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Cultural celebration at local libraries

MARINA ANDALON
Daily Press Staff Writer

The Santa Monica Public Library (SMPL) system is one of many public and school libraries celebrating multiculturalism leading up to the main event on April 30.

This is the second-year SMPL will be presenting their Annual Día Celebration with events throughout the month. The Children's Day/Book Day, is celebrated on the last day of the month and emphasizes the importance of literacy for children of all linguistic and cultural backgrounds.

"This is the second year this event has taken place in Santa Monica," said Jennifer Boyce, a Youth Services Librarian in Santa Monica. "We want to celebrate this initiative and highlight different cultures through books and children."

The program tries to link children and their families to diverse books, languages and cultures. The event has become a tradition in many schools and libraries throughout the country. Organizers said it is important for children to understand there are various cultures and ethnicities and the goal is to teach kids to have respect for each culture.

SMPL invites children grades Pre-K through 3rd grade to attend multicultural children's author and illustrator programs staggered throughout April.

April 1 was the first day of the month long program and an estimated 50 people showed up, eager to learn and hear the multicultural stories.

"I am really excited about all the authors that will be working with us this month," said Boyce. "I am especially excited about the author we

SEE **LIBRARIES** PAGE 5

Restrictive Vacation Rental Ordinance heads into uncertain waters

BY KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

Two years after passing one of the most restrictive vacation rental ordinances in the nation in order to curb neighborhood Airbnbs, the City finds itself defending the ordinance on two legal fronts.

Last week, a District Court judge allowed an 82-year-old senior citizen to continue with her lawsuit against Santa Monica's restrictive vacation rental ordinance based on an alleged violation of the Coastal Act. Meanwhile, rental giant Airbnb has also challenged the ordinance based on Federal Laws.

Arlene Rosenblatt and her husband contend they should be able to list their home on a website like Airbnb while they are traveling out of town. Rosenblatt wrote in a letter to the editor in the Daily Press in 2015 that she and her husband relied on the income from vacationers to supplement their social security checks.

Santa Monica's ordinance prohibits listing a home as a vacation rental unless the homeowner is present. The ordinance aims to keep Airbnb hosts from taking away from the City's already tight supply of housing. In January, the City Council updated the ordinance to also require home shares list their information on a public registry.

Judge Otis Wright struck down Rosenblatt's claims based on the U.S. Constitution's Commerce Clause, but allowed it to move forward on the alleged violation of the Coastal Act. The Act gives the California Coastal Commission the authority to approve development projects within 1,000 yards of the beach, unless the City has a Local Coastal Program (LCP). The City is in the midst of filing an LCP.

Whether the lawsuit has any merit depends on whom you ask.

"The Coastal Act says that before implementing any ordinance on properties in the coastal zone, the

SEE **ORDINANCE** PAGE 7



DONATION

Courtesy Photo

Northwestern Mutual employee Scott Cohen delivered a $30,000 grant to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern California last week. See Page 3 for more information.

Federal agents raid California business in green card probe

BY AMY TAXIN
Associated Press

Federal authorities on Wednesday raided a Los Angeles-area business suspected of cheating the U.S. government visa program to obtain green cards for wealthy Chinese investors.

Investigators searched the office of the California Investment Immigration Fund in San Gabriel as part of the fraud investigation.

Under a U.S. government program, foreign investors who commit at least half a million dollars to job-creating projects in designated areas can apply to obtain green cards.

The California fund sought green cards for more than 100 Chinese investors for construction projects that were never built, according to federal court filings.

"As a result of the fraudulent scheme, many foreign nationals

SEE **PROBE** PAGE 3


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, April 6

NOMA Meeting

The North of Montana Association (NOMA) meets at 7 pm at Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Avenue, with a reception at 6:30 pm. A new state law encouraging development of Accessory Dwelling Units as a means to ease the housing shortage, and Santa Monica's implementation of it, will be reviewed and discussed. Panel will include Santa Monica Planning Department representatives Paul Foley and Tony Kim, and NOMA residents Jim Williams and Bob Posek. For further information, go to www.smnoma.org. NOMA meets each first Thursday of the month.

Water Neutrality Public Meeting

Santa Monica's City Council directed staff to develop a water neutrality ordinance that would require new construction and major water remodels to offset any additional water use compared to the existing property's usage. This ordinance would support the City's goal to become water self-sufficient by 2020 by stopping the need to import water to meet our daily water demands. Water conservation is a cornerstone of this goal. The room is on the 2nd floor landing of the Civic Center Parking Structure facing the Public Safety Facility, 330 Olympic Dr. 6 – 7 p.m.

Current Events Discussion Group

Discuss the latest news with your friends and neighbors. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 – 2:30 p.m.

Friday, April 7

Tween & Teen Library Escape Room

Work in teams to solve a series of puzzles in order to escape the library. Space is limited; register at the branch. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 5 – 6:30 p.m.

Springtime Fun - DIY Forts at the Library

Fun family activities all week. Ages 3-10. DIY FORTS: Make a story time fort to read books with your family and friends. 2- 3 p.m.

Get Active with Jesus Mejia

Fun, aerobic activities designed to get you moving. Ages 5-11. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 1 – 1:45 p.m.

Saturday, April 8

The Athena Cats New Works Festival

The Athena Cats, a collective of Southern California female playwrights and directors, presents staged readings of new 10-minute plays written and directed by women playwrights as part of SWAN Day (Support Women Artists Now Day). Saturday, April 8 at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.; City Garage Theatre, Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave., Building T1. Free; (310) 564-9410; www.theathenacats.org.

Stencil Making with Patricia Mitchell

Learn techniques and materials to create your own stencils for use in a variety of ways. From traditional stenciling for arts and crafts using brushes and sponges, to quilting templates, to the aerosol stencils used in street and protest art, we'll go over various ways to make multiple images using this technique. 2 – 4 p.m. Cost: $35. Register at http://ow.ly/IehoU or call (310) 458-2239.

Documentary and Filmmaker Q&A: Big Voice

Director/producer Varda Bar-Kar introduces this award-winning documentary on Santa Monica High School choir director Jeffe Huls and a group of students he tries to form into one glorious "big voice." A post-film discussion with Bar-Kar, cast and crew follows. (Film runtime: 83 min.) Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 2 – 4 p.m.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

$30,000 grant given to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern California

To celebrate the importance of volunteerism, Northwestern Mutual, through its Foundation, is awarding grants on behalf of exemplary financial professionals to nonprofits nationwide.

Local resident Scott Cohen, an Associate Wealth Management Advisor at Northwestern Mutual – West Los Angeles, has been selected as a recipient of the company's 2017 Community Service Award. Cohen has received a $30,000 grant for Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times, a program of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern California.

Each year, 16 Northwestern Mutual financial professionals who demonstrate extraordinary service are awarded grants to benefit their nonprofits of choice.

"Having family and friends who battled cancer, I had a natural affinity for Camp, and the opportunity to alleviate some of what these children go through," said Cohen. "Being a part of this camp means the world to me, and I'm so thankful to participate in bringing joy to these kids."

Cohen has volunteered with Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times for 10 years, involving himself in many aspects of the camp experience. His most prominent role has been serving as a cabin counselor, responsible for creating a close-knit "cabin family" over the camp's duration. He has also served as an adventure counselor and a member of the camp's interview committee, interviewing hundreds of prospective counselors to find the right people to join their team. Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern California will use the grant to continue providing a cost-free camp experience for children impacted by childhood cancer.

"A childhood cancer diagnosis can be financially devastating," said Sarah Orth, executive director, Camp Ronald McDonald for Good Times. "But, thanks to the generosity of volunteers like Scott and companies like Northwestern Mutual, we are able to keep our camp programs cost-free for the children and families we serve."

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern California is dedicated to creating a positive, lasting impact on children with cancer and their families through fun-filled, cost-free year-round camp programs.

"When members of the community come together to make a difference, there are no limits to what can be accomplished," said Eric Christophersen, president, Northwestern Mutual Foundation. "Scott has demonstrated the true value of dedicating one's time and skills to improve the lives of others through his commitment to Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern California."

A total of $295,000 has been awarded on behalf of financial professionals this year. Since 1995, the company has donated more than $5 million through its Community Service Award program.

– SUBMITTED BY EMMA WALLO ON BEHALF OF NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL

PROBE

FROM PAGE 1

were able to improperly obtain U.S. green cards through the EB-5 visa program, even though those foreigners did not in fact truly invest in U.S. businesses, nor were new American jobs created," FBI Special Agent Gary Chen wrote in the papers.

Chen also wrote that some of the $50 million raised through the scheme was refunded to investors while their immigration applications were pending or used to buy personal homes for Victoria Chan, an attorney, and her father Tat Chan, who ran the fund.

In some instances, the fund fronted the money for people who were not legitimate investors, he wrote.

In addition, at least three investors who obtained green cards through the program were fugitives wanted by the Chinese government, Chen wrote.

A message left at the fund's office seeking comment was not immediately returned. Multiple email messages were sent to addresses for Victoria Chan.

The company claims on its website to focus on developing hotels, retail, mixed-use residential and senior living facilities.

No charges were filed Wednesday and no arrests were expected, said Laura Eimiller, an FBI spokeswoman.

The investigation dates back at least four years, when Homeland Security investigators looked into one of the listed project sites. The site appeared the same a few months ago and no construction permits had been pulled, Chen wrote.

The probe in California comes as U.S. lawmakers weigh proposed changes to the visa program that has grown popular among wealthy foreigners seeking to move to the U.S. but faces widespread criticism amid allegations of fraud and misuse.

The EB-5 program, which began more than two decades ago, lets foreigners pool their investments through so-called regional centers aimed at boosting economic growth in exchange for green cards.

As of last year, more than 800 centers had been approved to participate in the program, according to the U.S. Government Accountability Office.

Critics say many of the investments purportedly aimed at assisting poor areas of the U.S. have instead wound up going to projects in more affluent neighborhoods.

In addition, programs in Vermont, South Dakota and elsewhere have been wracked by fraud scandals. Earlier this year, a man who once ran South Dakota's program was sentenced to probation and a fine after striking a deal with federal prosecutors.

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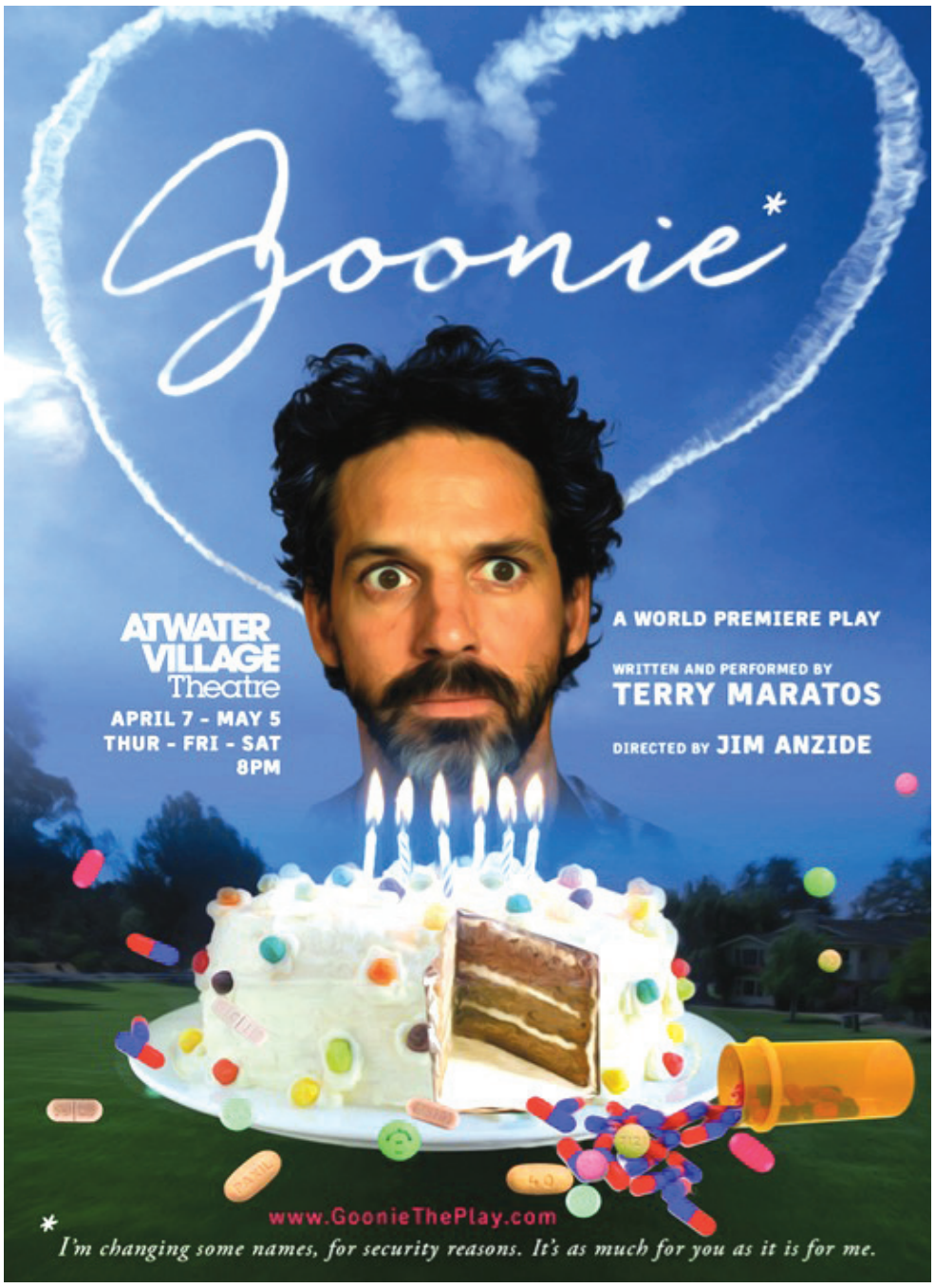
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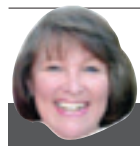
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Play Time

Cynthia Citron
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Two British Films: A Mixed Bag

WELL, I DID IT AGAIN! SAW TWO movies this weekend: one good, one dreadful… The good one is "A Quiet Passion," a beautifully mounted biography of 19th century poet Emily Dickinson. The dreadful one is "The Leveller," a bleak English drama that is both tedious and unfathomable.

Let's start with the good one. "A Quiet Passion", written and directed by British screenwriter Terence Davies, stars Cynthia Nixon, who is made up so skillfully to look like Emily Dickinson that I didn't recognize her. Remembering Nixon as one of the four sexpots in the TV series "Sex and the City", it was mind-boggling to see her as the introverted, reclusive and eccentric Dickinson. Nixon is extraordinary in the role.

Born in 1830 in Southampton, Massachusetts, Dickinson spent her entire life there surrounded by family: her sister Lavinia (Jennifer Ehle), her brother Austin (Duncan Duff), her dour mother (Joanna Bacon), and her domineering father (Keith Carradine). It was a large, comfortable home, but it became almost claustrophobic as the camera panned slowly around the rooms to suggest how it would feel to isolate yourself in them for 55 years.

Dickinson considered herself unattractive, with a small receding chin and an excessively long neck (and I don't know how the attractive Nixon managed that!), and as a young woman she was feisty and opinionated. Sent off to a seminary for her education, she rebelled against the nuns who tried to force her to accept the stringent tenets of Christianity in order to be "Saved." When she returned home she confided to her parents that the nuns considered her a "no-hoper" and that she was suffering from "an acute case of evangelism."

She and her sister never married and as she got older she grew impatient and embittered and more and more strange. Her poems, however, provided her with an outlet for expressing her emotions and her obsessions with death and immortality and the possibility of God, although she came to believe that "posterity is as comfortless as God" and that "if God does not exist, then I will be eternally free." Documenting these aesthetic concerns, the film provides a lavish selection of her innovative poems rendered in soft voice-over.

Even as a recluse she maintained a relationship with a small circle of friends, and a few men whom she regarded as mentors, by corresponding with them frequently. But if any came to visit she wouldn't appear; she would talk to them from the top of the stairs, concealed behind her bedroom door.

By the time of her death in 1886 from kidney disease she had had only a few poems published, but her sister Lavinia persisted until she got nearly 1800 of Emily's poems published posthumously — the first ones in 1890. Always in print since then and continually subject to critical analysis, Dickinson In the 20th century finally became recognized and respected by a newer generation as an early avatar of feminism.

This slow, moody biography is filled with fascinating and colorful secondary characters who contribute to making this film a Must See for would-be artists and poets, as well as lovers of 19th century British costume dramas.

"A Quiet Passion" was released at the end of March and is currently playing at Laemmle's Music Hall in Los Angeles.

My second film of the weekend, "The Levelling", is a truly ugly film set on a depressingly mud-soaked English farm. The farm has endured a flooding by the swollen river nearby, and the daughter (Ellie Kendrick) of the unappealing owner has returned to help out after an absence of many years. She is barely acknowledged by her taciturn father and mainly ignored by everyone else. Further, her brief comments are delivered at such a pace that they are almost entirely incomprehensible. In addition, the other players are burdened with accents that make their dialogue almost incomprehensible as well.

Perhaps subtitles might have helped, but then, after just a few minutes of this dreary movie one is too enervated to grapple with subtitles.

The plot bumbles along, sometimes with puzzling insertions that the writer/director, Hope Dickson Leach, must have imagined would add pith and a touch of fantasy to the proceedings. For example, why did the film open with a group of young men dancing fully naked around a crackling fire? At the end of the scene they vanished and were never heard from or referred to again.

And who, or what, were the two unidentified things swimming or being swept downriver in the middle of the night?

An additional hiccup in the plot was that the farmer had just passed the farm on to his son, who promptly committed suicide. Which is probably the only thing in the film that makes much sense, because if you had inherited a farm as dilapidated as this one you'd probably want to shoot yourself too.

And please don't ask what the title means. I haven't a clue.

"The Levelling" is currently on-screen at Laemmle's Music Hall in L.A. and will probably show up soon at other Laemmle theaters.

CYNTHIA CITRON has worked as a journalist, public relations director, documentary screenwriter and theater reviewer. She may be reached at ccitron66@gmail.com.

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FILM REVIEW

PREVENGE

Not Rated/
Comedic Horror Film/
Not for Kids
88 Minutes
Released March 24

Prevenge is definitely a unique horror film. The movie has been nominated for several festival awards and has won two. To really appreciate this film you should know the circumstances of the creation of this comedic, totally "outside-the-box" take on a woman going through pregnancy.

Director Alice Lowe, an accomplished British comedienne and film and TV actress, obtained the financing to get started on an unwritten low budget horror movie concept she had visualized. Only one thing stood in her way…she was pregnant and getting more so each day. So, as do many of the world's best artists, she built the story around her own experience – the movie is about a pregnant woman who has absolutely no filter. Every pulse of anger that goes through the character's mind is acted upon and carried out in the most horrific manner possible, to the point where we as the audience lose our grip on reality. And this is what makes it such a gruesome and hilarious romp. Anyone who has been pregnant will probably recognize some of the urges that drive Lowe's lead character "Ruth." In real life we resist the urge to act on those impulses … not in this movie!

Originally Lowe had not intended to star in the movie herself. However it was not possible to find another very pregnant comedic actress who was willing to take on the role. In a Q&A following the screening, Lowe walked on stage to introduce the film carrying her toddler daughter, who was actually featured as a newborn at the end of the movie.

The shoot took place when Lowe was in her third trimester, so the cast and crew were under constant pressure to work with as much speed as possible lest their director and star really go into labor. The first half of the film is a bit rough around the edges. However it gains in production value towards the end, probably once everyone could draw a sigh of relief that their director and lead actress was not going to give birth before the shoot wrapped. The movie was shot in eleven days in Cardiff, Wales, on a shoestring budget.

Lowe took on this project with a "Why not? Of course it can be done!" attitude. The movie has a hint of a Greek tragedy – even a chorus made up of black and white film scenes of wailing women. Prevenge recalls the dark and twisted atmosphere from Luis Bunuel's Un Chien Andalou and Robert Wiene's Das Kabinet of Dr. Kaligari from the1920's expressionist film movement. If you get a chance to see this movie and you're into horror films, it's worth the time.

KATHRYN WHITNEY BOOLE has spent most of her life in the entertainment industry, which is the backdrop for remarkable adventures with extraordinary people. She is a Talent Manager with Studio Talent Group in Santa Monica. kboole@gmail.com. For previously published reviews see https://kwboole.wordpress.com.

LIBRARIES

FROM PAGE 1

are bringing to the Pico library. Rene Colato Lainez, has written many books and the book he is presenting is a very timely story and is a light hearted immigration tale."

Authors will read from their books and share how they were created. Programs at Fairview and Pico Branch Library will be bilingual, in English and Spanish.

The remaining schedule is as follows.

Fairview Branch/ Laura Lacamara : Thursday, April 6 at 4 p.m.

Author Laura Lacamara presents her book, Dalia's Wondrous Hair/ El cabello maravilloso de Dalia, about how a Cuban girl transforms her long, unruly hair into a garden.

Ocean Park Branch/ Leslie Ryan : Tuesday, April 11 at 3:30 p.m.

Author Leslie Ryan presents her book, I Am Flippish!, a book about her son's experience when his classmates discover he is mixed race, Filipino and Irish.

Montana Branch/ Michael Bandy and Eric Stein : Wednesday, April 19 at 3:30 p.m.

Authors Michael Bandy and Eric Stein present their book, White Water, tells the story of the segregated south through a child's eyes.

Pico Branch/ Rene Colato Lainez : Saturday, April 29 at 12:15 p.m.

Author Rene Colato Lainez presents his book, Mama the Alien, Mama la extraterrestre, about how a young girl misunderstands the world alien on her mother's Resident Alien Card and questions if she is from outer space.

Children are encouraged to attend multiple Día events, and for those who attend three or more they will be entered into a prize drawing for a chance to win a bike. In order to track attendance; ask for your Día Passport at any location. Passports must be turned in at the Arts & Literacy Festival on Sat., April 29, from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

"I hope that participating in this celebration children see themselves reflected in these books," said Boyce. "Diversity in a book is both a mirror and a window, and I believe this is a timely celebration to do in Santa Monica."

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SMALL BITES PROVIDED BY:

Border turns quiet under Trump amid steep drop in arrests

BY NOMAAN MERCHANT
Associated Press

Just five people were eating dinner on a recent weeknight at a Texas church that is a stopping point for newly arrived immigrants on the U.S.-Mexico border. On a typical night last year, hundreds of immigrants might come through the church.

Immigrants who are still coming say many people in their home countries are staying home amid fears about President Donald Trump's immigration rhetoric, putting off coming to the U.S. until they see how his policies play out.

"There are mothers who heard that Trump might change the law to remove parents and keep the children here," said Jose Gonzalez, a 29-year-old father of two from El Salvador. "That stopped a lot of people."

The first months of the new administration have seen a huge drop in the number of people being caught by agents on the U.S.-Mexico border, raising the possibility that a "Trump effect" is keeping migrants away.

Fewer than 12,500 people were caught at the southern border in March, the lowest monthly figure in at least 17 years and the second straight month that border arrests dropped sharply. Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly, in testimony submitted to a Senate committee, called the decline "no accident" and credited Trump.

But those working in shelters and experts on migration say it will take several more months to judge whether any drop-off is lasting, and that the numbers could surge again as quickly as they've fallen.

Trump's vows to step up deportations and build his signature border wall were widely spread in Central America, according to three migrants who recently arrived in Texas and spoke to the Associated Press. Kelly also announced last month that authorities might start separating adults and children crossing the border, to deter families from trying to enter the U.S.

For years, tens of thousands of migrants every month would cross the United States' southern border. Traffic has surged in recent years of people crossing into Texas from three Central American countries torn by gang violence and poverty: El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

Former President Barack Obama's administration also publicized deportations and tried to dissuade Central Americans from heading north, particularly during the 2014 surge of families and children traveling alone to cross the border. Officials took credit when border arrests fell during his tenure, only to see the numbers rise again.

Some think the real "Trump effect" was pushing fearful people to move up their journeys and get to the U.S. before he took office. Border arrests in October, November and December increased by about a third compared to the same period in 2015, before falling this year.

"The election and the possibility that the wall, everything was going to happen, encouraged them to come now," said Sister Norma Pimentel, executive director of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley, which operates the shelter at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in McAllen.

Trump focused on the constant flow of migrants from the start of his campaign, when he denounced border crossers as criminals and rapists, and repeatedly promised to build a wall and step up deportations. His administration has started taking bids to build a wall and requested funding for more immigration judges and Border Patrol agents.

Most agree Trump's statements affected migrant traffic. Four shelters along the Texas portion of the border, where most crossers enter the United States, say they've seen their numbers fall to a fraction of what they were seeing late last year. And La 72, a shelter near the Mexico-Guatemala border, saw its numbers in February and March fall by nearly half compared to the same months in 2016, suggesting that fewer people are leaving Central America.

Traffickers that operate in cartel-dominated parts of Mexico, known as "coyotes," were rumored to use the American election as a marketing tool. Rumors spread that if Democrat Hillary Clinton won, would-be migrants were told to make it to the U.S. ahead of the election to get a free pass to stay in the country. And if Trump won, they should rush north before he could build a border wall.

Higher demand allowed the smugglers to charge more to get to the U.S. last year, according to Guadalupe Correa-Cabrera, a professor at the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley.

Experts say they want to see if migrant numbers stay low during the summer months, when migration generally rises. Those who have long worked with migrants predict that as long as parts of Central America remain in turmoil, people will try to head north — whether or not the U.S. builds a wall or separates immigrant parents and children.

"If things get worse in their countries, and the situation with gangs does not get better, we will see them come," Pimentel said.

Gonzalez said he left El Salvador because he feared the gangs and the constant threat of being robbed or attacked. Relatives in the United States lent him $15,000 to hire a smuggler for him and his children, ages 10 and 8. They rode in buses and a trailer through Mexico before safely sneaking across the Rio Grande in a month-long journey.

Sitting at Sacred Heart last month, Gonzalez and his children finished bowls of soup and waited for a bus to take them west toward relatives in California.

He hoped that if even if he was deported, his children would be allowed to stay and go to school, while he tried to come back.

"You're conscious of taking that risk coming here," Gonzalez said. "But it's a risk you take to make things better for your family."

Associated Press writers Juan A. Lozano and



ORDINANCE

FROM PAGE 1

City has to obtain permission from the Coastal Commission," Rosenblatt's attorney Jordan Esensten said in a phone interview.

"We believe that the ordinance prohibiting vacation rentals does not maximize access to the coast and that conflicts with one of the core goals of the Coastal Act."

While Esensten believes the lawsuit will be wrapped up quickly, the ruling left Santa Monica's deputy city attorney scratching his head and calling the argument "bizarre."

"The statue is fairly clear, it involves nails and boards," Michael Cobden said, claiming the Coastal Act restricts developments, not ordinances. "Developments are physical things ... buildings."

However, in December, the Chair of the Coastal Commission wrote a letter to city development directors, claiming that the Commission does indeed have jurisdiction over short-term rental bans since they represent "a change in the intensity of use and of access to the shoreline, and thus constitutes development to which the Coastal Act and LCPs must apply," Steve Kinsey said.

The letter does allow that some restrictions on short-term rentals may be appropriate if the proliferations of vacation rentals hurt community character and the city has a good stock of hotel options.

It's not clear how Santa Monica's ordinance squares with those guidelines. However, it is apparent from Kinsey's letter that the Commission expects to have a say in City ordinances.

"We look forward to working with you and your community to regulate vacation rentals," Kinsey said.

The District Court ruling comes on the heels of a City victory over vacation rentals operating in violation of the law. A separate found Globe Homes, Llc been operating illegally in Santa Monica, affirming 35 out of 36 charge against the rental broker. The City hailed the ruling as a sign its ordinance could withstand the pushback from large companies.

kate@smdp.com

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

RFP: #112 FUNCTIONAL CAPACITY EVALUATION TESTING (FCE)
- **Submission Deadline is April 27, 2017 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL**. The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm. There is no charge for the RFP package.

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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **60.6°**

THURSDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** Knee to chest high
Fresh S/SSW swell builds in, while old WNW/NW swell mix continues. New WNW mix shows late in the day.

FRIDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **3-4 ft** waist to shoulder high
Fun S/SSW swell tops out, while small/old WNW-NW swell mix lingers. Eyeing the winds for the morning.

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CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



Crime Watch is culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ON MARCH 23, AT ABOUT 12:25 A.M.

While patrolling the 700 block of Broadway, an officer observed a bicyclist riding his bicycle on the sidewalk in violation of a Santa Monica Municipal Code. The bicyclist was stopped. A records check of the bicyclist revealed there was a "No Bail" warrant for his arrest. The subject was taken into custody and transported to SMPD Jail for booking. Travion Lamar Cason, 35, from Los Angeles was arrested for riding a bike on a sidewalk and a no bail warrant.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to 295 calls for service on April 4.

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

Burglary 1600 block 11th 2:45 a.m.
Speeding 20th/Santa Monica 5:35 a.m.
Petty theft 600 block Marine 5:45 a.m.
Petty theft 1200 block Berkeley 6:01 a.m.
Grand theft 1400 block 4th 6:13 a.m.
Fight 1500 block 2nd 6:39 a.m.
Encampment 400 block Santa Monica Pier 7:26 a.m.
Assault 1500 block Lincoln 7:41 a.m.
Petty theft 2000 block 21st 8:07 a.m.
Burglary 600 block San Vicente 8:31 a.m.
Hit and run 20th/Santa Monica 8:34 a.m.
Grand theft 1700 block the beach 8:46 a.m.
Hit and run 21st/Pico 9:06 a.m.
Indecent exposure 1200 block 14th 9:08 a.m.
Petty theft 1600 block Ocean Park 9:35 a.m.
Grand theft 1500 block 20th 9:49 a.m.
Person down 4th/Bay 10:43 a.m.
Injured person 14th/Santa Monica 11:01 a.m.
Injured person 2400 block Ocean Front Walk 11:31 a.m.
Burglary 900 block 16th 12:03 p.m.
Hit and run 1400 block 15th 12:11 p.m.
Elder abuse 1300 block 17th 12:25 p.m.
Encampment 1500 block 4th 12:27 p.m.
Lewd activity Main/Bicknell 12:28 p.m.
Identity theft 300 block Olympic 12:33 p.m.
Encampment 2800 block Pico 12:33 p.m.
Petty theft 300 block Santa Monica Pier 12:59 p.m.
Petty theft 1200 block Euclid 1:16 p.m.
Indecent exposure 300 block Colorado 1:17 p.m.
Hit and run Main/Bay 1:37 p.m.
Person down 4th/Colorado 2:09 p.m.
Injured person Barnard/Wadsworth 2:12 p.m.
Traffic collision 1600 block Santa Monica 2:38 p.m.
Elder abuse 700 block 17th 2:45 p.m.
Battery 2200 block Colorado 3:07 p.m.
Lewd activity 2800 block Pico 3:18 p.m.
Elder abuse 1400 block 7th 3:35 p.m.
Fraud 100 block Strand 3:57 p.m.
Petty theft 2800 block Pico 5:16 p.m.
Urinating/defecating in public 1400 block Cloverfield 5:35 p.m.
Assault w/deadly 2200 block 28th 5:37 p.m.
Traffic collision 200 block Santa Monica Pier 5:55 p.m.
Sexual assault 800 block Broadway 5:55 p.m.
Petty theft 1200 block Berkeley 6:31 p.m.
Vandalism 1600 block Cloverfield 7:31 p.m.
Vandalism Chelsea/Wilshire 7:47 p.m.
Traffic collision Yale/Santa Monica 7:53 p.m.
Bike theft 5th/Broadway 7:54 p.m.
Prowler 2600 block 33rd 7:55 p.m.
Traffic collision 1400 block Lincoln 8:20 p.m.
Identity theft 500 block San Vicente 8:58 p.m.
Burglary 1800 block Euclid 9:12 p.m.
Trash dumping 1500 block the beach 9:23 p.m.
Domestic violence 2300 block Kansas 9:26 p.m.
Traffic collision 20th/Santa Monica 9:48 p.m.
Burglary 400 block 22nd 10:39 p.m.
Fight 1000 block 6th 10:41 p.m.
Speeding 16th/Wilshire 10:44 p.m.
Vandalism 800 block 17th 10:46 p.m.
Battery 1000 block 7th 10:56 p.m.
Death notification 1500 block 10th 11:10 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department responded to 32 calls for service on April 4.

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

Emergency Medical Service (EMS) 2200 block 31st 12:17 a.m.
Ems 2nd/Idaho 12:51 a.m.
Ems 2200 block Main 3:33 a.m.
Ems 1300 block 15th 6:27 a.m.
Ems 3000 block 16th 8:23 a.m.
Ems 1400 block 15th 9:09 a.m.
Ems 1100 block Lincoln 9:41 a.m.
Ems 1100 block Arizona 9:42 a.m.
Ems 2900 block Pico 10:24 a.m.
Odor investigation 1700 block 17th 10:38 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2900 block Ocean Park 11:26:17
Ems 200 block Pacific Coast Hwy 12:52 p.m.
Ems 100 block California 1:21 p.m.
Ems 1500 block Lincoln 1:45 p.m.
Ems 1300 block 15th 2:15 p.m.
Ems 1900 block Alta 2:17 p.m.
Ems 2200 block 27th 2:20 p.m.
Ems 1200 block 3rd Street Prom 2:49 p.m.
Ems 4th/Broadway 3:17 p.m.
Ems 2000 block Main 3:41 p.m.
Ems 2800 block Lincoln 5:26 p.m.
Ems 100 block Wilshire 5:47 p.m.
Ems 9th/Broadway 6:40 p.m.
Ems 2900 block Pico 7:01 p.m.
Ems Main/Pico 7:07 p.m.
Automatic alarm 200 block 16th 7:18 p.m.
Ems 2200 block Colorado 7:55 p.m.
Ems 1300 block 3rd Street Prom 8:06 p.m.
Ems 4th/Interstate 10 8:41 p.m.
Ems 100 block Ocean Park 9:10 p.m.
Ems 600 block Wilshire 10:44 p.m.
Ems 800 block Santa Monica 11:32 p.m.

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DAILY LOTTERY

Powerball
Draw Date: 4/1
9 32 36 44 65
Power#: 1
Jackpot: 40M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 4/4
13 24 34 35 55
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: 20M

Super Lotto
Draw Date: 4/1
8 10 35 39 47
Mega#: 23
Jackpot: 26M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 4/4
5 6 12 15 27

Daily 3
Draw Date: 4/4
MIDDAY: 1 8 3
Draw Date: 4/4
EVENING: 8 5 7

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 4/4
1st: 06 Whirl Win
2nd: 04 Big Ben
3rd: 11 Money Bags
RACE TIME: 1:46.99

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!

fanfaronade

1. bragging; bravado; bluster.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Medical History

■ This week in 1879, postdoctoral student Constantin Fahlberg discovered saccharin, the artificial sweetener, while researching coal tar compounds for Dr. Ira Remsen at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. With hands unwashed since leaving his laboratory work, during a meal, he accidentally discovered its intensely sweet taste (300 times sweeter than sugar) when his fingers touched his lips. He subsequently obtained patents on its synthesis, and with his uncle, Adolf List, started a factory to produce and market it. Fahlberg became wealthy; Remsen was relegated to the dusty white bin of history.

MYSTERY REVEALED!

Matthew Hall *matt@smdp.com*



Sebastian Felbeck correctly identified the image as part of the playground landscape at the Annenberg Community Beach House. He wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

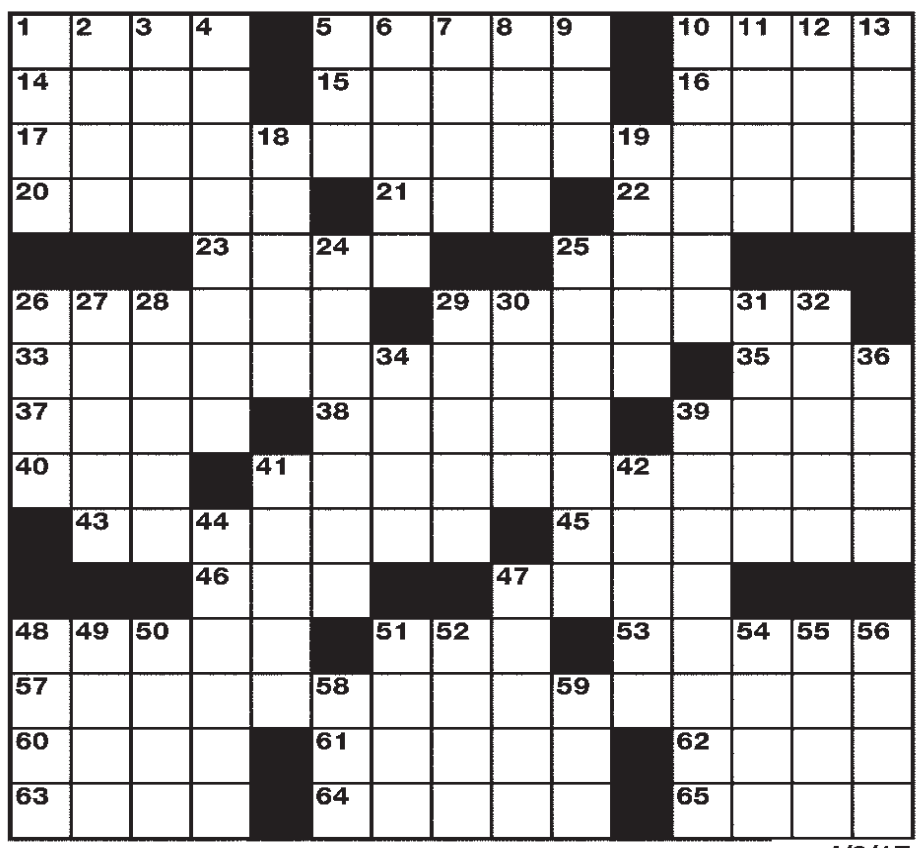
FIX IT . . . by Greg Johnson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Form for some Fr. nouns
5 North African capital
10 Tuner designation
14 __ mater
15 Two-way word like "shalom"
16 *Star Wars: Episode III* baby
17 . . . so it doesn't squeak when you walk
20 Not prohibited
21 Lois in *Batman v Superman*
22 Kaput
23 Blue hue
25 Dickens alias
26 *Dances With Wolves* tribe
29 Bubbles at the beach
33 . . . so the books don't tilt
35 Wraparound accessory
37 Cranial flash
38 Shaver of a sort
39 Now in planks
40 Flare producer
41 . . . so it stops dripping
43 Fine or forfeiture
45 Cricket official
46 Well-chosen
47 Go bananas
48 Vaccination target
51 Rebus conjunction
53 Built for speed
57 . . . so it closes properly
60 Farm report prefix
61 Ape in a Reagan film
62 Pushing the envelope
63 Comprehended
64 Guiding principle
65 "__ for Boss" ('92 campaign slogan)

DOWN

1 Locale with anchor stores
2 Botanical soother
3 Hazy layer
4 Don Juan
5 Ministry of Defence supporter
6 Calm, as fears
7 Economic upswing
8 Call from a yawl
9 Coal derivative
10 Basketball great Mourning
11 *Beowulf* beverage
12 Ardency
13 Nonprofit supported by Uber
18 Do more than please
19 Leave the premises
24 Linus or Lucy
25 Detrimental
26 San __ Obispo
27 Small print on a store sign
28 Nancy Drew series byline
29 Precarious
30 Kids' rhyme starter
31 Beaded counters
32 Farm machine
34 Fencing piece
36 Pay (up)
39 Company's source of goods
41 Error in judgment
42 Shoo-fly pie group
44 Thing in a ring
47 Stopped working, in a way
48 Some management grads
49 Press for
50 Demand for seconds
51 Telltale sign
52 Topnotch
54 It means "internal"
55 Coop group
56 Things on some rings
58 Oldest major network
59 Lightning attractor



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2017 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 4/6/17

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 6)

You'll gravitate toward creative people this year, and you'll find a group of friends that really supports you there. Attractive people will decorate your life in the next 10 weeks. The change next month will take some adjusting to, but you'll get there and be happier for the process. Solve a problem at work; make a ton of money in July. Taurus and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 30, 22, 21 and 13.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
What if you just do what's easy for you? The thing you're struggling against will drift away. You'll find out that some of the drama in your life was totally unnecessary. There's a lot that just isn't your battle to fight.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
You'll find a partner, and then you'll find another. Which is best? Why do you need just one? Both will do. Two partners will be best in this instance.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
Solving the problem will be better than escaping it. A fellow air sign will be your best ally in this endeavor. Air signs are Gemini, Libra and Aquarius.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
There is a mysterious world inside of you. The one who recognizes that you are no ordinary person, that there is a special and complicated puzzle in you that can never be solved -- this person will capture your heart.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Is it a waste of time to organized? No one will pay you or award you for it. Yet being organized is a huge benefit. It helps you think better and be better. You won't regret today's organizational efforts.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
You know how people are. Give 'em the same stuff and they will find radically different ways of interpreting it. It's essential that you find your own interpretation. No one else's will fit.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
The words "I love you" can mean all kinds of things, most commonly today, "Let's get off the phone." Your sensitivity to the meaning behind the words will steer you well.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
The world is your playground. Playgrounds are not inherently exciting, though. They need people on them to be of interest. Of course, if nothing is fun, it's not the thing; it's you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Everyone knows that diversity makes the group stronger. If you are different from the rest, they need you. And don't try to attract people who think like you. You'll be better for the challenge.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You've done a lot of believing in the strengths and competence of others. It's about time you thought about your own might. Your competencies are real. Believe.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
People have a tendency to adjust their values to fit their behavior. Maybe both are out of whack. You'll look at your situation with more compassion and try to find a frame that fits.

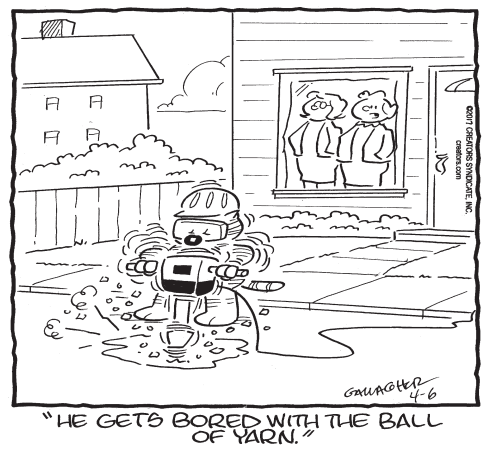
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Give two people the exact same information and each will react radically differently. This is why you stock your life with a bunch of different friends from varied backgrounds. You want a global view of things.

Saturn Musings

When the planet of lessons reverses, the lessons may start to seem repetitive. But aren't all the best lessons that way? "I'm sick and tired of people saying that we put out 11 albums that sound exactly the same. In fact, we've put out 12 albums that sound exactly the same." -- Angus Young of AC/DC

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



Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



Agnes
By TONY COCHRAN



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



Zack Hill
By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



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Notice of Public Hearing-Measure R Parcel Tax

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
smmusd.org

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District will conduct a public hearing on the matter of the 2017-18 Special Parcel Tax (Measure R) regarding applying a Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) adjustment. The public hearing will be held on May 4, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Malibu City Council Chambers at 23825 Stuart Ranch Road, Malibu, CA 90265. Subsequent to the public hearing on May 4, 2017 at the regularly scheduled meeting, it is the intention of the Board of Education to adopt a resolution to levy the tax at the rate of $396.23 per parcel, which includes a 2.7% CPI adjustment. The CPI-U for Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, base year 1982-84=100, from February, 2016 through February, 2017, was used to calculate the adjustment. Measure R 2017-18 Senior Exemption renewal forms are being mailed in April to prior applicants; the forms must be completed, signed and returned by June 30, 2017. To be added to the mailing list, please call 310/450-8338, ext. 70263.

CITY OF SANTA MONICA NOTICE INVITING BIDS

City of Santa Monica

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that bids will be received by the City of Santa Monica located at **1717 4th Street Suite 250**, Santa Monica, California, 90401 until 3:00 p.m. on the date indicated at which time they will be publicly opened, read and posted for:

BID #4270 PROVIDE TOWING SERVICE AS REQUIRED BY THE BIG BLUE BUS

Submission Deadline is April 20, 2017 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Bids must be submitted on forms supplied by the City of Santa Monica. Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL**. The website for this Notice of Inviting Bids and related documents is: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm. There is no charge for bid package and specifications.



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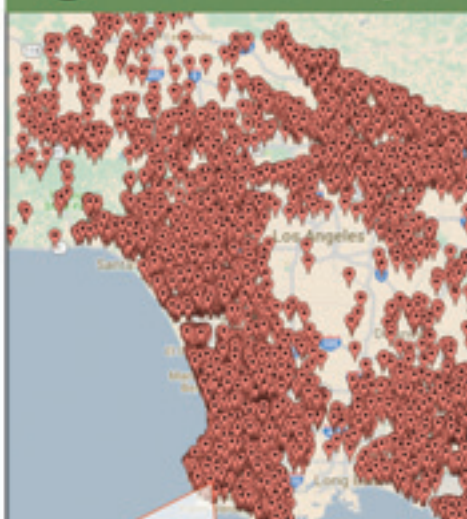
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