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Monster attack sinks Santa Monica Pier in Hollywood film



Courtesy of NBCUniversal

PACIFIC RIM: Santa Monica can be seen in the background of the new film Pacific Rim Uprising.

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Santa Monica's civic leaders are concerned about the retail apocalypse damaging the city's economy but if Hollywood is to be believed, the city's tech industry can withstand an actual apocalypse.

The Santa Monica Pier and some adjacent downtown streets play a role in the recently released Pacific Rim Uprising, with the film's monsters, known in context as Kaiju, destroying the world-renowned local landmark and fighting a locally built guardian robot.

Executive Producer Cale Boyter said the scene was specifically written with Santa Monica in mind because the iconic location was a natural fit for the world of Pacific Rim where giant monsters hailing from underwater rifts attack the human population.

"We wanted to movie to open in a coastal city that was well known around the world, a location that's visually iconic," she said. "Story-wise - we wanted to show how the world has changed since the initial Kaiju invasion, and one of the ideas that we unveil is that folks with resources/money pack up and head in-land towards areas that were less decimated by the Kaiju attack. So, in our story – towns like Santa Monica become more fringe communities while inland towns like Sioux City Iowa expand into tomorrow's urban centers."

Santa Monica is not the only city crushed in the film and Boyter said locations are often very willing to participate in a big-budget film, even if it means their digital destruction.

"We shot in cities all over the globe and I was actually surprised by how many locations and even landmarks and companies have wanted to be part of our big battle sequences, including our final, gonzo disaster set-piece," she said.

The humans of Pacific Rim defend the planet with giant robots, called Jaegers, that stand well over 200 feet tall and the sheer size of the combatants required the scene to extend into the city itself.

"We needed to create a sort of post-apocalyptic Santa Monica of tomorrow," said Boyter. "And we needed to create a bigger runway for our opening action set-piece where there's a big Jaeger chase that happens right in the middle of downtown."

The film's efforts to capture a realistic depiction of the city extend to surprisingly small details such as real-world accurate street signs.

The production spent time filming in the city, using helicopters and using some Hollywood magic to accomplish shots that were impossible to get in the real world.

SEE MOVIE PAGE 7

City Hall to pursue partnerships for enforcing local election laws

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The City of Santa Monica will not pursue new legislation to enforce local election laws but will instead ask for more communication from state regulators when their investigations cross into the local jurisdiction.

A debate over local enforcement options was prompted by a recent California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) investigation into the Huntley hotel for violating campaign finance rules. That investigation resulted in one of the largest fines in state history but the city was unable to enforce its rules in the case because the resolution of the FPPC's case came after the statute of limitations had expired on the City's regulations.

Presented with several options, including requesting a new state law that would have allowed the FPPC to handle local election violations, the council opted to request the FPPC inform local agencies of investigations in enough time to pursue local action. Council also asked for more education efforts regarding the local rules.

In a third recommendation, Council directed staff to pursue a reciprocal arrangement with a nearby city for investigating election violations that would otherwise create a conflict of interest for the City Attorney's office.

City Attorney Lane Dilg said it's always valuable to communicate with the community regarding the City's rules but that the FPPC should be credited for the quality of the work they do.

"I think that when the FPPC's stipulated judgments came out the

SEE LAWS PAGE 7

California regulators target web ads for illegal pot shops

MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press

Weedmaps is a go-to website for people looking to find a marijuana shop. With a few clicks on a cellphone, customers can find virtually any type of cannabis product, along with the fastest route to the place selling it and ratings from other consumers to help them decide what to buy.

But legal and illegal operators advertise next to each other, and licensed operators in California say that's put them at a disadvantage in a cutthroat marketplace.

To them, Weedmaps is helping illegal sellers flourish without having any of the obligations licensed operators endure — collecting and paying taxes, insuring their businesses and employees, and abiding by safety rules for their products.

In other words, illegal shops can sell pot at cheaper prices, sometimes 30 percent to 50 percent less.

"That's Weedmaps' business model, to confuse the difference between legal and illegal," said Jerred Kiloh, a licensed dispensary owner in Los Angeles who heads the United Cannabis Business Association, an industry group. "It's an unfair playing field. They are pitting us against each other."

SEE MARIJUANA PAGE 6

Isabel A. Ash Esq.
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, March 30

Crafty Kids - Wind Chimes

Celebrate Spring with the Montana library by decorating your own wind chimes. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave. 3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Citizenship Classes

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

Annenberg Guest House Tours

Free tours begin at 11am, 12pm and 1pm. No reservations needed. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH.

Saturday, March 31

Santa Monica Certified Farmers Market (downtown)

The Organic Market boasts the largest percentage of Certified Organic growers of the City's four markets. 2nd @ Arizona Avenue. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Saturday Certified Farmer's Market (Virginia Ave. Park)

A family market in the heart of the Pico/Cloverfield neighborhood, and offers a variety of organic and conventionally-grown produce, in addition to several prepared food options and coffee. It is also currently the only Santa Monica Farmers Market offering Market Match incentives for WIC and EBT customers. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Cesar Chavez Celebration

In collaboration with Familias Latinas Unidas (FLU), celebrate Cesar Chavez. Enjoy a speaker presentation, a photo gallery and the movie screening of Dolores (2017) a working-class wife and mother of eleven children that helped Cesar Chavez establish a farmer's union. (95min) Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Sunday, April 1

Santa Monica Certified Farmers Market (Main St.)

The Main Street market hosts a variety activities including bands, a bi-weekly cooking demonstrations, arts and crafts, a face painter, a balloon animal designer as well as seasonal California grown fruits, vegetables, nuts, meats and cheeses. 2640 Main St. @ Ocean Park. 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Annenberg Guest House Tours

Free tours begin at 11am, 12pm and 1pm. No reservations needed. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH.

Easter

Church in Ocean Park celebrates Easter on Sunday morning April 1st at 10:15 am with Special Music followed by a potluck lunch and Easter Egg Hunt for the Children. All are welcome. If we can provide specific accessibility assistance to make your visit more comfortable, please contact us by March 29th. We are located at 235 Hill Street, Santa Monica, CA 90405. The church number is 310-399-1631 for more information.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

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No April Fools' edition this year

There will be no April Fools' edition of The Daily Press this year due to the date falling on a Sunday. The paper doesn't have a dedicated Sunday paper, rather, we publish a joint weekend edition covering Saturday and Sunday.

A Sunday, April 1 has only happened a few times in the paper's history and the April Fool's edition has been skipped in some of those years. In others, attempts were made to publish the edition, either as an online-only product or by printing a "Saturday" edition with a "Sunday" edition inserted. Neither really worked at the time and those options have become more problematic as time progressed.

We think publishing the satirical issue just isn't funny if it's not on April 1. At the same time, the world at large, including Santa Monica, has become more susceptible to believing even blatantly fake information. The danger of putting out a phony edition any day other than April 1 is simply too great in the modern environment.

We know the April Fools' edition is beloved and we have every intent to revive the edition next year.

Matthew Hall

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Malibu

Intermittent Closures for Construction Activities on Pacific Coast Highway

In advance of the moratorium on non-emergency construction lane closures between Memorial Day and Labor Day to alleviate summer-time traffic congestion, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is working to complete several projects on Pacific Coast Highway (PCH).

Caltrans and the City of Malibu remind residents to anticipate intermittent daytime and overnight lane closures along portions of PCH for construction activities.

The following construction projects began earlier this month, and are expected to continue until Memorial Day:

■ PCH at Cross Creek Road and Webb Way: There will be alternating lane closures in both directions, Monday to Friday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. to 6 a.m.

■ Additional work is scheduled at the intersection of Webb Way/Stuart Ranch Road and Civic Center Way beginning in mid-April, and will include lane closures on those streets from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

■ The work is for traffic improvements that will realign PCH to accommodate turn lanes, and update traffic signals, crosswalks, curb ramps and sidewalks in the Civic Center area.

■ PCH at Malibu Canyon: Contractors are installing a new traffic signal pole and controller cabinet. Stop signs will be in place to allow traffic to pass through the four-way intersection of PCH and Malibu Canyon Road.

■ PCH east of Malibu Pier: The southbound #2 lane will be closed intermittently from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

■ A new pedestrian signal is being installed on PCH by contractors working for the Malibu Beach Inn to improve safety for pedestrians crossing PCH to access the Pier and beach. This is not a city of Malibu or Caltrans project. The work was mandated by the California Coastal Commission and permitted by Caltrans.

All closures are weather permitting and subject to change.

The City has requested that Caltrans conduct work requiring lane closures at night whenever possible to alleviate traffic disruptions. Some work cannot be conducted at night due to material deliveries. When necessary, the City will be sending Public Works crews out to help direct traffic, and has requested additional Sheriff's Deputies to keep traffic flowing safely.

Motorists should use caution when driving through work zones and allow extra time to reach their destination.

Caltrans is also performing slope stabilization work during the day on both sides of PCH between Sea Vista Drive and Via Escondido Roadway. There are no lane closures, and cyclists will continue to have access through the construction zone.

Due to this work, the speed limit on PCH is 30 MPH between Meadows Court and Latigo Canyon Road. Motorists are reminded that traffic fines are doubled in construction zones.

The work began last summer, and is estimated to be completed in fall 2019.

Motorists can check on road closures and traffic conditions using the Caltrans QuickMap at www.quickmap.dot.ca.gov, or by downloading the free QuickMap app on Google Play or the App Store.

The City of Malibu is sending out traffic alerts about all of the projects. Alerts are also simultaneously posted on the City's Twitter and Facebook accounts, posted on the website, and listed on the City's phone hotline. To sign up for City traffic alerts, visit www.malibucity.org/news and scroll down to "Traffic Alerts." To access the phone hotline, call 310-456-9982. To follow Malibu's traffic alerts on social media, visit https://www.facebook.com/CityofMalibu/ and https://twitter.com/CityMalibu.

SUBMITTED BY MATT MYERHOFF, MALIBU MEDIA INFORMATION OFFICER



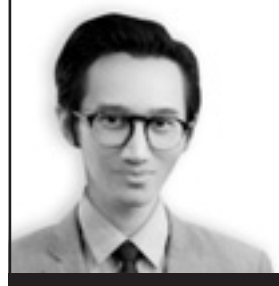




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The Kids Give Us Hope The Adults Give Us B.S.

IN ONE OF HER FIERY SPEECHES, PARKLAND massacre survivor Emma Gonzalez, 18, labeled governmental hypocrisy as "b.s." Her adult, right-wing critics proceeded to call her "a lesbian Communist." How mature. But before I get going, first let me wish everyone Happy Passover, Happy Easters and to atheists, a belated Happy Spring. (Hopefully I've covered most of the bases.)

Meanwhile, I feel like Al Pacino in Godfather III, "Just when I thought I was out, they pull me back in." The "they" is the NRA, Rick Santorum, Alex Jones and other usual suspects who personally attacked the courageous Parkland students and their historic "March of Our Lives" last Saturday. I'm reminded of the question posed to the demagogic Senator, Joe McCarthy in the 1954 Army Hearings, "Have you no sense of decency, sir?"

Back to Saturday, after listening to these articulate, passionate young people, including Martin Luther King's granddaughter, I felt hope. I found myself recalling election night 2008 when President-elect Obama spoke so eloquently in front of a huge crowd at Chicago's Grant Park.

It was so moving, a tearful Oprah blew her nose on her friend's jacket. Except, he was a total stranger. Yikes! She subsequently had him as a guest on her show to give him a new jacket. (What, no car?)

With Obama, I felt hope for a post-racial era. Until Mitch ("Party over country") McConnell announced his goal to make Obama a one-term president and that the GOP would "not cooperate in any of President Obama's agenda."

Cut to August 11, 2017, and the ugly White Nationalists Tiki torch rally in Charlottesville, Virginia. Donald Trump infamously remarked that among those shouting "Jews will not replace us" were "fine people." So much for post-racial. (Meanwhile, the next day a white supremacist drove over and killed Heather Heyer, 32, who was protesting for equality. May we never forget her name.)

Seemingly hours after the inspiring March of Our lives, the NRA, and other gun-rights groups began attacking the students. Keep in mind these teenagers saw seventeen of their classmates and teachers slaughtered by a weapon of war, the AR-15, and many survived by hiding in closets or behind dead bodies.

So, when I heard former U.S. Senator and GOP presidential candidate Rick Santorum's idiotic remarks, I snapped. (If you disagree, take comfort that you're 3/4th through this column, assuming you haven't already used it to line your birdcage.)

Santorum's sanctimonious advice to the students was they'd be better off learning CPR than "chasing some crazy gun laws." The Twittersphere lit up like Chinese New Year. Emergency room doctors harshly schooled Santorum that CPR would be useless in treating wounds from the lethal AR-15.

After being besieged by tweets, Santorum sheepishly confessed, "I misspoke." No, Rick, you don't misspeak, you miss-think.

On Facebook, GOP State Rep, Mary Franson, of Minnesota compared the Stoneman Douglas students to Hitler Youth. She was joined by Alex Jones, the bombastic radio host of "InfoWars," which has never met a conspiracy it didn't like, especially if it helps sell his overpriced survivalist products.

On the dreadful election night 2016, reportedly one of the first celebratory calls Donald Trump made was to Alex. After Sandy Hook, Jones theorized the "false flag" event was staged to attack gun rights. Not only had no children died but their grieving parents were actors. (And millions of people listen to this blowhard!)

The NRA, which spent $50 million on the 2016 campaign, $30 million to Trump alone, also attacked the students. On NRA-TV angry host Colion Noir lectured the teenagers, "No one would know your names if your classmates were still alive." (My question: Under what rock do they find these fools?)

On the gun issue, given the "Stormy" saga, Trump has been laying low, no pun intended. Meanwhile, eight other women, two with Non-Disclosure Agreements, have come forward with claims of illicit affairs with The Donald. (Illicit being his favorite kind.) There's so many it's as though Trump joined "X Rated E-Harmony."

On the Russia front, Trump is having so much difficulty hiring a lawyer rumor is he was even rejected by Legal Zoom. Some have suggested the latest attorney came from an ad Trump posted on Craigslist. And then there's the border wall.

Trump vehemently promised dozens of times on the campaign trail that Mexico would pay for it. News flash: they're not! Neither is Congress. Now the plump POTUS wants the Pentagon to pay. He's so desperate it's speculated he's going to....(drum roll please) start a Go Fund Me page!

In the peaceful spirit of the holidays, wouldn't it be heavenly if the U.S. was like every other civilized country in the world and didn't experience one mass shooting after another? Following the lead of the Parkland students, a guy can hope, can't he?

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WINNER

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

UCLA Receives Multiple Awards at 2018 Kiwanis Youth Convention

UCLA's chapter of Circle K International (CKI) attended the 64th Annual Circle K International California-Nevada-Hawaii District Convention in Los Angeles, California on March 23-25, 2018 where the club was recognized in outstanding achievements, placing in five competitive categories with a total of 13 award acknowledgements and two scholarship recipients. With 231 members, the chapter raised almost $17,000 for various charities and volunteered over 8,500 service hours this past year.

The UCLA Chapter was awarded Distinguished Club, First Place in Total Funds Raised for Independent Charities, Second Place in Outstanding Total Achievement in the Gold Division (chapters with more than 90 members), Third Place in Totals Funds Raised for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, and Third Place in Outstanding Mei Po Wong Overall Service in the Gold Division (chapters with more than 90 members). UCLA has been recognized in club achievement at the district and international levels in previous years as well.

In addition to the club's overall achievements, the following committee-related awards were presented: Distinguished Member Development & Education to Alex Levine, Leonna Tong, Jeremy Figueroa, Serena Zhang, Ethan Chee, and Danny Vu and Distinguished Appointed Board to Kevin Nguyen and Vivian Wong.

The chapter's elected board was awarded with Distinguished Awards for Administrative Vice President (Calvin Ly), Secretary (Sharlene Lim), and Treasurer (Molyka Seang). Lim also received an award for her punctual submission of club Monthly Report Forms. In addition, Braden Lem received an Honorable Mention in Outstanding Website Design and Vivian Wong received Second Place in Outstanding Single Service Project for her work as the Large-Scale Service Chair.

"I have attended District Convention for the past three years, and each time has been a memorable experience and an opportunity to reflect and bond as a club," said Khoa Vinh, 2018-2019 President. "District Convention is a time for celebration, not only for UCLA CKI, but for the entire district of California-Nevada-Hawaii Circle K. This year, at DCON, UCLA was recognized for 14 different awards. This achievement would not have been possible without the passion and dedication of my fellow members. Over the past year, I, as President, have been able to witness my peers pour countless hours into our goal of helping the community. It brings me such great joy to see my fellow members be acknowledged for their hard work. Nevertheless, an award is ultimately just a piece of paper; it does not define who we are and the impact that we have made. Regardless of whether or not an award was received for any particular category, the members of UCLA CKI have accomplished so much over this past year, and I am so grateful to have been able to serve them as their President. "

Circle K International is the largest collegiate service organization in the world, with more than 13,000 members in 17 countries. Chartered in 1974, the UCLA chapter falls into the California-Nevada-Hawaii district of the organization, where more than 3200 members serve the community and raise funds for charities.

SUBMITTED BY ETHAN VUONG, CIRCLE K INTERNATIONAL AT UCLA 2018-2019 MEDIA RELATIONS CHAIR

ST. PAUL

Minnesota joins California suit against citizenship question

Minnesota has joined a lawsuit filed by California's attorney general to block the Trump administration's decision to add a citizenship question to the 2020 census questionnaire.

California Attorney General Attorney General Xavier Becerra filed the federal lawsuit Tuesday. Minnesota and several other states have joined in, while officials in other states are contemplating their own lawsuits against the plan.

Democrats fear the question will lead immigrants to dodge the survey altogether, diluting political representation for states that tend to vote Democratic and robbing many communities of federal dollars. The administration says the data is needed to better identify voting rights violations.

On Thursday, a group of 21 Democratic Minnesota state representatives signed a letter thanking state Attorney General Lori Swanson for joining in California's lawsuit.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO

Judge declares 'serial stowaway' unfit for trial

A woman dubbed a "serial stowaway" for repeatedly trying to sneak onto commercial jets without a ticket has been ruled unfit for trial.

Cook County Judge Maura Slattery Boyle on Thursday ordered 66-year-old Marilyn Hartman to be sent to a mental health facility in Elgin, near Chicago. The ruling comes after psychologists for the defense and prosecution recommended Hartman undergo mental health treatment.

Hartman has been nabbed in and near airports dozens of times and made it onto planes half a dozen times.

She recently made it into the air on a flight from Chicago to London and was subsequently charged with felony criminal trespass and felony burglary — for boarding a flight without any intention of buying a ticket.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Unrestored '2001: A Space Odyssey' returning to theaters

An unrestored 70mm print of Stanley Kubrick's masterpiece "2001: A Space Odyssey" is coming to select U.S. theaters in May in celebration of the film's 50th anniversary.

Warner Bros. Pictures says Wednesday that the cut will premiere at the Cannes Film Festival on May 12 before launching in select U.S. theaters on May 18. Filmmaker Christopher Nolan will introduce the film at the Cannes premiere, where members of Kubrick's family will also be in attendance. Kubrick died in 1999.

The studio says that the unrestored film, created from the original camera negative, will allow audiences to experience it as they did upon the film's release in 1968.

Warner Bros. will also later in the year release the film for home viewing in 4K resolution.

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Date and Time:
Saturday, April 7, 2018
9:30 AM check in
10:00 AM start
1:30 PM end

Location:
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Hotel Santa Monica
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Santa Monica, CA 90401

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*previously known as familial amyloidotic polyneuropathy (FAP) or familial amyloidotic cardiomyopathy (FAC).
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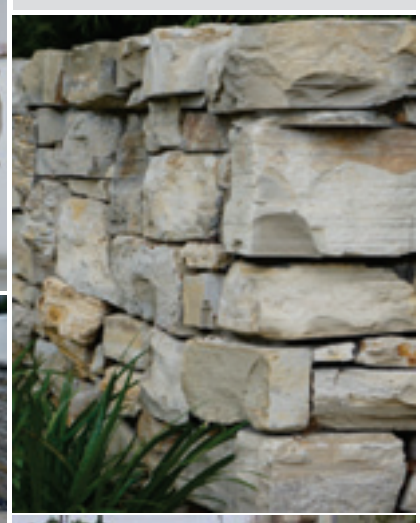
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MARIJUANA

FROM PAGE 1

Weedmaps operates in over two dozen states, but the issue is coming to a head in California, which in January became the nation's largest legal marketplace. State regulators last month warned Weedmaps to stop advertising shops operating outside the law.

In a response, Weedmaps executives said they are eager to work with the state but asserted that the online directory doesn't fall under state authority and is shielded by provisions in federal law.

The company sees the core of the problem as a scarcity of legal outlets and hefty taxes that scare off consumers from licensed shops, not its online ads. In Los Angeles, where the pace of city licensing has been sluggish, only about 130 retail shops have authority to operate, while city officials acknowledge hundreds more are making illegal sales.

Weedmaps says its experience dropping unlicensed businesses from its listings in Washington, Oregon, Nevada and Massachusetts had no impact on the size of those unlicensed markets.

"Scrubbing the internet of the reality of unlicensed operators ... does nothing to fix the underlying issues," Weedmaps CEO Doug Francis and President Chris Beals wrote to the state Bureau of Cannabis Control earlier this month.

The company some call a Craigslist for cannabis defines itself as an "interactive computer service" that falls under the federal Communications Decency Act. A key section of that law is designed to protect internet publishers, generally providing immunity to them for content posted by users.

But Kiloh is among those who argue Weedmaps is far more than an advertising platform, noting consumers can use the site to submit orders and summon deliveries from shops legal and otherwise.

"They are acting like Amazon, saying, 'Here is a shopping cart,'" Kiloh said. "They are creating a marketplace, not a platform for advertising, and it's driven by dollars."

The dispute over the online ads goes to basic economics for an emerging market sprung from what was mostly an illegal one: Lawful operators will struggle if they're competing with a robust black market that can undersell them.

Complaints have surfaced elsewhere, including over fees that in some cases can be tens of thousands of dollars a month for prime ad space. The company says some advertisers pay nothing.

"I strongly believe their response to advertise for unlicensed cannabis companies is a black eye to the industry," said Peter Marcus, a spokesman for Boulder-based Terrapin Care Station.

Terrapin has five licensed dispensaries in Colorado and has advertised with Weedmaps for years, Marcus said. He said Terrapin worries Weedmaps' high-profile spat with California regulators will bring unwanted attention from the U.S Justice Department, which continues to prosecute marijuana offenses under federal law that still sees cannabis as an illegal drug.

The appeal of black-market shops — and the lure of their ads — was illustrated this month after a raid at an illegal dispensary near Los Angeles.

Even after Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies shuttered the Compton 20 Cap Collective, hauling out employees and customers in handcuffs and seizing bags of illicit pot, the shop's page on Weedmaps advertised deals and displayed the dispensary's products, which included dozens of varieties of cannabis buds, extracts and edibles.

Despite the bust, prospective customers were asking about making purchases.

"Are they back open again?" one comment read.

In its warning to Weedmaps, one of hundreds of letters sent to businesses that California regulators believe are operating improperly, the state said the company should take down ads from illicit operators and warned the company it could face criminal penalties.

But it wasn't immediately clear how far that threat would go, since Weedmaps appears to be operating largely as usual. In their letter, the company executives said they would eliminate an internal "identifier" that appeared in business listings that state regulators said could be confused with a valid license number.

The company said in a statement it wants the licensed market to reach a "functional state where the unlicensed market is minimized."

California regulators are discussing appropriate next steps, state cannabis agency spokesman Alex Traverso said in an email.

In the Legislature, Democratic Assemblyman Jim Cooper of Elk Grove drafted a bill that would penalize unlicensed operators that advertise on the internet, $10,000 for every violation.

"The black market is having a substantial impact on those businesses that are following the rules," said Mike Ziegler, a Cooper aide. "They are being undercut by those who choose to operate illegally."(backslash)

Associated Press writers Paul Elias in San Francisco and Michael Balsamo in Los Angeles contributed to this report.



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THE CLEAN SOBER NETWORK



Courtesy of NBCUniversal

SANTA MONICA: The production company spent time filming locally to gather details.

MOVIE

FROM PAGE 1

"We did aerials via helicopter in and around Santa Monica," she said. "Then we also did drone work for specialty shots which happened down in the Gold Coast in Australia. We did this because I don't think it's possible to legally fly a drone down Lincoln the way we would have needed to achieve the effect that we were hoping for. So, we took the plate from our Australia shoot and essentially joined it with scans of the Santa Monica plates – creating the effect you see in the movie."

She said the actual filming is relatively easy but the special effects work takes several months to accomplish and becomes more complicated as the film's settings grow more complicated.

"The process I described with Santa Monica was also duplicated in Tokyo on a much bigger scale," said Boyter. "We essentially made (what we call) Mega Tokyo out of Seoul, Korea. A ton of detail work was applied to this process – months of it in fact. We were always trying to capture essential elements of the real world aesthetic of a location while finding unique ways to infuse it with touches that ultimately establish the world of the film and the Pacific Rim universe itself."

Boyter said the paradox in working with science fiction is real-world details are necessary to sell the experience. So, a film about giant robots punching inter-dimensional monsters actually requires accurate street layouts to make it work.

"I think we worked so tirelessly to accurately capture a location like Santa Monica because our movie is so fantastical conceptually, that it becomes essential to tether it to a world that folks in theaters can recognize and relate to in some manner," she said.

Pacific Rim Uprising is now playing in local theaters.

editor@smdp.com

LAWS

FROM PAGE 1

community was understandably both quite surprised and quite dismayed to learn of that conduct," she said. "It is, in my view as former public corruption prosecutor, it was a very good investigation by a state agency and so I think it is important to understand that it is not that nothing happened with respect to that conduct. In fact, a state enforcement agency did very good work in finding, publicizing and penalizing that conduct so I do not think that should be lost here. The FPPC did their job and did it quite well in proactively initiating that investigation."

The council said it wouldn't be appropriate to start changing election rules in an election year but it would be possible to revise the system following this November's vote.

"I think after this coming election is over it would behoove us to look at ways to take some of the special interest money out of local elections by having the residents of this city be the people that finance the elections," said Councilman Kevin McKeown. "If politicians are going to be bought, let's let them be bought by the people that live here."

He said the accusation that come politicians can be bought is open for debate but in his view, the problem wouldn't be solved with the current proposal for term limits.

"I don't think some of the solutions that want to term people out of office or carve the city up solve the real problem," he said. The problem is it's hard to find committed local citizens that are willing to work almost as volunteers at a part-time job to spend a great deal of time to help to govern this wonderful city."

Organizers are currently gathering signatures to place an initiative on the November ballot that would limit Councilmembers to three terms. The city already has term limits in place for appointed boards and commissions.

"If the concern is that money has too much influence the reality is, turn people over and big money can always find new sock puppets, that's easy to do," said McKeown. "Finding residents willing to commit themselves to this job is harder."

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WATER TEMP: **60.3°**

FRIDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** Knee to chest high
SW/S swell mix for exposures. Small windswell.

SATURDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** ankle to waist high
Small SW/S swell mix and traces of NW windswell.

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City of Santa Monica

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SANTA MONICA ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD MEETING

DATE/TIME: April 2, 2018, 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, (wheelchair accessible)
Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street

PROPERTIES:

- 18ARB-0017: 2216 Santa Monica Boulevard: Medical Office
- 18ARB-0019: 1453 Third Street Promenade: Retail
- 18ARB-0020: 1325-1329 Third Street Promenade: Retail
- 18ARB-0038: 1319 Centinela Avenue: Multi-Family Residential
- 18ARB-0078: 2206 Marine Street: Single-Family Residential

PRELIMINARY REVIEW(S):

- 1235 5th Street (Administrative Approval Application No. 17ENT-0275). Preliminary review of a proposed five-story mixed-use building comprised of 4,422 SF of ground floor retail and 23 residential dwelling units on the upper floors above two levels of subterranean parking located within the Neighborhood Village (NV) District of the Downtown Community Plan (DCP).

More information is available on-line at https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Boards-Commissions/Architectural-Review-Board/ or at (310) 458-8341 (en espanol tambien). Plans may be reviewed at City Hall during business hours. Comments are invited at the hearing or in writing (FAX 310-458-3380, e-mail rathar.duong@smgov.net, or mail Santa Monica City Planning Division, 1685 Main St., Rm. 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401). The meeting facility is wheelchair accessible. For disability-related accommodations, please contact 310-458-8701 or TTY 310-450-8696 a minimum of 72 hours in advance. All written materials are available in alternate format upon request. Santa Monica "Big Blue" Bus Lines #1, #2, #3, Rapid 3, #7, #8, #9, Rapid #10, and #18 service City Hall and the Civic Center area. The Expo Line terminus is at Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street, a short walk to City Hall. Public parking is available in front of City Hall, on Olympic Drive and in the Civic Center Parking Structure (validation free).

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 358 Calls For Service On Mar. 28.

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

Burglary 2400 block 28th 12:29 a.m.
Lewd activity 400 block Colorado 1:13 a.m.
Petty theft 2900 block Main 1:30 a.m.
Battery 1500 block 2nd 2:45 a.m.
Burglar alarm 1400 block 3rd St Prom 3:15 a.m.
Trespassing 1700 block 19th 5:31 a.m.
Senile person 2nd / Broadway 5:44 a.m.
Grand theft 2900 block Pico 7:19 a.m.
Petty theft 600 block Wilshire 7:32 a.m.
Cite & tow 1000 block Hill 7:34 a.m.
Identity theft 1000 block 9th 7:59 a.m.
Burglary 2400 block 28th 8:28 a.m.
Hit and run Cloverfield / Michigan 8:46 a.m.
Traffic collision Franklin / Broadway 9:02 a.m.
Grand theft 2000 block Oak 10:26 a.m.
Hit and run Lincoln/ Olympic10:34 a.m.
Grand theft 300 block Arizona 10:40 a.m.
Petty theft 1000 block 20th 11:17 a.m.
Burglar alarm 900 block 17th 11:42 a.m.
Traffic collision 1600 block Ocean 12:23 p.m.
Trespassing 1000 block 14th 12:43 p.m.
Battery 1400 block 2nd 1:26 p.m.
Auto burglary 100 block Hollister 1:27 p.m.
Grand theft auto 200 block Bicknell 1:28 p.m.
Loitering 2000 block Ocean 1:53 p.m.
Petty theft 2500 block California 1:54 p.m.
Fraud 2600 block 23rd 2:06 p.m.
Auto burglary 800 block Yale 2:21 p.m.
Bike theft 300 block Pico 2:33 p.m.
Battery 14th / Pico 2:39 p.m.
Hit and run 1200 block 10th 3:23 p.m.
Battery Lincoln / Ashland 3:24 p.m.
Petty theft 1300 block 4th 3:28 p.m.
Domestic violence 2600 block Pico 3:37 p.m.
Trespassing 300 block Wilshire 3:54 p.m.
Petty theft 1300 block 3rd St Prom 4:10 p.m.
Traffic collision 1600 block Santa Monica 4:11 p.m.
Hit and run 4th/ Colorado 4:16 p.m.
Grand theft Johnny Rockets 4:53 p.m.
Hit and run 25th/ Ocean 4:58 p.m.
Battery 1300 block Pico 5:03 p.m.
Fraud 1900 block 18th 5:08 p.m.
Elder abuse 1800 block 10th 5:09 p.m.
Petty theft 1700 block Lincoln 5:12 p.m.
Attempt burglary 1400 block 5th 5:34 p.m.
Defecating in public 26th/ Colorado 6:20 p.m.
Strongarm robbery 1900 block Ocean 6:25 p.m.
Petty theft 1400 block Wilshire 7:44 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 19 Calls For Service On Mar. 28.

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

Emergency Medical Service 1400 block 17th 1:46 a.m.
EMS 1500 block 2nd 2:52 a.m.
EMS 2nd / Broadway 5:40 a.m.
EMS 1900 block Pico 8:50 a.m.
EMS 1300 block 2nd 10:26 a.m.
EMS 1600 block 5th 12:12 p.m.
EMS 1900 block Pico 12:45 p.m.
EMS 1400 block Maple 12:46 p.m.
EMS 2400 block Santa Monica 2:04 p.m.
EMS Centinela / Ocean Park 4:18 p.m.
EMS 900 block 2nd 6:04 p.m.
EMS Main / Pico 6:38 p.m.
Elevator rescue 1200 block 9th 7:47 p.m.
Public assist 100 block Ocean Park 8:01 p.m.
EMS 900 block 3rd 8:02 p.m.
Elevator rescue 200 block Hill 8:08 p.m.
Smoke investigation 1200 block 22nd 8:38 p.m.
EMS 2900 block Lincoln 9:36 p.m.
EMS 400 block Santa Monica 10:41 p.m.

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6096E-0917 MB17-NM008Ec

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 3/28
6 8 26 52 53
Power#: 21
Jackpot: 50M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 3/27
7 25 43 56 59
Mega#: 13
Jackpot: 502M

SUPER LOTTO
Draw Date: 3/28
3 4 10 21 42
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 22M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 3/28
3 4 22 23 24

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 3/28
MIDDAY: 9 9 4
Draw Date: 3/28
EVENING: 3 1 7

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 3/28
1st: 11 Money Bags
2nd: 07 Eureka
3rd: 09 Winning Spirit
RACE TIME: 1:43.96

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at **http://www.calottery.com**

WORD UP!

gadzookery

1. British. the use or overuse of period-specific or archaic expressions, as in a historical novel.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Medical History

■ This week in 1850, Gail Borden of Brooklyn, NY, received a U.S. patent for his process of baking a combination of extracts from meat with flour to produce a so-called "meat biscuit" that could be stored long-term and used by soldiers, seamen and travelers. Because it could be reconstituted with hot water as a soup, the patent title was "Preparation of Portable Soup-Bread." Six years later, Borden perfected a process to heat milk in a vacuum to produce a condensed version also capable of extended storage.

■ Q: Which has more bones: the hand or the foot?
■ A: The hand, by one bone - 27 to 26.

MYSTERY PHOTO

Matthew Hall *matt@smdp.com*



The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

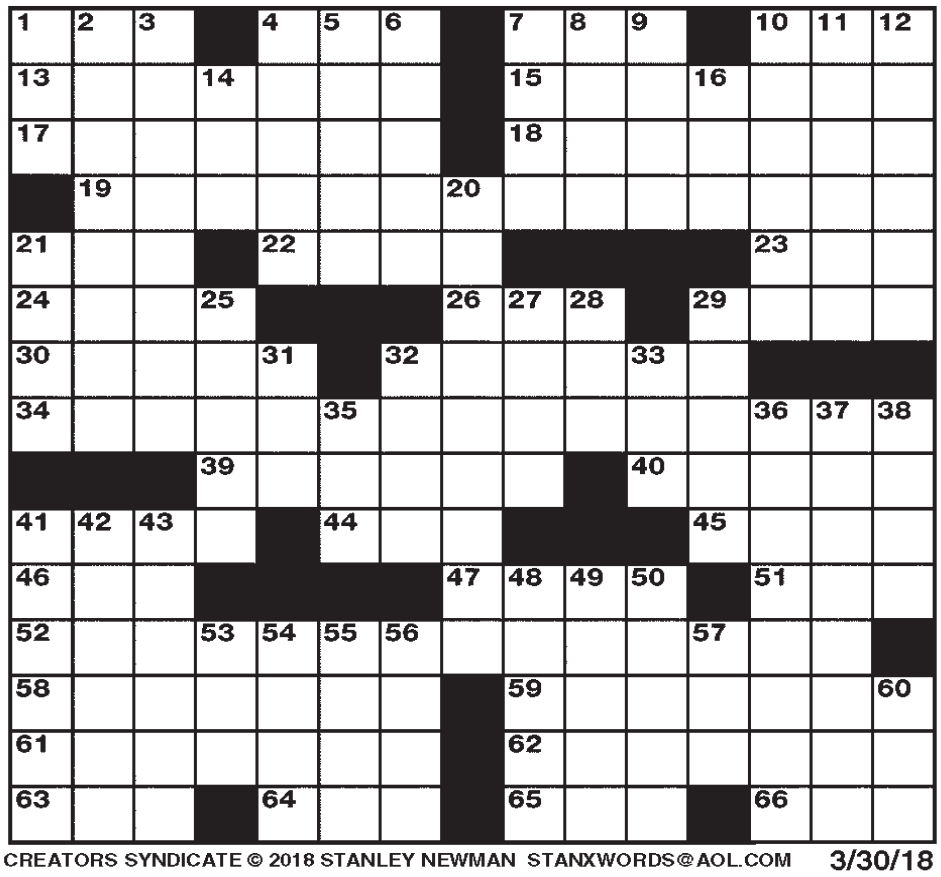
9			2			8		
	6		5		1			
	8			7		4		
		9	1			2		8
	4		6		7		1	
5		2			8	3		
		6		3			8	
			7		5		9	
		1			6			5

Newsday Crossword

VERY FUNNY by S.N.
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Uncertain possibilities
4 Bks. with millions of quotations
7 www.house.___
10 "Isn't that nice!"
13 Lasting
15 Soar beyond
17 One way to get home safely
18 Penalty for nonpayment
19 Venerable insurance market
21 Where the Pacers play
22 No longer under wraps
23 Imitating
24 Astronomer's measures
26 Southern reservoir mgr.
29 High-pH solutions
30 Less than happy
32 Colorless
34 Avoid repeating a mistake
39 Render inaudible
40 Managed
41 Brit lit coming-of-age heroine
44 JHS course
45 Miss
46 First named
47 Tips of quills
51 Tip of a shoe
52 Feature of the Martian atmosphere
58 Bio 101 studies
59 Race support staff
61 Author/ mathematician/ deacon
62 It's not so
63 Wind up
64 Strikes (out)
65 How some matches 63 Across
66 Starter like ceno-

DOWN
1 Puts a name to
2 At maximum speed
3 Island on the Indian Plate
4 Goes along
5 Drop in pronunciation
6 Crammed
7 "A good walk spoiled," per Twain
8 Amphitheater shape
9 Formal rejection
10 Break for travel, perhaps
11 *Fútbol* chant
12 Mongoose cousins
14 Fuss
16 __ Faire (jousting venue)
20 Being risked
21 Court appointee after Elena
25 Suit material
27 Piece of pottery
28 Exclusively
29 Line of cleaners
31 Your basic makeup
32 Dow Jones media partner
33 10-gallon container
35 Med. show settings
36 Lottery descriptor
37 In disuse
38 Frequent 32 Down subject
41 Tie together
42 Coast Guard rank
43 Put differently
48 Contribution of ideas
49 Shine unsteadily
50 Brief brawl
53 Anthem contraction
54 Microsoft entertainment system
55 Noah Webster alma mater
56 Becomes definite
57 TiVo ancestor
60 Cindy Lou __ (Grinch catcher)



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2018 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 3/30/18

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 30)

Get serious about developing and employing your talent. You'll earn a stellar reputation, and you'll bank on it before this time next year. Focus on documenting your work in April. The extra effort you make to stand out in a good way will earn you critical acclaim. You'll spend many hours building a very special relationship. Virgo and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 15, 29, 4 and 13.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
New people are opportunities. You may find yourself pretending you're someone different, which can be fun. Who knows; maybe some of what you try on will suit you well and become part of your standard "wardrobe."

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
If you wait for someone to tell you what to do, you'll be lower than you could be. This is great for concert tickets with arena seating but not much else. Take charge.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
Be strong and flexible of mind. Think of all you can do with a dollar, with an hour, with the position you have. Don't settle for the first idea that comes to mind, because idea five or 12 or 322 could be a better one.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
Remind your people that they need what you contribute. There's a cool way to do this. Maybe it's best accomplished by disappearing for a while. It's not a game. People will be better for what they appreciate.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
If you see the path from here to there you can then work your way along it. If you don't see the path, you could work just as hard but who knows where you'll wind up. It doesn't have to be a well-worn path, just one that arrives.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
It is far easier and better to solve a problem that people already know they have than to try to get people to identify something in their normal, everyday life as problematic.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Business people aren't the only ones who set prices. You set prices all of the time without even realizing it. For instance, you're always projecting your worth and letting people know what it takes to be part of your world.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
Do you feel like you're being watched? You are. Someone is sizing you up, in fact — observing how you interact with your friends and the world in general. They like what they see.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Today your personal life will soar through clear and sunny skies. It's a fine time to acknowledge and thank the crew that's been keeping you on course.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Those who grew up with nothing often see the accumulation of items as wealth, whereas those who grew up with an abundance of things often see minimalism as freedom. Your own views on materialism are changing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Misery loves company, but he doesn't match your outfit, so leave him at home. Your company will embrace you wholeheartedly. Upon your return home you'll find that misery, neglected, has taken leave.

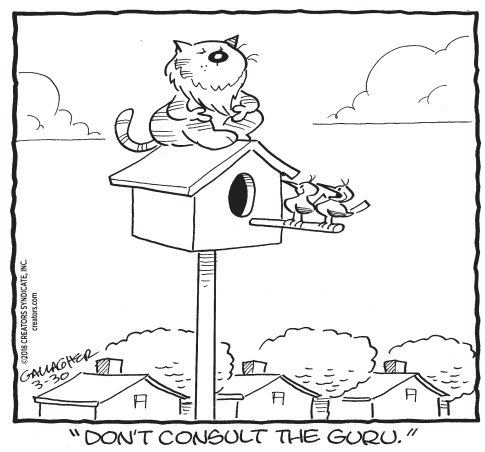
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Someone close to you may be feeling like the side dish to your main course. Maybe it's true. Some dishes are better as complements. Less is demanded of them. Anyway, you'll do what you can to make everyone feel important.

Venus and Cosmic Consequences

When you choose an action, you choose the consequence of that action (whether or not you know what it is at the time of making your decision). Now Venus enters Taurus and we become suddenly aware of money and the material results we desire. When you choose a consequence, be ready to figure out the action it takes to create that consequence.

DO YOU HAVE COMMUNITY NEWS?
Submit news releases to editor@smdp.com or by fax at (310) 576-9913
smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



"DON'T CONSULT THE GURU."

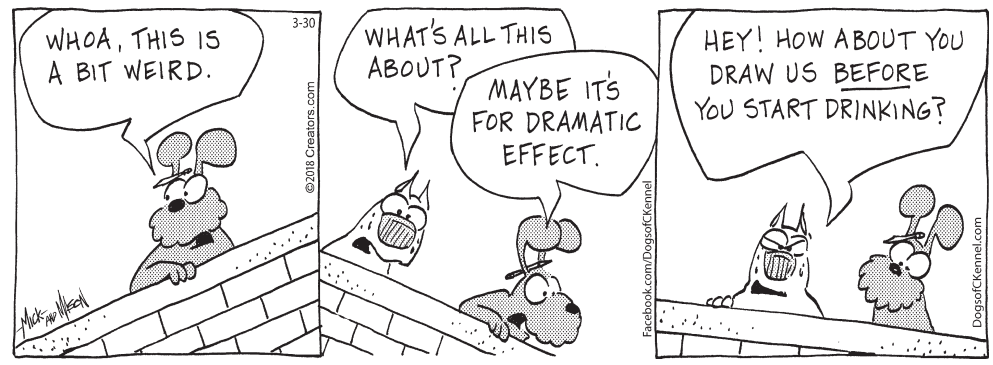
Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



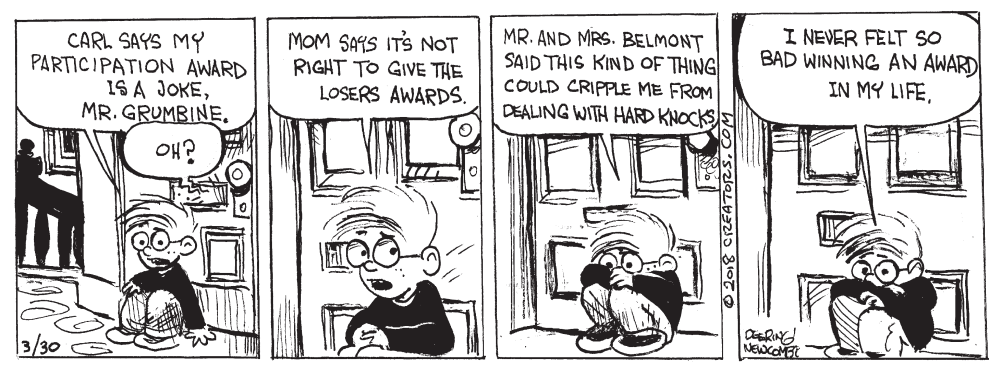
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Utility faces lawsuit over fire that led to deadly mudslides

CHRISTOPHER WEBER
Associated Press

A California man whose partner was killed during devastating coastal mudslides in January is among residents suing a utility company, alleging its faulty equipment sparked a huge wildfire that stripped hillsides bare ahead of heavy rains that inundated their homes.

Lalo Barajas and Peter Fleurat were swept away when mud and boulders crashed through their house in Montecito during a powerful downpour that came on the heels of the Thomas fire, the state's largest-ever blaze. Barajas clung to a tree and waded through waist-high muck to escape the deluge with just cuts and bruises. Fleurat, his partner of nearly two decades, was found dead buried in mud the following day.

A wrongful death lawsuit filed Wednesday by Barajas and Fleurat's siblings claims faulty Southern California Edison transformers ignited the wildfire in December. The power company failed to mitigate the significant risk of fires stemming from its outdated equipment and tinder-dry growth surrounding its electrical poles near where the fire was sparked, the suit alleged.

"Had SCE acted responsibly, the Thomas Fire could have been prevented" and the debris flows would never have occurred when the rains came, according to a court filing.

"If that fire hadn't happened, if they had maintained their power lines, I'd still have Peter. I'd still have my house," Barajas said.

A similar suit was also filed this week by a separate group of plaintiffs, including Carie Baker-Corey. The Montecito resident was swept away in the Jan. 9 debris flow along with her twin 12-year-old daughters Summer and Sawyer Corey and their 25-year-old half-sister Morgan Corey. Morgan and Sawyer were killed. Carie and Summer were critically hurt but survived.

Spokesman David Song said it would be premature for SCE to comment on the lawsuits.

"The Thomas fire has obviously had an impact on many individuals, but the origin and cause of the fire continue to be under investigation and no report has yet been issued. This and other lawsuits are not based on findings related to an investigation," Song said in a statement.

The findings of a multi-agency investigation into the cause of the Thomas fire have not been released.

Previous suits filed by more than 300 residents, ranchers, farmers and business owners also accuse SCE of negligence that led to the fire and subsequent mudslides.

The blaze northwest of Los Angeles covered more than 440 square miles (1,140 square kilometers) and destroyed more than 1,000 buildings. The flames scorched hillsides that were loosened when an intense storm moved through in the early hours of Jan. 9.

Barajas told The Associated Press on Wednesday that as the storm intensified their foothill home began rumbling and he could hear trees in the nearby creek "snapping like twigs."

When he saw their two cars rush by outside on a river of mud, he shouted to Fleurat to evacuate. That's when a floor-to-ceiling window shattered and huge rocks crashed into the house, he said. The pair jumped on a vanity to escape the rushing debris.

"I was shouting, 'Peter, Peter, Peter! Just stay on high ground!' Fifteen seconds later the whole house buckled and just took us into the mudflow," Barajas said, his voice shaking with emotion.

At a news conference Thursday, Baker-Corey recalled the moment she lost her grip on her daughter Morgan's hand after a debris flow "with boulders as big as cars" crashed through their house and swept them and her twin girls away.

"I asked God to let me live, and let them live," she said. Only Baker-Corey and her daughter Summer survived.

Barajas said he hopes his suit, which seeks unspecified monetary damages, will be a major step toward recovering from the devastation.

"I'd like to regain my life," he said. "I can't get Peter back. But I'd like to begin to get my life back."

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