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Santa Monica Daily Press
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'Vision Zero' projects hope to put the brakes on dangerous collisions

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Lawn signs, road posts and pedestrian streetlights are popping up around Santa Monica as the city works toward an ambitious goal of eliminating traffic fatalities by 2026.

The City of Santa Monica is distributing 2,000 lawn signs to households this month that encourage safe driving in school zones and residential areas, but most of its Vision Zero efforts involve infrastructure improvements aimed at making specific intersections and corridors safer. The City adopted the goal in 2016, following cities like Los Angeles and San Francisco, branding the campaign with the slogan "Take the Friendly Road."

Los Angeles struggled to realize its goal in the first two years after it adopted Vision Zero, with pedestrian deaths surging 80 percent between 2015 and 2017, and Santa Monica also experienced a spike in fatalities. Nine people died in 2017, up from an average of four to five per year between 2006 and 2016.

Pedestrians and bicyclists make up 70 percent of those fatalities on average and accidents are mainly caused by drivers who fail to yield, speed or drive under the influence, said principal transportation planner Jason Kligier. People 55 and older make up almost half of pedestrian fatalities and injuries but comprise only 27 percent of the population, he added.

Last year, however, there were no fatalities, Kligier said. Still, 40 percent of residents reported they feel uncomfortable navigating Santa Monica's streets.

The City has been taking a targeted approach to road safety as it tries to make pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers feel safer.

SEE **VISION ZERO** PAGE 6



Courtesy photo

WAGES: Santa Monica City Attorney Lane Dilg (center) with Supervisor Kuehl and Solis with the recognized community partners and the Wage Enforcement team of the Dept. of Consumer and Business Affairs. See Page 3 for more information.

Missing swimmer triggers ocean search

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Emergency service personnel are searching the Santa Monica coast for a swimmer who went missing after signaling for help Tuesday morning.

According to Los Angeles County Lifeguard spokesman Pono Barnes a swimmer was about 110-120 yards offshore when they began waving their arms and asking for help at about 11:02 a.m. A lifeguard saw the swimmer between Towers 9 and 10 near the California Incline. The lifeguard immediately swam

SEE **SWIMMER** PAGE 6

Victims of Eric Uller file claims against the City of Santa Monica

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Six victims of Eric Uller have filed claims against the City of Santa Monica and the Santa Monica Police Activities League (PAL) for failing to protect them from sexual abuse inflicted by Uller.

Los Angeles-based law firm Taylor & Ring filed the claims Monday on behalf of the six anonymous men who allege Uller sexually abused them while he was a volunteer in the PAL youth program during the 1990s. The claims allege the City and PAL intentionally did not investigate and covered up

SEE **ULLER** PAGE 7

TV stars and coaches charged in college bribery scheme

BY ALANNA DURKIN RICHER AND COLLIN BINKLEY
Associated Press

Fifty people, including Hollywood stars Felicity Huffman and Lori Loughlin, were charged Tuesday in a scheme in which wealthy parents allegedly bribed college coaches and other insiders to get their children into some of the nation's most elite schools.

Federal authorities called it the biggest college admissions scam ever prosecuted by the U.S. Justice Department, with the parents accused of paying an estimated $25 million in bribes.

At least nine athletic coaches and 33 parents, many of them prominent in law, finance,

SEE **BRIBERY** PAGE 11

Isabel A. Ash Esq.
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CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPSAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Proposals for:

OWNER'S ENGINEER FOR THE OLYMPIC WELL FIELD RESTORATION AND ARCADIA WATER TREATMENT PLANT EXPANSION PROJECT - SP2602

The City of Santa Monica is inviting proposals from firms interested in providing design services for the Owner's Engineer for the Olympic Well Field Restoration and Arcadia Water Treatment Plant Expansion Project.

The City of Santa Monica is inviting proposals from qualified persons or firms interested in the Owner's Representative or Owner's Engineer (OE or Consultant) for the Olympic Well Field Restoration and Arcadia Water Treatment Plant Expansion Project for a duration of approximately four (4) years.

RFP questions to be submitted to Sunny Wang via email at: sunny.wang@smgov.net, no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 28, 2019.

Proposers shall provide one (1) electronic version of their proposal to Sunny Wang via email at sunny.wang@smgov.net, and three (3) hardcopies to the address instructed in the RFP, no later than **3:00 p.m. on April 5, 2019**. **Size of the electronic proposal shall not exceed 10 MB.**

RFP Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: http://www.smgov.net/planetbids/.

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

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

OLYMPIC WELL FIELD RESTORATION AND ARCADIA WATER TREATMENT PLANT EXPANSION PROJECT SP2602

Statement of Qualifications shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Department of Public Works - Water Resources Division Office at 1212 5th Street, 3rd Floor, Santa Monica, CA 90401, not later than 3:00 p.m. on March 28, 2019, to be publicly opened and read aloud after 3:00 p.m. on said date in the Water Resources Office Conference Room. Each Statement of Qualifications shall be in accordance with the Request for Qualifications.

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $33,000,000

SOQ questions to be submitted to Sunny Wang via email at: sunny.wang@smgov.net, no later than 3:00 p.m. on March 28, 2019.

Contractors shall provide one (1) USB flash drive with a searchable electronic PDF format, and five (5) hardcopies to the address instructed in the RFQ, no later than **3:00 p.m. on April 11, 2019.**

Request for Qualification 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 A license at the time of Statement of Qualification submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Statement of Qualifications containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request of Qualifications.

What's Up Westside
OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, March 13

ACT Workshop
Presented in partnership with Virginia Ave Park, sign up for a free, 5-week workshop that will help you ace the ACT. Facilitated by Study Smart Tutors. Space is limited and registration for the entire series is required. To register, stop by the Pico Branch or contact Jaime Cruz at the VAP Teen Center at (310) 458-8688 ext. 5474. Pico Branch Library 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Montana Mystery Book Group: Desert Heat
A cop lies dying beneath the blistering Arizona sun. The police brass claim that Andy Brady was dirty, and that his shooting was a suicide attempt. Joanna Brady, his devoted wife and mother of their nine-year-old daughter, knows a cover-up when she hears one ... and murder when she sees it. But her determined efforts to hunt down an assassin and clear her husband's name are placing Joanna and her surviving family in harm's way. Montana Avenue Branch Library 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Susan Crawford on Fiber: The Coming Tech Revolution
Harvard Law Professor Susan Crawford gives a talk based on her new book "Fiber: The Coming Tech Revolution - and Why America Might Miss it." She argues that the massive bandwidth available through fiber optic connectivity will drive the next wave of social change, and that tech companies are lobbying against new infrastructure which would threaten their power. A book sale and signing follows the talk. Main Library Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium 7 - 8:30 p.m.

The Commission on the Status of Women Regular Meeting
The Commission on the Status of Women works to ensure that Santa Monica is a place where women and girls can fully realize their potential and have a strong voice in all aspects of the community. Ken Edwards Center 7 p.m.

Lunch & Learn
Learn about trends in homelessness and how we can help be a part of the solution. 12-1:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Center (204 Hampton Drive, Venice). $20 (suggested donation)

Thursday, March 14

College Applications: Mapping Out Your Story
Learn how to approach each piece of the application– from personal statements and letters for recommendation, to interviews and "demonstrated interest." Presented by Nick Soper, of Creative College Prep and TeenLAUNCH. Grades 9-12 Main Library Multipurpose Room, 2nd Floor 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Screening: The Wife (2017)
Based on a novel about the wife of a Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist, who may have a little more of a role in his work than has been previously acknowledged. This film won Glenn Close a Best Actress award at the Golden Globes. (film runtime 101 min.) Main Library 6:30 - 8:15 p.m.

Santa Monica Rent Control Regular Board Meeting
The Rent Control Board meets to conduct business associated with the Rent Control Charter Amendment and Regulations. City Hall Council Chamber 7 p.m.

New Roads School presents Chicago: High School Musical
The New Roads School's performing Arts Department presents Chicago: High School Musical. Based on America's longest running Broadway Musical, featuring original choreography and direction by New Roads' award-winning team at the school's Moss Theater. March 14-17. Tickets are $10 for students and seniors, $15 for adults. To purchase, to go to: https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4101425

Friday, March 15

Word I (MS Office 2016)
Introduction to using Microsoft Word 2016 to create and format basic documents. Intermediate level. Seating is first come, first served. For more information, please visit the Reference Desk or call 310-434-2608. Main Library.

March 16

Little Shop of Horrors
"Little Shop of Horrors" runs March 16 through April 13 at the Morgan-Wixson Theatre, 2627 Pico Blvd. Featuring an electrifying 1960s-style score from Alan Menken and book and lyrics by Howard Ashman, this beloved horror musical comedy is one of the longest running Off-Broadway shows of all time. Ages 12 and up. $28/adults, $23/students and seniors. Call (310) 828-7519 or visit morgan-wixson.org.

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

City of Santa Monica Recognized for Minimum Wage Work by Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

At its meeting today, March 12, 2019, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors recognized City of Santa Monica, the Santa Monica City Attorney's Office and the L.A. County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs for their commitment to minimum wage outreach and enforcement.

City Attorney Lane Dilg attended the meeting to accept the scroll and shared, "In Santa Monica, we are committed to maintaining a diverse and inclusive community, and a business environment characterized by honest work and fair pay. We're grateful to DCBA for their partnership, and we look forward to continued efforts to ensure that an honest day's work in our City is always paid an honest and fair wage."

In 2016, Santa Monica contracted with DCBA to enforce our local Minimum Wage Ordinance. That partnership has resulted in the prosecutions of two hotel gift shops, a major hotel, and a janitorial company. Over the last year and a half, there has been extensive outreach to Santa Monica businesses.

The recognition was arranged by Supervisor Sheila Kuehl and Supervisor Hilda Solis.

"L.A. County under the leadership of DCBA has gotten so good at minimum wage enforcement that other cities have asked us to help them. In my district, one of those cities is Santa Monica," said Supervisor Kuehl. "To date, more than $43,000 in back wages has been collected for 75 employees. I want to commend DCBA's team for their outstanding work helping my district enforce the minimum wage ordinance and ensure that a hard day's work is rewarded with a fair day's pay."

"Wage enforcement is an important issue for County residents, especially for people who work in industries prone to wage theft," said Supervisor Solis, who also served as Secretary of Labor under President Obama. "As a result of the Board's approval of my 2016 motion, in which the Board of Supervisors prioritized enforcement of wage violations, we have made a big impact. The implementation of the Wage Enforcement Program, which could not be possible without the partnership of the LA County Workplace Justice Collaborative and the City of Santa Monica, has resulted in over 6,000 inquiries. We have helped over 1,300 employees collect more than $200,000 in back wages. I look forward to continuing our partnerships in order to help workers earn their fair share and help businesses come into compliance."

For more information about minimum wage in Santa Monica, visit www.smgov.net/minimumwage.

SUBMITTED BY CONSTANCE FARRELL, SANTA MONICA PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

LOS ANGELES

Southern California mountains get heavy snow

Heavy snow fell in the mountains of Southern California as winter took a late-season shot at the region.

The National Weather Service said a winter storm warning was in effect until noon Tuesday.

Chains are required on many high elevation routes, and it was a snow day for students of the Bear Valley, Snowline and Rim of the World school districts in the San Bernardino Mountains.

A popular webcam showing bald eagles caring for two eggs near Big Bear showed the nest covered in snow.

The rest of Southern California experienced weather ranging from sprinkles and drizzle to dry conditions.

After a very wet and chilly winter there are signs of spring.

Forecasters say the region could be in for a big warm-up by the weekend.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Man charged in killing of girl found in duffel bag

Los Angeles prosecutors have charged a man in the killing of a 9-year-old girl whose body was found in a duffel bag along a suburban horse trail.

Emiel Hunt was charged Tuesday with murder in the killing of Trinity Love Jones.

The girl's body was found March 5 in the Los Angeles-area suburb of Hacienda Heights.

Hunt faces arraignment Tuesday in Los Angeles County Superior Court in Pomona.

Authorities have not released information on the 38-year-old's connection to the girl or information about how she was killed.

Prosecutors say Hunt has a previous child abuse conviction from 2005 in San Diego County.

If convicted, Hunt faces a sentence of up to 50 years to life in state prison.

Hunt was in custody and could not be reached for comment.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Police seek information in off-campus killing of USC student

The emotionally shaken family of a University of Southern California student killed during an off-campus robbery attempt asked Tuesday that anyone with information about possible suspects call Los Angeles police investigators.

Music student Victor McElhaney, 21, was shot early Sunday after leaving a market with friends.

Detectives were searching for three or four male suspects who fled in a newer model, dark sedan, police Capt. Billy Hayes said.

The victim's mother, Oakland City Councilwoman Lynette McElhaney, described her son's life from a high-risk pregnancy through an early talent for drumming to his start of classes at USC.

"Victor's not a homicide number or statistic, or just another black boy gunned down in South Central Los Angeles," she said. "I want you all to know that Victor came into the world a drummer. He was drumming from the moment he could sit up."

Her son was an inquisitive young man who believed music could heal the world, she said.

Police say the group of students was confronted shortly after midnight at the market about a mile from campus. McElhaney was shot as the assailants rifled through the victims' pockets, Hayes said.

McElhaney was in critical condition when he was rushed to a hospital and later died.

"We're looking at this as a robbery attempt that went bad," Hayes said.

McElhaney transferred to USC in 2017 to study jazz at the Thornton School of Music. Friends said he was a member of USC's Center for Black Cultural and Student Affairs and mentored young musicians. He also taught at the Oakland Public Conservatory of Music.

Victor's father, Clarence McElhaney, tearfully urged anyone with information to speak up. "Silence is worse than the bullet that killed my son," he said.

The family had previously suffered through the killing of 17-year-old Torian Hughes, who Lynette McElhaney helped raise and described as her grandson. Hughes was shot on an Oakland street in what prosecutors described as robbery attempt. Trial for a suspect, Shiheim Johnson, is currently underway in an Alameda County court.

In 2014, 24-year-old USC student Xinran Ji died after an attack by four people as he walked home from a study group near campus. He made it back to his apartment and died before he was found by a roommate.

The attackers were convicted and sent to prison.

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Consumer Corner

By Gary Rhoades
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Beware of Mandatory Arbitration Clauses in Rental Leases

In December 2015, a fire broke out in an apartment building on Ocean Front Walk in Santa Monica. Fortunately, no one was injured; but the fire rendered the apartments uninhabitable. Most of the tenants had lived there for more than ten years and were low-income, seniors, or disabled. They did not have the means to suddenly move somewhere else.

The building's corporate owner refused to pay relocation costs to the tenants. In most cases, the owner instead tried to terminate the tenancy. There were also serious allegations of neglect at the building including lack of adequate heating, faulty wiring, persistent water leaks, mold, and infestations. So, in 2016, nine of the tenants sued the landlord, alleging violations under the local tenant relocation laws, local and state eviction laws, and state habitability laws.

Despite the many allegations, the threshold issue in that court case ended up being over an "mandatory arbitration" clause that the owner had required the tenants to sign just before the fire. In December 2014, the owner had demanded that the tenants sign a 14-page, pre-printed rental agreement that had a two-page, single-spaced, ALL-CAPS paragraph on arbitration. This long and dense provision attempted to bar the tenant from suing the owner in court for any dispute regarding their tenancy. It required the tenants to instead take nearly all disputes to an expensive arbitration firm of the owner's choice.

With that arbitration clause in hand — a clause which hardly any of the tenants had read or understood back in 2014 — the owner responded to the tenants' lawsuit with a Motion to Compel Arbitration. The litigation over that motion — deciding whether the tenants had signed away their rights under those dubious circumstances — lasted two years.

The inclusion of mandatory arbitration clauses in contracts, whether for rental housing, a car, or downloading a new app, has skyrocketed in this past decade. Like other businesses, some landlords attempt to limit their liability and their exposure to court costs and attorney's fees by including mandatory arbitration clauses in their leases.

And because the courts have favored the use of arbitration, it's been much more difficult to fight them or even to shop around for better terms. Still, there are a few things tenants can do to minimize any loss of rights:

- Make a thorough review of the rental agreement for an arbitration clause before signing.
- Watch for signs of unconscionability—that is, excessive unfairness in either the terms or the way the landlord presented the lease. Signs included: 1) High-pressure tactics to get a tenant to sign off on an arbitration clause; 2) Lack of understanding by a tenant of what he or she is signing; and, 3) Harsh terms such as removing the ability to get attorneys' fees or requiring the tenant to pay expensive arbitration fees.
- Avoid waiving the right to a jury in an eviction case.

In the case of the Ocean Front Walk tenants, the trial court ruled that the provision and the circumstances could be examined for unconscionability. Among other things, the court found that since the tenants did not understand in 2014 that they had a choice to refuse to sign the arbitration clause and since the new attorney's fees provision presented a "formidable obstacle" to the tenants' ability to hire a lawyer to help them, the provision was unenforceable as unconscionable.

Last year, an appellate court agreed with the trial court, and the tenants are now preparing for the trial they deserved.

It's always smart to look for less expensive alternatives to litigation by using alternative dispute resolution methods such as mediation and arbitration. However, mandatory arbitration terms often put tenants at a disadvantage and therefore tenants should take care to identify and limit them.

Gary Rhoades is a Deputy City Attorney in the Consumer Protection Division of the Santa Monica City Attorney's Office.

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Curious City

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A Sports Field, Hooray!

I HATE TO BE WRONG

But sometimes that's a good thing.

I have never had a problem admitting it when I'm wrong. (I can hear some of you saying, of course — so much practice.)

Yes, sometimes I'm quick to mea culpa, sometimes I have to think about it.

We all make mistakes. Big deal. I figure why compound it by making the mistake of not owning up to it. Plus, it's amazing how it can change the mood and the direction of discourse when you do.

Let me begin by saying I wasn't all in at first on a playing field on the grounds of the Civic Auditorium. Seemed only partially appropriate for that civic area. Playing fields should be scattered all over the community, and that particular property, I felt, should make maximum use of the auditorium and related activities that could serve everyone, not just athletes and their families.

But I saw the light. You have across-the-street proximity to Samohi, and as I began to understand how critically those students needed another field, and how desperately the city needed another one, I got on board. In fact when I got up to put in my two cents at one of the three Civic Working Group meetings a couple years ago, I asked someone to pull back the blinds of the meeting room and I pointed to Samohi, right across the street. Common sense. Not to mention that it was in the earlier City plan and had been promised by City Council since 2002, or at least '04.

WHAT DIDN'T MAKE SENSE – AT ALL

Was building that boondoggle giveaway Early Childhood Lab School (ECLS) there. I hope every time you drive past it you see it as a monument to how corrupt your City leaders were/are, to give (and I emphasize "give") SMC, RAND and City employees, few of whom live in SM and pay taxes here, an expensive perk like that for their kids, and give it away on our tax dollars with "terms" that would make The Donald cackle with glee.

("Corrupt" is a serious term. I believe it fits here, and in a many other areas in our City government and elections. "A willingness to act dishonestly in return for money or personal gain," and I might add, at the expense of others and the greater good.)

It began to look like that ECLS might become the excuse for conveniently denying the playing field, just adjacent to it. Oh dear, the building expanded somehow and now there's not enough room left for a playing field. We knew city movers and snakers would fight to the last breath for that inappropriately-located high end kindergarten (RAND Corp. had already donated a quarter million dollars to build it right there, decades ago), and when the entire process the last few years always seemed to give first favor to ELCS and last to the playing field, I couldn't help myself from thinking that every time City Manager Rick Cole promised, passionately, that the playing field would be built, he knew there was a scheme in place to allow him to throw up his hands at the last minute in mock despair and cry oh my gosh, who could have seen that coming, out of our control, we sure tried.

BUT – NO

It would appear that Cole was being straight with us, that he was fighting for it, and effectively. It is now assured, with Coastal Commission approval last week, that it will be built. Hooray!! I was told by those at that meeting that he spoke brilliantly in defense of it, and making it very clear he we did not need to maintain parking there, as had been argued.

So, my apologies to City Manager Cole for having impure thoughts. Thank you, and to long-time advocates like Maryanne LaGuardia (who credited architect and now Planning Commissioner Mario Fonda-Bernardi with coming up with a schematic around 2002 that proved a field there was possible), Ann Bowman, Jaleh Mirhashemi, Phil Brock and so many others way too numerous to list. It takes a village, but you have to have some who will step to the front and not step back, no matter what.

Boy, would I love to write more about this kind of drama and backroom intrigue — with happy results, instead of what our City Fathers and Mothers usually "gift' us with. See, you can do it, and I and others will write about it, and you will be recognized and adored and re-elected without having to spend six figures and sell your souls. You could have a legacy your grandchildren could point to with pride… instead of what you've got now.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

H.R. 1, the For the People Act, the strongest, most comprehensive pro-democracy reform legislation since Watergate, with laws protecting voters' rights, disclosure of secret money, redistricting reform and enabling small-donor matching fund elections, just passed Monday afternoon in House of Representatives. Will the GOP-controlled Senate also pass it? Doubt it. Republicans have for some decades been dedicated to suppressing voting rights. But don't we need something like that here in Santa Monica?

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"If it can't be reduced, repaired, rebuilt, refurbished, refinished, resold, recycled or composted, then it should be restricted, redesigned or removed from production." – Pete Seeger

---

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

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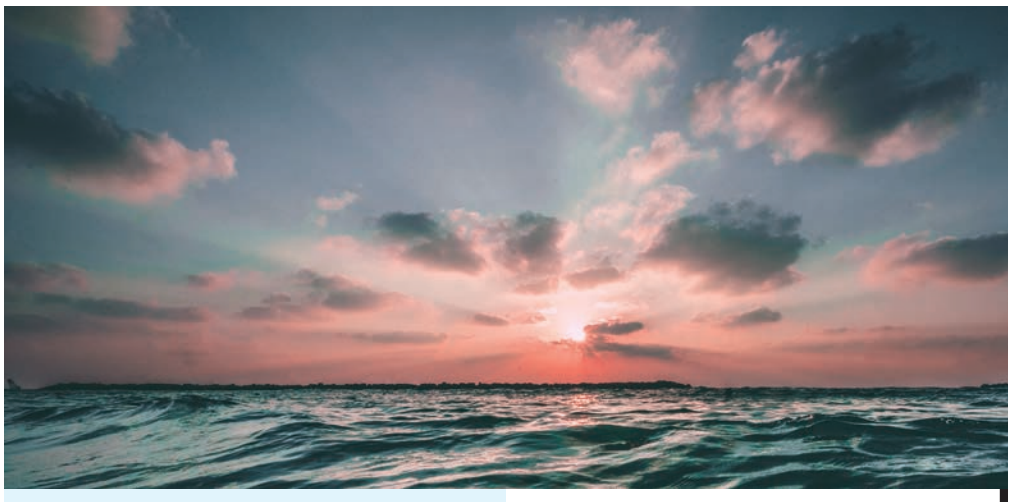
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VISION ZERO

FROM PAGE 1

Planners examine the movement of cars, bikes and pedestrians of different intersections and install infrastructure to make the flow more predictable.

For example, at the intersection of Lincoln and Pico Boulevards, the City installed flexible posts down the middle of Pico to regulate traffic and posted signs telling drivers to slow down.

"The nine driveways off the intersection and the high volume and speed of vehicles created too many conflict points," Kligier told the Planning Commission last Wednesday.

The City has also installed 50 new pedestrian intervals, which are streetlights that give pedestrians a headstart on cars at intersections, 15 miles per hour school zones at four campuses with six more scheduled, baller posts around bike lanes and electronic signs that tell motorists to slow down.

"People are very aware that driving under the influence is bad and the police department does DUI checkpoints, but a growing body of research says speeding is just as dangerous, which is why a lot of our campaign messages simply ask drivers to slow down," Kligier said.

It will also be holding community meetings in the late spring and fall as it conducts a safety study of Wilshire Boulevard, a hotspot for crashes. The new lawn signs and other messaging, such as bus ads about scooter rules, are also intended to make the community more aware of Vision Zero's goals – and hopefully avoid the backlash that Los Angeles experienced as it tried to implement its own projects, such as a 2017 plan to eliminate traffic lanes on a commuting route in Playa del Rey.

"We want to get support for safety projects that could reduce vehicle speed and throughput," Kligier said.

madeleine@smdp.com

SWIMMER

FROM PAGE 1

out, but the swimmer went below the water before they arrived.

Dive teams were mobilized including three rescue boats, helicopter support and additional resources from the Santa Monica Harbor Patrol, Fire Department and Police Department. High winds and rough sees forced lifeguards to suspend the dive portion of the search at about 3 p.m. on Tuesday. A Marine Technical Search Team continued to scan the ocean floor with specialized sonar equipment and Barnes said search efforts would continue throughout the night with divers scheduled to go back into the water at about 8 a.m. Wednesday.

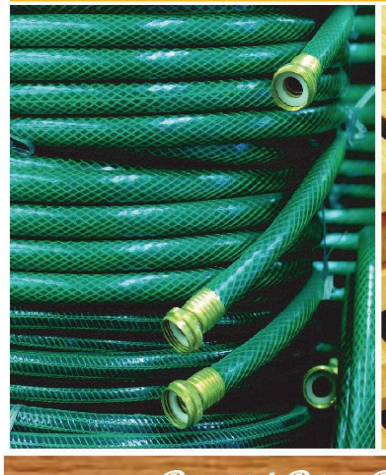
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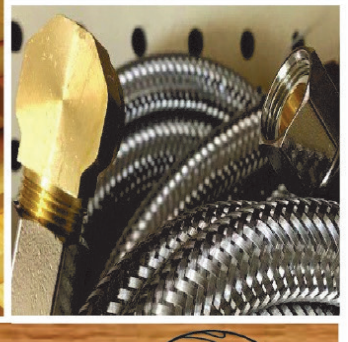
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California agencies at odds over Colorado River drought plan

FELICIA FONSECA AND JONATHAN J. COOPER
Associated Press

A major Southern California water agency is trying to push the state through a final hurdle in joining a larger plan to preserve a key river in the U.S. West that serves 40 million people.

Most of the seven states that get water from the Colorado River have signed off on plans to keep the waterway from crashing amid a prolonged drought, climate change and increased demands. But California and Arizona have not, missing deadlines from the federal government.

Arizona has some work to do but nothing major holding it back. California, however, has two powerful water agencies fighting over how to get the drought contingency plan approved before U.S. officials possibly impose their own rules for water going to California, Arizona and Nevada.

The Metropolitan Water District is positioning itself to shoulder California's entire water contribution, with its board voting Tuesday on a proposal to essentially write out of the drought plan another agency that gets more Colorado River water than anyone else.

That agency, the Imperial Irrigation District, has said it won't approve the plan unless the federal government agrees to commit $200 million to address the Salton Sea, a massive, briny lake southeast of Los Angeles that has become an environmental and health hazard in the Imperial and Coachella valleys.

The Metropolitan Water District would have to provide what could be nearly 2 million acre-feet of water between 2020 and 2026. An acre-foot serves about one to two average households a year.

That water would be stored behind Lake Mead on the Arizona-Nevada line to keep the key reservoir from dropping to drastically low levels. Water is delivered through Lake Mead to Arizona, California and Nevada.

"The more we delay, the harder it is to hold that deal together," Metropolitan general manager Jeff Kightlinger said.

California isn't required to contribute water under the drought plan unless Lake Mead drops to 1,045 feet (319 meters), which might not ever happen. But if it does, the Imperial Irrigation District said the public would likely demand that it contribute as the agency with the largest and oldest rights to Colorado River water.

"The way to arrive at a resilient and durable drought contingency plan is for the parties to work through the Salton Sea issue, not around it," Imperial general manager Henry Martinez told a Metropolitan Water District committee Monday. "Our two agencies have shown that we can do good things for the river and each other when we take the long view, and that capacity to see past the moment is what's urgently needed now."

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has given governors or their representatives in the seven states until March 19 to recommend the next steps after California and Arizona failed to meet its deadlines.

Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming wrote to the Colorado River Board of California over the weekend, urging California to unite with them in seeking authorization from Congress for the drought plans. Without it, the states won't be able to implement the plans, Mexico won't contribute water and the federal government will step in and decide what to do, the states said.

The states and the Bureau of Reclamation said they support Imperial's call for federal funding for the Salton Sea.

Imperial can work on its own timeline for the salty lake because the drought plan isn't expected to negatively affect it, Reclamation Commissioner Brenda Burman said. The irrigation district can sign on now or join in the future, she said.

Fonseca reported from Flagstaff, Arizona.

ULLER

FROM PAGE 1

numerous allegations made against Uller that demonstrated he was sexually abusing young boys he met through the program.

The City launched an internal investigation late last year into allegations that City staff covered up Uller's crimes. Uller, who was also a City employee, was found dead in his apartment last November shortly before he was scheduled to appear in court on multiple felony counts of lewd acts upon a child, oral copulation of a person under 18 and continuous sexual abuse.

Lead counsel David Ring said Uller groomed his clients when they were young boys with the intent to gain their trust so he could molest them and coerce them not to tell anyone.

The City has 45 days to respond to the claims filed Monday, Ring said. If it rejects the claims, Taylor & Ring will file a lawsuit against the City. Another victim of Uller, Rogelio Monroy, announced plans to sue the City in November but the lawsuit has not yet been filed.

Ring said if his firm litigates the case, he will present witnesses who can testify that they complained to City staff about Uller while he was a PAL volunteer. The City did not address their complaints, he said.

"It's despicable that the City and PAL chose to protect their own jobs and reputations rather than protect the numerous young boys who were abused by Uller for two decades," Ring said. "They knew of multiple allegations against Uller, yet did nothing to investigate the complaints and covered up the information, allowing him unfettered access to young boys."

Ring said he hopes the City resolves the claims rather than litigating them.

"I really hope the City does the right thing and makes a good faith effort to resolve these claims quickly, which is in the best interest of the City and the victims," he said.

A City spokesperson said it has not yet been served with the claims.

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"

Discover the History: Women's Service Organizations throughout the Years
Saturday, March 16, 3-4:30 p.m.
at Santa Monica History Museum FREE • *Hosted by Santa Monica History Museum*

"My Own Words" by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg
Wednesday, March 20, 7-8:30 p.m.
at Montana Branch Library FREE • *Hosted by Santa Monica Public Library Montana Branch*

League of Women Voters: Women Who Shape Santa Monica
Thursday, March 21, 7-10 p.m.
at Ocean House PAID • *Hosted by League of Women Voters*

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a full list of events and more details

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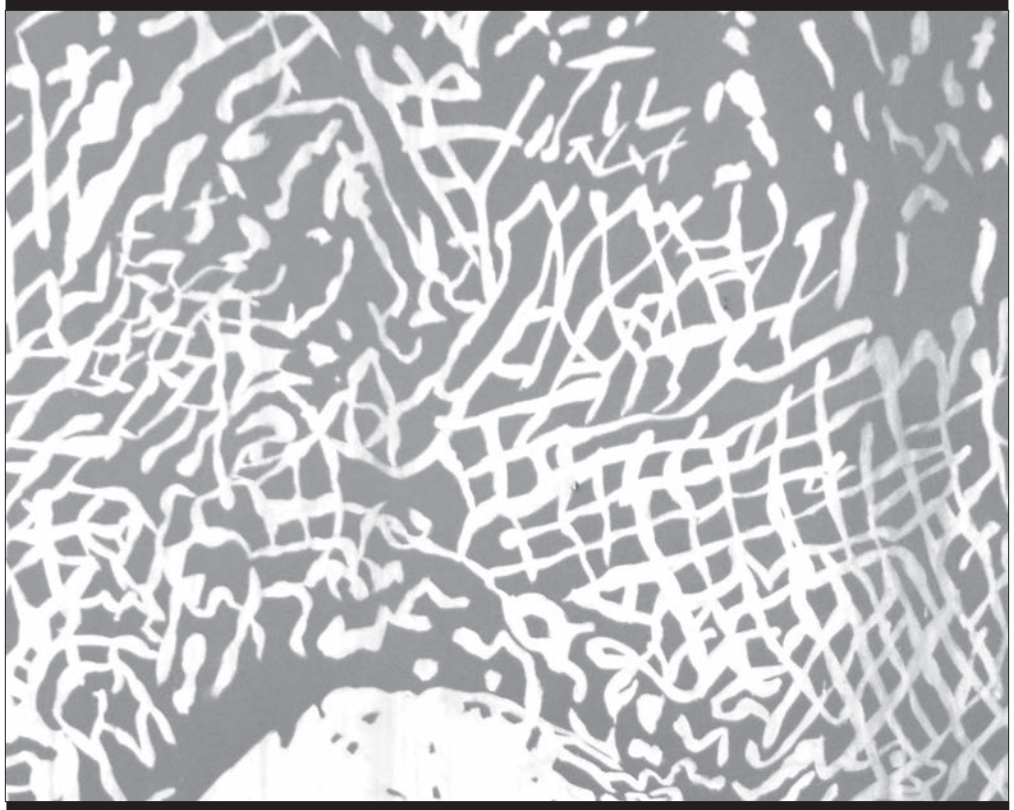
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DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 333 CALLS ON MARCH 11

Fight 1600blk Cloverfield Blvd 12:54 a.m.
Living in a vehicle 900blk Ocean Ave 3:55 a.m.
Fight 1400blk 12th St 5:07 a.m.
Grand theft auto 2300blk 14th St 6:55 a.m.
Petty theft 1600blk Cloverfield Blvd 6:59 a.m.
Periodic check 2600blk Ocean Park Blvd 8:03 a.m.
Auto burglary 1400blk Yale St 8:17 a.m.
Petty theft 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:32 a.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 3100blk 6th St 8:52 a.m.
Petty theft 2000blk Ocean Front Walk 9:26 a.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 16th St / Ocean Park Blvd 10:43 a.m.
Speeding Lincoln Blvd / Interstate 10 10:52 a.m.
Lewd activity 3100blk Main St 11:00 a.m.
Burglary 1300blk San Vicente Blvd 11:12 a.m.
Found property 300blk Civic Center Dr 11:22 a.m.
Vehicle parked on sidewalk 500blk 12th St 11:28 a.m.
Person down 1100blk Pico Blvd 12:14 p.m.
Petty theft 3000blk Ocean Park Blvd 12:15 p.m.
Hit and run 1200blk 2nd St 12:23 p.m.
Failure to pay parking fee 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 12:35 p.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 2400blk 16th St 12:35 p.m.
Petty theft now 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 12:58 p.m.
Fraud 2700blk Wilshire Blvd 2:09 p.m.
Battery 5th St / Olympic Blvd W 2:17 p.m.
Lewd activity 300blk Santa Monica Pier 2:38 p.m.
Fraud 600blk Broadway 2:51 p.m.
Auto burglary 1300blk 4th St 2:53 p.m.
Auto burglary 1300blk Princeton St 2:54 p.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 100blk Georgina Ave 2:57 p.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 2700blk Wilshire Blvd 2:57 p.m.
Burglary 1300blk San Vicente Blvd 3:01 p.m.
Hit and run 20th St / Santa Monica Blvd 3:20 p.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 9th St / Michigan Ave 3:27 p.m.
Petty theft 1600blk Ocean Park Blvd 3:33 p.m.
Burglary 1300blk San Vicente Blvd 3:34 p.m.
Petty theft 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 3:43 p.m.
Burglary 2600blk Highland Ave 3:52 p.m.
Attempt strongarm robbery 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 4:01 p.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 1000blk Hill St 4:54 p.m.
Auto burglary 3100blk Highland Ave 5:11 p.m.
Traffic collision with injuries 23rd St / Hill St 5:37 p.m.
Speeding Ocean Ave / San Vicente Blvd 5:38 p.m.
Found senile person 2400blk 11th St 6:03 p.m.
Defrauding innkeeper 1700blk Ocean Ave 6:31 p.m.
Petty theft 900blk 7th St 6:38 p.m.
Drinking in public 2300blk 4th St 6:53 p.m.
Malicious mischief 3000blk 2nd St 7:04 p.m.
Drunk driving investigation Ocean Ave / Pico Blvd 7:14 p.m.
Petty theft 2600blk 2nd St 7:45 p.m.
Petty theft 1200blk 4th St 8:43 p.m.
Speeding Neilson Way / Marine St 9:54 p.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 10:32 p.m.
Auto burglary 1600blk Ocean Ave 11:11 p.m.
Petty theft now 700blk Broadway 11:50 p.m.
Strongarm robbery 17th St / Colorado Ave 11:51 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 38 CALLS ON MARCH 11

Emergency Medical Service Lincoln Blvd / Broadway 1:49 a.m.
EMS 1000blk Pico Blvd 2:03 a.m.
EMS 3rd Street Prom / Broadway 3:57 a.m.
EMS 2600blk Arizona Ave 5:38 a.m.
EMS 4th St / Arizona Ave 9:58 a.m.
EMS 33rd St / Pico Blvd 10:31 a.m.
EMS 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 10:36 a.m.
Traffic collision with injury 12th St / Santa Monica Blvd 11:06 a.m.
EMS 1800blk 21st St 11:14 a.m.
EMS 800blk Ocean Ave 11:25 a.m.
EMS 2200blk 27th St 11:33 a.m.
EMS 1500blk 5th St 11:56 a.m.
EMS 2900blk 31st St 12:27 p.m.
Automatic alarm 2200blk Colorado Ave 1 p.m.
EMS 2300blk Ocean Park Blvd 1:30 p.m.
EMS 5th St / Olympic Blvd W 2:19 p.m.
EMS 2600blk 29th St 2:33 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 16th St 2:42 p.m.
EMS 20th St / Santa Monica Blvd 3:21 p.m.
EMS 1800blk 21st St 3:53 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 4:03 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 23rd St 4:09 p.m.
EMS 1800blk 21st St 4:25 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1400blk 17th St 4:39 p.m.
EMS 800blk 11th St 4:42 p.m.
EMS 1000blk 3rd St 5:17 p.m.
Traffic collision with injury 23rd St / Hill St 5:37 p.m.
EMS Main St / Pico Blvd 6:29 p.m.
EMS 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 7:14 p.m.
EMS 1000blk 12th St 7:41 p.m.
EMS 1800blk 17th St 8:46 p.m.
EMS 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 9:05 p.m.
EMS 100blk Wilshire Blvd 10:20 p.m.
Automatic alarm 2000blk Arizona Ave 10:51 p.m.
Automatic alarm 100blk California Ave 10:54 p.m.
EMS 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 11:07 p.m.
Carbon monoxide alarm 3100blk Highland Ave 11:15 p.m.
EMS 12th St / Colorado Ave 11:55 p.m.

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DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 3/9
5 6 45 55 59
Power#: 14
Jackpot: $448 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/8
4 9 42 62 68
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: $50 M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 3/9
6 14 19 22 39
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: $26 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/11
6 14 15 16 30

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 3/12
Midday: 9 6 0
Draw Date: 3/11
Evening: 3 2 1

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 3/11
1st: 10 - SOLID GOLD
2nd: 1 - GOLD RUSH
3rd: 5 - CALIFORNIA CLASSIC
RACE TIME: 1:45.91

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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 58.5°

WEDNESDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4 ft+ waist to shoulder high occ. 5 ft
Old NW swell drops out. New NW swell moving in while mixing with NW windswell. Small SSW swell. Winds/conditions may offer a window in the AM.

THURSDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4 ft+ waist to shoulder high
Steep new NW swell tops out. Small SSW swell. Conditions look favorable.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

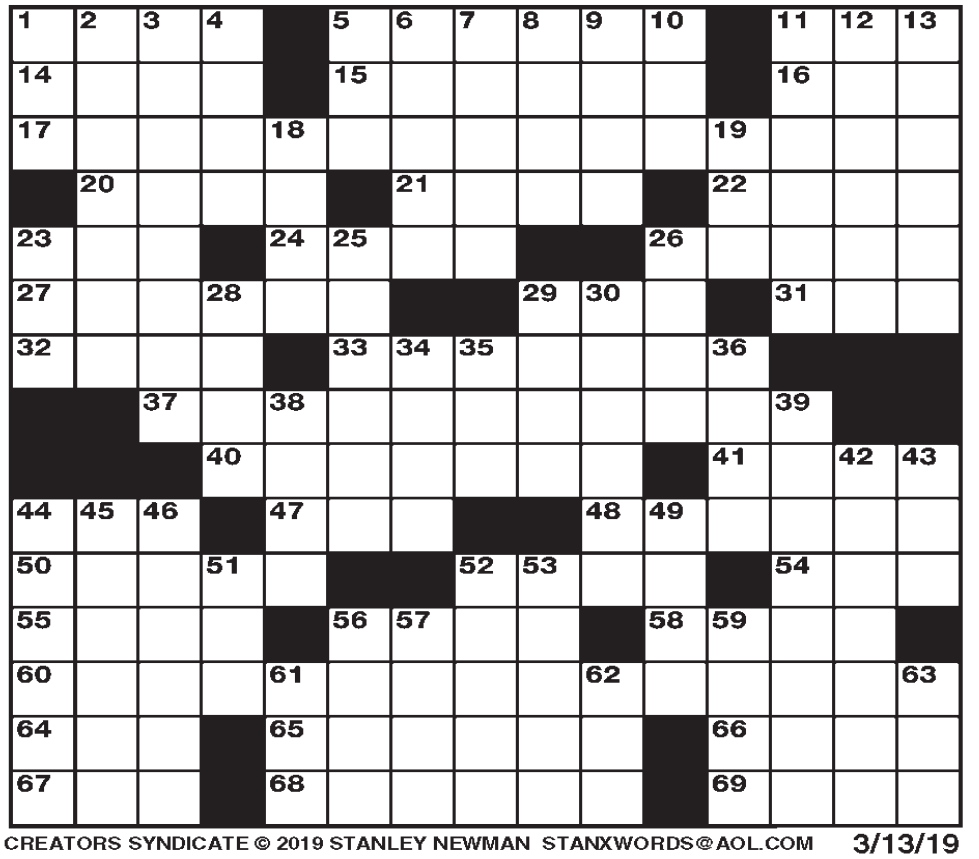
	2	4	9					
5	9			8		7		1
3				6			8	
9		2						
7	5			2			4	8
						2		9
	8			4				3
1		5		9			6	2
					8	4	1	

Newsday Crossword

BACK TO THE SOIL by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Did an imitation of
5 Big Mac ingredient
11 Words from sponsors
14 Prefix meaning "one"
15 Fast-growing tree
16 Espionage org.
17 Don't give an inch
20 *Peter Pan* pirate
21 Barely-passing grades
22 Mr. Flintstone
23 "__ goes there?"
24 Periods of history
26 Look without blinking
27 Bullfighter
29 French friend
31 Junior, to Senior
32 Flower stalk
33 Get rid of
37 Spread gossip
40 Thorny hybrid plant
41 Word-of-mouth
44 "This minute!"
47 Comic Schumer
48 Baseball arbiter
50 Most Saudis
52 Insect in a cocoon
54 Lend a hand to
55 Thoroughbred's father
56 Verse writer
58 Casting assignment
60 Get realistic
64 British brew
65 First of a series
66 Ballerina's attire
67 Ruby or scarlet
68 Passover dinners
69 Unexpected slowdown

DOWN
1 Mornings, for short
2 Random criticism
3 Smitten by, with "of"
4 Fully cooked
5 USN noncom
6 Japanese automaker
7 Sporting swords
8 Ultimatum ender
9 Loses rigidity
10 Go wrong
11 High-end 6 Down products
12 Money in Mexico
13 Fill with dismay
18 Forest animals
19 Frequently, in verse
23 Oz. and lb.
25 Hillary's maiden name
26 Voice of the iPhone
28 Give off
29 Star pilots
30 Fabricated
34 Modest reply to "Good work!"
35 Rival of HBO
36 Descend
38 Briny expanses
39 Test drive, for instance
42 Short operatic solo
43 Captained
44 Daytona 500 org.
45 Black-and-orange bird
46 Prepared, as leftovers
49 Thoroughbred's mother
51 Spelling contest
52 Tubular pasta
53 Speak
56 Vatican head
57 Was obligated to
59 Grains in granola bars
61 *Uno* doubled
62 Hosp. workplaces
63 Affectionate embrace



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2019 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 3/13/19

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 13)

You are so ready to do your part. What's even better is that you know exactly what it is! You're paid well and respected, but don't let it go to your head. In May, you'll be back in the starter position – a newbie in a completely different environment, thrilled to learn. Love and support will be all around you. Cancer and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 13, 3, 32 and 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). As long as you do nothing to interrupt or counteract the natural rhythm and flow, it's one of those days when it really seems as though time is on your side.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Galileo was arrested for saying the earth orbits around the sun. Well, one era's dangerous words are another era's common knowledge. You're developing an opinion that's outside the commonly accepted one.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Time is relative, sure. But the order of things really matters to us. We are creatures of predication and expectation. So what happens first is significant. You'll be making a first impression today. Put some thought into it.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Today's power move: Go ahead and put everyone on a program of restricted information. When it comes to your business, you're better offering it up a need-to-know basis.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Just think of all you could do if you didn't have to be correct, appropriate or acceptable. Actually, it's difficult to even imagine because you've followed the rules for so long. But allow yourself the fantasy. There's wisdom in it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your spiritual creed isn't the same as theirs, but you won't really know this until you articulate what is yours. Write it down. I believe (fill in the blank.) This exercise will illuminate your next move.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The world will seem to light up with tidbits that call out, "Hey, over here, this one is for you!" When you see the world as "for me" and "not for me" it gets rather simple. No need to judge, agonize, glorify or condemn, just take or leave.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Self-restraint will be necessary. Your appetite might be bigger than can be afforded by stomach or wallet. And you can blame this on the cosmic currents, if that's any consolation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Don't you hate when you can't find the right words in the moment, but you think of them a day (or hour or decade) later? That's OK. The zinger you come up with today will make up for some of those times.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). When you just don't want to do a thing, it seems a lot more inconvenient and difficult than it really is. Actually, the task will take hardly any time or effort once you stop resisting it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll be more alive and alert in the morning, so use those early hours to make quick work of the stuff you really don't want to do. Otherwise the dreaded tasks will drag on and ruin your evening mood.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Shopping is on the agenda. Bring a friend if you're afraid of being unduly persuaded by the sales team. Go alone if you're afraid of being unduly persuaded by a friend.

Solar Square Social Advice

Under this solar square to Jupiter, do what you can to control the frames of perception around you. Plan ahead, or at least put some thought into what you'd like people to know about you and what you want them to pay attention to. See yourself showing up strong in the various scenarios of your life and then gear up to that vision.

10 CRIB NOTES FROM TERPSICHORE, MUSE OF DANCE

1. The asteroid 81 Terpsichore is a large dark main belt asteroid.
2. Besides dance, Terpsichore is also the Muse of the chorus.
3. Dance serves a wide array of functions including social, theatrical, ceremonial, competitive, martial, biological, professional, spiritual, symbolic, therapeutic and more.
4. In many cultures, stories are told through dance, which may predate oral tradition.
5. Every generation has its own popular dance.
6. Some dance moves of the last decade include Gangnam Style, the lawnmower/sprinkler, the Harlem shake, twerking and the dab.
7. There are still places in the world where it is illegal to dance.
8. Dancing is banned in some religions whereas in others it is regarded a manner of worship that pleases the gods.
9. Dancing is among the most physically demanding professions, with a risk of injury on par with other professional sports.
10. Your style of movement is a signature unique to you. Your walk is a dance. Your run is a dance. Your stance is a dance. Own it.

CELEBRITY PROFILES

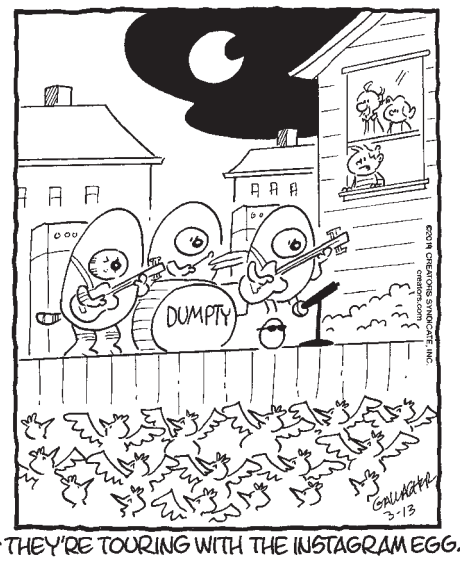
Actor, comic and nine-time Academy Award host Billy Crystal claims that his wife, Janice, was his first and only date. Whether or not this is literally true, it is emotionally true for him. Pisces people allow more liberties with emotional truth than other signs, which is part of this sign's genius. Emotional truth translates into beautiful art, poetry, music and acting.

WORD UP!

Facetiae
plural noun [fuh-see-shee-ee]
amusing or witty remarks or writings.

Heathcliff

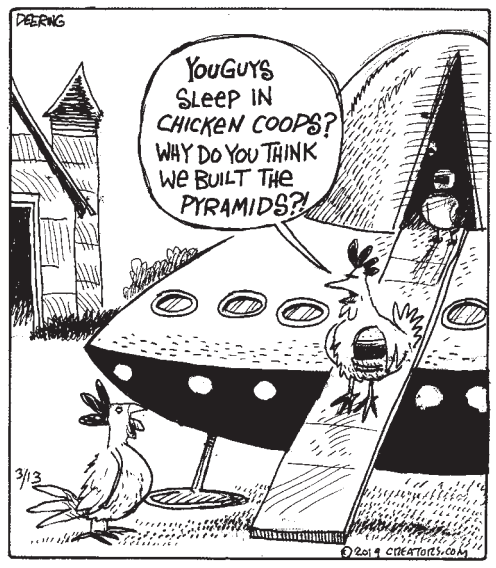
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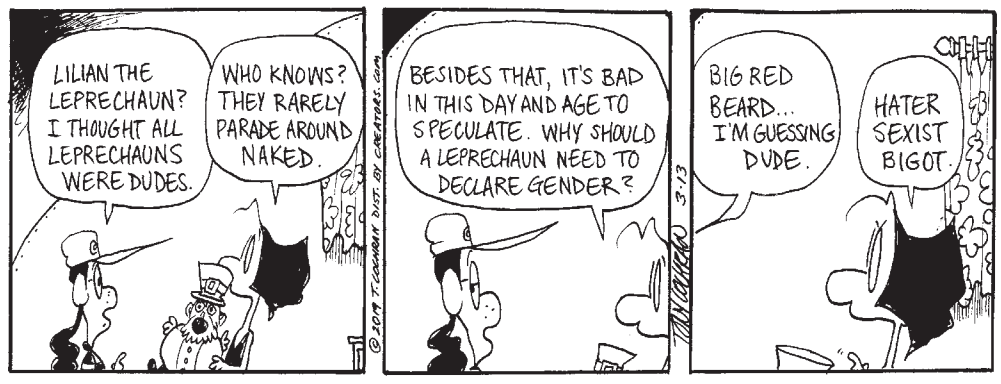
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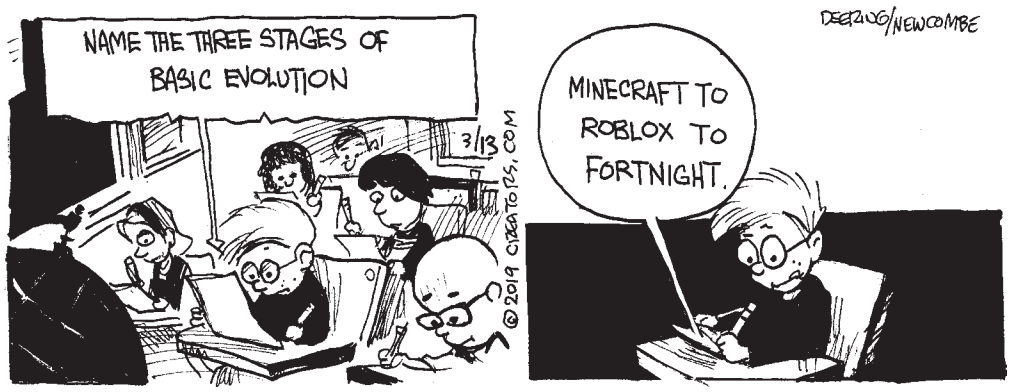
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BRIBERY

FROM PAGE 1

fashion, manufacturing and other fields, were among those charged. Dozens, including Huffman, the Emmy-winning star of ABC's "Desperate Housewives," were arrested by midday.

"These parents are a catalog of wealth and privilege," U.S. Attorney Andrew Lelling said in announcing the results of an investigation code-named Operation Varsity Blues.

The coaches worked at such schools as Yale, Stanford, Georgetown, Wake Forest, the University of Texas, the University of Southern California and the University of California, Los Angeles. A former Yale soccer coach pleaded guilty and helped build the case against others.

No students were charged, with authorities saying that in many cases the teenagers were not aware of what was going on. And several of the colleges involved made no mention of expelling or taking any other action against the students.

The scandal is certain to inflame longstanding complaints that children of the wealthy and well-connected have the inside track in college admissions — sometimes through big, timely donations from their parents — and that privilege begets privilege.

College consultants were not exactly shocked by the allegations.

"This story is the proof that there will always be a market for parents who have the resources and are desperate to get their kid one more success," said Mark Sklarow, CEO of the Independent Educational Consultants Association. "This was shopping for name-brand product and being willing to spend whatever it took."

Prosecutors said parents paid an admissions consultant from 2011 through last month to bribe coaches and administrators to falsely make their children look like star athletes to boost their chances of getting into college. The consultant also hired ringers to take college entrance exams for students, and paid off insiders at testing centers to correct students' answers.

Parents spent anywhere from $200,000 to $6.5 million to guarantee their children's admission, officials said.

"For every student admitted through fraud, an honest and genuinely talented student was rejected," Lelling said.

Several defendants, including Huffman, were charged with conspiracy to commit fraud, punishable by up to 20 years in prison.

Lelling said the investigation is continuing and authorities believe other parents were involved. The schools themselves are not targets of the investigation, he said.

The investigation began when authorities received a tip about the scheme from someone they were interviewing in a separate case, Lelling said. He did not elaborate.

Authorities said coaches in such sports as soccer, sailing, tennis, water polo and volleyball accepted bribes to put students on lists of recruited athletes, regardless of their ability or experience. That, in turn, improved their chances of admission.

Prosecutors said parents were also instructed to claim their children had learning disabilities so that they could take the ACT or SAT by themselves and get extra time, too. That made it easier to pull off the tampering, prosecutors said.

The fraud included staged photographs of students playing sports, and other photos that were doctored to superimpose applicants' faces on the bodies of athletes, authorities said. In one instance involving a student who was being presented as a rower, the participants talked about looking for photos online of a person in a boat where it was "tough to see the face," according to court papers.

Among the parents charged were Gordon Caplan of Greenwich, Connecticut, a co-chairman of an international law firm based in New York; Jane Buckingham, CEO of a boutique marketing company in Los Angeles; Gregory Abbott of New York, founder and chairman of a packaging company; and Manuel Henriquez, CEO of a finance company based in Palo Alto, California. Telephone and email messages seeking comment from them were not immediately returned.

Caplan was accused of paying $75,000 to get a test supervisor to correct the answers on her daughter's ACT exam after she took it. In a conversation last June with a cooperating witness, he was told his daughter needed to "be stupid" when a psychologist evaluated her for learning disabilities, according to court papers.

"It's the home run of home runs," the witness said.

"And it works?" Caplan asked.

"Every time," the witness responded, prompting laughter from both.

At one point, Caplan asked if schools were "concerned with this."

"Schools don't know. Schools don't know," the witness said.

The bribes allegedly were dispensed through an admissions consulting company in Newport Beach, California. Authorities said parents paid William "Rick" Singer, the founder of the Edge College & Career Network, big money to get their children into college.

Singer pleaded guilty in Boston on Tuesday to racketeering conspiracy and obstruction of justice. John Vandemoer, the former head sailing coach at Stanford, was also expected to plead guilty.

Colleges moved quickly to discipline the coaches and distance themselves from the scandal, portraying themselves as victims. Stanford fired Vandemoer, UCLA suspended its soccer coach, and Wake Forest did the same with its volleyball coach. USC said it is reviewing its admissions process to prevent such abuses.

In one case, a former USC women's soccer coach and the consultant allegedly worked together in 2017 to help a client's child get into Yale in exchange for $1.2 million from the family. A false athletic profile created for the student said she played competitive soccer and had been on China's junior national development team.

The profile was sent to the coach of the Yale women's soccer team and the student was accepted. Prosecutors said the Yale coach, Rudolph Meredith, received $400,000 from the consulting company after the student was admitted, even though he knew the student did not play competitive soccer.

Loughlin, who was charged along with her husband, fashion designer Mossimo Giannulli, appeared in the ABC sitcom "Full House" in the 1980s and '90s. Huffman, in addition to starring in "Desperate Housewives," was nominated for an Oscar for playing a transgender woman in the 2005 movie "Transamerica." She also starred in the TV show "Sports Night" and appeared in such films as "Reversal of Fortune," ''Magnolia" and "The Spanish Prisoner."

Messages seeking comment from Huffman's representative were not immediately returned. A spokeswoman for Loughlin had no comment.

Loughlin and her husband allegedly gave $500,000 to have their two daughters labeled as recruits to the USC crew team, even though neither participated in the sport. Their 19-year-old daughter Olivia Jade Giannulli, a social media star with a popular YouTube channel, attends USC.

Court documents said Huffman paid $15,000 that she disguised as a charitable donation so that her daughter could take part in the college entrance-exam cheating scam.

Court papers said a cooperating witness met with Huffman and her husband, actor William H. Macy, at their Los Angeles home and explained to them that he "controlled" a testing center and could have somebody secretly change her daughter's answers. The person told investigators the couple agreed to the plan.

Macy was not charged; authorities did not say why.

Macy told Parade magazine in January that the college application process for their daughter was a source of stress. The couple's daughter, Sofia, is an aspiring actress who attends Los Angeles High School of the Arts.

"She's going to go to college. I'm the outlier in this thing. We're right now in the thick of college application time, which is so stressful," Macy said.

Sklarow, the independent education consultant, said the scandal "certainly speaks to the fact that the admissions process is broken."

"It's so fraught with anxiety, especially at the elite schools," he said, "that I think it can't be surprising that millionaires who have probably never said no to their kids are trying to play the system in order to get their child accepted."

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