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Volume 18 Issue 139

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Council rejects appeal of ocean-front housing

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Two developments that have sparked protests from Ocean Park residents are moving forward.

City Council voted Tuesday to deny appeals filed by South Ocean Avenue Residents (SOAR) and UNITE HERE Local 11 against multi-story, mixed-use buildings at 1828 Ocean Ave. and 1921 Ocean Front Walk. The groups claimed the developers will use the buildings as an extension of their two adjacent hotels, Shutters on the Beach and Hotel Casa Del Mar. SOAR also contends that the five-story Ocean Avenue building will box in the low-slung homes along Vicente Terrace.

Councilmember Ted Winterer said he understood SOAR's concerns about the building but the California Housing Accountability Act prevents Council from granting the group's requests to reduce the height and mass of the project and increase its setbacks from the street. The law, which was passed in 1982, limits the ability of local governments to restrict new development and was tightened in 2017 because of the statewide housing crisis.

"Our hands our pretty much tied on that point," he said. "We can't deny the project."

SEE **HOUSING** PAGE 6

Pending shortfalls trigger job cuts at City Hall

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

City Hall will cut about 29 jobs and save $17 million in spending by mid-2021 to prepare for its coming financial shortfalls as it pays down its $448 million unfunded pension liability over the next 13 years.

Even with an accelerated payment plan for the pension liability that will save $106 million in interest and fewer employees and services, the City of Santa Monica's General Fund will still be at least $15 million in the red in eight years. The fund, which comprises 60 percent of the City budget and collects revenue primarily from property, sales and hotel taxes, business licenses and parking fees, currently has a $7.1 million surplus.

While General Fund revenues are slowing or declining as more people shop online and fewer use parking lots, pension costs are the main driver of the City's projected shortfall. The state pension system that covers City employees fell into crisis after the Great Recession, and a decade before that, it retroactively increased retirement benefits. Cities around California

SEE **BUDGET** PAGE 6

Artemis Film Fest puts focus on female-fronted movies



Courtesy photo

FILMS: Dot-Marie Jones, Melanie Wise, Grace Parra, at the 2018 Artemis Awards Gala.

ANGEL CARRERAS
Daily Press Staff Writer

Santa Monica has had many film festivals as of late with some powered by short films and others powered by indie films. This weekend, however, a film festival will come to Santa Monica powered by a much more distinctive force — women.

The Artemis Women in Action Film Festival (AWIAFF) will hold it's festival's fifth edition in Santa Monica this week and weekend at the Laemmle. The AWIAFF aims to celebrate powerful women on and off screen, from stunt women to activists and films ranging from documentaries to narratives.

"Pointedly, we are the only festival that celebrates bad-ass women," AWIAFF founder and multihyphenate Melanie Wise said. "We celebrate women and we place women front and center and we do it with an incredible amount of diversity."

Wise, an actress-editor-producer first began the festival half a decade ago after becoming frustrated trying to push female-led content. She tried in all her roles over many years with little results.

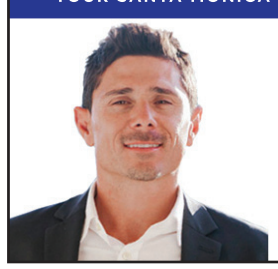
"I was trying and trying and just failing miserably," she said.

In late 2015, she and AWIAFF co-founder Zac Baldwin decided to start their own festival to create a space for such content, a space where women would be

SEE **ARTEMIS** PAGE 7

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CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

RFP: # 226 MORTUARY DECEDENT TRANSPORT SERVICES

- **Submission Deadline is May 22, 2019 at 12:00 PM Pacific Time.**

RFP: # 227 MORTUARY DECEDENT PREPARATION SERVICES

- **Submission Deadline is May 22, 2019 at 12:00 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.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS CALLING FOR PRE-QUALIFICATIONS SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named California Community College District, acting by and through its Board of Trustees, hereinafter "the District" will receive up to, but not later than the below-stated date and time, sealed Prequalification Questionnaires from General Contractors wishing to submit Bids on **Math and Science Addition Building Project.** The District has determined that bidders must be prequalified to bid on this Project. The Project encompasses the following overall scope:

• DEMOLITION OF EXISTING LETTERS AND SCIENCE BUILDING, LIBERAL ARTS BUILDING, AND COUNSELING VILLAGE.
• SHORING OF EXISTING BUILDING.
• SITE WORK, GRADING, AND UNDERGROUND UTILITIES.
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Estimated Construction Cost Range
• M+S Building $85.0M to $90.0M
Procedure
• Wednesday, May 1st, 2019, Prequalification package available from Vanir, SMCCD Program/Construction Management Site Office. 1530 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90405. Contact for all inquiries; Gabriel Murillo, SMC Project Director, (213) 999-2284, gabriel.murillo@vanir.com or Soufiane Boudiaf , Deputy Director, (310) 999-3263, soufiane.boudiaf@vanir.com.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF THE STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS (SOQ) PACKAGE: BETWEEN 1:00 TO 2:00 PM, ON May 31st, 2019. APPLICATIONS MUST BE HAND-DELIVERED. LOCATION FOR SUBMISSION OF BID PROPOSALS: SANTA MONICA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT, DISTRICT FACILITIES PLANNING OFFICE, 1510 PICO BLVD, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405, ATTENTION: CHARLIE YEN

1. Contractors License Classification. In accordance with the provisions of California Public Contract Code §3300, the District requires that Pre-Qualifying contractors possess the following classification(s) of California Contractors License A or B. Any General Contractor not so duly and properly licensed will result in denial of pre-qualification.
2. Labor Compliance Program (AB 1506). The District has established a Labor Compliance Program ('LCP") pursuant to Labor Code 1771.5. The Contractor qualifying to bid the work shall comply with the LCP and provisions of the Contract Documents relating to implementation, compliance with, and enforcement of the LCP.
3. No Withdrawal of Pre-Qualification Package. Pre-qualifying contractors shall not be withdrawn by any list for a period of sixty (60) days after the opening of the Pre-Qualifying package approval.



What's Up Westside
OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, April 25

Preventing Child Sexual Abuse: An Empowering Workshop for Parents
Parents and caregivers play a unique role in child abuse prevention. Learn practical actions we can all take to help protect the children in our lives. Presented by Stuart House, a program of the Rape Treatment Center at UCLA Medical Center. Ocean Park Branch Library, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

'Appy Hour' Lyft App for MODE Workshop
For registered MODE users. Bring your fully-charged smartphone and get help learning how to install, set up, and use the Lyft app. For more information on MODE, please visit bigbluebus.com/mode. Main Library, 4 - 5 p.m.

The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance (1962)
Film scholar Vivian Rosenberg screens and discusses this classic in which a tenderfoot lawyer who is determined to rid a small town of a gunslinger named Liberty Valance, and is aided by his friend and protector, Tom Doniphon. (film run time 123 min.) Montana Avenue Branch Library, 2 - 5 p.m.

Friday, April 26

Introduction to Finding Grants (for Nonprofits)
Introduction to the Foundation Center's database of U.S. foundations, corporate giving programs, and public charities. Length of class is 1-1/2 hours. Seating is first come, first served. Requires familiarity with using a mouse & keyboard. For more information, please visit the Reference Desk or call (310) 434-2608. 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Main Library.

Artemis Women in Action Film Festival
Films, shorts, documentaries, panels focusing on empowered women onscreen. April 26-28 at the Monica Theater 1332 2nd St, Santa Monica. For events and ticket information: http://www.artemis-filmfestival.com/
www.laemmle.com

Saturday, April 27

Children's Book Swap Party
Want to spring clean your bookshelf and refresh it with some new titles? Swap with other families in the community and share your personal reviews! Books must be like-new or gently used. Light refreshments will be provided. Remaining books will be donated to the Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library. Ages 0-10. Montana Avenue Branch Library. 3 - 4:30 p.m.

BARK-CHELLA
Join Apartments.com and Wags & Walks to meet the adoptable dogs for a fun-filled day out at their Bark-Chella Adoption Event. Also, don't forget to bring your own four legged furry friends! There will be free treats, flower crowns, a photo booth session, live DJ, and raffle prizes! The Apartments.com retail store - 1020 Wilshire Blvd, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

American Stories Book Group
In this memoir, singer-songwriter Patti Smith shares tales of New York City: the denizens of Max's Kansas City, the Hotel Chelsea, Scribner's, Brentano's and Strand bookstores and her new life in Brooklyn with a young man named Robert Mapplethorpe – the man who changed her life with his love,friendship, and genius. Title: Just Kids By Patti Smith. Pico Branch Library, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Singing Rounds with Studio Resident Alex Wand
Experience the joy of group singing! In this session, we will sing rounds with some guitar accompaniment; round singing is a musical form where one group starts off with a melody and the next group starts with the same melody a bit later and so on. The result is a harmonious canon of voices in perpetual motion. This repeating event is meant for non-musicians and musicians alike; all are welcome! Free! 1 - 2 p.m. 1450 Ocean. RSVP at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/singing-rounds-with-studio-resident-alex-wand-tickets-56720072263

Hope for Our Planet: The Movement to Stop Climate Change
Learn how climate change affects the earth's natural systems, as well as solutions happening locally, nationally, and internationally to prevent its worst effects. Co-presented by Citizens' Climate Lobby. Light refreshments provided. Main Library. 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Arts & Literacy Festival
Where books come to life! Celebrating Pico Branch Library's 5th Birthday! Sign up for pre-school with Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District. Learn about the state of kindergarten readiness in Santa Monica and enjoy fun activities, arts and crafts and games! Virginia Avenue Park. 10 a.m.

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

Opponents spar over vaccine bill

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

Hundreds of critics of mandatory vaccines were in Sacramento Wednesday opposing a California proposal to give state public health officials instead of local doctors the power to decide which children can skip their shots before attending school.

They packed the first legislative hearing on a bill that proponents said would stem bogus exemptions granted in many cases by doctors who are paid to excuse.

Democratic Sen. Richard Pan of Sacramento said his legislation would give state officials the tools they need to prevent outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases like measles, which in the first four months of the year have reached 28 cases in California.

An Associated Press count shows this year's national measles tally is the highest since 1994.

"If we continue to let these fake medical exemptions increase, we're going to have another larger outbreak, and we need to stop that now," Pan said.

Pan's bill is one of a number of efforts by state legislatures to address measles outbreaks. Washington state lawmakers voted Tuesday to remove parents' ability to claim a personal or philosophical exemption from vaccinating their children for measles, although medical and religious exemptions will remain. Oregon is considering removing all non-medical exemptions, drawing the ire of hundreds of parents who came to the state capitol Tuesday.

Opponents of Pan's bill, including members of parental rights and religious groups, doctors and alternative healthcare practitioners, said the measure strips away parents' rights and won't prevent outbreaks.

"Now they're going after us parents whose children have been injured by vaccines, and doctors as well," said Christina Mecklenburg, who flew in from her Orange County home. "We can't remain silent any more. Too many of our children are being injured."

She said a vaccine last year left her now 2-year-old daughter, Hayden, cross-eyed with an ocular palsy that wouldn't qualify for a medical exemption if Pan's bill becomes law.

"Vaccines save lives," countered Dr. Sergio Flores, testifying in support of the bill on behalf of the California Medical Association. Dozens of other medical professionals and students, many wearing white medical jackets, also lined up to support the bill.

Sacramento mother Alyssa Hernandez supported the bill, saying a high vaccination rate is necessary to protect her son, Noah, 2. He received a liver transplant and so cannot be vaccinated himself against many common diseases. "Each of them could be life-threatening for him," she said.

Critics are unlikely to derail the bill because Pan, a Sacramento pediatrician, is chairman of the Senate Health Committee considering his legislation.

He and other supporters said pockets of unvaccinated students are helping to spread measles outbreaks in California and elsewhere. Pan said a few unethical doctors are helping parents avoid vaccinating their children by selling medical exemptions through word of mouth or online advertising.

California ended non-medical immunization exemptions in 2016, but Pan's bill would follow West Virginia's lead in having public health officials rather than doctors decide who qualifies for medical exemptions. Doctors would certify that they examined the patient and then send the state health department the reason they are recommending the exemption.

State and county health officials could also revoke exemptions if they are found to be fraudulent or contradict federal immunization standards. Federal guidelines say less than 1 percent of children should avoid vaccinations if they have a severe allergic reaction or impaired immunity such as from a liver problem, the HIV virus or chemotherapy.

Dr. Nicole Sharrock, a pediatrician, testified that she generally supports vaccinations but said the exemptions would be too narrow and exclude legitimate conditions. She called Pan's legislation "too extreme" because it would let state health officials overrule doctors' decisions.

Those officials have "never laid eyes on my child," said Catharine Layton, who flew in from her Southern California home. "It totally comes between the patient and doctor relationship, which is sacred."

California lawmakers advance plan for denser housing

KATHLEEN RONAYNE
Associated Press

California lawmakers advanced a proposal Wednesday to spur more housing near transportation and jobs and make it easier to turn single-family homes into fourplexes as the state grapples with a lack of affordable housing.

The measure, a compromise between two senators, sets different requirements for small and large counties. Sens. Scott Wiener of San Francisco and Mike McGuire, who represents the coast from just north of San Francisco to the Oregon border, announced their plan at the start of Wednesday's public hearing, giving advocates who came to testify little chance to digest the changes.

"What works for downtown Los Angeles doesn't work for a county of 600,000 or less," McGuire said. "I'm also a believer that no community should see dramatic change, but every community should see some change. I do believe this bill is trying to strike that balance."

California has 3.5 million fewer homes than it needs, and prices are increasingly becoming out of reach for rents and potential homeowners. Lawmakers from both parties, developers and tenants alike are calling for changes, but there's little agreement on what works best. Some tenant groups argued the proposal would fuel gentrification, while others said encouraging more building benefits everyone. Many local governments opposed the bill because it usurps their authority to design neighborhoods.

"What cities will do in response to a bill like this is sue the state," said David Reyes, director of Pasadena's planning and community development department. "We will no longer have good planning within the city."

The compromise takes elements of both bills and applies standards statewide. It must clear another Senate committee before going to the Senate floor.

Across the board, it would be easier to build fourplexes in residential areas typically reserved for single-family homes. Four-unit buildings could be constructed on vacant land or by converting homes, provided the square footage and exterior walls remain largely intact. It would not allow existing homes to be demolished and replaced.

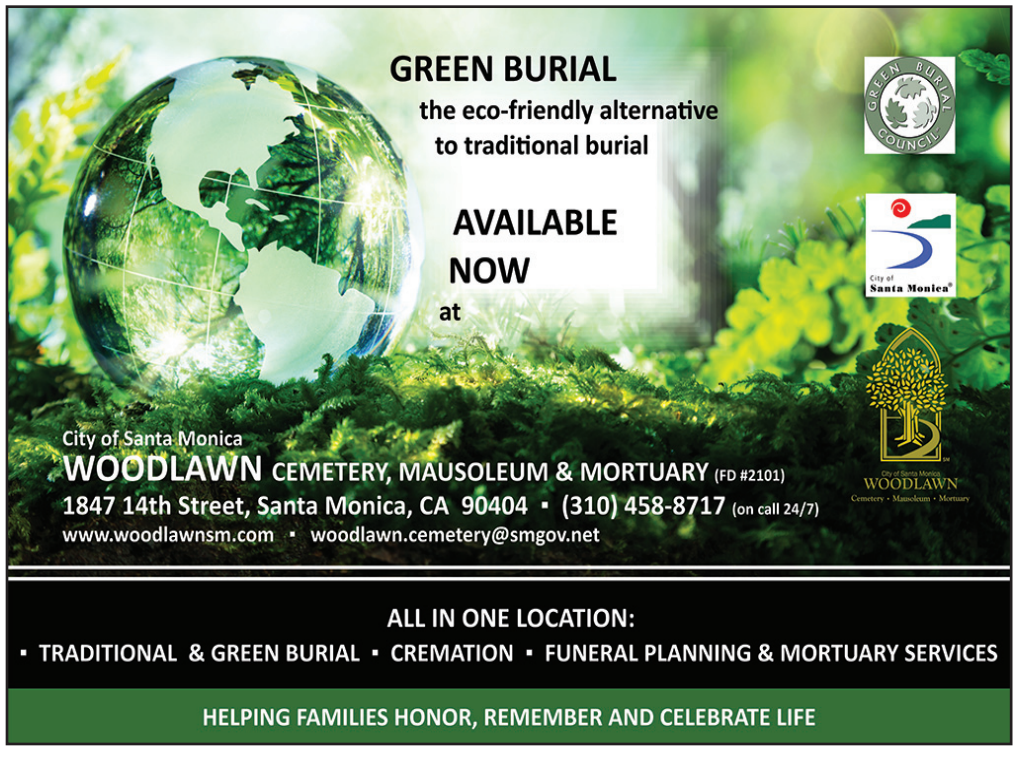
For counties with more than 600,000 people, such as Los Angeles, San Francisco and Sacramento, the bill would make communities approve denser building around rail, ferry and bus stops as well as areas with a high number of jobs. Wiener has argued California needs denser building in those areas to give people more options for living near where they work. It aims to stop suburban sprawl that's prompting residents to commute farther from home to work, clogging California's roads and spewing more pollutants into the air.

Counties with fewer than 600,000 people — 43 of the state's 58 counties — would encourage denser building around ferry and rail stops only, with more limits how that building looks. Areas at very high risk of wildfire and many coastal zones would be exempt from the new requirements.

The new proposal requires that a certain percentage of any new building be set aside as affordable housing, designed for people who make less than the area median income. It does not specify the percentage as lawmakers continue to negotiate with advocacy groups. Statewide, the proposal also includes exemptions for "sensitive communities," which include cities with high segregation and poverty as well as environmental challenges.

Laura Raymond, director of the Alliance for Community Transit-Los Angeles, said the bill doesn't require enough units to be designated for affordable housing and that it lacks specifics on how "sensitive communities" would be chosen and given resources to develop their housing plans.

"We're working really hard to make sure that this bill is changed to do more to protect communities and provide value for low-income renters," she said Tuesday.



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Sustainable Quality Awards
WINNER

Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Who's The Queen? - Ella

Sometimes I wish I could write about every great show I'm privileged to experience. So many. Sonny Green winning over a hardcore blues crowd in the valley, far from his Inglewood digs. The crazy and wonderful violin plus analog electronics concert at the Main Library here. The incredible lineup of some of the best jazz pianists on the planet, paying tribute to the incomparable Oscar Peterson at Disney Hall, or anything there batoned by our treasure Dudamel.

But, I did spend about 45 years doing that and now I'm really happy to just sit or stand there and take it all in, add it to the memory banks and not try to take notes go home and prop toothpicks in my eyelids and down strong coffee and come up with something for the ages. This format of using my knowledge and experience of all that time to try to guide you to the best shows in the coming week, that you might otherwise miss, is good for me and I hope it works for you. Keeping in mind that I do miss a lot, I'm not up on everything new, but I do have some pretty good expert advisors.

RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! — DWIGHT YOAKAM (boy things have changed since I first saw Dwight for free at The Palomino in the early-'80s and he would scream at his band or the sound guy if things weren't just dwight, now he's got 25M albums sold, 12 gold and 9 platinum, five No. 1s on the Country charts and 14 others in the top 10, 21 Grammy noms and lotsa wins, blah blah blah but the important thing is, this Kentucky native was a large force in focusing country music away from slick Nashville and back to CA), next Thurs 8 P.M., The Roxy, West Hollywood, $100.

CHRISTIAN McBRIDE BIG BAND (jazz produces many more legends on horns, keyboards, drums, but none tower more than its greatest bassist and McBride is surely one for the ages, I saw him ages ago at SMC when he was just a kid and he blew me away then, has become quite devoted to educating young players too), Fri 8 p.m., The Soraya, Northridge, $34-$86.

LA PHILHARMONIC with ESA-PEKKA SALONEN (thank goodness our former brilliant maestro remembers where we are and returns, usually to spectacular results, and this time he tries to dig up something new in Respighi's poplar "Pines of Rome," with some Debussy, Ravel and modern Donatoni thrown in), Fri, Sat 8 p.m., Sun 2 p.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, DTLA, $57-$196.

PHOTOVILLE LA (is the Annenberg Space for Photography celebrating 10 years in a big way, promising a full makeover for Century City as they spill out into the park adjacent to the Photo Space to create "a spectacular village full of remarkable art with banners, light cubes, concessions and a full slate of exhibitions, talks, workshops and programming"), check for times each day, Fri-Sun, next Thurs-Sun, The Photo Space, Century City, free but talks, workshops require online RSVP.

LA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA - MOZART's REQUIEM (conductor-designate Jaime Martín takes his historic first bow with Wolfgang's amazing "Requiem," also Bryce Dessner's West Coast premier of "Voy a Dormir"), Sat 8 p.m., Alex Theatre, Glendale, $31-$143; Sun 7 p.m., Royce Hall, UCLA, $28-$130.

The Spring Quartet with ESPERANZA SPALDING, JACK DEJOHNETTE, JOE LOVANO, LEO GENOVESE (great quartet and Spalding, with 12 albums and four Grammys at 31, a prodigy who was playing violin professionally at 5, has become a leading, innovative jazz bassist, composer, vocalist and bandleader always pushing the boundaries strongly and creatively, worth it just to see her), Sat 8 p.m., John Anson Ford Amphitheatre, Hollywood, $35-$70.

RED HEN PRESS: The Figure of Orpheus in Poetry and Performance (so ya really like your Orpheus, hm, how about getting it in spoken word, film and music, you can do that here with a nationally all-star lineup of poets delivering contemporary Orphic odes, appropriate film clips from Marcel Camus's "Black Orpheus" and pianist Paul Barnes's amazing transcription for solo piano of "The Orphée Suite for Piano" from Philip Glass's opera "Orphée," if the trees and rocks aren't dancing by the end of this, they must not have ears), Sun 2 p.m., Broad Stage, SM, $35.

Members of the LA PHIL (chamber music for strings, rarely heard masterpieces by Hindemith, Haydn and Schoenberg, and DON'T FORGET the complimentary wine tasting and mixer beforehand, see if you can get that cellist unstrung), Tues, 8 p.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, DTLA, $20-$60.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: LA PHIL-EMANUEL AX plays Mozart, Disney Hall, LA, May 2-5; BeachLife Festival 2019 with WILLIE NELSON, BRIAN WILSON, BOB WEIR & Wolf Bros, ZIGGY MARLEY, GRACE POTTER, VIOLENT FEMMES, STEEL PULSE, Dawes, Blues Traveller, Pancho Sanchez, Chris Pierce, Manny Moore, Redondo Beach, May 3-5; PLACIDO DOMINGO in "El Gato Montés," Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, LA, May 4, 5, 8, 11, 16, 19: ART GARFUNKEL, Saban Theatre, May 9; THE SMITHEREENS, MARSHALL CRENSHAW, Huntington State Beach, May 11; FLORENCE & THE MACHINE, Santa Barbara Bowl, May 12, 13; PLACIDO DOMINGO, soprano Ailyn Perez with orchestra, The Broad Stage, Santa Monica, May 14.

BAND NAMES OF THE WEEK: Bikini Kill, Ex Hex, Feels, Pretty Awkward, Harm's Way, Moisture Boys, Egrets on Ergot, The Letter Openers, Snails, Slugs, Slutty Lungs, Henry Nowhere, Boy Harsher, Good Kid, Suzie True, House of Broken Promises, Raised on TV, Cruel Reflections, Garage Life, No Suits, F*** U Pay Us, Fancy Space People, Space Yacht, Space Jesus, Pinky Pinky, Grateful Shred, Sh*t Givers, The Flying Fantastic Aquarium Drunkard Circus Show, Ski Mask The Slump God, Hammered,

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 11

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters to the Editor can be submitted to letters@smdp.com. Receipt of a letter does not guarantee publication and all content is published at the discretion of the paper. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content. All submissions must include the author's name, address and phone number for the purposes of verification.

Culture Watch

By Sarah A. Spitz

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Nobody's right if everybody's wrong



T. Charles Erickson

PLAYS: Lisa Banes as Janine and Jordan Boatman as Zoe in The Niceties. Geffen Playhouse West Coast premiere April 9 - May 12, 2019.

Two plays onstage right now, "The Niceties" at the Geffen Playhouse and "Native Son" at the Kirk Douglas Theatre, are strikingly different and yet connected via the thread of race. "The Niceties" is set in recent times at an Ivy League university in the office of a privileged white professor who confronts a privileged, ambitious black student; "Native Son" takes place in Chicago's racially segregated, poverty stricken South Side in the 1930s, where a black chauffeur works for a rich white family that owns the rat-infested tenement where he and his family live.

The characters couldn't be more different: Janine Bosko (Lisa Banes) the white history professor of American Revolution on the verge of tenure and Zoe Reed (Jordan Boatman), a brilliant black student on the verge of graduation and an uncertain future.

And in "Native Son," based on Richard Wright's classic American novel, Bigger Thomas (Jon Chaffin) is a young black man so oppressed by the racist society around him that in his own mind—and in reality—he becomes the very thing that society fears most: a murderous black criminal. The play departs from the book with the addition of a character, "The Black Rat" (Noel Arthur) who as his alter ego, espouses Bigger's internal thoughts and state of mind.

THE NICETIES: IDEOLOGY AND POLITICS

In "The Niceties," Janine and Zoe meet in Janine's office to discuss Zoe's essay, whose thesis is that the American Revolution could not have happened without privileged whites depending on unwilling slaves. Janine defends democracy as humanity's greatest achievement, and idolizes George Washington, whose portrait (along with Che Guevara, Nelson Mandela and other revolutionaries) hangs on her wall, and she defends historical accuracy in the form of the written record.

Zoe points out that black slaves were not taught to read or write, so their record comes through the whites who owned them. Zoe's future dream is to be an activist, which she has been throughout her college career. Janine is on the cusp of publishing a new book and getting tenure. Zoe needs a good grade to get a fellowship to pursue her dreams but Janine stands in her way, defending scholarly research over "feelings," which is what she believes motivates Zoe's position.

The conversation quickly spins out of control; both unintended and actual condescension on Janine's part rubs Zoe the wrong way, setting her off. Their point-counterpoint arguments each have merit, but is there a single answer to any of the issues they raise? They each make points that can be defended or rebutted; but one holds the power over the other—until harsh words are spoken and the stakes are raised and now it's a stalemate.

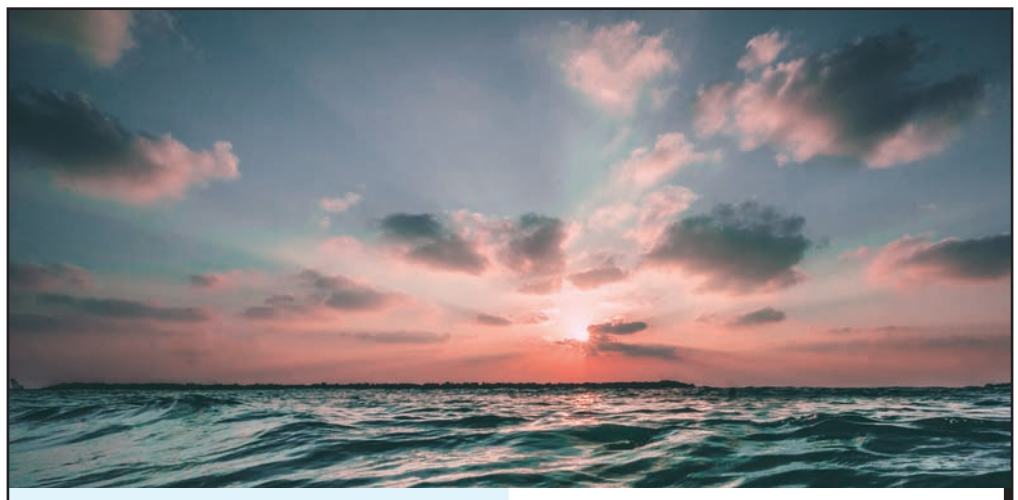
Who's to be admired: Janine, with her academic credibility for insisting that scholarly work requires more than just a "feeling," or Zoe, who's fed up with having to be twice as good, twice as nice, just to be considered barely equal? When we discover that she's planning to protest a visit by Sandra Day O'Connor because of decisions she made that did not favor minorities, Janine is dumbfounded that a woman would stand up against another woman, the first appointed to serve on the Supreme Court.

She also condemns Zoe as a member of the privileged millennial class, whose iPhones have taken the place of real communication. "Digital natives" and "technological savages" are micro-aggression triggers for Zoe, and Janine doesn't even come close to understanding why. But Zoe misses the point, too, when Janine says that she's pushing for "group think" and re-education camps with some of her demands.

Two smart people, two progressives who battle till it becomes a zero-sum game, with remarkable dialogue and real emotion, that's what this ideological warfare between the two becomes. There is no solution.

SEE **CULTURE WATCH** PAGE 11

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HOUSING

FROM PAGE 1

Winterer introduced a motion to address SOAR's other issues with the Ocean Avenue project, however. Although the buildings were previously approved with a stipulation that they must not be used as corporate housing, residents believe the developers will run them as de facto hotels and asked Council to require tenants in the buildings to sign one-year leases. The developer told Council Tuesday that the apartments are intended to be permanent residences.

Council moved last December to prohibit month-to-month leases in residential areas because Santa Monica has been grappling with property owners converting rent-controlled apartments into corporate housing.

Council approved Winterer's motion that the developers must state the criminal and civil penalties for violating the city's corporate and short-term housing ordinances in the project description and the building's leases. The motion also requires them to submit an annual report to the City on the nature and terms of the leases and the project's compliance with Proposition S, a 1990 ballot measure that prohibits building new hotels and large restaurants near the beach.

UNITE HERE's concerns about the Ocean Front Walk project's Prop. S compliance drove Council to remove one of the two 2,000 square foot restaurants from the building. Council also put the same conditions on the development that it added on the Ocean Avenue project.

"The people who drafted Prop. S never imagined putting two 2,000 square foot restaurants in one building," said Councilmember Kevin McKeown.

SOAR has also argued that the project will generate enough traffic to compromise emergency access on the surrounding narrow streets. McKeown agreed that the traffic may be "extreme," but the environmental impact report on the project concluded that the added cars would not cause safety issues and traffic does not allow Council to override the Housing Accountability Act.

"We've endeavored to do as much as we can on parking and the lease terms," Winterer said.

The group of residents, many of whom have lived in their homes for decades, were not appeased by the conditions.

"We believe there are other alternatives that can meet modifications we've asked for without altering the number of units or the project's size," said Sally Reinman, who moved to Vicente Terrace in 1988.

madeleine@smdp.com

BUDGET

FROM PAGE 1

now have to make up the lost pension funds and higher costs.

Santa Monica is required to pay down its unfunded liability over the next 30 years, but the plan City staff will present to City Council Tuesday recommends making those payments in less than half that time to save more than $100 million in interest.

"We're not going to be okay unless we act now," said City Manager Rick Cole.

The City will be making budget cuts over the next decade to offset the pension liability, starting with the 2019-2021 budget that Council will adopt in June. The savings will come from leaving 21 vacant full-time positions unfilled and eliminating about eight as-needed jobs, as well as streamlining City programs, pending Council approval. The City currently has about 2,300 full-time employees.

During the 2019-2020 fiscal year, the City will eliminate 26.8 full-time positions and save $13.3 million by cutting services or bringing in new revenue. It operated on a $734 million budget during the 2018-2019 fiscal year and operated more than 660 programs and services.

"We're going to do fewer things but do them at an excellent level rather than doing a lot of lower-quality things," Cole said. "We're not just going to trim government, we're going to invest in keeping it current."

The savings next fiscal year will come from forgoing a consumer price index adjustment, spending less on enforcing the City's leaf blower ban and freeing up funds previously committed to operating the Mountain View Mobile Home Park, which is now privately owned.

The City will also start charging outside entities like the Los Angeles Marathon for the full cost of staff work, raise parking rates, reduce operating hours for recreational facilities such as the swim center and extracurricular activities like the Police Activities League, and stop broadcasting Council meetings on KCRW.

In 2020-2021, the City will continue cutting operating hours and scale down publication of its newspaper, Seascape, from 10 to six issues per year. It will also make additional cuts based on the recommendations of a community task force, which could include eliminating Breeze Bike Share, which is losing ridership due to competition from dockless scooters and bikes, bringing in a non-profit to run the Santa Monica Farmers Market and removing City Wi-Fi from certain areas.

Amid cuts to non-essential programs, the City plans to invest in the six budget priorities that Council decided on in January: affordability, neighborhood safety, homelessness, climate change, engaged and thriving community, and mobility and access. It plans to expand homeless outreach teams, allocate $2 million to a pilot program that provides low-income seniors with rent money to reach 200 to 400 households and modernize its website.

The City may put measures on the 2020 ballot that will bring in new revenue as its sales tax and parking revenues wane, Cole said. In the past year, New York has increased its mansion tax, San Francisco has pursued a rideshare tax and Oakland passed a tax on vacant properties. Santa Monica may pursue similar initiatives, raise business license and hotel taxes or give private entities sponsorship and naming rights to City events and facilities.

Council will study the budget plan Tuesday and the proposed budget will be published May 23. Council will discuss the proposed budget June 4 and 5 and the final budget will be adopted June 25.

madeleine@smdp.com

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ARTEMIS

FROM PAGE 1

recognized for their talents.

"In a two-month submission period, we got 200 films from 25 countries," Wise said. "I knew it'd be big. I studied box office data for years and had a sneaking suspicion that female-centric movies were a box office beast. You'd read in the trades that, oh, 'Women are poison to box office,' but I knew otherwise."

Over the years, the festival has grown in scope of names, filmmaker diversity and film diversity. Names such as Zoe Bell, Paul Feig and Michelle Rodriguez have made their way to the film festival.

Films this year will center on everything from a thought-provoking documentary about the misrepresentation and underrepresentation of women in film to a tense thriller detailing a woman stranded in the woods, pushed to her limits after an encounter with hijackers leaves her without resources.

The festival continues to attract filmmakers with a message, such as KT Curran.

Curran is showing her film "Surviving Lunch" at AWIAFF, a film dealing with such themes as school bullying and high school shootings.

A Sarasota, Florida native, Curran says she caught wind of AWIAFF and submitted to the festival based on its reputation alone.

"There's a lot of reasons, but I felt that between all these film festivals out there, this was the one I most wanted to get into," Curran said.

She adds that her film, centering on a teen girl finding herself, isn't focused on what most might consider a "quintessential bad-ass or a Wonder Woman", but that AWIAFF recognized the importance of helping Curran showcase a story of a teen finding her voice and the journey to become an activist, a "female warrior".



Courtesy photo

MOVIE: A still from KT Curran's "Surviving Lunch"

"They see women in power at all moments of development," Curran said. "We all have that moment where the fire is lit, where we get where we want to go in the world. The fact that they could recognize that is so kick-ass. All of my movies I try to tell a story and make a difference and Artemis celebrates that."

For more information, visit http://www.artemisfilmfestival.com

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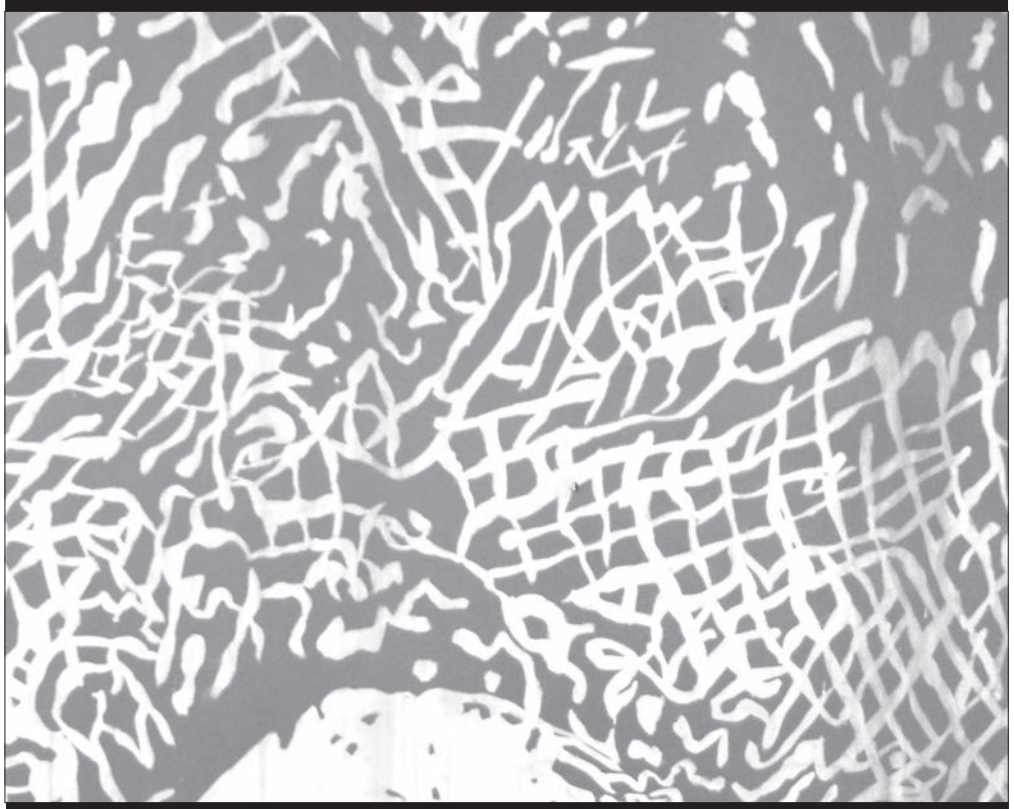
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DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 337 CALLS ON APRIL 23

Burglary 300blk Santa Monica Blvd 12:30 a.m.
Encampment 2000blk Ocean Front Walk 12:34 a.m.
Prowler 700blk Copeland Ct 12:37 a.m.
Petty theft 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 12:51 a.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 14th St / Santa Monica Blvd 3:08 a.m.
Burglary 2200blk Colorado Ave 5:07 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1000blk 19th St 7:08 a.m.
Grand theft auto 400blk 21st Pl 8:15 a.m.
Grand theft auto 800blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:16 a.m.
Burglary 800blk Ashland Ave 8:44 a.m.
Burglary 300blk California Ave 9:07 a.m.
Attempt burglary 2500blk San Vicente Blvd 9:16 a.m.
Speeding 18th St / Oak St 9:21 a.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 3rd St / Marine St 9:25 a.m.
Petty theft 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 9:47 a.m.
Indecent exposure 2400blk Ocean Front Walk 10:25 a.m.
Burglary 1500blk 10th St 10:25 a.m.
Hit and run felony Lincoln Blvd / Cedar St 10:30 a.m.
Threats 1800blk Ocean Park Blvd 10:40 a.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 2100blk 3rd St 11:03 a.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 500blk Ashland Ave 12 p.m.
Vandalism 1800blk 21st St 12:03 p.m.
Check temporary no parking signs 2800blk 6th St 12:06 p.m.
Vandalism 1200blk 2nd St 12:21 p.m.
Threats 1400blk 3rd Street Prom 12:23 p.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 1800blk San Vicente Blvd 12:24 p.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 200blk Bay St 12:45 p.m.
Auto burglary 700blk Broadway 12:55 p.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 2000blk Oak St 1:04 p.m.
Fight 7th St / Olympic Blvd W 1:20 p.m.
Panhandling 7th St / San Vicente Blvd 1:26 p.m.
Attempt burglary 2400blk 2nd St 1:33 p.m.
Violation of restraining order 8700blk Garfield Ave 1:36 p.m.
Petty theft 200blk Santa Monica Pier 1:37 p.m.
Petty theft 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 1:51 p.m.
Handicap zone violation 1400blk Lincoln Blvd 2:02 p.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 2600blk Kansas Ave 2:03 p.m.
Fraud 300blk Olympic Dr 2:14 p.m.
Smoking violation 1400blk Wilshire Blvd 2:25 p.m.
Grand theft 2500blk 29th St 2:35 p.m.
Domestic violence 3000blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:37 p.m.
Traffic collision with injuries 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 2:46 p.m.
Petty theft 1400blk 17th St 2:50 p.m.
Found senile person 1000blk Georgina Ave 2:56 p.m.
Battery 600blk Wilshire Blvd 2:59 p.m.
Defrauding innkeeper 3000blk Wilshire Blvd 3:11 p.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 300blk Montana Ave 3:12 p.m.
Critical missing person 1300blk 26th St 3:20 p.m.
Traffic collision with injuries 23rd St / Ashland Ave 3:32 p.m.
Bike theft 1600blk the beach 3:33 p.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 2200blk Wilshire Blvd 3:35 p.m.
Auto burglary 1200blk 4th St 3:38 p.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 1900blk Ocean Ave 4:22 p.m.
Person down Centinela Ave / Colorado Blvd 4:33 p.m.
Speeding 500blk Euclid St 4:41 p.m.
Grand theft 200blk Santa Monica Pier 4:48 p.m.
Theft suspect in custody 300blk Colorado Ave 4:49 p.m.
Person down 1100blk Broadway 4:51 p.m.
Harassing phone calls 1800blk Ocean Park Blvd 5:03 p.m.
Grand theft 2500blk Beverley Ave 5:18 p.m.
Animal related incident 20th St / Broadway 5:28 p.m.
Theft of recyclables 700blk Hill St 5:33 p.m.
Bike theft 1300blk 6th St 5:56 p.m.
Petty theft 300blk Santa Monica Pier 5:56 p.m.
Harassing phone calls 1800blk Ocean Park Blvd 5:57 p.m.
Petty theft 300blk Santa Monica Pier 6:04 p.m.
Attempt burglary 600blk Wilshire Blvd 6:31 p.m.
Auto burglary 1400blk 4th St 6:35 p.m.
Petty theft 300blk Broadway 6:51 p.m.
Auto burglary 1200blk 2nd St 6:54 p.m.
Construction noise 100blk Strand St 7:01 p.m.
Extortion 400blk San Vicente Blvd 7:17 p.m.
Vandalism 500blk Idaho Ave 7:23 p.m.
Petty theft 3rd Street Prom / Santa Monica Blvd 7:43 p.m.
Speeding 200blk Strand St 7:55 p.m.
Attempt burglary 2400blk 2nd St 8:08 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 35 CALLS ON APRIL 23

Emergency Medical Service (EMS) 2800blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:14 a.m.
EMS 1200blk 9th St 1:39 a.m.
EMS 1300blk Arizona Ave 1:47 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 4:57 a.m.
EMS 300blk California Ave 7 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 9:52 a.m.
Smoke investigation 600blk Colorado Ave 11:05 a.m.
EMS 33rd St / Pico Blvd 11:10 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 20th St 11:20 a.m.
Automatic alarm 600blk Pico Blvd 11:31 a.m.
Electrical fire - no fire visible 2000blk Delaware Ave 12:12 p.m.
Automatic alarm 400blk Raymond Ave 12:14 p.m.
EMS 600blk Pico Blvd 12:37 p.m.
EMS 500blk Ocean Park Blvd 12:57 p.m.
EMS 34th St / Pico Blvd 1:02 p.m.
EMS Stanford St / Colorado Ave 1:32 p.m.
EMS 2000blk 20th St 1:47 p.m.
EMS 300blk Santa Monica Pier 2:16 p.m.
EMS 1700blk Cloverfield Blvd 4:12 p.m.
Automatic alarm 2400blk Main St 4:21 p.m.
EMS Centinela Ave / Colorado Blvd 4:33 p.m.
Trash/dumpster fire 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 4:39 p.m.
EMS 300blk Olympic Dr 4:58 p.m.
Flooded condition 1100blk Franklin St 6:21 p.m.
EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 7:40 p.m.
EMS 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:56 p.m.
Carbon monoxide alarm 2000blk Wilshire Blvd 8:05 p.m.
Wires down 2400blk 34th St 8:06 p.m.
EMS 1800blk 19th St 8:11 p.m.
EMS 100blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:18 p.m.
EMS 2900blk Lincoln Blvd 10:21 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 10:56 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 2nd St 11:06 p.m.

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 04/20
3 27 30 63 65
Power#: 1
Jackpot: $150 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 04/23
7 24 30 48 67
Mega#: 9
Jackpot: $212 M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 04/20
1 3 21 27 30
Mega#: 23
Jackpot: $38 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 04/23
1 15 28 32 34

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 04/24
Midday: 3 3 9

Draw Date: 04/23
Evening: 7 3 3

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 04/23
1st: 09 - WINNING SPIRIT
2nd: 07 - EUREKA
3rd: 10 - SOLID GOLD
RACE TIME: 1:42.09

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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 64.0°

THURSDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft knee to waist high
Small SW/NW swell. Clean AM conditions.

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft knee to waist high
Small SW swell while NW swell lingers. Clean AM conditions.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

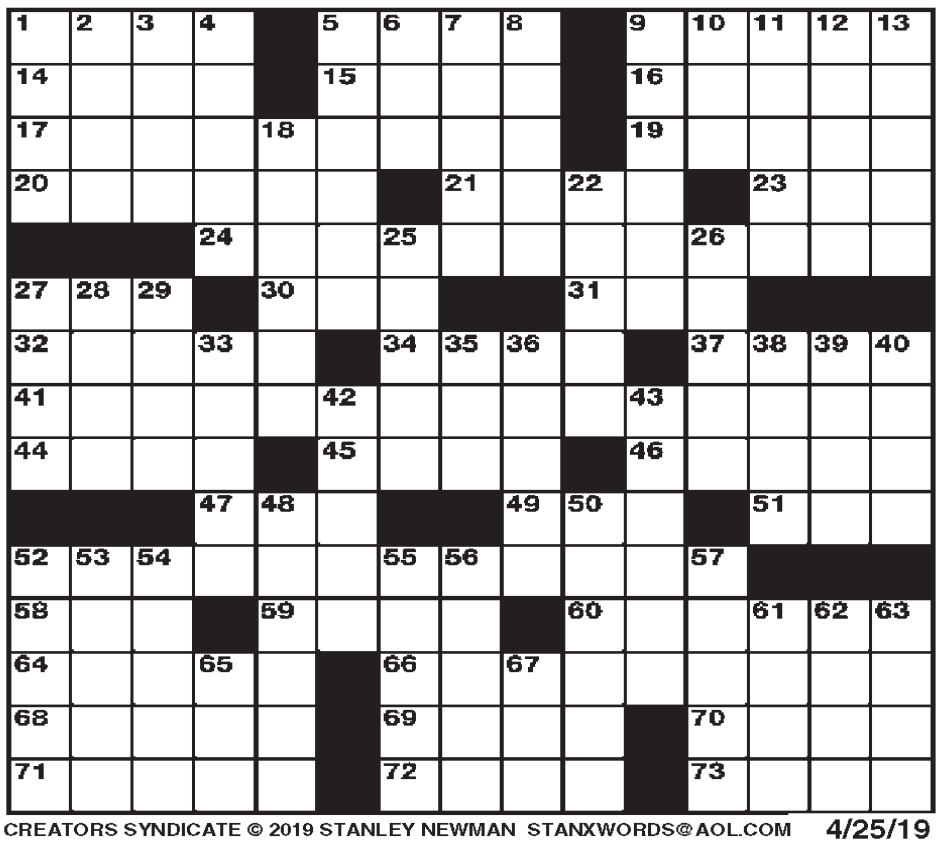
	8	4	9		6			2
	9	2	4					3
5			2		7		1	
	7	8				1		
			8	7	5			
		3				2	7	
	2		7		3			9
3					4	8	2	
9			5		8	3	6	

Newsday Crossword

SENSATIONAL by Greg Johnson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Kid with
5 Braggart-like
9 Motor pool vehicles
14 Predatory dolphin
15 Box of six-packs
16 Eye-bending pictures
17 "Wait a sec, listen . . .!"
19 French composer
20 William the Conqueror, e.g.
21 Help to do wrong
23 Blizzard aftermath
24 "Bye (ha-ha)!"
27 Cartoon brawl shout
30 Busy FL airport
31 Ensure, with "up"
32 Enter __ (say "Guilty," maybe)
34 Frozen dessert chain
37 Oaxaca water
41 "Can we discuss this?"
44 Marble for sculpting
45 Edit out
46 Cliffside nest
47 Have to remit
49 Mountain bike, for short
51 *Financial Times* Inc.
52 "Doesn't that prove it?"
58 QB triumphs
59 Merchandise advisory
60 Christie of mysteries
64 Indian silk state
66 "Try some . . ."
68 Domain
69 Well-hidden home
70 Senior advocate
71 With cunning
72 "Outer" prefix
73 Fairway positions

DOWN
1 Name of six Declaration signers
2 Sandwich with cocoa
3 *Lion King* villain
4 Detracts from
5 Act opener
6 Chinese currency portrait
7 Customary
8 Manage to do okay
9 Bump and shove
10 UV index monitor
11 Take a financial loss
12 Shopper's consideration
13 Go straight and take turns
18 Monkey or mongoose
22 Class to coast through
25 Hanukkah pancake
26 Fully conscious
27 Clumsy ones
28 Audi rival in Germany
29 Tiny biter
33 Macaroni shape
35 Animation collectible
36 Non-starting squad
38 Part of GSUSA
39 Multi-thing entity
40 Stored before selling
42 Invention inspirations
43 Medical washing
48 Hex
50 Italian opera house
52 Planetarium projections
53 Ford of the '50s
54 Thoreau piece
55 Library search field
56 Ancestor of Moses
57 From birth
61 Green-curry cuisine
62 Engage
63 . . . *Lost Ark* crawlers
65 Nothing but
67 Abstain from, with "out"



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2019 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 4/25/19

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 25)

With curiosity as your guide, life unfolds before you in strange and unexpected ways. You'll partner with people as adventurous as you are to terrific ends. You've a knack for attracting the right people to advance the thing you're working on at the moment, both personally and professionally. Aries and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 50, 3, 30, 44 and 10.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You know who needs help. You can see it in their eyes, their body language, word choices... this is delicate. Proceed gently, letting people know you are open to hearing and understanding them without directly asking.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). A gift can feel like a burden when you don't know quite how to use it. Take a breath, thank the giver (or your lucky stars, if appropriate), and then don't worry so much about it. Let this develop naturally.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). As it turns out, what you used to think was your fault is not your fault at all. There were obstacles you couldn't understand at the time, factors in play that preceded your involvement. So shake off the guilt. It never was yours.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). This isn't a competition. You don't have to be the best, brightest, most creative, quickest, coolest or anything else. What you really need to be is finished with this deal so you can move on.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Just because the tag is missing doesn't mean it's free. Similarly, just because you do not currently understand the emotional cost of an interaction, it doesn't mean there won't be one.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There are many people who will be very happy to see you do well. Knowing this will be a key part of your motivation. If you start to lose steam, then just imagine the smiles on their faces when you cross the finish line.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Human interaction involves a million tiny details. You'll never get all of them right. So don't harp on the little things that go terribly wrong. That's part of it. Maybe even the best part.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Find the real thing. There will be no good substitutes. The fakes could work for a few days, but they won't stand the test of time. So go a quest, if you have to, looking for the genuine article.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). It's good to know people's reason for doing what they do, especially if they're doing it with you. Of course, they may not be aware of the reasons themselves, but don't let that deter you. You're very perceptive now.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Maybe you don't think what you're doing is all that special, but it's really not for you to say. How could you? You're too close to the work to see what the others see, or to know the true value you bring.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You're feeling empowered to follow your own whims, especially when they lead you to different physical locations than you normally haunt. You'll go where you please, and you'll please where you go.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). "Don't wake up a sleepwalker," they say, though it's unclear what would happen if you did. And what of the sleepwalking that doesn't involve REM? The urge to gently nudge the wrongheaded may be too interesting to resist.

Capricorn Moon Crusade

Dreaming bigger isn't so hard, but bigger isn't always better. Go sideways with your project today. What if it were a different color, a different country, if it happened at night instead of day, or at dawn instead? Include others in your brainstorms under the Capricorn moon because crusades of imagination will be bonding experiences.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS

"My birthday is Jan. 26, 1974, my man's is Feb. 16, 1976. Will this ever work out? Or should I just give up and move on? He says he cares, but I feel he is just saying that not to hurt me." You are an Aquarius with Mercury, Venus and Jupiter also in Aquarius. You are terrific at friendship and so keenly aware of social nuances and niceties, which is why you pick up on your Aquarian man's indifference. What is so interesting is that you have much in common. You both have natal sun and Mercury in Aquarius. There is a clear line of communication between you. You really do get him. Your love planet, Venus, in Aquarius tells me that you could hang on a really long time with the special friendship you have, quietly pining for more. Considering his Venus in Capricorn, I think it's usually his work and his ambitions in life that keep him from moving forward with love. It's really not you; it's just that he's not ready for a heavy commitment. Moving on will be excellent for your relationship and for your heart. Chances are, as soon as you do, he'll come chasing after you.

CELEBRITY PROFILES

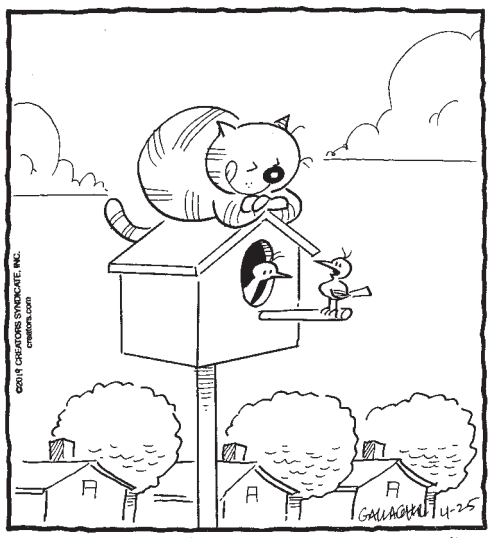
Renee Zellweger will play Judy Garland in a musical drama about the iconic star's life during in concert circa 1968. Even though Zellweger is a down-to-earth Taurus, she connects with the legendary vaudevillian in the spirit of a strong Leo current in both of their charts. Leo is the energy of entertainment. For Zellweger, it her emotional moon, and for Garland it was dreamy Neptune. Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis@gmail.com.

WORD UP!

Rhubarb
noun [roo-bahrb]
a quarrel or squabble.

Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER."

Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



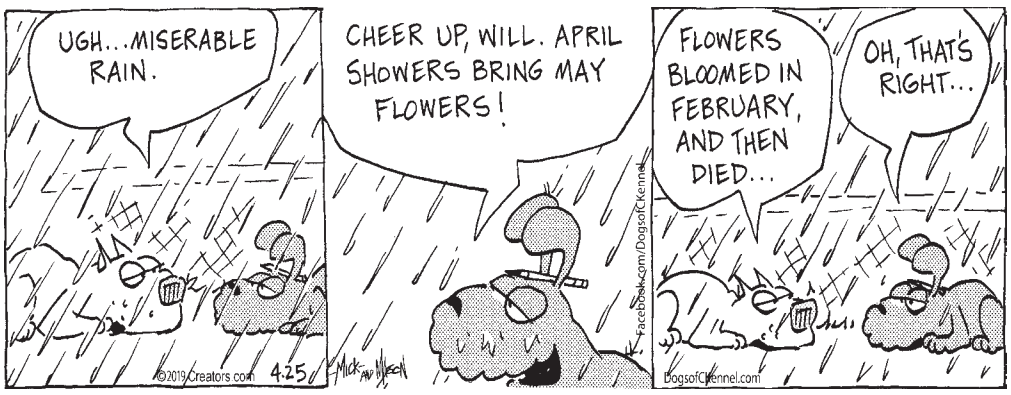
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



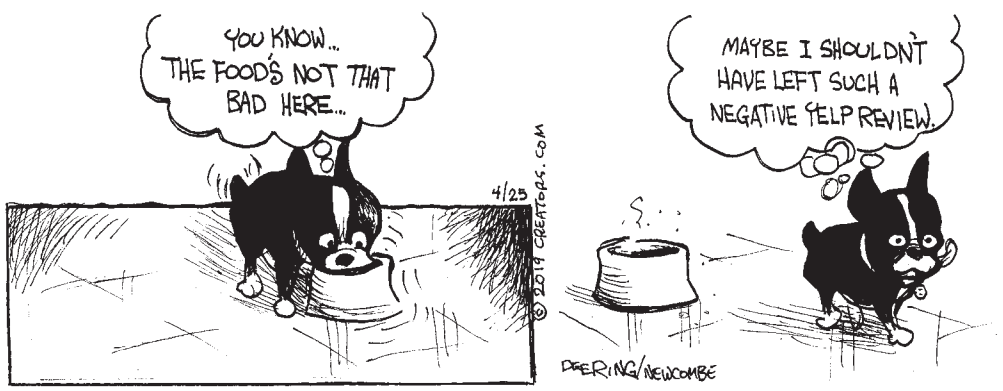
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

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NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 4

Camelphat, Flock of Dimes, Epic Beard Men, Sage Francis, Maggot Heart, Confidence Man, Alice Bag, Half the Animal, Friendly Bear, Yip Yops.

BODACIOUS BIRTHDAY: — ELLA FITZGERALD (1917) — the First Lady of Song, the Queen of Jazz. In the Pantheon. Beyond legend, a Goddess. Purity of tone, impeccable diction, genius phrasing without a shrug, perfect intonation, and a horn-like improvisational ability, particularly in her scat singing. She smiles sweetly and opens her mouth and without any seeming effort spills forth such inspired jazz vocals that everyone else throws in the towel. Sinatra adored her, Duke, and Louie too. And the ethereal Billie. As a teen vocalist for the very popular Chick Webb Orchestra, mostly at the Savoy Ballroom in Harlem, she stepped in as bandleader too when ill health felled him. Just go listen.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 2,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 33 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

CULTURE WATCH

FROM PAGE 5

The ending line, "You know what I hear when I listen to you?" "Your own thoughts," is a powerful statement on the terrible divisions that have polarized our body politic. No matter whose side you end up on, there's no winning this debate. Now we just have to learn to live with our differences. Without destroying each other.

NATIVE SON: RACISM ON STEROIDS

In 2016, Center Theatre Group launched Block Party at the Kirk Douglas Theatre, presenting outstanding productions staged by small, local theatres. "Native Son," based on the Richard Wright novel, was produced by Antaeus Theatre Company, originally adapted for stage at Chicago's Court Theatre.

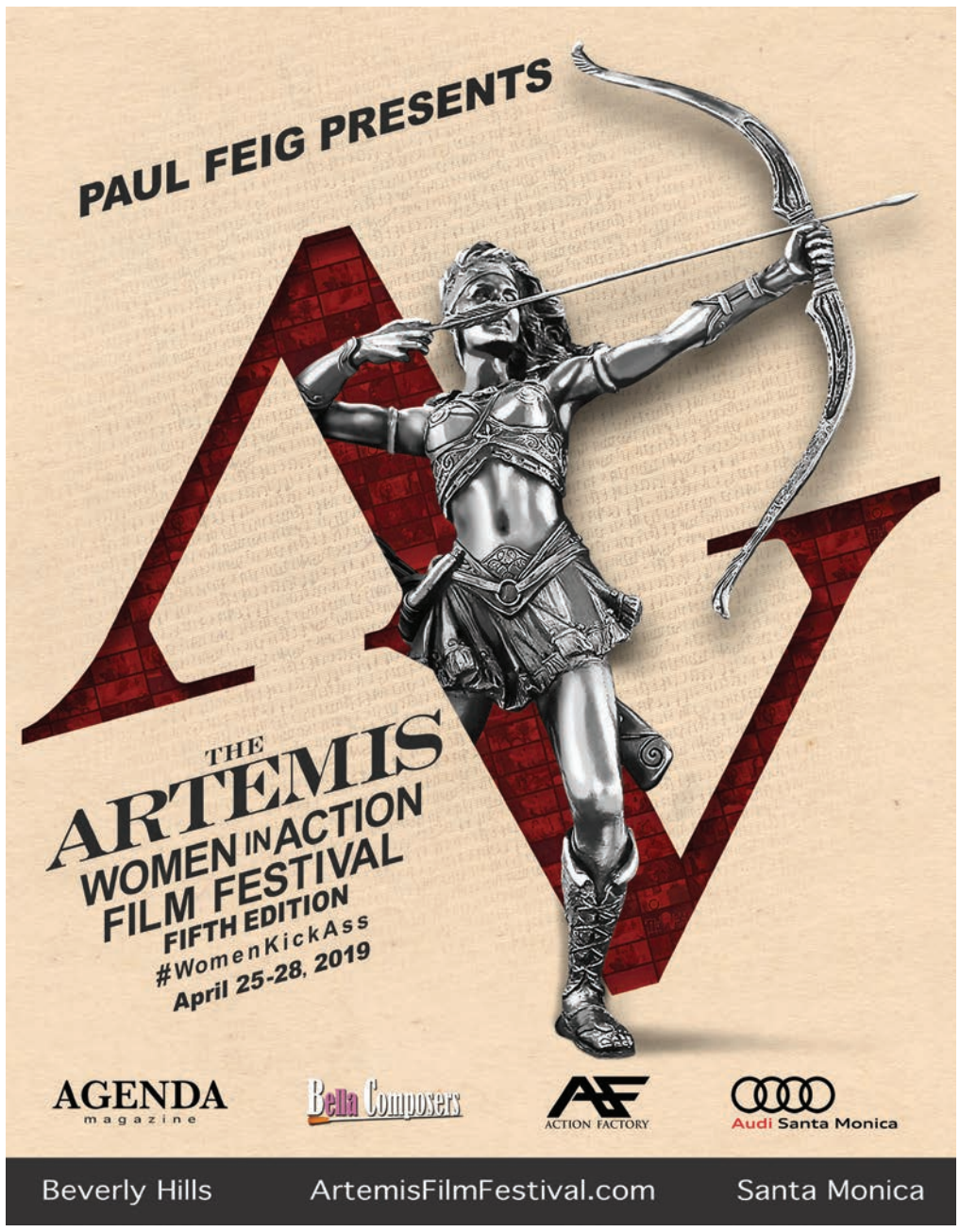
Wright's novel is far more complex than the condensed version of the stage action here, which, per the program description takes place in "a labyrinth of Chicago's black belt and surrounding areas as it appears in Bigger's mind"; and during "a split second inside Bigger's mind, when he runs from his crime, remembers, imagines, two cold and snowy winter days in December 1939 and beyond."

Bigger's father was killed during a protest, his mother struggles to feed the children and keeps a Christian household. But Bigger is seething and sees the white world not only as his oppressor but as his enemy.

It's a time shifting story, with the character of "The Black Rat" invented for this show. It takes place before, during and after Bigger accidentally smothers his boss's daughter, a brazen young woman who gets drunk and tries to seduce him. Whether or not the murder was intentional won't matter: he's a black man, she's a white woman, justice is not in his favor.

This is an intensely physical production, and every single performer gives it their all. It's non-stop action for 90-plus minutes and well worth your time.

"The Niceties" is at the Geffen Playhouse through May 12, click here for info: http://geffenplayhouse.org And "Native Son" runs only through April 28. Visit https://www.centertheatregroup.org.



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