "as currently planned, would cost too much and take too long." He said the state would focus on completing a shorter segment in the state's Central Valley while seeking new funding sources for the longer route.

CVRA

FROM PAGE 1

will be determined by a seven-district map drawn by the plaintiffs in the case, Maria Loya and the Pico Neighborhood Association (PNA).

Palazuelos said the City must hold a special election to elect a new City Council on July 2 because the current Council won their seats in an illegal election system. Each of the seven districts will elect one councilmember.

The ruling said Latino residents have preferred Latino candidates, but those candidates have typically lost and only one Latino won a Council seat before the plaintiffs sued the City. Palazuelos said moving to a district-based election system would address that issue because Santa Monica's Latino population clusters in certain neighborhoods.

The City may appeal the ruling in California's appellate courts, said Theodore J. Boutrous, Jr., one of the lawyers representing the City. Council will discuss the case with the City's lawyers on Thursday in a session closed to the public before hearing public comment.

"We cannot comment specifically on what may be discussed in closed session. As demonstrated at prior City Council meetings, however, the public has shown significant interest in this litigation," said City spokesperson Constance Farrell. "Accordingly, we wanted to remind everyone that at the special meeting this Thursday, just as at other regularly scheduled Council meetings, public comment is welcome should members of the public wish to express any views to the Council."

The City did not say whether it would appeal the ruling or if it was preparing for a July 2 special election.

Councilmember Greg Morena, who was elected last November, said he encourages residents to attend the public comment portion of the special meeting to discuss the case. He said he feels that using a district map drawn by the plaintiffs to determine elections would undermine the democratic process.

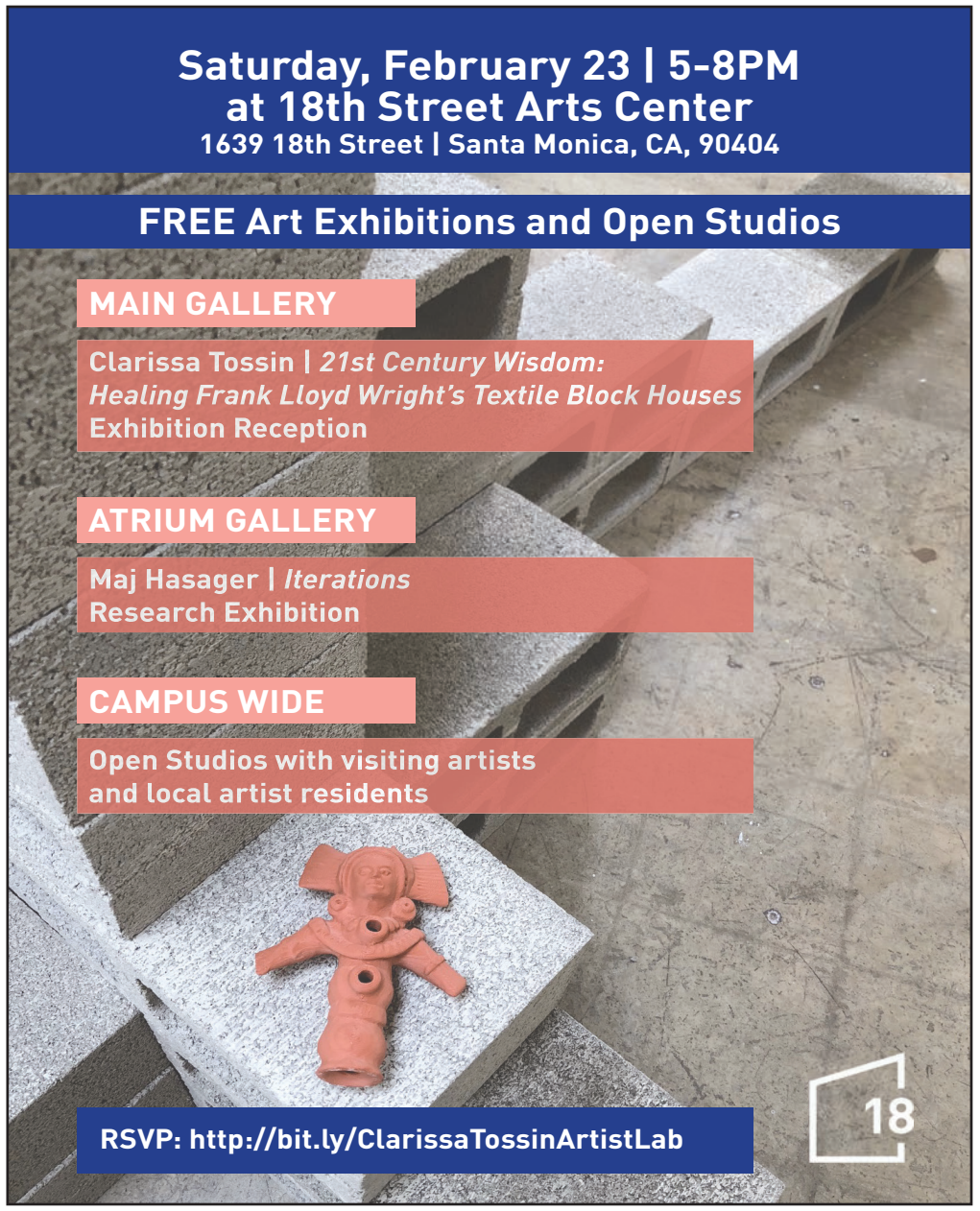
"If people want to change things, you can ... get signatures and put it on the ballot. We just did it with (Measure TL)," Morena said. "If people want to see things changed, let's do it in a way that includes everybody. The judge took all the information and the map from the plaintiffs and ruled based on that. Where's the public process? Where does everyone else get a voice?"

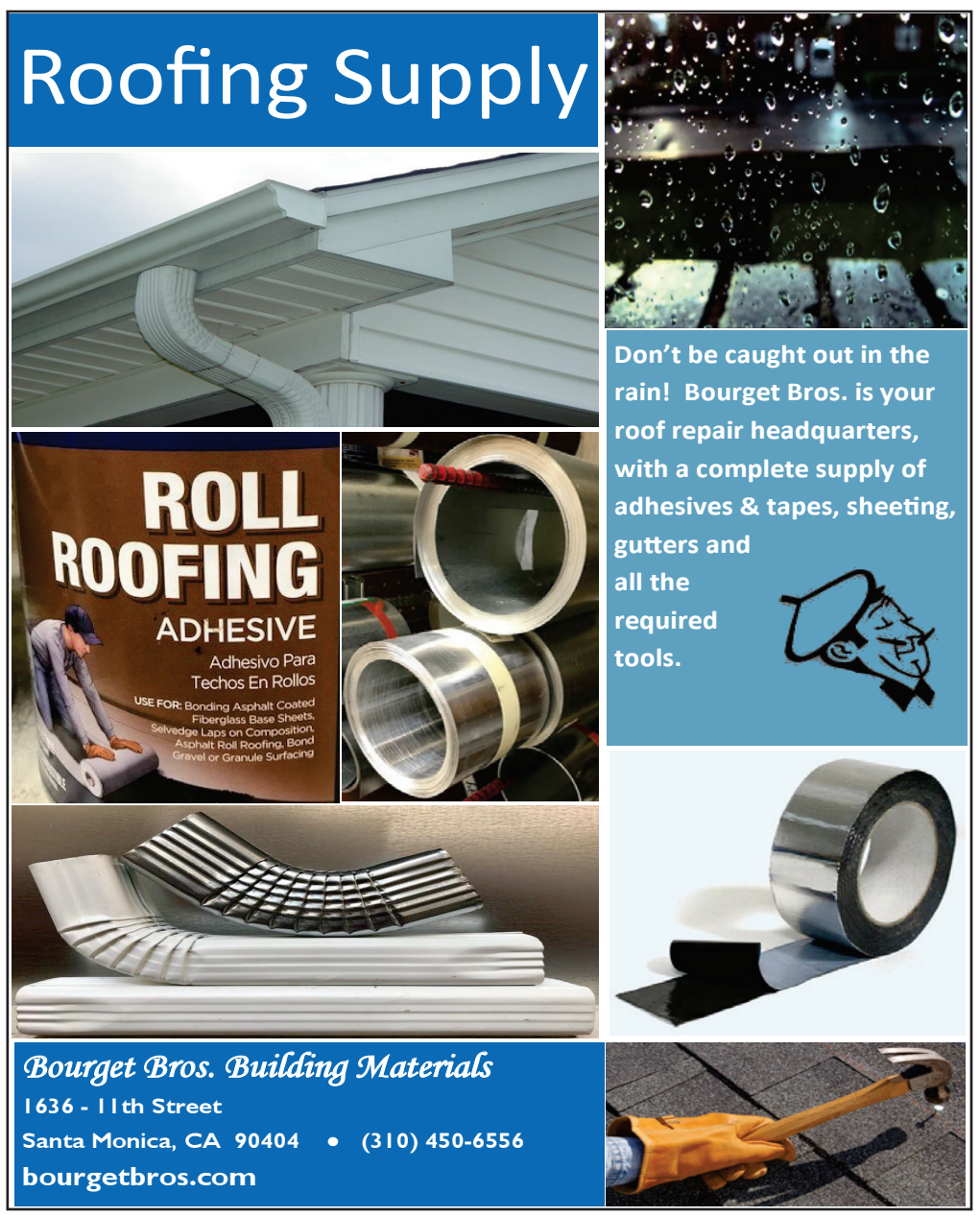
Councilman Tony Vazquez recently left the council after winning a seat on the state Board of Equalization. Ana Maria Jara, was appointed last month to fill his vacant seat.

District-based elections have not improved Latino representation in other cities, Morena said. 15 California cities with Latino populations of less than 30 percent have switched to districts and none elected Latino representatives in 2018, he said.

"That's a staggering statistic," Morena said. "Who are we serving here?"

madeleine@smdp.com

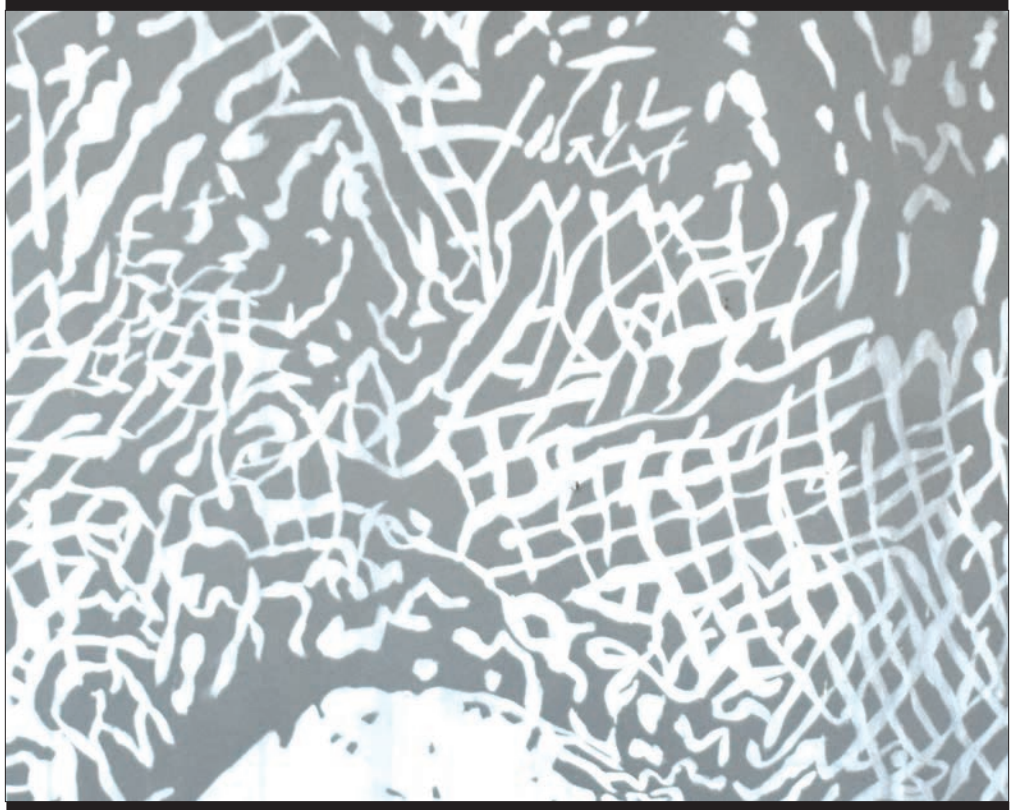




MYSTERY PHOTO

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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 FEBRUARY 6, 2019 AT ABOUT 5:37 P.M.

Officers responded to a residence at the 800 block of Adelaide Place regarding a burglary alarm. Offices spoke to the resident and learned their home alarm was activated by a male subject that hoped over a fence into the backyard. The resident confronted the subject. The subject did not have a valid reason for being there and was escorted off the property. The subject was also seen in the neighbor's yard. Officers located the suspect at 16th Street & Montana Avenue. The subject was identified by the residents. Officers took the suspect into custody. Alexander Roberto Bailleres, 29, from Los Angeles was arrested for burglary and prowling. Bail was set at $50,000.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To Calls For Service.

SMDP STAFF SELECTED THE FOLLOWING CALLS OUT OF 342 ON FEB. 17.

Auto burglary 00blk Vicente Ter 12:27 a.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 300blk Civic Center Dr 12:27 a.m.
Auto burglary 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 2:02 a.m.
Assault 15th St / Wilshire Blvd 2:18 a.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 2:41 a.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries Cloverfield Blvd / Michigan Ave 6:37 a.m.
Traffic hazard 9th St / Wilshire Blvd 6:40 a.m.
Prowler just left 1200blk 14th St 6:43 a.m.
Threats /s 1400blk 16th St 7:42 a.m.
Encampment 1600blk the beach 8:13 a.m.
Vehicle with excessive parking violations 1800blk Washington Ave 8:32 a.m.
Encampment 1000blk the beach 9:08 a.m.
Bike theft 1000blk Lincoln Blvd 9:22 a.m.
Elder abuse 1400blk Euclid St 9:51 a.m.
Elder abuse 1300blk 17th St 9:52 a.m.
Vehicle with excessive parking violations 800blk 22nd St 10:12 a.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 1000blk 12th St 10:35 a.m.
Threats /s 1700blk 22nd St 10:41 a.m.
Exhibition of speed 2nd St / Santa Monica Blvd 10:42 a.m.
Petty theft 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 10:48 a.m.
Vehicle with excessive parking violations 900blk Ocean Ave 10:53 a.m.
Grand theft auto 2100blk Pier Ave 10:57 a.m.
Construction noise 900blk 19th St 11:28 a.m.
Malicious mischief 100blk Strand St 11:28 a.m.
Auto burglary 1900blk 18th St 12:04 p.m.
Vehicle with excessive parking violations 2000blk 18th St 12:21 p.m.
Malicious mischief 4th St / Santa Monica Blvd 12:22 p.m.
Auto burglary 800blk 3rd St 12:42 p.m.
Fight 17th St / Delaware Ave 12:45 p.m.
Person down 1400blk Ocean Ave 12:57 p.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 2300blk 30th St 1:00 p.m.
Fight 300blk Santa Monica Pl 1:09 p.m.
Injured person 300blk California Ave 1:27 p.m.
Petty theft 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 2:09 p.m.
Petty theft 300blk Arizona Ave 2:10 p.m.
Battery 200blk Santa Monica Pier 2:20 p.m.
Traffic collision with injuries 5th St / Santa Monica Blvd 2:23 p.m.
Petty theft 9th St / Arizona Ave 2:26 p.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:52 p.m.
Traffic collision - unkn injuries 23rd St / Pico Blvd 3:01 p.m.
Hit and run 800blk Arizona Ave 3:07 p.m.
Burglary 700blk Arizona Ave 3:15 p.m.
Person with a gun 1500blk Ocean Front Walk 3:23 p.m.
Burglary 700blk Arizona Ave 3:23 p.m.
Traffic collision with injuries Ocean Ave / Bay St 3:23 p.m.
Auto burglary 500blk San Vicente Blvd 3:24 p.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 100blk Bicknell Ave 3:27 p.m.
Fraud 3200blk Pico Blvd 3:28 p.m.
Fight Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 4:11 p.m.
Lewd activity 3rd Street Prom / Broadway 4:19 p.m.

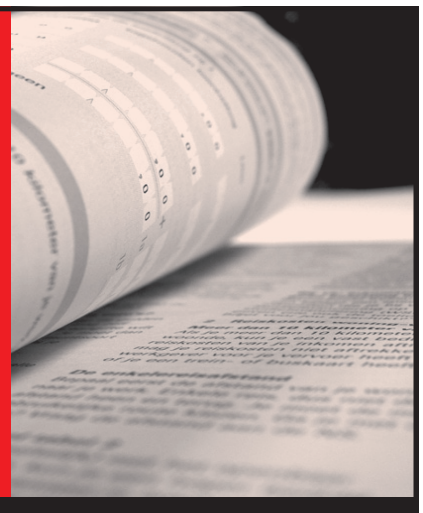
DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To Calls For Service.

SMDP STAFF SELECTED THE FOLLOWING CALLS OUT OF 46 ON FEB. 17..

Emergency Medical Service 1900blk Stewart St 12:25 a.m.
EMS 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 2:13 a.m.
EMS 1700blk Appian Way 2:37 a.m.
EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 4:24 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 4th St 4:51 a.m.
Automatic alarm 900blk Wilshire Blvd 5:06 a.m.
EMS 2800blk Pico Blvd 6:23 a.m.
EMS 900blk 26th St 8:09 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:14 a.m.
Elevator rescue 2500blk Colorado Ave 8:35 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2700blk Neilson Way 9:07 a.m.
EMS 1500blk 4th St 9:30 a.m.
EMS 1000blk Pearl St 9:47 a.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:32 a.m.
EMS 1600blk Arizona Ave 11:12 a.m.
EMS 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 11:39 a.m.
EMS 2400blk Ocean Front Walk 11:48 a.m.
EMS 900blk Wilshire Blvd 12:05 p.m.
EMS 300blk California Ave 12:08 p.m.
EMS 300blk Santa Monica Pier 1:10 p.m.
EMS 5th St / Santa Monica Blvd 1:22 p.m.
EMS 1000blk Ocean Ave 1:26 p.m.
EMS 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 1:50 p.m.
EMS 3000blk Lincoln Blvd 3:01 p.m.
EMS 300blk Santa Monica Pier 3:39 p.m.

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Draw Date: 2/16
29 30 41 48 64
Power#: 1
Jackpot: 282M

Draw Date: 2/15
10 38 40 43 65
Mega#: 12
Jackpot: 206M

Draw Date: 2/16
5 14 15 35 45
Mega#: 5
Jackpot: 20M

Draw Date: 2/18
2 11 17 27 32

Draw Date: 2/18
Midday: 7 0 5

Draw Date: 2/18
Evening: 8 2 5

Draw Date: 2/18
1st: 08 Gorgeous George
2nd: 04 Big Ben
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1:45.51

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



SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 57.0°

WEDNESDAY - **POOR** - SURF: 1-2 ft ankle to knee high
Minor WNW-NW swell-mix. Watching for new shorter period NW swell to start rising up late.
Front looking to move into region with rising South clocking West wind (light wind early). Possible rain late.

THURSDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
Watching for new dose of NW swell-mix to top out. Minimal SSW swell. Post-frontal, breezy WNW wind.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

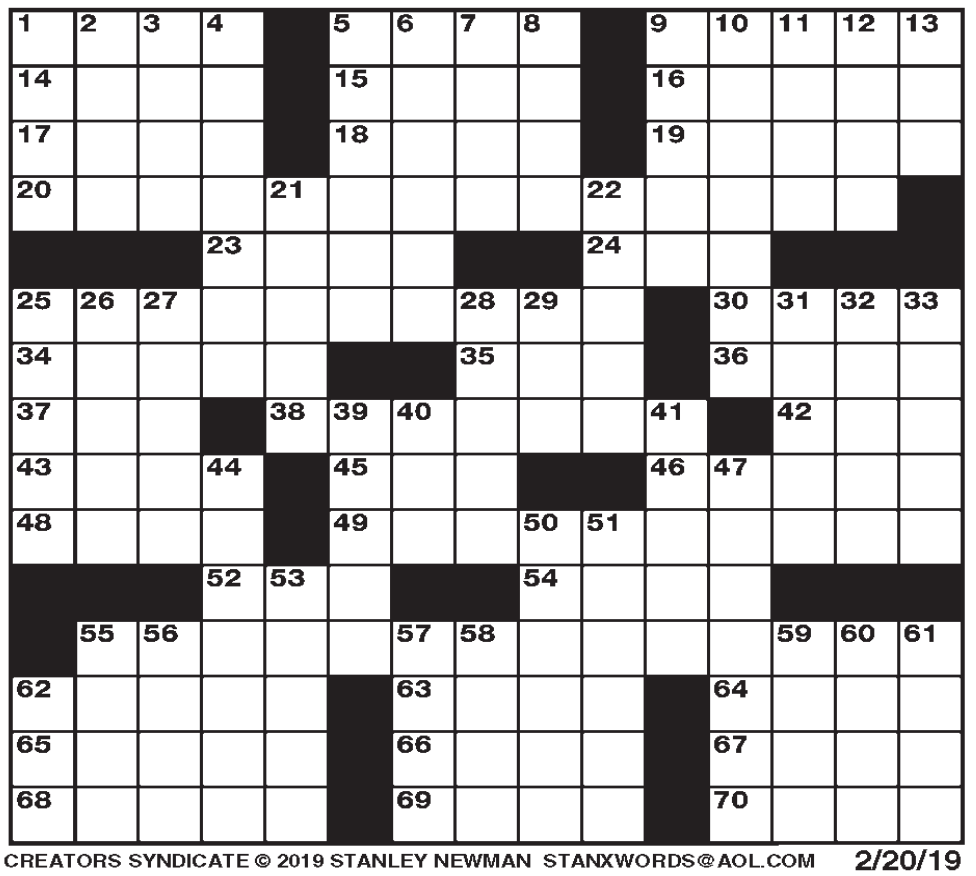
	3			8			9	
		9	2		6	5		
6				9			3	
4		1			2			
9								1
			7			9		5
	7			2				4
		4	6		3	8		
	6			1			5	

Newsday Crossword

T-SHIRT CHOICES by Carolyn Stewart
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Performers in a film
5 NBA officials
9 ___ and blood (kin)
14 Skunk's defense
15 *Vogue* competitor
16 Spooky
17 Walk through water
18 Sweater material
19 Fridge forays
20 Humidifier or toaster
23 Folk tales
24 Crunchy sandwich, for short
25 Steak specification
30 Canoe implements
34 Pile up
35 Constricting snake
36 Narrow opening
37 Letters on a tach
38 Insignias
42 "___ moment please . . ."
43 Amaze
45 "___ you kidding?"
46 Motive
48 Overblown promotion
49 Something difficult to do
52 Gentle touch
54 Talks and talks
55 Diner inventory
62 Play a ukulele
63 Cameo shape
64 Taboo thing
65 Silly
66 Little taste
67 Typical Egyptian
68 Howled
69 Days before holidays
70 Allows

DOWN
1 Dairy herd
2 Cain's father
3 Carbonated drink
4 Garden lattice
5 Fix, as leftovers
6 One running off to wed
7 Failure of a film
8 Put on the market
9 Untamed
10 Crude shelters
11 Norse explorer
12 Ally (with)
13 Fathers and uncles
21 Dirty rat
22 Type of girder
25 Swampy land
26 Holding nothing
27 Obstruct, as a stream
28 More adept
29 Sushi spread
31 Vocally
32 Washer cycle
33 Ranch herd
39 Mediterranean island nation
40 Swimsuit top
41 Range of view
44 Faraway planet
47 Weapons cache
50 Whirl
51 Top-level Boy Scouts
53 Activated, as alarms
55 Sicilian spewer
56 Dental photo
57 Part of an ear
58 Tel ___, Israel
59 1990s veep
60 Swarming insect
61 Weeps noisily
62 Brother or sister, for short



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2019 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 2/20/19

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 20)

Over the next 10 weeks, you bring greater imagination to your problems and solve them quickly and with pleasure. June's personal breakthrough leads to new sources of income and a change in your financial style. This affects key relationships. The beauty and new perspective you seek will be found in a far off Shangri-La. Libra and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 19, 38, 6 and 50.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
There are dynamics at play that raise the stakes for key interactions. Do a practice run in the mirror, in your head, on paper... whatever it takes to work it out and get you ready and confident for the real thing.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Pick a target you can stick with then aim and shoot. Success does not depend on getting it right the first time (or ever, actually). Success depends on repeated efforts toward the same goal.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
You're a different person than you were last week. That's why, when you revisit work you did then, you can see the problems. And it's also why you should put today's results in a drawer and come back to it a week from now.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
Your friends just want to let loose, and prefer your brand of fun. But just because they call on you doesn't mean your own agenda becomes suddenly less important. Keep original plans, especially if they involve only you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
You know what it feels like to be a little too afraid, or too proud, to go with the flow, and this isn't that. The flow is wrong. Resistance may be difficult or even futile but it's your only option. What matters to you most is doing the right thing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Pay attention to how you use that powerful tool called your voice. Also, there's much to learn in the voices of others (though much of it is animal-level information that can't be put into words.)

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
As a rule, you see incuriousness as a fault, as it signals self-centeredness and possible intellectual stunting. However, today brings an occasion in which you'll be happy not to bothered by curious minds poking around in your direction.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
The importance of your position makes you the object of a sort of attention that you shouldn't take personally. Recognize that it's the nature of the position and not your own nature that engenders certain scenarios.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
There is no objective way to prove the value of today's interaction. It's all what you make of it. Even if it doesn't lead to the outcome you were going for, you could be better off for the miss.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
People who are contributing to something often show up differently than people who are asking for something. That's a gap that the smoothest operators close. Show up the same either way.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
You have been known to take part in such antics as presenting a cheerful mood for no reason and supporting small achievements with high enthusiasm. Today will be a case in point.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Squabbling children cry "no fair," believing in a just world. Adults cry "no fair," knowing that justice is human construct that has to be conceived, fought for and enforced. Justice is rare but worth the fight.

Supermoon Goes Driverless

Mindfulness isn't always the best approach. Sometimes the mind needs to hand the problem off to another source. The body has wisdom, too. So do the myriad of automatic responses each of us have that we'd be hard-pressed to categorize. In the wake of the intense supermoon, relax back some and let autopilot do its thing.

WORD UP!

mare
noun [mahr-ey, mair-ee]
1. Astronomy. any of the several large, dark plains on the moon and Mars: Galileo believed that the lunar features were seas when he first saw them through a telescope.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

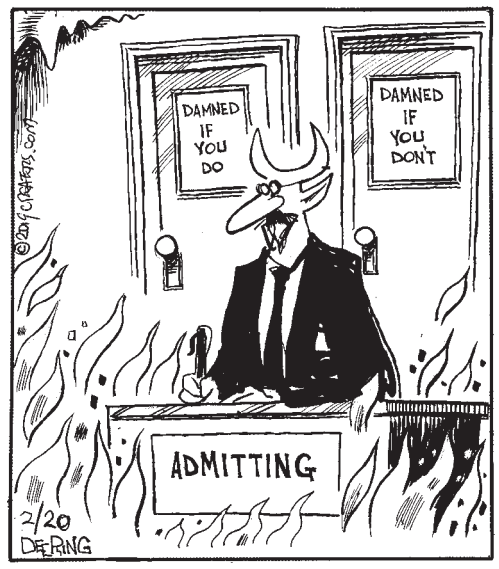
Medical History
■ This week in 1951, the longest operation in medical history occurred. It involved removing a huge ovarian cyst from Gertrude Levandowski, 58, of Burnips, Michigan. Over a period of 10 years, Levandowski had increased in weight to 616 pounds, with a 9-foot circumference. The ovarian cyst eventually pressed against her heart. Doctors tapped the cyst, draining fluid at a rate of 120 drops per minute to slowly reduce pressure on her heart. Approximately 200 pounds of fluid were drained over four days, and the remaining 100-pound cyst, the size of a bushel basket, was then removed. After the operation, Levandowski weighed 308 pounds.

Last Words
■ "Now why did I do that?" – English Major-General William Erskine (1770-1813) after jumping from the window of a tall building in Lisbon, Portugal

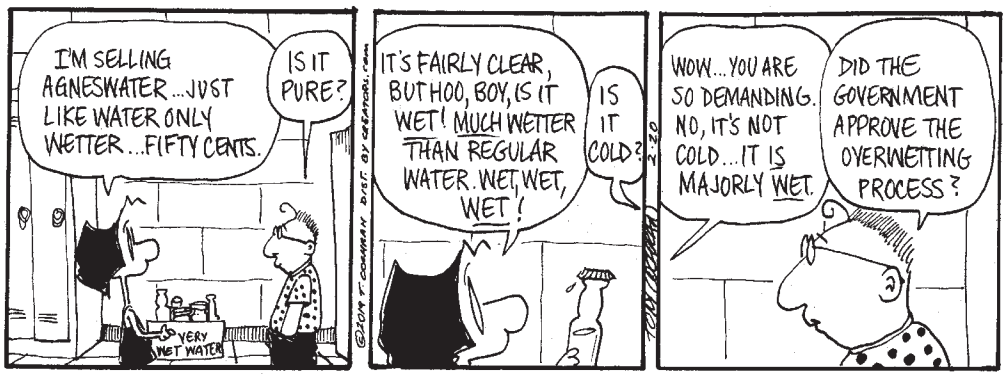
Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



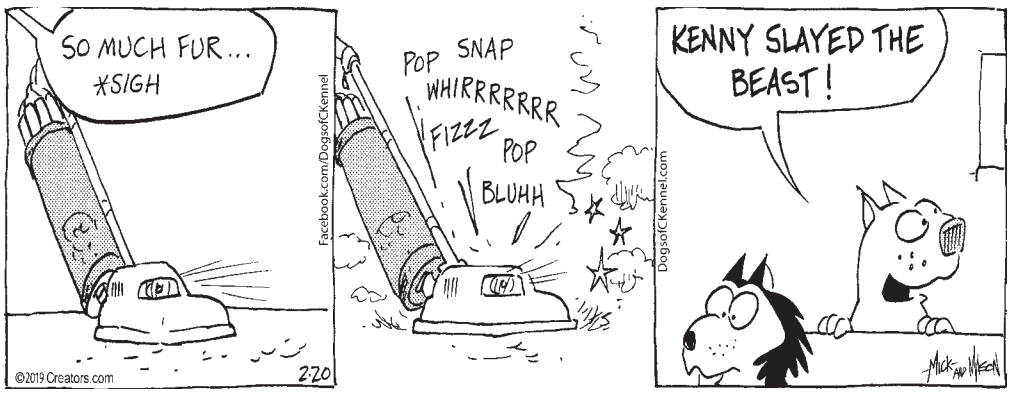
Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



Agnes
By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel
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SECTION 8

FROM PAGE 1

work in most settings. His father was able to pay the rent on his small apartment in Santa Monica for more than a decade and his sister stepped in to cover the rent when his father died, but with a family of her own to support, she couldn't pay it forever.

Van Court applied for a Section 8 voucher to stay in his home. Low-income tenants in the program pay 30 to 40 percent of their monthly income in rent and the Housing Authority pays the rest of the rent directly to the landlord.

Tenants in the program cannot rent apartments that are priced higher than the market rate, as determined by the Housing Authority. The Santa Monica Housing Authority caps payment at $1,512 for a studio, $1,930 for a one bedroom, $2,640 for a two bedroom and $3,366 for a three or four bedroom unit.

Van Court waited to receive a voucher for months, which is typical for Section 8 applicants, and was spending almost all of his income from disability benefits on rent. When he finally received one, he emailed his rental company that he had qualified for Section 8 assistance.

"We do not want to accept or be involved in any city rent program," his property manager wrote in a November 2017 email.

Van Court reached out again last March. Once again, his rental company told him it did not accept Section 8 vouchers.

"This program will be great for you," his property manager wrote. "Unfortunately this is not a program we will participate in."

Neither Federal nor state law prohibits landlords from denying a Section 8 voucher. But Santa Monica City Council passed a law in May 2015 preventing housing discrimination based on a tenant's source of income, including Section 8 vouchers.

Van Court didn't know about the law. He received an informational binder with his voucher, but it did not include information about local laws pertaining to Section 8.

Still, he wrote a letter to the City of Santa Monica outlining his situation. Deputy City Attorney Gary Rhoades called him into City Hall for a meeting, where he informed him that it was illegal for his rental company to reject his voucher and wrote a letter to Van Court's property manager that said the City would take legal action against the rental company if it did not comply with the law.

The company accepted the voucher. Van Court said it's still hard to make ends meet, but he is glad he was able to stay in his home.

Since City Council passed the law against income-based discrimination in 2015, the City Attorney's Office has settled 11 cases similar to Van Court's.

One landlord served three different Section 8 tenants with eviction notices because he no longer wanted to participate in the program. Another told a severely-burdened tenant who had been approved for a voucher that she could not use it to pay rent on her home of twenty years.

In each case, the City Attorney's Office sent the landlord a demand letter citing the new law and then worked with the Housing Division and the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles to eventually persuade the owner to accept the voucher.

One landlord liked the program enough to rent to two more Section 8 tenants, Rhoades said.

"The tenant gets safe, decent housing (and) the landlord gets steady income and tenant-relations help from the City," he said.

Rhoades believes landlords who have not participated in the program, however, are often anxious about completing extra paperwork or undergoing inspections. Landlords have to write a lease for the tenant and a contract with the Housing Authority, and every two years the Housing Authority checks whether the unit meets basic housing quality standards, such as having a working stove and hot water.

Many landlords do dread the extra layer of bureaucracy that comes with Section 8, said Daniel Yukelson, executive director of the Apartments Association of Greater Los Angeles (AAGLA). AAGLA unsuccessfully sued Santa Monica over its income-based discrimination law, claiming it conflicted with state code.

Yukelson said inspections are a particular sticking point among landlords. He said one property owner wanted to rent an apartment to a veteran with a Section 8 voucher, but an inspector found an electrical outlet in the apartment that did not work and the prospective tenant was without housing for more than a month while the owner waited for another inspection.



Madeleine Pauker

TENANTS: David Van Court has benefited from Section 8 voucher protections.

AAGLA held a meeting with landlords last October to send recommendations to the Department of Housing and Urban Development on the Section 8 program. Allowing tenants to move in while property owners made minor repairs was one of the recommendations, Yukelson said.

While many landlords might refuse to participate in the program because of administrative concerns, some have more nefarious reasons to reject Section 8 tenants, Rhoades said.

Many of the tenants in the 11 settlements were people of color or had disabilities. State and federal fair housing laws prohibit discrimination based on race, national origin, disability and other attributes, and some landlords refuse vouchers as a way to legally discriminate against protected classes, Rhoades said.

Section 8 discrimination impacts minority populations regardless of whether landlords are prejudiced against them, however, because a disproportionate number of tenants in the program are minorities.

"This law is part affordable housing measure and part civil rights measure," Rhoades said. "We've always emphasized the affordable housing part of it, but it's really helping preserve Santa Monica's diversity as well."

Rhoades said nearby cities are looking to Santa Monica's income-based discrimination law in crafting their approach to the regional housing and homelessness crisis. San Diego banned Section 8 discrimination last August and Los Angeles is considering an income-based discrimination law. Los Angeles County is also drafting similar legislation.

City Councilmember Sue Himmelrich said she introduced the law knowing that it would be an effective way to address Santa Monica's affordable housing crisis. While building more housing will help in the long run, laws that keep low-income people in their homes have a greater short-term impact, she said.

"We have a terrible shortage of housing being built for low-income people and an excess of housing being built for high-income people," she said. "I think a lot of the dialogue around the housing crisis ignores the fact that even if there were a trickle-down effect of building more market-rate housing, it would come 40 years in the future and we have a problem today."

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