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City will appeal decision of voting rights case



Madeleine Pauker

HEARING: Kevin Shenkman was one of the public speakers this week.

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

City Council voted unanimously at a special meeting Thursday night to appeal a ruling that ordered it to hold district elections to remedy a history of racially polarized voting.

Council heard public comment on the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) lawsuit before voting to appeal Judge Yvette Palazuelos' decision, which ordered the City of Santa Monica to hold an election on July 2 to replace the current Council. Palazuelos' decision found that the City's at-large election system suppressed the voting power of Santa Monica's Latino population and ordered the City to elect councilmembers in seven districts using a map drawn by the plaintiffs, Maria Loya and the Pico Neighborhood Association.

Mayor Gleam Davis reiterated the City's argument that it would undermine the democratic process to hold elections based on a map drawn without public input.

"What's important for the public to understand is that at-large elections do a very good job of reflecting the will of the community," said Mayor Gleam Davis. "What the plaintiffs are trying to do here in a very non-democratic way is impose district elections where the public has had no input into how the districts were made, where there's really been no showing that the districts would change the outcome of City elections."

The City will file a notice of appeal Friday and ask for a stay on the remedies Palazuelos ordered. Theodore Boutrous, one of the City's

SEE **CVRA** PAGE 11

Allen proposes state plastics ban

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

The state senator representing Santa Monica introduced a bill Thursday that seeks to phase out single-use plastics by 2030.

Sen. Ben Allen, who represents the Westside, Hollywood and the South Bay in the California State Senate, announced he will introduce legislation requiring all single-use packaging and products to be reusable, recyclable or compostable

SEE **PLASTICS** PAGE 6

Stunt workers seeking respect, representation from Academy

ANGEL CARRERAS
Daily Press Staff Writer

With the Academy Awards taking place tomorrow, an intense focus will be placed on films released throughout the year.

Many aspects of these films will be celebrated such as costumes, sound design, lighting. However, one aspect of these films that aren't being represented: stunt work.

Since the days of Steamboat

SEE **ACADEMY** PAGE 11



Courtesy Photo

DELEGATE
This year one of Santa Monica Family YMCA's Youth & Government delegates was elected as the 72nd Youth Governor for this state-wide program. See Page 3 for more information.


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, Feb. 23

Greens Festival

Join Virginia Avenue Park (VAP) and Parent Connection Group (PCG) as they celebrate Black History Month with the fourth annual Greens Festival from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Virginia Ave. Park. This year's festival theme is Young, Gifted, and Black and will feature cooking demos with celebrity chefs, a Black History exhibit, musical performances, book reading, resource booths and more for the whole family. This year's event is presented in collaboration with the VAP, PCG, Pico Branch Library and the Santa Monica Farmers Market. For more information about the Greens Festival, call 310-458-8688 or visit www.smgov.net/vapark

NOMA meeting

State Senator Ben Allen will be the featured speaker at the North of Montana Neighborhood Association's annual community gathering and celebration Saturday, Feb. 23, from 2-4 pm at the Aero Theatre,1328 Montana Ave. SM Mayor Gleam Davis, the Samohi Jazz Combo, neighborhood issues of the day, and film of Santa Monica past and present will complete the program. Refreshments and free popcorn will be on hand at the neighborhood tribute. Doors open at 1:15 pm, and all are invited.

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 11:00am-12:30 pm.

Korean Maskmaking with DaEun Jung

Get a fun introduction to the origin and the purpose of Korean traditional masks. Make a mask frame and add wet paper to build up details. All materials provided; bring an apron if you can. Participants can leave their masks to dry and sign up for the following week to decorate their masks, or take the project home for drying. Cost: $5 Register online or call 310.458.2239. Palisades Park 10:30 a.m. -12 p.m.

VITA Tax Assistance

UCLA students from VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) provide FREE tax filing assistance for Federal and California income taxes. Appointments are limited and on a first arrival basis. Please bring a photo ID, your social security number, and the forms you'll need. Fairview Branch Library 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Two Minute Playwriting with Max King Cap

Jump in to playwriting or hone your existing skills while practicing structure: set-up, conflict, redirection, and resolution in bite-sized writing. Each participant will write a two-page, two-character play, then pair with another participant to read both pieces aloud, with each acting in their own and in the other's work. After a feedback and editing session, we'll all converge for a play marathon. No previous experience required, just a willingness to experiment with words and action. Cost: $5 Register online or call 310.458.2239. Palisades Park 1 - 3 p.m.

Discover The Real Santa Monica

Learn about the visionaries who founded a small community by the Bay. The two hour tours are every Saturday at 10 a.m. departing from Hostelling International at 1436 Second Street. For reservations: dwt@smconservancy.org or by phone at 310-496-3146. $10 per person. $5 for Santa Monica or L.A. Conservancy members.

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Malibu

Malibu City Manager Reva Feldman Named City Manager of the Year by the California City Managers Foundation

Malibu City Manager Reva Feldman received the City Manager of the Year Award from the California City Managers Foundation (CCMF).

"I am proud of our City Manager for receiving this recognition from a professional association of peers consisting of several hundred city managers from across the state," said Mayor Jefferson Wagner. "The City of Malibu has a long record of recognitions and awards for both the City organization and the staff that works every day to serve the community. Awards like this underscore the City's widespread credibility and reputation for good management."

The award was presented during the League of California Cities City Managers Department annual conference in San Diego. The Department represents city managers and assistant city managers from across the state. Ms. Feldman is the President-Elect of the City Managers Department of the League and leads nearly 480 city managers state-wide in this role. Presented annually as part of the League of California Cities Conference, the awards recognize individuals for their contribution to the city management profession.

Each year, the recipient of the award is chosen by a vote of the members of the Foundation Board, and is a reflection of Malibu's excellent record of innovative, effective policy, legislation, management and high professional standards.

"The California City Management Foundation is proud to name Reva Feldman as our 2019 City Manager of the Year," said Ken Pulskamp, Executive Director of CCMF. "In addition to navigating her city through recovery from a devastating natural disaster, she has found time to serve the city management community as President Elect of the League of California Cities City Managers Department. Reva is an inspirational leader and a strong example of what it means to pursue excellence within the city manager profession."

The award was extended in recognition of Ms. Feldman's going above and beyond by traveling to the City of Santa Rosa in 2017 to provide mutual aid during that city's devastating wildfire. There, she served as the EOC Director in Santa Rosa's Emergency Operations Center, offering crucial relief to that city's Emergency Operations Center staff. The Tubbs Fire took the lives of at least 22 people destroyed 5,643 structures, half of which were homes in the City of Santa Rosa, and burned 36,807 acres. It was part of a complex of more than a dozen fires that impacted eight Northern California counties.

The Foundation also recognized Ms. Feldman's ongoing contributions to the city management profession, including her mentoring of other city managers. Ms. Feldman has served as a facilitator for the CCMF New and Futures City Managers Seminars and is involved with Women Leading Government. More recently, she successfully led the City of Malibu's emergency response during and after the Woolsey Fire, the largest wildfire in Los Angeles County history and the worst natural disaster in the City of Malibu's history. The Woolsey Fire killed three people, destroyed approximately 1,500 structures, more than 500 of them in Malibu, and burned nearly 100,000 acres in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties in November 2018.

The California City Management Foundation is the premier advocacy and support organization for City Managers in California. Their mission is to promote and encourage excellence in City Management in all of California's 480 incorporated cities and towns. Through their extensive peer network, they offer guidance, support and advice for City Managers in all stages of their careers. Working with the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) they help establish ethical standards in the industry. The CCMF sponsors events and conferences, provides legal advice, and maintains a library of resources for members to foster a professional community of City Managers. Learn more at https://www.cacitymanagers.org/.

SUBMITTED BY MATT MYERHOFF, MEDIA INFORMATION OFFICER

Citywide

YMCA delegate

This year one of Santa Monica Family YMCA's Youth & Government delegates was elected as the 72nd Youth Governor for this state wide program.

Aidan Blain during his freshman year, professed to his advisors his strong desire to run for 72nd Youth Governor in the Model Legislature & Court: Youth & Government Program. As time progressed into his junior year, he began implementing his platform on issues relating to voting turn out, especially those individuals who will be eligible to vote in 2020. He included national issues relating to victims of sexual abuse and the value of women's rights in a workplace. Blain was not only encouraged by his peers in the delegation to run for this position, but he was driven by determination and pride which was found within him. Aidan Blain has built a special connection with his community and generation, and as the next Youth Governor, he will project the numerous voices of teens throughout California. His advisors are proud to see Aidan grow into an inspirational and devoted leader for his community and his peers.

SUBMITTED BY ERIKA ALTSHULE, YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Pico Blvd.

March at SMC's Drescher Planetarium schedule

The Santa Monica College (SMC) John Drescher Planetarium will present special feature shows in March highlighting the Apollo 9 mission, a telescope viewing session with a focus on the Moon and the Pleiades (Seven Sisters), an explanation of solstices and equinoxes, and an update on developments in Solar System exploration. The feature shows – as well as the planetarium's popular Night Sky Show – will be held on Friday evenings.

The evening events are at 8 p.m. and are preceded by "The Night Sky Show" at 7 p.m., offering the latest news in astronomy and space exploration, a family-friendly "tour" of the constellations, and the chance to ask astronomy-related questions.

The March events are:

• March 1 & 8: 50-Year Retrospective: The Flights of Apollo: "Apollo 9 - Gumdrop and Spider" – Today, almost nobody recalls Apollo 9, the crucial first test flight of the complete spacecraft "stack" – the Command/Service Module (CSM) and Lunar Module (LM) – in Earth orbit. Yet this complex, challenging mission flown by Jim McDivitt, Dave Scott, and Rusty Schweickart incorporated numerous daunting "firsts," and yielded some of the most beautiful images of the Earth's surface of any NASA flight up to that time.

• March 15: Special Observing Event: "A Gibbous Moon, the Pleiades, and (maybe) a Very Red Star!" – A look through a variety of telescopes at a 9-day-old gibbous Moon and its Mare Imbrium, Copernicus, and Plato craters, plus wide field views of the Pleiades (Seven Sisters) star cluster, and if weather permits, a look at the pulsating red giant R Leporis (Hind's Crimson Star). If clouds intervene, the program will stay in the planetarium with high-resolution images.

• March 22: "TILT! Equinoxes and Solstices Explained" – Most city dwellers are only vaguely aware of what the equinoxes and solstices actually are. The Digistar planetarium projector and other imagery will be used to try to remedy this disconnect from the natural world – and dispel some myths, like that egg-standing-on-end story....

• March 29: "Solar System Exploration Update" – An update on humanity's collective quest to understand the cosmos includes the New Horizons encounter with mysterious Kuiper Belt object Ultima Thule, the InSight Mars Lander mission, the progress of Japan's Hayabusa 2 and the NASA OSIRIS-REx missions, the first-ever landing on the lunar farside by China's Chang'e 4, and the JUNO mission around Jupiter. Note: This show will also be presented on April 5.

The John Drescher Planetarium, which features a Digistar projection system, is located near the elevators on the second floor of Drescher Hall (1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica). Tickets are available at the door and cost $11 ($9 seniors and children) for the evening's scheduled "double bill," or $6 ($5 seniors age 60+ and children age 12 and under) for a single Night Sky or feature show or telescope-viewing session.

For information, please call (310) 434-3005 or see www.smc.edu/eventsinfo or www.smc.edu/planetarium. All shows subject to change or cancellation without notice.

SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH, SMC PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Downtown

Celebrate Dr. Seuss with a Super Seuss-a-bration

Mayor Gleam Davis will be joining the Santa Monica Public Library in the annual celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday, on Saturday, March 02, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Santa Monica Main Library's Children's Activity Room, 601 Santa Monica Blvd, Santa Monica.

The day includes a craft room and two comedy magic and juggling variety shows performed by Abbit the Average at 10:15 and 11:15 a.m. in the Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium. The show is high energy with something for all. The event concludes at noon with a special appearance by Mayor Gleam Davis for March's edition of Let's Read with Gleam. Mayor Davis will share some of her favorite children's books. Refreshments provided. Seuss-a-bration is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica, in line with their work with youth and literacy.

While at Seuss-a-bration take the opportunity to check out our collection of Dr. Seuss stories. The Library has copies of Seuss classics, DVDs, audiobooks, emedia, and books about Dr. Seuss' life and work.

This special story time is part of a free monthly reading series that will rotate around Library Branches throughout the city in 2019. Let's Read with Gleam focuses on the importance of literacy and learning, which lays the groundwork for a Sustainable City of Wellbeing.

This program is free and open to children and their families. Seating is limited and on a first-arrival basis. The Santa Monica Public Library is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, call Library Administration at (310) 458-8606 at least one week prior to the event. The Main Library is directly served by Big Blue Bus lines 1, R10 and 18. The Expo Line and Big Blue Bus lines 2, 3, R3 and 9 stop nearby. Ride your bike. Bicycle parking racks are available at the library.

SUBMITTED BY LENORE ST. JOHN, YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES COORDINATOR

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A bumpy road to the Oscars could end in triumph for Netflix

JAKE COYLE
AP Film Writer

The most tumultuous Oscar season in memory might pale in comparison to the aftermath.

The best picture race to Sunday's 91st Academy Awards remains unpredictable, but odds makers peg Alfonso Cuaron's "Roma" as the film most likely to triumph at the end of the night. That would hand Netflix, the insurgent streaming service, the most prestigious honor in a movie business it has thoroughly disrupted.

Change is everywhere at this year's Academy Awards, from the nominees to the show, itself. For the second time in 30 years, there will be no host at Sunday's show, which begins airing live on ABC at 8 p.m. EST. The lead-up to the Oscars has been dominated by dispute over the academy's own attempts at innovation to counter last year's record-low ratings. But after uproar from academy members, those plans — not showing some awards live, introducing a "best popular film" category — were abandoned.

Even if the Oscars end up proceeding more conventionally, the winners promise to be untraditional. Marvel stands to win its first Oscar for either "Black Panther" (up for six Oscars including best picture) or the animated favorite, "Spider-Man: Into the Spider Verse." Spike Lee, aiming for his first competitive Oscar, could become the first black filmmaker to win best director.

"Roma," which comes in with a co-leading 10 nominations, is favored to win best picture, best director, best cinematography and best foreign language film. If "Roma" won best picture, it would be the first foreign language movie ever to do so.

For Hollywood, the most significant milestone would be Netflix triumphing at the Academy Awards, an achievement the streaming giant has fervently pursued. Netflix, which has previously only won one feature-length film Oscar (in 2018 for the documentary "Icarus"), has spent more than $25 million on a lavish campaign to propel "Roma." It hired veteran Oscar campaign strategist Lisa Taback. It even purchased a Los Angeles billboard company to help promote its many films and series, including "for your consideration" ads along the Sunset Strip for "Roma."

"I'm very grateful for Netflix," Cuaron said in an interview ahead of the Oscars. "On paper, this is a film that wouldn't have this life. It's a Mexican film in Spanish and Mixtec with no recognizable actors when it was done. Black and white. A drama. What I'm so appreciative is that they saw through all those filters to the core of what the film was about and they saw the potential and they really believed in the film."

Cuaron noted that "Roma" has played for months in theaters, longer than it might otherwise have done. Major theater chains, however, have refused to screen Netflix releases since the company won't adhere to the traditional 90-day theatrical exclusivity window. Netflix altered its own policies for "Roma," playing it exclusively in theaters in limited release for three weeks before streaming it. The company declined to release box-office results.

"Roma" would be the first best picture winner ever to be primarily streamed, something some in Hollywood vehemently oppose. Steven Spielberg has said Netflix movies are really "TV movies" that should be eligible for Emmys, not Oscars.

After "Roma" won best picture at the British Academy Film Awards, J. Timothy Richards, the founder and chief executive of Vue, one of Europe's largest theater chains, criticized the British film academy for "choosing to endorse and promote a 'made for TV' film." France's Cannes Film Festival, where "Roma" was set to make its world premiere, also refused to enter any film without theatrical distribution into competition, causing Netflix to pull "Roma" from the festival.

"I think this kind of exclusivity for the theater and theatrical experience is actually disconnecting people from movies, in a way," Ted Sarandos, Netflix's chief content officer said in December. "I have not found it to be very consumer-friendly that consumers who live nowhere near a theater are waiting ... to see a movie so that the theater can have it exclusively for a period of time — a movie that they paid to produce with their subscription money."

Winning best picture would prove to the filmmakers Netflix is trying to attract that their releases can garner just as much respect as traditional ones. Netflix, which last year spent $12 billion on original content for its 139 million subscribers, will this year release (among many other films) Martin Scorsese's much-anticipated "The Irishman."

Oscar producers, though, are looking to emphasize box-office hits like "Black Panther" and "Bohemian Rhapsody." The show will start with a performance by Queen and Adam Lambert.

"(The nominations) kind of go to the heart of what we were trying to do with this show, which was put a spotlight on films with worldwide success that have had a cultural impact," Oscars co-producer Donna Gigliotti said Thursday, citing best-picture nominees "Black Panther," ''Bohemian Rhapsody," ''BlacKkKlansman" and "Green Book."

More streaming services are coming. Disney, WarnerMedia and Apple are all set to launch their own streaming platforms this year. In some ways, Netflix has already been welcomed into the fold. On the same day of Oscar nominations, Netflix became the first streaming service to join the industry lobbying group the Motion Picture Association of America. The only other members of the MPAA are the six major studios, soon to be five when Disney absorbs 20th Century Fox.

"The platforms are part of our conversation but soon they're not going to be part of the conversation," said Cuaron, "because it's going to be the norm."

AP Film Writer Lindsey Bahr contributed to this report.

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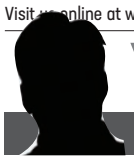
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WINNER

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Your column here

By Hank Rosenfeld

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

The Bathtub Treatment

"I will dip my pink-&-white body in yon tub; I feel a bit gritty after the affairs of the day." W.C. Fields

This all started just before Christmas when I found a note slapped on my apartment door: workmen were coming to take away my bathtub on December 27. I thought, this is absurd. Right? So, I called my landlord. He told me Santa Monica City Code required 24-inches of space between bathtub and "water closet". I only had 17.

"I've taken baths here," I told him, "for 25 years."

"It is what it is," he said.

(Since 1994 I have enjoyed a weekend ritual featuring scented candle, Epsom salts, KCRW's Garth Trinidad or Liza Richardson with background music. And this was no over-the-top, cast-iron Roman tub; we're talking good old American Standard. Porcelain.)

Instead of getting angry, I got busy. First, I called the family attorneys. My brother and my sister said, sorry bro, landlords have the right to bring buildings up to code. Next, I called SMRR (Santa Monica Renter's Rights) for support. I left a message on their hotline, got a message back, sent another message, got one back, and that's the last time I vote SMRR. My coffeehouse friends said bathtub eviction was a first world problem; here it is Christmas, I'm fortunate to have a hot shower and a roof, god bless us everyone.

I did what any DIY citizen should: I typed up every bad thing the landlord ever did and took it to City Hall. Beth at the Rent Control Board was really caring, considering it was Christmas Eve. She read my written complaint, stamped it, suggested I send a copy to the City Attorney, and directed me down the hall to Building & Permits. A Building & Permits clerk checked her computer and found, "no permits pulled" for my Ocean Park address. Not as congenial as Beth, the clerk said I should get in touch with Santa Monica Code Enforcement, and made me go out to the rotunda to call. Which ticked me off. Leaving, I said: "Merry Christmas!" sarcastically.

Derrick at Code Enforcement appreciated my needs. He assured me, if workmen showed up without a permit, he'd "send out a crew to shut it down." Semi-relieved, I went to spend Christmas with family in San Diego.

On December 26 I got a call from the City Attorney's office. A "consumer specialist" there cited California Civil Code Section 1941.1, stipulating landlords are forbidden to use, "lies or intimidation to make a tenant move out." She helpfully offered, "Reasonable Modifications," which forces a landlord to put in a new tub – but the tenant has to pay for it. Finally, I called the contractor and begged. I had family in town. My girlfriend just cooked a ham. (I was still in San Diego; you do what you gotta do when you're renting in Santa Monica, right?) Couldn't they wait until 2019? The contractor said the bathtub had to come out the next day.

"Why?"

"It's not up to me. Talk to the landlord."

"His mailbox is full. It's the holidays."

"It is what it is."

That last sentence made me go – to quote a family expression – nutsy cuckoo. I went off on the guy, in a rage of f-words in f-sentences. I was shaking as I hung up. My 6-year-old nephew, watching all this, said: "What's the matter with Uncle Hank?" I explained civil code enforcement. Ten minutes later, the contractor called back to say they'd wait until January. I thanked him, apologized, and high-fived the six-year-old. He said, "Go hard or go home."

Indeed. I was happy because I got to spend New Year's with family in San Diego.

On January 2nd the contractor came to my apartment with a Building & Safety Inspector. A "water closet" required 24 inches of space, the inspector explained, showing me the code in a pamphlet. I showed him a letter from my doctor saying I required, "hot bath treatments because of injuries sustained playing college football." Inspectors don't care about notes from your doctor. In my journal that night I wrote: Didn't take final bath. Didn't want to feel how good it felt. Need to get used to not having it.

But nobody showed up the next day. Or for two days after that, so I called the contractor to ask what was up. "We're going to spin the water closet," he said. "Keep the tub."

I called my mother to give her the good news, because she had given me my first bath. I had learned this: you can fight City Hall. Or your landlord, at least. But I shouldn't blow my stack to get what I want. I joined an anger management group and sent the contractor a fruitcake.



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THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST IN CELEBRATION OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH
VISIONARY WOMEN: CHAMPIONS OF PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE

OWL

2019 Outstanding Women Leaders
OWLie Award Honorees & Speakers



Julie Pilat
Mentor, Community activist and Head of Global Operations at Beats 1/Apple Music



Marianne Williamson
Lecturer, Activist, Author, and Founder of Project Angel Food and Peace Alliance

MONDAY MARCH 11
NETWORKING 7:00–8:00 A.M.
BREAKFAST & STAGE PROGRAM 8:00–9:30 A.M.

FAIRMONT MIRAMAR HOTEL AND BUNGALOWS
101 Wilshire Blvd,
Santa Monica, CA 90401

Tickets: smchamber.com/owl or call 310-393-9825

PLASTICS

FROM PAGE 1

by 2030. Senate Bill 54 would also require California to recycle or divert 75 percent of single-use materials. The state currently recycles just 15 percent of single-use plastics.

Santa Monica has already banned disposable food packaging, prohibiting plastic utensils, plates and containers, among other plastic, bio-plastic and aluminum packaging. Businesses must serve food in containers made marine-degradable paper, fiber or wood, although they can use plastic cups and cup lids until 2020 because marine-degradable versions are not yet available.

The ban went into effect Jan. 1 and is meant to protect Santa Monica Bay from plastic pollution and reduce landfilled waste in accordance with the City's goal to achieve zero waste by 2030.

Allen said Senate Bill 54, which was co-authored by Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez (D-San Diego) is also targeted at reducing pollution in light of predictions that the oceans will contain more plastic than fish by 2050 and the health risks posed by microplastics that make their way into drinking water, soil and food.

Allen's proposed bill also follows two statewide measures aimed out phasing out plastics: last year's law requiring businesses to only provide plastic straws on request and a 2014 ban on single-use plastic bags. Both laws were the first of their kind nationwide.

"Californians have voiced their disgust over plastic waste most recently by upholding the plastic bag ban. If you thought people would have rubber-stamped that decision when it was first proposed, people would have said you were crazy," he said. "But public awareness is now at such a place that people are saying enough is enough, we need to get ahead of this, our children are going to curse us if we don't do something."

Allen passed a law last September that requires state facilities to serve food in reusable, recyclable or compostable containers after a bill he introduced to ban styrofoam packaging failed in the state legislature last January under pressure from styrofoam manufacturers. He said he thinks his September law succeeded because it does not single out a particular type of product and is more flexible than his proposed styrofoam law.

He said he aims to use that approach in his promoting his new bill. Allen is stressing that it is not intended to get rid of single-use packaging and is instead trying to create a larger market for reusable, recyclable and compostable packaging. Many such products already exist and the bill would require manufacturers and suppliers to start using them or innovate new products, he said.

"Big players know they will be able to make just as much money producing environmentally friendly products as they do with current ones," he said. "The way we land this is by giving businesses enough runway to transition and implement policies in a fair, transparent way with a reasonable timeline."

Allen said he thinks transitioning to green packaging at the state level rather than in local jurisdictions will be less expensive and create a globally relevant market for such products.

"It's great that Santa Monica is a leader on this stuff, but everyone ought to be in the game now," he said. "As more and more of the world comes to terms with the plastics crisis, those companies leading the way on more environmentally friendly packing will be more and more in demand around the world, just like our clean energy entrepreneurs here have become global forces around the world following our regulatory push. Similarly, greener packaging can become an important export."

The California Grocers Association (CGA), a non-profit, statewide trade association that represents over 300 retail members in California and Nevada and 150 grocery supplier companies, opposed Santa Monica's disposable food packaging ban, contending that usable marine degradable packaging did not yet exist. But CGA's government affairs director, Aaron Moreno, said the association is looking to work with Allen in crafting Senate Bill 54.

CGA will be pushing for the bill to distinguish between packaging for grocers and restaurants, as restaurant packaging is designed to last for a much shorter time than grocery packaging, Moreno added.

"It's very encouraging that the senator has laid out a longer timeline for manufacturers to work toward that goal," Moreno said. "There are a number of companies that make these containers, but to ramp up to the scale California would need would take quite a while."

madeleine@smdp.com

Saturday, February 23 | 5-8PM
at 18th Street Arts Center
1639 18th Street | Santa Monica, CA, 90404

FREE Art Exhibitions and Open Studios

MAIN GALLERY
Clarissa Tossin | *21st Century Wisdom: Healing Frank Lloyd Wright's Textile Block Houses*
Exhibition Reception

ATRIUM GALLERY
Maj Hasager | *Iterations*
Research Exhibition

CAMPUS WIDE
Open Studios with visiting artists and local artist residents

RSVP: http://bit.ly/ClarissaTossinArtistLab

18

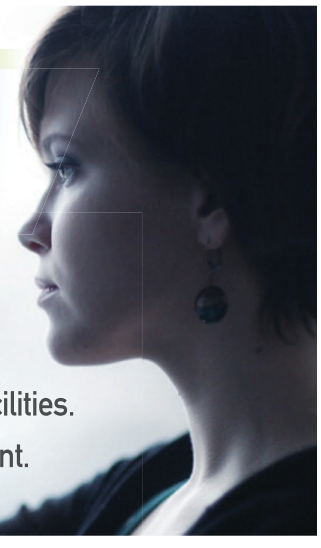
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THE CLEAN SOBER NETWORK

Expanding the map: 2020 Dems push past early voting states

NICHOLAS RICCARDI
Associated Press

The sprawling field of Democratic presidential hopefuls is on the move — to places other than the traditional early voting states of Iowa, Nevada, New Hampshire and South Carolina.

Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren has hopscotched from Puerto Rico to Georgia, where she met with rising Democratic star Stacey Abrams. Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar stopped in rural Wisconsin after announcing her candidacy last week and spent Friday in Georgia, where she's meeting with Abrams and former President Jimmy Carter. New York Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand is concluding a two-day trip to Texas, where she toured a historically black college and an all-girls school. And former Housing and Urban Development Secretary Julian Castro is touching down in Idaho and Utah next week.

The flurry of activity shows how the 2020 field hopes to demonstrate appeal outside the four traditional early voting states and in parts of the country where Democrats have struggled. Polls show Democrats are eager for a candidate who can beat President Donald Trump, and some 2020 contenders hope to distinguish themselves from Hillary Clinton, whose 2016 campaign was criticized for not appealing to a wide enough swath of the country.

"We're starting in Wisconsin because, as you remember, there wasn't a lot of campaigning in Wisconsin in 2016. With me, that changes," Klobuchar told reporters the day of her campaign launch, noting her mother grew up in the state. "I'm going to be there a lot."

Josh Putnam, a political scientist at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington who tracks the presidential nominating process, said he expects more Democratic hopefuls to venture outside the familiar confines of early states, especially because a slew of states, including Texas and California, are scheduled to vote shortly after the initial four.

"Over time we've seen a gradual nationalization of the process — not as Iowa goes so goes everyone else, but as everyone else goes, so goes Iowa," Putnam said.

Still, the political map will likely shrink as the early state primaries and caucuses loom larger later this year.

"In the early days, you've got time to go to a lot of different states," said Bob Shrum, a veteran of numerous Democratic presidential campaigns. "As you get into the fall you spend more and more of your time in Iowa and New Hampshire."

The 2020 Democrats are still making plenty of trips to Iowa and New Hampshire, but some are trying to emphasize the wider map. Castro was one of the earliest to announce. His first trip outside his home state of Texas was to Puerto Rico, a place filled with symbolism for the man trying to become the first Latino major party presidential nominee and for Democrats as a whole because of the Trump administration's widely criticized response to Hurricane Maria in 2017.

Castro has since promised to travel to all 50 states.

"More states than ever will be in play this year because it's going to be a more fractured race," Castro said in a phone interview Friday from Iowa before his western swing. "I'm going to, I believe, get a leg up in those states. Because people don't visit, it's smart to go in and make a great impression. I'm confident that's going to pay dividends when it's time for them to vote."

Castro noted that he has a simpler itinerary than the bevy of senators who are running, who must spend their work weeks predominantly in Washington. But even those senators are branching out.

Warren traveled to Puerto Rico last month and slammed Trump during a speech in San Juan. She held a rally in the Atlanta suburb of Lawrenceville last week and later had dinner with Abrams, who narrowly lost her bid for Georgia governor in November and delivered the party's rebuttal to Trump's State of the Union this year.

She spoke to reporters after the rally about Democratic hopes that Georgia turns blue in 2020.

"Georgia's like every place else in the country," Warren said. "This is a real question about what our values are and how we feel government should work. Washington's working great for the giant drug companies. It's not working for people in Georgia who are trying to get a prescription filled."

On Friday, Klobuchar, too, was scheduled to meet with Abrams, as well as with Carter, and participate in a roundtable on voting rights. The state has moved toward Democrats as the population around Atlanta swells. Democrats picked up one House seat and 13 state legislative seats in November despite losing statewide races.

Shrum said he wouldn't be surprised if candidates step up their early travel there. "Georgia is the state that could become blue sooner than the others," he said.

Atlanta is already a staple on the Democratic fundraising circuit — Klobuchar held one after her events Friday. Gillibrand held a fundraiser during her Texas trip, too, but she also made a point of stopping at two institutions vital to the Democratic base in another big southern state the party hopes to flip. She met with students at Paul Quinn College, a historically black college in Dallas, and the Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders in Austin, which educates grades 6-12.

Gillibrand's aides said they hope the trip highlighted how the New York senator can win votes in Texas.

Associated Press writers Sara Burnett in Chicago and Elana Schor and Juana Summers in Washington contributed to this report.

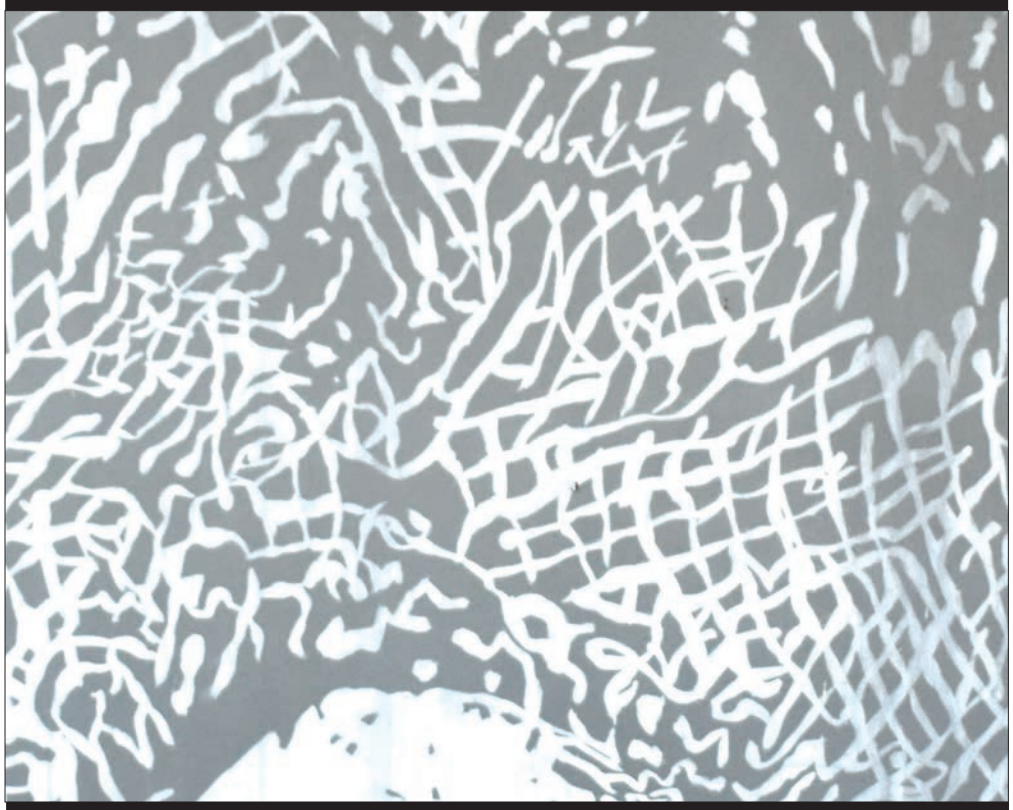




MYSTERY PHOTO

Send answers to editor@smdp.com.

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize.



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MAIN STREET santa monica



CRIME WATCH

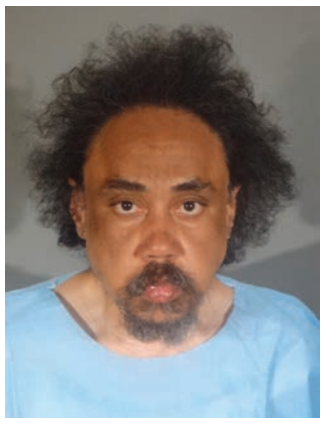
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

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 12, AT ABOUT 6:08 P.M.

Officers responded to a radio call for service at Bloomingdales-315 Colorado Avenue - regarding a theft suspect in custody. Officers determined a male subject entered the store carrying two large bags. The subject was monitored by the store's Loss Prevention Staff. The subject selected two long sleeve shirts from the sale's floor and placed them in one of the bags. The subject exited the store without paying for the merchandise. The subject was detained outside of the store by Loss Prevention Staff. Officers searched the subject and his belongings and recovered the stolen merchandise, methamphetamines and a narcotics smoking pipe.

William Michael Maez, 45, from Chicago, was arrested for shoplifting, possession of methamphetamine, possession of narcotics paraphernalia, false ID to an officer and warrant. He was denied bail.



File Photo

WILLIAM MICHAEL MAEZ

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To Calls For Service.

SMDP STAFF SELECTED THE FOLLOWING LIST FROM 323 CALLS ON FEB. 20

Encampment 2300blk Pier Ave 1:10 a.m.
Death 600blk 14th St 2:17 a.m.
Fraud 2300blk 4th St 3:01 a.m.
Encampment 2000blk Ocean Ave 5:40 a.m.
Death 1400blk 9th St 6:03 a.m.
Petty theft 1600blk Cloverfield Blvd 6:25 a.m.
Encampment 1200blk 18th St 6:50 a.m.
Bike theft 1700blk Stewart St 7:55 a.m.
Encampment 2000blk Ocean Ave 7:57 a.m.
Out of order traffic signals Cloverfield Blvd / Pico Blvd 8:12 a.m.
Hit and run 500blk California Ave 8:38 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 500blk Wilshire Blvd 8:40 a.m.
Person down 1100blk 12th St 9:15 a.m.
Grand theft auto 1100blk Berkeley St 9:18 a.m.
Fight 400blk Santa Monica Pier 9:23 a.m.
Person with a gun 500blk Santa Monica Pier 9:23 a.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 1000blk Pico Blvd 9:40 a.m.
Fraud 900blk 10th St 9:51 a.m.
Burglary 800blk 6th St 10:04 a.m.
Mark & tag abandoned vehicle 300blk 14th St 10:15 a.m.
Speeding Lincoln Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 10:27 a.m.
Trash dumping 1300blk Pacific St 10:33 a.m.
Petty theft 1500blk Ocean Ave 10:52 a.m.
Burglary 1700blk Ocean Ave 11:20 a.m.
Auto burglary 2000blk Olympic Blvd 11:21 a.m.
Battery 1800blk Ocean Park Blvd 12:18 p.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 3100blk Neilson Way 12:22 p.m.
Burglary 1000blk 7th St 12:24 p.m.
Vehicle burglar alarm 1200blk 2nd St 12:30 p.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 1300blk 20th St 12:40 p.m.
Burglary 1700blk Ocean Ave 12:42 p.m.
Hit and run 1600blk Lincoln Blvd 12:44 p.m.
Person with a gun 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 12:45 p.m.
Battery 1900blk Pico Blvd 1:13 p.m.
9-1-1 hang up 2500blk Wilshire Blvd 1:29 p.m.
Fraud 2400blk 7th St 1:29 p.m.
Mark & tag abandoned vehicle 700blk 20th St 1:41 p.m.
Vandalism 1200blk Wilshire Blvd 1:51 p.m.
Stolen vehicle recovered 2600blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:03 p.m.
Hit and run main St / Strand St 2:38 p.m.
Traffic collision with injuries 1200blk Montana Ave 3 p.m.
Battery 300blk Santa Monica Pier 3:03 p.m.
Malicious mischief 300blk Hill St 3:05 p.m.
Battery 17th St / Broadway 3:59 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To Calls For Service.

SMDP STAFF SELECTED THE FOLLOWING LIST FROM 47 CALLS ON FEB. 20

Emergency Medical Service 700blk Hill St 12:43 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1300blk 26th St 1:18 a.m.
EMS 2500blk Virginia Ave 2:01 a.m.
EMS 600blk 14th St 2:04 a.m.
EMS 400blk San Vicente Blvd 3:53 a.m.
EMS 800blk 10th St 5:26 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 9th St 5:54 a.m.
EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 7:34 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2100blk Wilshire Blvd 7:48 a.m.
Odor of natural gas 800blk Adelaide Pl 7:58 a.m.
Automatic alarm 200blk Wilshire Blvd 8:04 a.m.
EMS 1400blk Ocean Ave 8:19 a.m.
EMS 2500blk Euclid St 8:28 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2100blk Marine St 8:32 a.m.
EMS 1300blk Franklin St 8:55 a.m.
EMS 1100blk 12th St 9:15 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 9:37 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2600blk Lincoln Blvd 9:43 a.m.
EMS 2500blk Kansas Ave 9:55 a.m.
EMS 1000blk Yale St 9:56 a.m.
EMS 800blk 9th St 10:01 a.m.
EMS 1800blk Wilshire Blvd 10:13 a.m.
EMS 2400blk Ashland Ave 10:30 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 10:39 a.m.
EMS 1800blk 17th St 11:30 a.m.

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL calottery
Draw Date: 2/20
27 49 50 51 52
Power#: 2
Jackpot: $304 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 2/19
17 24 34 56 65
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: $224 M

SuperLOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 2/20
9 18 35 40 46
Mega#: 4
Jackpot: $21 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 2/21
17 28 31 37 38

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 2/22
Midday: 0 9 2
Draw Date: 2/21
Evening: 2 9 5

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 2/21
1st: 3 - Hot Shot
2nd: 4 - Big Ben
3rd: 1 - Gold Rush
RACE TIME: 1:47.47

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 REPORT

SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 55.6°

SATURDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft waist to stomach high
New/small and inconsistent SSW swell tops out. Fading NW swell mixes in. Favorable AM wind conditions.

SUNDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 1-2 ft ankle to knee high occ. 3 ft
Small/inconsistent SSW swell lingers. Minimal NW swell mixes in. Favorable AM wind conditions.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

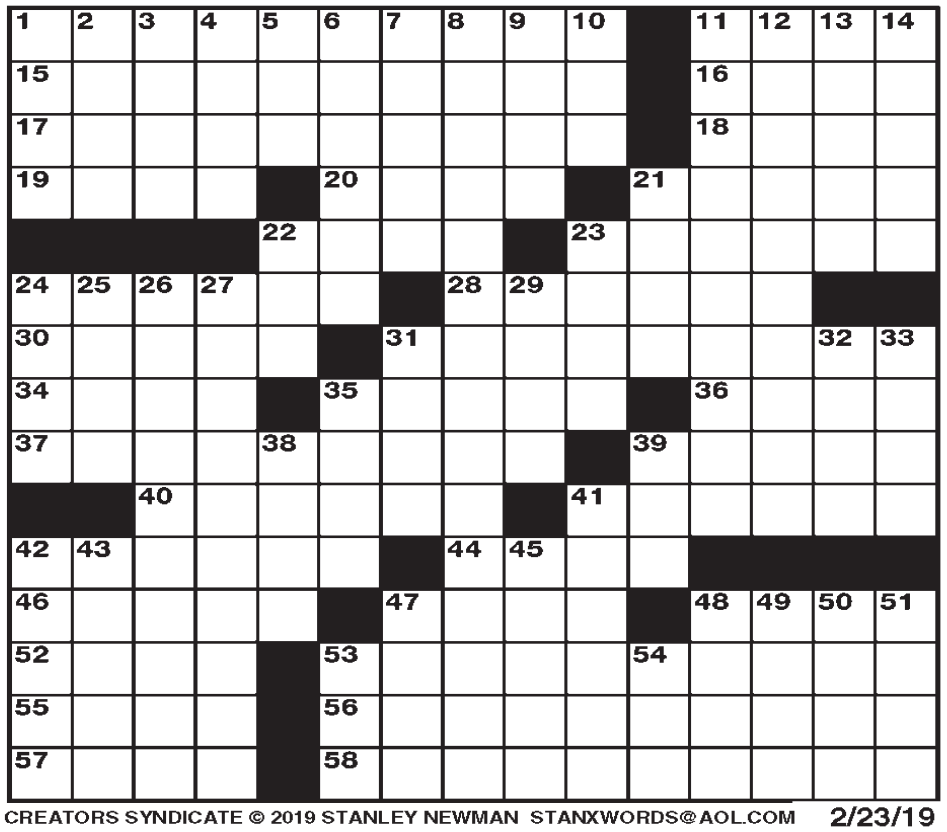
				3				2
1		6		5		7		8
			8		6			
	4				9	1	3	
		7		4		2		
	2	9	6				7	
			3		8			
8		1		9		4		3
9				2				

Newsday Crossword

SATURDAY STUMPER by Matthew Sewell
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 "Care to explain?"
11 Storied "tiller of the ground"
15 Colbert best-selling spoof of 2007
16 In the bargain
17 Got across another way
18 Where Moses met Pharaoh
19 Yuletide trio
20 It must be followed
21 Something categorized by carbon content
22 "Juvenile pariah" of an 1884 novel
23 Diversions
24 Throw
28 *Madre de tu madre*
30 Moderate
31 Dove
34 Filet mignon source
35 Ratlike
36 Far from agreeable
37 Outlook
39 Concentrated
40 Japanese soy sauce
41 Washed out
42 Harry's dukedom
44 Digital AV standard
46 Join up
47 Devil-may-care
48 Storied "keeper of sheep"
52 100%
53 Operatic ornamentation
55 Corny production
56 They have defensive ends
57 Stormed
58 Boxed lunch add-ins

DOWN
1 Squiring
2 Loser due to a timeout
3 "Faith is the best wealth for __" : Buddha
4 All Peanut M&Ms, at first
5 LOL venues
6 Vanity case
7 Focus (on)
8 Bottom out
9 "No, it's lemonade!" shouter in a GEICO ad
10 Hapless
11 Bridge beam
12 Driving away
13 Minor key
14 Common tracks on snow
21 Ostensibly be
22 Bolt
23 Heat up
24 See 25 Down
25 With 24 Down, application for summer camp
26 *TV Guide's* #2 cartoon surname
27 Went wild, maybe
29 Overly ornate
31 Link (up)
32 At some other place
33 Adventure
35 Important Colonial America crop
38 Clerical support
39 Relished
41 What's bought at many Esso stations today
42 Shaving __
43 In the brain, so to speak
45 Blue-collar
47 Cops, on the street
48 Tussling
49 Sting success
50 Costume creator for Mata Hari
51 Girl in many a song
53 __ toy
54 Server's check, at times



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2019 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 2/23/19

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 23)

You don't set out to do things differently or be unique, but it happens naturally as you get increasingly sensitive to the particulars of your talent and contribute accordingly. Relationships will blur lines, thus benefiting you in multiple ways. Working for a cause, you'll be surrounded by like minds – a noble crew. Cancer and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 19, 3, 7 and 25.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Novelty is an actual human need and there's physiological evidence for this. Ask new questions and make new demands of your routine in the name of seeing it fresh again.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Hope has a much better memory than gratitude. In other words, people who want something from you give a more intense quality of attention than people who already get something from you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
At first the job seemed overwhelmingly cumbersome, and now it's just a pain. That's OK. Like a bodybuilder, you get stronger by handling this burden repeatedly. Soon it will be like a feather, and you'll have amazing "muscles."

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
There's a mystery you need to root out, and it's a layered one at that. How do you get to the bottom of it? By recognizing when you're not there yet and digging a little deeper.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
You'll do a thing until it loses its appeal and not a moment longer. It's not because you're fickle, rather it's that time is precious and some practices get old faster than others.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
When you interact with people, you try to give them something useful. The trouble is that you don't always know what's useful to other people. Today, just your being there will be useful enough.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
To live the exciting life of your fantasies, you'll need to erect and enforce certain boundaries. Cultivating your dreams will take time – time that you won't have unless you fiercely protect it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
Discipline leads to freedom and freedom may create the need, or the longing, for discipline. Whichever part of the cycle you're in right now, accept it and move toward your desire.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
You develop in your personality and in your calling on a daily basis, sometimes in teensy increments and other times in leaps. You're still adjusting to this last leap. Give yourself some time to get used to things.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
There are those who will root for you to be your best – as long as it doesn't surpass theirs. A relationship of this type will have a short shelf life, as ultimately you'll have to cross a threshold.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
If you're going to work on self-discipline, don't do it for a boss, partner or for the good of anyone other than yourself. And know that this is noble work. There is no higher dominion than the dominion over your own impulses.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
People are like the wind; they carry the good and bad qualities of the strata through which they flow. There's something about the climate you will want to rise above, so you seek purification.

Scorpio Moon Paradox

Evolution is a slow process; a product of thousands of minute needs, decisions and realizations over long stretches of time. In contrast, transformations are the alchemy of extremely particular circumstances and can happen in a blink. The paradox of this Scorpio moon is that transformation will occur for those already on an evolutionary path.

WORD UP!

Futilitarian
noun [fyoo-til-i-tair-ee-uhn]
a person who believes that human hopes are vain, and human strivings unjustified.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Extra Credit
n Researchers at Leiden University Medical Center in the Netherlands wanted to better understand the pathology of Katayama syndrome, an illness caused by parasitic Schistosoma worms. So they, like scientists everywhere, turned to the most ubiquitous of guinea pigs: graduate students.
n Two students agreed to become infected with male worm larvae (chosen because they cannot lay eggs in their hosts). A few weeks later, the students developed symptoms such as fever and headaches. They recovered, and their cases proved that it wasn't the parasite's eggs causing the syndrome, but perhaps antigens on the developing worms.

Body of Knowledge
n The average breath takes five seconds: two to inhale, three to exhale.

Doc Talk
n Anhidrosis: The abnormal absence of sweat

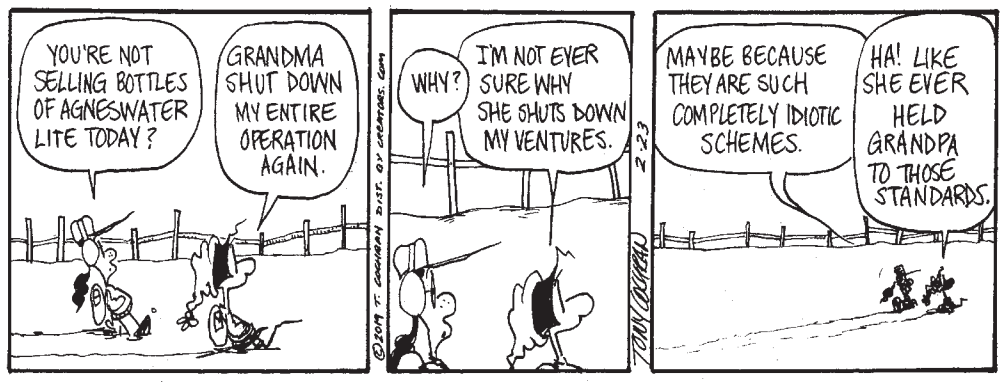
Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



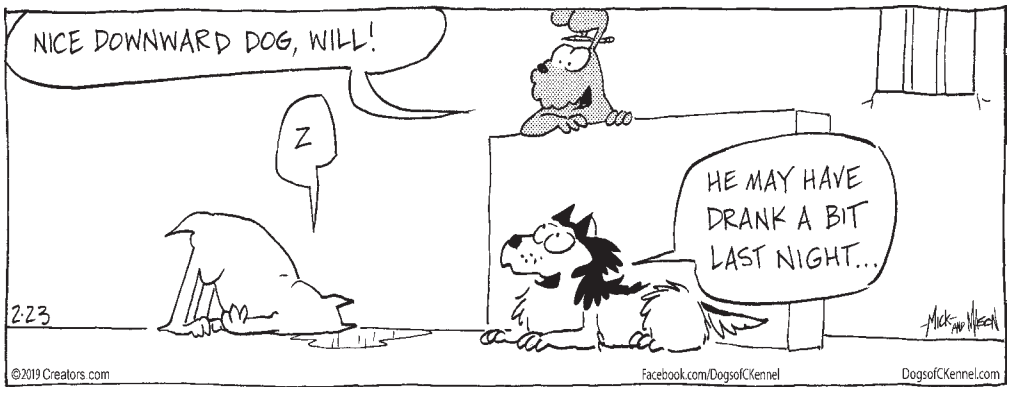
Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



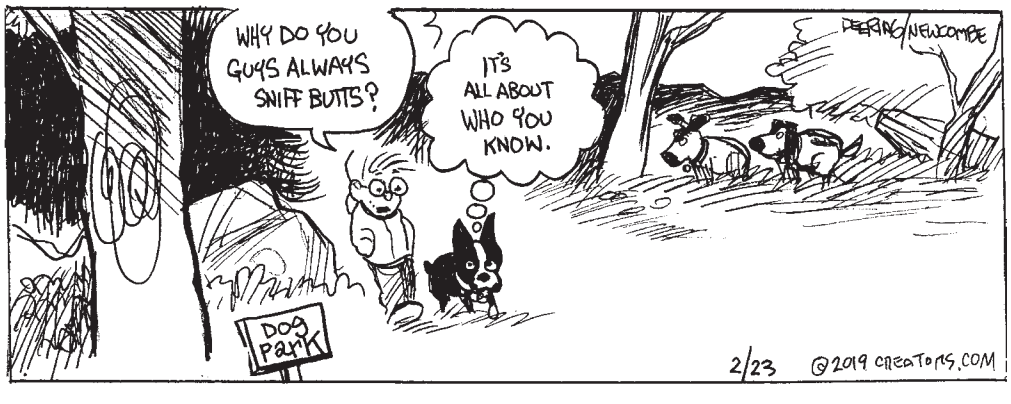
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CVRA

FROM PAGE 1

attorneys, said the City will be able to write an appeal brief in four to six months and it will be at least one year before attorneys can make oral arguments in court.

Boutrous said he believes the law mandates a stay on holding an election because it would go against the will of voters who voted for Council candidates last November.

The legal fees associated with an appeal would be much less than the amount the City will have to pay the plaintiff's attorneys if it accepts the ruling because the City's attorneys would only have to prepare an appeal brief and make a short oral argument, he added.

City Attorney Lane Dilg said before Council voted to appeal that Palazuelos' decision left several legal issues unresolved, including that adopting an election map drawn by the plaintiffs violates state elections code requiring that cities hold a public input process before drawing election districts. The City also disputes that Latinos have been underrepresented on City Council.

It is impossible to draw a district in Santa Monica with a Latino population of more than 30 percent and no court adjudicating a voting rights case has ever ordered the creation of a district where the minority group in question would be that low, Dilg added. She recommended appealing the decision so California's appellate courts could address those issues.

Kevin Shenkman, an attorney for the plaintiffs, said he thinks Council did not listen to community opinion by deciding to appeal and had opportunities to create a district map with public input before and during the case. He added he believes it is highly unlikely that an appellate court will overturn Palazuelos' ruling that the City violated the CVRA.

About 15 people made public comment before Council voted, including Loya and Shenkman. Most asked Council not to appeal the final ruling because they believe Palazuelos made the right decision in the case and feel the City has little chance of winning an appeal.



File Photo

DISTRICT MAP

"In the end, after consideration of the experts and the evidence, the City lost. Prevailing on an appeal would be harder than it was to prevail in the lawsuit," said resident and attorney Maryanne LaGuardia. "This would be a good time to stop the case, and to stop vilifying those who brought it."

Davis said she does not think the consensus among members of the public who spoke at the meeting reflects the views of the entire Santa Monica community.

"I think a majority of people in Santa Monica understand this is a legal process and it will work itself out," she said. "There's clearly a group of people who feel very strongly about this who have circled around the plaintiffs. I'm not sure I see there being huge rifts among the community at large."

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ACADEMY

FROM PAGE 1

Bill, Jr. and a house falling around Buster Keaton, stunt people have been one of the rare groups who work in film to not be recognized by the Academy.

"Isn't that interesting," Alex Daniels, 38-year veteran stunt coordinator and President of the Stuntmen's Association said. "As prominent as stunt work is, creatively in films, today and always has been, it's still not acknowledged by the Academy."

Daniels says he and his stunt community have been fighting for representation at the Oscars since at least 1991. Even with several stunt members in the Academy, they've had discussions and meetings but have gained no traction in their fight.

The fight is two-fold for Daniels and the stunt community. The first and most important, Daniels says, is respect for craft, second being compensation.

Daniels says stunt workers are at times broadly viewed as "people that just throw themselves down a flight of stairs for money" but argues his field is a craft as valuable as any other that's recognized, one that requires immense planning, patience, endurance and skill.

Sometimes, he says, stunt coordinators receive a script that may say "characters fight" and the responsibility to construct a scene is entirely up to the stunt team. Even in a superhero-dominated CGI-heavy cinema-scape, stunt people are doing spandex-laden, motion-captured stunts.

"To say that the work of stunt people and coordinators isn't artistic isn't just untrue, it's far-fetched," Daniels said. "Just look at the clips used for Best Film, Direction, certainly for acting, it'll include action, quite likely performed by a stunt person. And those clips are promoting other categories. It's bizarre [The Academy] don't want to recognize stunt work as a contribution to a final product."

Marneen Lynne Fields, a legendary stunt performer nicknamed "Hollywood's Original Fall Girl" by stunt coordinator J.P. Bill Catching, echoes Daniels thoughts.

As a pioneering stuntwoman, Fields has taken a litany of brutal bumps from the stunts she's done: nearly 50-foot high falls, high dives, high jumps, and pratfalls, to name a few.

The least the Academy can do, she says, is to respect the talent given and pain taken for the artform she and her fellow stunt people love so much.

"I can't emphasize enough, stunt people are actors in every sense of the word," Fields said. "You do these high falls, you're taught to scream to sell it. You're taught to mimic the actress in all of her moments. It takes great versatility and talent to do stunts. "

Aside from respect, stunt people would like the pay involved in Academy-nominated films.

One stunt person who worked on Best Picture nominee Black Panther asked not to be named for this piece said he joined the film for a plethora of reasons— what it meant to him and what it would mean to culture-at-large.

With the film being nominated for Best Picture, he acknowledged his residuals are going to look good. "I'm going to be looking forward to my walks to the mailbox for a while," he said with a laugh.

Daniels agreed, saying any person — actor, make-up artist, whoever — that's won or been nominated for an Academy Award has a substantial pay bump afterward, noting it isn't all about the money, however.

"It's about the respect that isn't being given to the stunt community," Fields added.

Whether respect or pay bump or both, it's all tied into recognition.

"The logical thing to do," Fields said, "Would be for the Academy to recognize Best Stuntman, Best Stuntwoman, Best Stunt Director, and Best Stunt Ensemble to make the Academy Awards fair to a group of people who are not only great actors, performers, champions, and athletes in their own right, but who are also the only talent that risks their lives on a daily basis in the name of filmmaking. It's long overdue."

"[Gaining recognition by The Academy] is like an insurance claim," Daniels said. "Deny, deny, deny until it goes away, but we're not going away. We're so important to the creative work of this industry, and we deserve to be seen."

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