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Santa Monica Daily Press
TUESDAY
03.05.19
Volume 18 Issue 96

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Basic Aid designation costs district $8.8 million

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) lost about $8.8 million in state funding last year due to a switch in its funding model.

The state had allocated about $8.6 million in Education Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) to SMMUSD to meet its minimum funding requirement and the district included the funding in its budget. Last November, however, the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) told the district that the district was not entitled to the funds because it had become a basic aid school district during the 2017-2018 school year and withdrew $8,861,301.26 from SMMUSD's financial accounts without prior written notice.

Most California school districts cannot collect enough property tax revenue to meet their minimum funding requirement. Basic aid school districts, however, receive enough tax revenue to exceed that requirement and therefore receive little aid from the state. Such districts are typically more affluent, with higher property values.

SMMUSD has been on the brink of becoming a basic aid district for a number of years, said Melody Canady, Assistant Superintendent, Business and Fiscal Services. The district became a basic aid district in the middle of the 2017-2018 school year. LACOE told the district last November that its new status made it ineligible for ERAF allocations and withdrew the funding in January.

The district was not aware that would happen and had already budgeted the $8.6 million, Canady said.

"At no time did the inclusion of ERAF funds in the district's budgets and reports trigger any warning that basic aid districts are not entitled to ERAF," she said. "Therefore, the funds were budgeted and then approved by LACOE."

The district has financial reserves to absorb the impact of the $8.86 million loss, but LACOE's decision disrupted its medium- and long-term budget planning and efforts to address its structural deficit, Canady added. Last year, SMMUSD was projected to run a $4.2 million deficit in the 2018-2019 fiscal year and $6.2 million the following fiscal year.

In a teleconference with district officials last November, LACOE representatives acknowledged that the agency was unaware that

SEE **BUDGET** PAGE 6

Heavy rain predicted for Tuesday night

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Los Angeles region is bracing for another set of wet weather that is expected to bring up to five inches of rain to some locations.

According to the National Weather Service, the next storm is expected Tuesday through Wednesday, with moderate to heavy rain, including periods of very heavy rain.

Tuesday could be the worst day with very heavy rain possible Tuesday evening through Wednesday

SEE **WEATHER** PAGE 7









Photos: Peter Strube

JOGATHON: The SMASH (Santa Monica Alternative School House) annual Jog a Thon narrowly escaped rainy weather last week in Ocean Park. Over 200 students ran nearly 7000 combined laps.

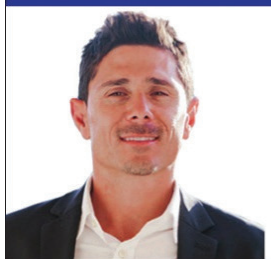
Spielberg's push against Netflix at the Oscars hits a nerve

LINDSEY BAHR
AP Film Writer

When Steven Spielberg speaks about the business of Hollywood, everyone generally listens and few dissent. But reports that he intends to support rule changes that could block Netflix from Oscars-eligibility have provoked a heated, and unwieldy, debate online this weekend. It has found the legendary filmmaker at odds with some industry heavyweights, who have pointed out that Netflix has been an

SEE **OSCARS** PAGE 5


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NOTICE OF INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit sealed bids for the:

Civic Center Multipurpose Sports Field
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Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, 90401, not later than **2:30 p.m.** on **April 17, 2019**, to be publicly opened and read aloud after **3:00 p.m.** on said date in City Hall Council Chambers. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids.

NON-MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK:
Wednesday, March 20, 2019 at 10:00 AM
Corner of 4th Street and Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $5,500,000
CONTRACT DAYS: 300 Calendar Days
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $1,000.00 Per Day

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: http://www.smgov.net/planetbids/. The Contractor is required to have a **Class-B** license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

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What's Up Westside
OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, March 5

Wilmont meeting
Join Wilmont members/residents at our March monthly meeting. They will have speakers on City's Safety study of Wilshire Blvd., update on Transparency issues by Mary Marlow and crime issues discussed by Suzie Lockwood, SMPD Crime Prevention Coordinator. Montana Ave Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 6:45 - 8:45 p.m.

Write Away
Gain feedback and encouragement in your writing efforts from fellow writers in this supportive writer's meet-up. Fairview Branch Library 12 - 2:30 p.m.

2019 Julia Morgan Talk
Featuring a discussion on art, architecture, women in public practice and sustainability with City Architect Rebecca Abano, artist Deborah Aschheim, architect Angela Brooks, public art administrator Chris Guerra, artist Susan Narduli, and architect/historic preservation planner Stephanie Reich. Annenberg Community Beach House Garden Terrace Room 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Gentle Yoga at Fairview
In a class that is safe for seniors and beginners, as well as relaxing and stress-releasing for pros, veteran instructor Raghavan guides you through a gentle session of yoga and meditation. Space is limited. Please bring a mat or towel to the program Fairview Branch Library 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6

Santa Monica Certified Farmer's Market
The Wednesday Farmers Market is widely recognized as one of the largest and most diverse grower-only CFM's in the nation. Some nine thousands food shoppers, and many of Los Angeles' best known chefs and restaurants, are keyed to the seasonal rhythms of the weekly Wednesday Market. Downtown 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Field Sports Advisory Council Regular Meeting
Regular monthly meeting of the Field Sports Advisory Council (FSAC). FSAC is an advisory council to the Recreation and Parks Commission. Virginia Avenue Park 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting
The Santa Monica Planning Commission normally meets on the first and third Wednesdays of every month in the City Council Chamber. City Hall Council Chamber 7 p.m.

Westside Writers Mingle moved to Fairview Branch
A monthly meeting of SCBWI, an organization of children's writers and illustrators. Open to all. PB Critique night Fairview Branch Library 7 - 8:45 p.m.

Thursday, March 7

40th Anniversary Planned Parenthood Los Angeles Guild Food Fare
Food Fare will feature 150+ of LA's best restaurants, caterers, wineries, breweries, libation purveyors and retail merchants. Visit www.pplafoodfare.com for ticket information. Barker Hangar (3021 Airport Ave).

Gallery open
Annenberg Community Beach House 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Middle School Council
Learn how you can help with programs, get volunteer hours, and more. For Middle School Students Main Library Children's Activity Room 4 - 5 p.m.

Library Board Meeting
Library Board Meeting in Administration Conference Room, 2nd Floor near computer commons. Main Library 7 - 9 p.m.

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Marina Del Rey

Follow Your Fear: Lia Duitton, One Woman, One Boat

Join fellow racing enthusiasts and fans of sea going adventure on Wednesday March 13, 7:30 p.m. at California Yacht Club for a fascinating presentation by Lia Ditton , a professional sailor, author and the only woman to complete the OSTAR 2005 single-handed transatlantic race; that experience formed the basis of Lia's 2006 art installation, Absolute Solitude: One Woman, One Boat in which Lia lived on her boat next to the Tate Britain Gallery in London for 28 days – the same number of days as it took her to sail to the US.

Rowing is Lia's passion and her presentation will provide a sneak preview of her next amazing one woman adventure; in March 2020, Lia will depart from Choshi, Japan on a mission to be the first woman and first person to row land-to-land across the North Pacific to the Golden Gate Bridge of San Francisco.

Presentation 7:30 p.m. No charge. Reservations requested - reservations@calyachtclub.net. Open to all who enjoy yachting and adventure. As a public service of CYC.

California Yacht Club 4469 Admiralty Way
Marina del Rey, CA 90292
310 823-4567

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SAN FRANCISCO

California sues over abortion rule; other states to follow

California and several other Democratic-led states announced they were challenging the Trump administration's effort to set up obstacles for women seeking abortions, including barring taxpayer-funded family planning clinics from referring patients to abortion providers.

California Attorney General Xavier Becerra announced Monday that the state filed a federal lawsuit in San Francisco that aims to block a new family planning rule from the U.S. Health and Human Services Department. The rule shifts millions of dollars from Planned Parenthood to faith-based family planning organizations.

Washington, D.C., and 19 states said they would sue separately in Oregon on Tuesday. The states are: Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia and Wisconsin.

Washington's Democratic attorney general also previously said the state would challenge the rule.

Trump administration officials have told abortion opponents that they expected a number of legal challenges to the new family planning rule, which also prohibits federally funded family planning clinics from being housed in the same place as abortion providers.

The changes to the federal family planning program are scheduled to go into effect in May unless blocked in court.

California's attorney general said the new rule affects 4 million mostly low-income women nationwide and 1 million women in California.

"The Trump-Pence administration has doubled down on its attacks on women's health," Becerra said.

The lawsuit in California is the latest of dozens of legal challenges that it and other states led by Democrats have filed in a bid to block Trump administration policies.

PAUL ELIAS, ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO

California lawmakers want $100 billion toward clean energy

A group of Democratic California lawmakers called Monday for the state to invest $100 billion to drastically reduce its carbon emissions and reliance on fossil fuels by 2030.

A resolution proposed by Democratic Sen. Henry Stern would set the non-binding goal and also declare a climate emergency, citing recent devastating wildfires and the impacts of air pollution on child asthma. It comes as Democrats in Congress advocate for the passage of the Green New Deal, a massive investment in rebuilding the nation's infrastructure and workforce to fight climate change.

"We have to live in California, hopefully for the rest of our lives, and hopefully in a way that doesn't burn down our homes, that doesn't make our kids sick (and) allows us to get to work without losing our minds in traffic," Stern said on the steps of the state Capitol with students from eight different University of California schools behind him.

The $100 billion would be spent over 12 years and come from existing pots of money, including the state's carbon emissions auction program and a gas tax increase to fund transportation projects. The resolution would say all of that money should be spent toward projects that reduce, sequester or remove greenhouse gas emissions.

While Stern's resolution would not be binding, Democratic state Assemblyman Todd Gloria has introduced legislation to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. The state's current goal is eliminating fossil fuel use for electricity by 2045 and to achieve carbon neutrality by that year, meaning the state takes as much carbon out of the atmosphere as it puts in.

The goals are aggressive and ambitious even for California, a state viewed as a global leader on confronting climate change. The 2045 clean energy goal passed the 80-member state Assembly last year by just four votes, with some Democrats voting against it.

Gloria's proposal would require an "immediate phase out of fossil fuels."

"The emergency facing our state, our nation, our world is climate change, and don't let anybody tell you anything different," Gloria said.

Stern's proposal, meanwhile, would call for the elimination of fossil fuels in the energy sector by 2030. He does not propose eliminating fossil fuel use in transportation, but drastically diminishing it.

KATHLEEN RONAYNE, ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO

California: Trump plan to take back rail money 'disastrous'

Leaders of California's high-speed rail project told the Trump administration Monday its plans to withhold or claw back $3.5 billion in federal money for the project was "legally indefensible" and "disastrous policy."

Terminating the money "would cause massive disruption, dislocation, and waste, damaging the region and endangering the future of high-speed rail in California and elsewhere in the nation," Brian Kelly, the chief executive for the project, wrote in a letter to Jamie Rennert of the Federal Railroad Administration.

Kelly's letter is in response to a February threat by the U.S. Department of Transportation to withhold a $929 million grant for the project and possibly take back $2.5 billion in federal money the state has already spent.

Congress and the Obama administration allocated the money almost a decade ago for California to build a high-speed rail line between Los Angeles and San Francisco. A segment of the train in the Central Valley is now under construction, and the $3.5 billion is a key piece of its budget.

The threat was an escalation in California's ongoing feud with the Trump administration. It came after Gov. Gavin Newsom suggested changes to the project in his State of the State address. He said the project as currently planned would cost too much and take too long, and said he wanted to focus first on building a longer line in the Central Valley.

Newsom has since said he still intends to build the full line, but Trump used his comments to decry the project as a "failure." Newsom said Trump's call to take back the money was retaliation for the state's lawsuit against the president's declaration of a national emergency at the U.S.-Mexico border.

California must meet certain construction and environmental review deadlines by 2022 as part of its agreement with the federal government. Kelly said the state is meeting its obligations and that the vision of the project has not changed.

He said the threat to withhold the roughly $1 billion the state hasn't yet received was not legally defensible, and that efforts to take back what's already been spent "disastrous policy."

KATHLEEN RONAYNE, ASSOCIATED PRESS

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What's the Point?

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Daylight Savings Is Coming

We're on the verge of having a new schedule, again. The changing of the clocks is coming this weekend. It's that "Spring Forward, Fall Back" thing. I personally am not a huge fan. I've never really understood the logic of it. Seems like we should just adapt to longer and shorter days and live with it.

I've heard the reasoning as "good for agriculture" – um, great, but farmers work in the dead of early morning darkness anyways ... It's so the kids are safer walking to school ... Yeah, that's a nice story, for 1890...

It seems to me that if we could all just agree on a set time, we could harmonize the global clocks and life would be easier.

Coordinating multiple schedules is hard enough, let alone for weird time zone issues. This week I'm working with a coaching client who has hired a web designer out of India. For some unknown reason India is 13 AND A HALF HOUR ahead of us. I understand the 13 hours, it's that half hour that confuses me. What's that about?

And it's not like weird time zones are an international issue. Arizona has their own set of wackiness. They refuse to comply with the Federal mandated time, which is one issue, then they have Native American reservations, some of which use Pacific Time, some use Arizona Time and then there are pockets of state territory inside of Native American territory.

Why all this craziness? I imagine it's because of attempts at self-determination. As various governmental bodies have decided to assert themselves, this is the result. Poorly thought out, hodge podge, patchworks of rules and regulations seem to be the norm of humanity.

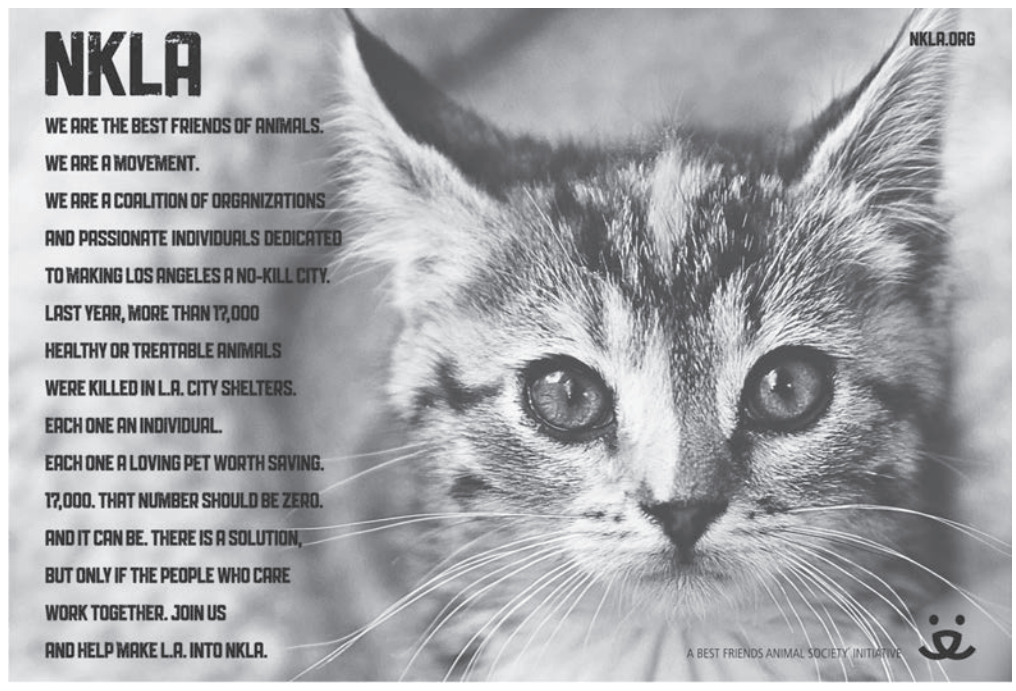
This playing out on a grander scale with the current nail biter of a drama with the in-artful exit by the United Kingdom from the EU. The United Kingdom is a Sovereign state that is made up of states (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland). They voted to leave the European Union two years ago, and in theory were going to negotiate the divorce strategy in what is commonly referred to as Brexit.

But like most divorces, it became uglier than anyone anticipated, and no one wanted to deal with the details, so now on the eve of their division there are a whole host of problems that are poised to cause economic havoc, as well as personal trouble to the citizens and residents of the UK.

The lack of planning and coordination for Brexit extends from the mundane, like what type of shipping pallets are acceptable (currently the UK has a shortage of the type that will be allowed into the EU) to the tragic, like my friend Maggie who is an Australian Citizen, resident in Scotland, who is now in a legal limbo of work status. For years she had no problems due to the cozy working relationship with all the aforementioned countries. However, now that there will be new regulations, her employability is unknown in Scotland, and the EU, which means that no company wants to risk hiring her for fear of running afoul of whatever eventual law is in place.

It's frequently said that a confused buyer says No. That's certainly been my experience. Which is why I would prefer the world to stop this madness of daylight savings, weird time zones and lack of a coordinated plan. However, for better or worse, I don't run the world, I barely run my family law office. Seems like I have to answer to judges, bureaucrats and clients on a regular basis so I think I will just continue to do the best I can, change the clocks every six months and plan on being either early or late for a week.

David Pisarra is a Los Angeles Divorce and Child Custody Lawyer specializing in Father's and Men's Rights with the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or 310/664-9969.You can follow him on Twitter @ davidpisarra



PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Angel Carreras
angel@smdp.com

Madeleine Pauker
madeleine@smdp.com

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Jenny Rice
jenny@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Cynthia Citron,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra,
Sarah A. Spitz

PRODUCTION
Grape Multimedia Productions
production@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Achling Holliday
ross@smdp.com

Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

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Santa Monica Daily Press
1640 5th Street, Suite 218
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

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OSCARS

FROM PAGE 1

important supporter of minority filmmakers and stories, especially in awards campaigns, while also reigniting the ongoing streaming versus theatrical debate.

Spielberg has weighed in before on whether streaming movies should compete for the film industry's most prestigious award (TV movies, he said last year, should compete for Emmys), but that was before Netflix nearly succeeded in getting its first best picture Oscar for Alfonso Cuaron's "Roma" at last week's Academy Awards. Netflix, of course, did not win the top award — "Green Book," which was produced partially by Spielberg's Amblin Entertainment, did.

Still, Netflix was a legitimate contender and this year, the streaming service is likely to step up its awards game even more with Martin Scorsese's "The Irishman," which The Hollywood Reporter said may also gunning for a wide-theatrical release. A teaser ad aired during the 91st Oscars for the gangster drama said "in theaters next fall," instead of the "in select theaters" phrasing that was used for "Roma."

But Netflix also isn't playing by the same rules as other studios. The company doesn't report theatrical grosses, for one, and it's been vexing some more traditional Hollywood executives throughout this award season and there have been whispers in recent weeks that a reckoning is coming.

Now, Spielberg and others are planning to do something about it by supporting a revised film academy regulation at an upcoming meeting of the organization's board of governors that would disqualify Netflix from the Oscars, or at least how the streaming giant currently operates during awards season.

This year "Roma" got a limited theatrical qualifying run and an expensive campaign with one of the industry's most successful awards publicists, Lisa Taback, leading the charge. But Netflix, operates somewhat outside of the industry while also infiltrating its most important institutions, like the Oscars and the Motion Picture Association of America. Some like Spielberg, are worried about what that will mean for the future of movies.

"Steven feels strongly about the difference between the streaming and theatrical situation," an Amblin spokesperson told IndieWire's Anne Thompson late last week. "He'll be happy if the others will join (his campaign) when that comes up. He will see what happens."

An Amblin representative said Sunday there was nothing to add.

Netflix has its strong defenders, which include the A-list talent it has attracted for its projects. Ben Affleck, speaking at the premiere of his new Netflix film "Triple Frontier," said the streaming service is "heavily invested in telling stories."

"It's very exciting because you get the sense you're defining where the future of cinema and distribution is going, you know? Already, people are watching movies on more and more platforms than they ever had, and you get a sense that you're part of sort of the emerging transition," Affleck told The Associated Press on Sunday.

Some see Spielberg's position as wrong-minded, especially when it comes to the Academy Awards, which requires a theatrical run to be eligible for an award. Many online have pointed out the hypocrisy that the organization allows members to watch films on DVD screeners before voting.

Filmmaker Ava DuVernay tweeted at the film academy's handle in response to the news that the topic would be discussed at a board of governors meeting, which is comprised of only 54 people out of over 8,000 members.

"I hope if this is true, that you'll have filmmakers in the room or read statements from directors like me who feel differently," DuVernay wrote.

Some took a more direct approach, questioning whether Spielberg understands how important Netflix has been to minority filmmakers in recent years.

Franklin Leonard, who founded The BlackList, which surveys the best unproduced scripts in Hollywood, noted that Netflix's first four major Oscar campaigns were all by and about people of color: "Beasts of No Nation," ''The 13th," ''Mudbound" and "Roma."

"It's possible that Steven Spielberg doesn't know how difficult it is to get movies made in the legacy system as a woman or a person of color. In his extraordinary career, he hasn't exactly produced or executive produced many films directed by them," Leonard tweeted Saturday. "By my count, Spielberg does one roughly every two decades."

Netflix's film account tweeted that it was dedicated to give film access for people who either can't avoid the movie tickets or live in towns without theaters and also "Letting everyone, everywhere enjoy releases at the same time."

It's important to note that Netflix didn't produce "Beasts of No Nation," ''Mudbound" or "Roma," but rather acquired them for distribution. But if Oscar campaigns are no longer part of the equation in a Netflix-partnership, top-tier filmmakers are likely to take their talents and films elsewhere.

Others, like "First Reformed" filmmaker Paul Schrader, had a slightly different take.

"The notion of squeezing 200+ people into a dark unventilated space to see a flickering image was created by exhibition economics not any notion of the 'theatrical experience,'" Schrader wrote in a Facebook post Saturday. "Netflix allows many financially marginal films to have a platform and that's a good thing."

But his Academy Award-nominated film, he thinks, would have gotten lost on Netflix and possibly, "Relegated to film esoterica." Netflix had the option to purchase the film out of the Toronto International Film Festival and didn't. A24 did and stuck with the provocative film through awards season.

"Distribution models are in flux," Schrader concluded. "It's not as simple as theatrical versus streaming."

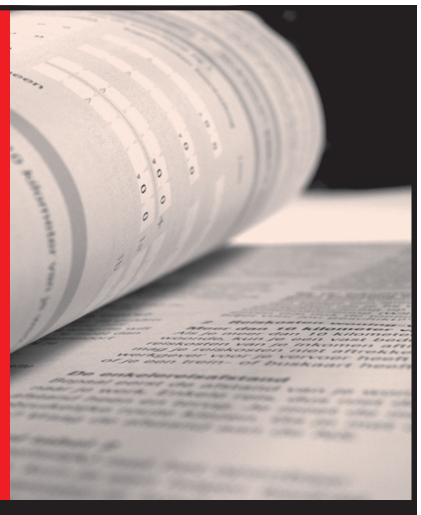
One thing is certain, however: Netflix is not going away any time soon and how it integrates with the traditional structures of Hollywood, like the Oscars, is a story that's still being written.

Sean Baker, who directed "The Florida Project," suggested a compromise: That Netflix offered a "theatrical tier" to pricing plans, which would allow members to see its films in theaters for free.

"I know I'd spend an extra 2 dollars a month to see films like 'Roma' or 'Buster Scruggs' on the big screen," Baker tweeted. "Just an idea with no details ironed out. But we need to find solutions like this in which everybody bends a bit in order to keep the film community (which includes theater owners, film festivals and competitive distributors) alive and kicking."

AP Writer John Carucci contributed to this report.

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BUDGET

FROM PAGE 1

SMMUSD was becoming a basic aid district, even though state tax code states that LACOE is responsible for determining the funding status of the district and reporting it to the Los Angeles County Auditor-Controller before funds such as ERAF might be allocated. LACOE failed to do that, Canady said.

LACOE then agreed to discuss the matter in a future teleconference but never contacted the district again, Canady said. The district then learned in January that LACOE and the Auditor-Controller withdrew $8,861.301.26 from SMMUSD's general fund without notifying the district. The amount was higher than the $8.6 million discussed in November.

"While the district appreciates LACOE and the Auditor-Controller's efforts to comply with California law concerning ERAF allocations, the manner in which the foregoing actions taken are deeply concerning, unwarranted, and harmful to the district," Canady said.

The district sent a letter to both agencies that month requesting an explanation for the discrepancy between the $8.6 million and the $8.86 million and why the district continued to receive ERAF allocations despite becoming a basic aid district during the 2017-2018 school year. The letter also asked for an explanation as to why the district must return the ERAF allocations in full given that it did not become a basic aid district until the middle of the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

LACOE and the Auditor-Controller have yet to reply to the letter, Canady said.

The SMMUSD Board of Education will discuss the matter at its Thursday meeting.

madeleine@smdp.com

Women's History Month



Commission on the Status of Women (COSW)

Join the Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women
to Celebrate Women's History Month:

The events in March celebrate this year's theme,
"Visionary Women: Champions of Peace and Nonviolence"

OWL International Women's Day Breakfast
Monday, March 11, 7-9:30 a.m.
at Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows. PAID • *Hosted by Santa Monica Chamber Outstanding Women Leaders in partnership with the COSW*

Women's Wellness Fair
Mon, March 11, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Info/ Services and 5-6 p.m. Yoga
at Venice Family Clinic. FREE • *Hosted by Venice Family Clinic*

Homeless Trends Lunch & Learn
Wednesday, March 13, 12-1:30 p.m.
at St. Joseph Center. PAID (suggested) • *Hosted by St. Joseph Center*

"What Doesn't Kill Me" Documentary Screening & Panel Discussion
Thursday, March 14, 6:30-9:30 p.m.
at Ken Edwards Center. FREE • *Hosted by Westside Anti-Violence Authority*

Visit **facebook.com/smcosw** or **smgov.net/cosw** for
a full list of events and more details

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WEATHER

FROM PAGE 1

morning. The storm is expected to bring up to three inches of rain to coastal areas and up to five inches for mountain areas. Southerly wind gusts are expected to reach 45 mph and snow could fall at 7,000 feet.

"Very moist subtropical flow with strong south winds will help to create an extended period of rainfall across the area," said the forecast. "During this time, there will be a moderate risk of debris flows in first year burn areas, along with the potential for flooding of all low lying areas, especially urban areas. Significant travel and commute delays are likely, along with potential airport delays at LAX."

Forecasters said there will be additional showers Thursday and a weak system with scattered showers on Friday.

The historical average for Los Angeles in the month of March is a high of 70 and a low of 51. Average rainfall is 2.43 inches and the highest recorded rainfall for a single day was March 2 of 1938 at 5.88 inches. The wettest March in history was in 1884 with 12.36 inches.

March has already proven to be a harsh month for much of the country.

A storm spread from the Sierra Nevada Mountains and into the Rocky Mountains over the weekend bringing rain and snow. Temperatures plummeted to below zero on places like Northern Illinois and a deadly tornado killed at least 23 people in Alabama.

Another winter storm watch goes into effect Tuesday morning in the mountains around Lake Tahoe, where 1 to 3 feet of new snow is possible in the upper elevations.

The National Weather Service said 3 to 10 inches of snow is expected as low as 6,000 feet.

The service says winds could gust as high as 80 mph over the Sierra ridge tops.

The storm watch runs through Wednesday night.

SANTA MONICA FORECAST

Tuesday: Rain likely, mainly after 4pm. Cloudy, with a high near 64. South southeast wind around 5 mph becoming calm. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Tuesday Night: Rain. Low around 54. Light and variable wind becoming east southeast 10 to 15 mph in the evening. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%.

Wednesday: Rain. The rain could be heavy at times. High near 62. Southeast wind 10 to 15 mph becoming east northeast in the morning. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 100%.

Wednesday Night: Showers likely. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 53. Chance of precipitation is 70%.

Thursday: Showers likely. Partly sunny, with a high near 61. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Thursday Night: A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 50.

Friday: A chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 59.

Friday Night: A slight chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 47.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 60.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 49.

Sunday: A slight chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 62.



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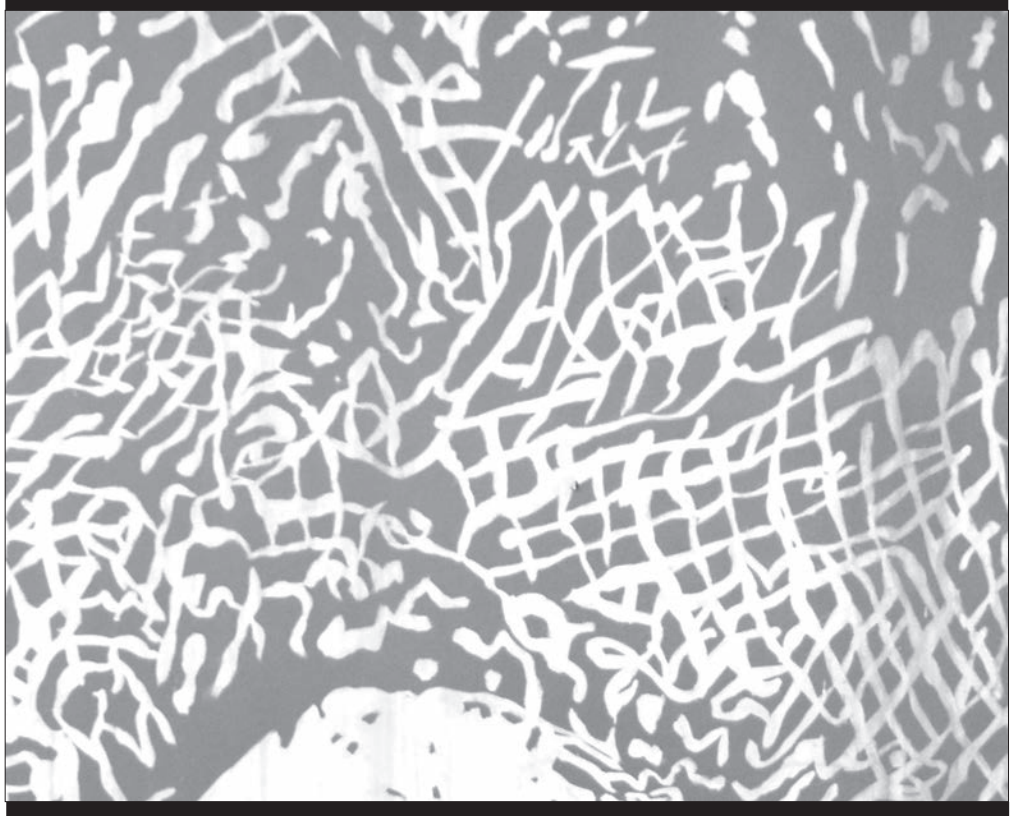
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MAIN STREET santa monica

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 20, AT ABOUT 1:35 P.M.

Officers responded to a radio call for service at a residence in the 300 block of 7th Street regarding a female trying to open a front door. Officers located subject nearby the residence. The subject indicated an unknown person told her it was okay to enter the home and take a shower. The resident stated she saw the subject force her way onto the property by pushing the exterior security gate open and walking up to the front door. The subject tried to forcibly open the door. The resident did not know the subject. The subject was taken into custody. During the booking process, the subject was uncooperative and kicked the jailer in the thigh multiple times. Karoline Rose, 27, was arrested for loitering onto a property without a lawful purpose and battery against a custodial officer. Bail was set at $20,000.



File Photo

KAROLINE ROSE.

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING CALLS FROM 298 ON MARCH 3.

Illegal weapon 10th St / Wilshire Blvd 1:16 a.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries city prop involved 1200blk Wilshire Blvd 1:27 a.m.
Overdose 1200blk 20th St 1:51 a.m.
Burglary /walk through 1500blk 6th St 2:45 a.m.
Indecent exposure 1800blk Broadway 6:33 a.m.
Malicious mischief 1700blk Ocean Front Walk 7:15 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1100blk 9th St 7:33 a.m.
Malicious mischief 2000blk Ocean Front Walk 7:36 a.m.
Burglary 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 8:31 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 800blk 3rd St 8:47 a.m.
Fraud 400blk 7th St 9:04 a.m.
Encampment 2700blk Barnard Way 9:19 a.m.
Auto burglary 1200blk 7th St 9:36 a.m.
Encampment 1200blk Palisades Beach Rd 9:51 a.m.
Encampment 700blk Ozone St 9:56 a.m.
Traffic collision - unkn injuries Princeton St / Santa Monica Blvd 10:04 a.m.
Auto burglary 2000blk Pearl St 11:55 a.m.
Indecent exposure 1200blk Ocean Front Walk 12:28 p.m.
Auto burglary 1100blk 11th St 12:49 p.m.
Out of order traffic signals 6th St / Wilshire Blvd 12:55 p.m.
Bike theft 600blk San Vicente Blvd 1:01 p.m.
Petty theft 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 1:15 p.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 1300blk 14th St 1:46 p.m.
Person with a gun Main St / Bay St 1:49 p.m.
Auto burglary 600blk Wilshire Blvd 2:05 p.m.
Petty theft 1800blk 17th St 3:07 p.m.
Petty theft 1000blk 16th St 3:10 p.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 2600blk Santa Monica Blvd 3:12 p.m.
Indecent exposure 1700blk Cloverfield Blvd 3:17 p.m.
Elder abuse 00blk Vicente Ter 3:48 p.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 2600blk 28th St 4:34 p.m.
Abandoned vehicle 2600blk 14th St 4:43 p.m.
Grand theft 1500blk 6th St 4:46 p.m.
Speeding Ocean Ave / Wilshire Blvd 4:55 p.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 1700blk Ocean Ave 4:56 p.m.
Petty theft 2900blk Main St 4:57 p.m.
Fight Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 5:04 p.m.
Burglary 2700blk 2nd St 5:47 p.m.
Silent robbery alarm 200blk Wilshire Blvd 5:58 p.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 1400blk Ocean Ave 6:02 p.m.
Out of order traffic signals Lincoln Blvd / Olympic Blvd E 6:50 p.m.
Battery 1100blk 5th St 6:53 p.m.
Fight 23rd St / Wilshire Blvd 7:18 p.m.
Battery 2200blk Wilshire Blvd 7:20 p.m.
Threats /s 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 9:33 p.m.
Auto burglary 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 10:07 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING CALLS FROM 34 ON MARCH 3.

Emergency Medical Service 800blk 6th St 12:13 a.m.
EMS 800blk Broadway 1:44 a.m.
EMS Berkeley St / Santa Monica Blvd 2:09 a.m.
EMS 2300blk Ocean Park Blvd 2:14 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2500blk Pico Blvd 3:13 a.m.
EMS 1800blk 22nd St 5:09 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 6:01 a.m.
EMS 200blk Ocean Ave 8:36 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 8:53 a.m.
EMS 1600blk Lincoln Blvd 8:59 a.m.
Structure fire 1500blk Princeton St 9:22 a.m.
EMS 2400blk Ocean Front Walk 9:31 a.m.
Traffic collision with injury Princeton St / Santa Monica Blvd 10:04 a.m.
Haz mat - level 1 Chelsea Ave / Wilshire Blvd 10:07 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1200blk 15th St 11:44 a.m.
EMS 1900blk 11th St 12:30 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Ocean Way 12:45 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 14th St 12:55 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1200blk 15th St 12:59 p.m.
EMS 2700blk 3rd St 1:02 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 3:56 p.m.

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DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL calottery
Draw Date: 3/2
1 19 25 27 68
Power#: 21
Jackpot: $381 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/1
29 33 39 60 66
Mega#: 21
Jackpot: $40 M

SuperLOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 3/2
22 27 30 33 46
Mega#: 25
Jackpot: $24 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/3
2 18 26 32 34

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 3/4
Midday: 0 7 8
Draw Date: 3/3
Evening: 7 0 1

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 3/3
1st: 5 - CALIFORNIA CLASSIC
2nd: 9 - WINNING SPIRIT
3rd: 4 - BIG BEN
RACE TIME: 1:44.13

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: 59.5°

TUESDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft waist to stomach high
Jumbled WNW swell-mix to ease. Winds and conditions cooperate ahead of another storm approaching from the West. Deep AM high tide.

WEDNESDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft waist to stomach high
WNW swell-mix moving in. Rising winds. Deep AM high tide.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

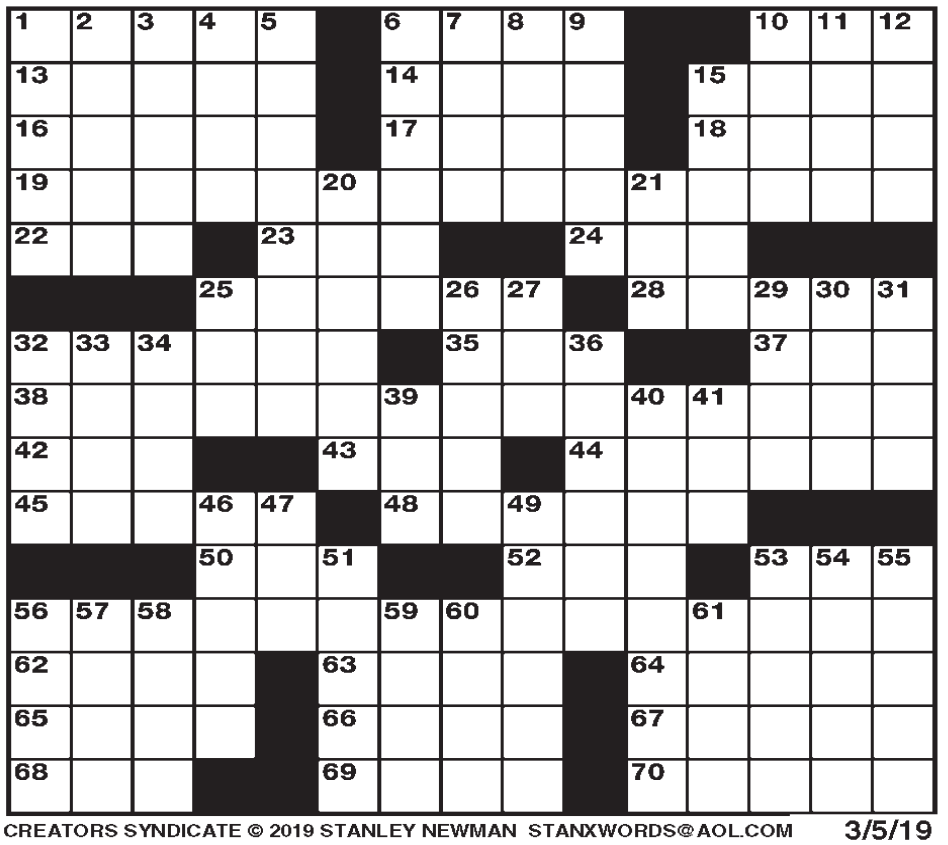
	1				3			5
	8			5		1		2
9			7		2	3		
1		2		3				7
				4				
5				7		9		8
		1	9		7			4
4		9		8			2	
7			1				5	

Newsday Crossword

LET'S MARCH by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Upraises
6 Elephant's long tooth
10 Short-lived craze
13 Small bay
14 "Suffice __ say . . ."
15 Pasta alternative
16 Type of steak
17 Duo
18 Not doing anything
19 Sergeant's chant for a march
22 Newspaper bosses: Abbr.
23 Athlete that's paid
24 Hole-punching tool
25 Common motel restriction
28 Spine-tingling
32 Not bumpy
35 Under the weather
37 "School of thought" suffix
38 Creator of the March family in *Little Women*
42 Go astray
43 Neither's partner
44 Horses with spots
45 Classroom furniture
48 Milk container
50 Gobble up
52 Darlin'
53 Musician's booking
56 "The March King"
62 Not at home
63 Ireland, in verse
64 Don clothes
65 Aloe __ (lotion ingredient)
66 Grain tower
67 Happen next
68 Do sums
69 Approximations: Abbr.
70 Pokes (around)

DOWN
1 Flexible, as a gymnast
2 About to bloom
3 Film failures, informally
4 Camp shelter
5 Big cooking vessels
6 Walk quietly
7 Great Salt Lake state
8 Mix with a spoon
9 Peninsula near Japan
10 Generic dog name
11 Rights org.
12 Bambi, for one
15 Long firearm
20 *Little __ Annie*
21 Lamb's mother
25 "There's __ in team"
26 Princess' crown
27 Sneaky
29 Barrel of laughs
30 "That's all there __ it"
31 CPR experts
32 Winter vehicle
33 Another helping
34 Yours and mine
36 Portable computer
39 Comfy shoe, for short
40 Roarer's residence
41 Anderson Cooper's channel
46 African safari nation
47 Maple syrup source
49 Beasts seen on safaris
51 The ones here
53 "Wild" estimate
54 Magazine edition
55 Oxygen and neon
56 Coffee, slangily
57 Was in debt
58 Difficult
59 Part of the eye
60 Merry tune
61 Little __ (hardly any)



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2019 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 3/5/19

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 5)

You'll spend time with people who, though they are from different parts of the world, seem to be made from the same soul material as you are. Doing well on an intellectual or academic test in April helps you to leap forward in your purpose. Financial gain comes from communicating your ideas very well. Sagittarius and Aquarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 30, 14, 22 and 36.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
While worrying alone does not solve problems, realizing that there's something that could go wrong is step one. Step two is figuring out what to do to about it: How to avoid it, or how to better prepare for that possible outcome.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
You're interested, and now there's an opportunity to dip your toe into the proverbial pool. You won't have to totally immerse yourself to satisfy your curiosity and gain some experience.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
Not everyone is comfortable sharing feelings. Some people you know are very encouraging and supportive and yet not demonstrative. Still, you can feel the love and compassion whenever you're in their presence.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
It's your goal to be compassionate and respectful, though you may not have articulated it quite like that. There are people you admire that embody those qualities and you want to be like them. In fact, you already are.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Everyone is observing something different at any given moment. You'll share memories, compare notes and be surprised at which details stand out to other people.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
To enjoy and be friendly with people without feeling compelled to spend a lot more time with them than necessary is the definition of "acquaintanceship." Who crosses to the next level? Choose carefully.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
You have a complaint. You're right about it. But it's not something that you'll be able to change today. Accept it, and log it in your mental banks for now. Solutions and opportunities will come. Stay positive.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
If you assume the door is locked, then you won't be able to open it. Don't assume. Watch the others. Maybe the door is heavy and needs a shove, or temperamental and needs a jiggle of the handle. Watch and copy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
A live streaming camera can tell you what life is like now on the Las Vegas Strip, a city square in Madrid or the jungle of Costa Rica. Looking around helps you appreciate both the world and what's going on in your part of it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Sometimes it feels like you're the only one around using rational thought in a culture that prefers letting the person with the biggest ego call the shots regardless of what's logical. Stay rational.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Maybe it looks like the side you're on doesn't have a chance, but this is early in the game. Besides, if you're confident enough to take action, then you've already won.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
To get things done your way at the price you'd prefer would be wonderful, but it's not in the offering. The good news is that the compromise that is in the offering will be better in the end anyway.

Mercury Retrograde Warning

When you think about it, weaponry has developed vastly over the course of human history, but words are still among the worst of weapons. Words are also the best tools for organizing life and creating relationships and managing society at large. Mercury retrogrades today, with a warning to use your words very carefully in the weeks to come.

WORD UP!

Pettifog
verb [pet-ee-fog, -fawg]
to bicker or quibble over trifles or unimportant matters.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Mania of the Week
n Logomania: A compulsive tendency to be wordy, talkative or loquacious. Not to be confused with Legomania, an obsession with small plastic building bricks manufactured in Denmark.

Car Giving and Taking Away
n At some point, almost everybody becomes too old to drive – safely. But deciding when is often left to caregivers, as most drivers don't see the end of the road until, well, something bad happens.

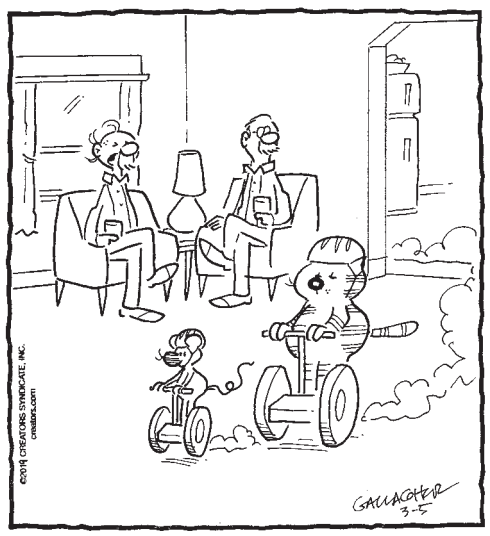
n It's a fraught time. No one wants to lose the independence that driving provides. According to surveys, adult children say the "car key conversation" is harder than discussing funeral plans or selling the family home. Physicians wrestle with whether or not they should step in and what their legal liability might be.

n Statistics show that, per mile driven, drivers over the age of 75 are almost as dangerous as teens. Driver errors tend to increase with age and diminishing physical abilities, perhaps compounded by greater use of medications that impair senses or attention.

HERE ARE EIGHT WAYS TO STOP AN ELDERLY PERSON FROM DRIVING. CAVEAT: NONE IS GUARANTEED, AND NONE IS NECESSARILY EASY TO DO.

1. Anonymously report them to the DMV.
2. Use Alzheimer's disease or dementia forgetfulness as an opportunity to remove the car and any reminders of driving. Distract them until they forget about driving altogether.
3. Have a relative or close friend "borrow" the car.
4. Hide or "lose" the keys.
5. Take the car in for repairs.
6. Disable the car.
7. Sell the car.
8. Hide your own car and car keys.

Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER

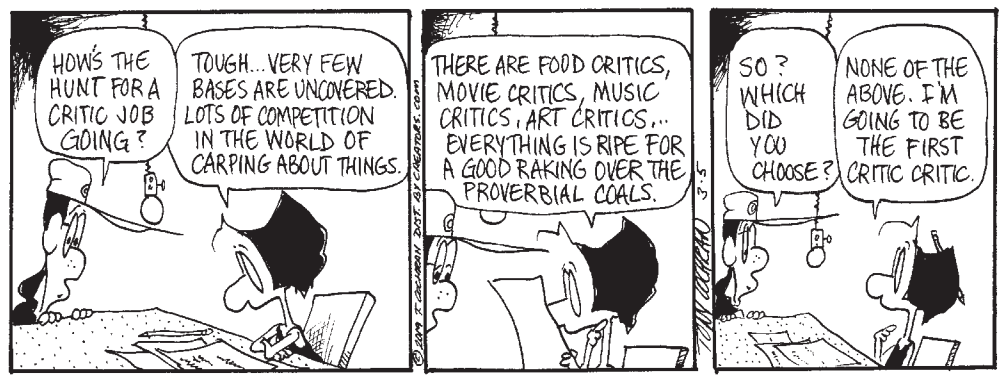


"THAT BOTHERS ME."

Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



Agnes
By TONY COCHRAN



Dogs of C-Kennel
By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill
By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



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California's Supreme Court upholds pension rollback

SUDHIN THANAWALA
Associated Press

The California Supreme Court on Monday upheld a decision by state lawmakers to rollback one way for public workers to pad their pensions, but avoided ruling on the larger issue of whether retirement benefits can be taken away once promised.

At issue in the unanimous decision was a provision of a 2012 pension reform law that ended the ability of public workers to pay for more years of service for a more lucrative pension when they retire. The law, backed by former Gov. Jerry Brown, sought to rein in costs and end practices viewed as abuses of the system.

Attorneys for a union argued that the elimination of additional retirement service credits violated a long line of California court rulings that have made pension benefits for existing employees sacrosanct. Those court decisions established the "California Rule," which says workers enter a contract with their employer on their first day of work that entitles them to retirement benefits that can never be diminished unless replaced with similar benefits.

Critics of the rule, along with employee unions, were keeping a close eye on the case because it had the potential to upend the California Rule. But the justices sidestepped the issue by ruling that additional retirement service credits were not "core pension rights" that lawmakers were contractually bound to honor.

"In the absence of constitutional protection, the opportunity to purchase ARS credit could be altered or eliminated at the discretion of the Legislature" and the court had "no occasion in this decision to address, let alone to alter, the continued application of the California Rule," Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye wrote in an opinion joined by the six other justices.

A group representing public employee unions downplayed the court's decision to uphold the elimination of retirement service credits.

"The decision was not unexpected," Ted Toppin, chairman of Californians for Retirement Security, said in a statement. The group had filed a brief in the case. "More importantly, the Supreme Court leaves intact the California Rule, holding that vested benefits cannot be impaired."

The opinion was balanced and showed no inclination on the part of the court to repudiate the California Rule in any future decisions, said Gregg McLean Adam, an attorney for the union representing state firefighters that challenged the elimination of service credits.

"I don't see anything in this decision that suggests that the court wants to make a radical break from the last 70 years of California law," he said.

The California Rule gives workers security that their retirement will be safe and predictable after a career in public service. But it also ties lawmakers' hands in responding to exploding pension costs — a problem for the state, cities, counties, schools, fire districts and other local bodies.

Roughly a dozen states observe a variation of the California Rule, so a decision to alter it could have implications beyond California.

Pension reform advocates blasted the court for failing to address the rule.

"We're disappointed that the liberal California Supreme Court once again is serving as a barrier to common-sense reform of unsustainable and indefensible gold-plated government pension payouts," Carl DeMaio, chairman of Reform California, said in a statement. "These government pension abuses must be reformed or California taxpayers will face a future of higher taxes, fewer services, and bankruptcy in our cities and school districts."

The justices said the ability to purchase additional years of service, unlike traditional pension benefits, was optional and not a form of deferred compensation tied to the amount of a time an employee works. The court equated service credits to other "optional benefits" such as health care and life insurance.

"We have never suggested that this type of benefit is entitled to protection under the contract clause," Cantil-Sakauye said.

The justices are considering several other pension cases, so they may address the California Rule in another case.

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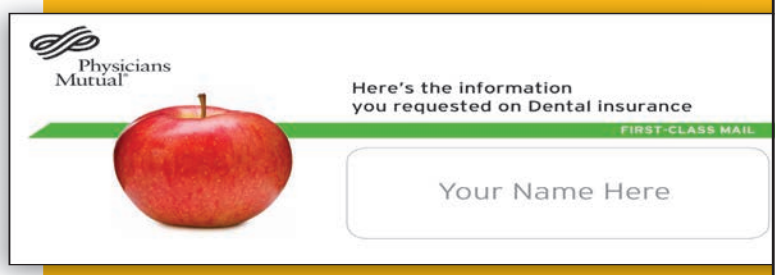


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