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Santa Monica Daily Press

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE PAGE 2
PUBLIC POLICY SYMPOSIUM PAGE 3
LAUGHING MATTERS PAGE 4
DANCE PERFORMANCE PAGE 7
MYSTERY PHOTO PAGE 9



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Santa Monica Daily Press



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Santa Monica Corsair swimmers take third in Western State Conference



Ethan Lauren

SWIM: The men's and women's teams combined to win third place.

ETHAN LAUREN

SMC Corsair/Daily Press Staff Writer

Swimmers from Santa Monica College competed in the Western State Conference Championships last week. Competing against nine other schools, the men's team took second place, losing to Cuesta College, while the women's team placed seventh. The two teams' results resulted in the Santa Monica Corsairs finishing in third place overall, behind Bakersfield College in second and Cuesta College in first. On the men's team, the Corsairs brought 15 out of the 93 male athletes who competed in the conference and participated in 44 total events.

Colin Casey won first place in each of the three events in which he participated: the 100-yard fly, 200-yard fly, and the 100-yard backstroke. With each win giving the team 20 points, Casey led the team with 60 points out of a total of 591 individual points between all athletes. This performance was enough to give Casey the title, Swimmer of the Meet.

Brian Mcateer received 52 points, with first place in the 200-

yard breaststroke. Martin Berggren won 45 points, finishing first in the 100-yard breaststroke, a goal he has been aiming for all year.

Head coach Brian Eskridge, recognized as Coach of the Year at the meet, thought the team had a good chance at winning, but realized Cuesta was a tough opponent. "That's what's the hardest thing, because we swam really well, every guy was dropping time, outside of one or two swims, everything was going well," Eskridge said. "We were moving up places, beating people, it's just Cuesta did that better."

In the 2017 conference, the men's team also placed second, losing at the time to Ventura College. "Second place is still something to be proud of, but we were aiming for first, so second kind of stings," Berggren said. "When your goal and your mindset is first, getting the silver isn't exactly your happiest moment."

On the women's team, SMC brought six athletes out of 114 swimmers and placed seventh. On the individual side, the team scored 152 points, with Shayna Simmer having the most with 49. SMC's

SEE SWIMMERS PAGE 7

Council accelerates plan to electrify the Big Blue Bus

KATE CAGLE

Daily Press Staff Writer

The City Council told leaders at the Big Blue Bus to (figuratively) step on the gas when comes to transitioning their fleet of 200 buses to electric vehicles.

At their Tuesday night meeting, the Council also gave the go-ahead for a pilot program with at least 10 electric buses. Eventually, an all electric fleet would reduce the BBB's greenhouse gas emissions by nearly 70 percent, as long as the agency procures 100 percent renewable electricity, according to

a staff analysis.

"It may be a little bit painful to buy some buses, folks, but it's our job to do it," said Councilmember Terry O'Day during a Council study session Tuesday. "We have the responsibility to lead in this county on these issues and to take the risks."

The BBB's fleet is already fueled by renewable natural gas. A staff analysis estimated switching the fleet to battery electric would increase costs by an additional \$78 million dollars through 2040, bringing the capital and operational costs to nearly half a billion

dollars for the time frame. The analysis, however, did not factor in all funding options or construction costs if the maintenance yard requires additional electrical capacity to charge the fleet.

"We're taking our last delivery of the near-zero (emission) buses this fall," said City Manager Rick Cole Tuesday. "The goal here, to be clear, is to move to a zero emission future. Running this pilot before we order a slew of new buses is a way to make sure we're buying the right buses."

SEE BBB PAGE 6



DENIM DAY

City leaders joined members of the Commission on the Status of Women to support survivors of sexual assault by wearing jeans on the steps of City Hall.

Elena Christopoulos

Isabel A. Ash Esq.

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Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) Inviting Bids

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) will receive sealed bids from contractors holding a type "B" license, on the following: **Bid #18.26.ES - DSA#03-118598 John Adams Middle School – HVAC & Fire Alarm Project at John Adams Middle School.** This scope of work is estimated to be between **\$3,000,000 – \$3,400,000** and includes construction of, Replacement of HVAC & Fire Alarm systems and installation of new HVAC systems, including selective demolition, asbestos & lead abatement, patching, painting, ceiling repair, concrete pads, rooftop platforms, selective roof repair, and work associated with the installation of a new Southern California Edison transformer and other associated improvements. All bids must be filed in the SMMUSD Facility Improvement Office, 2828 4th Street, Santa Monica, California 90405 on or before 5/31/18 at 2:00 PM at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened. Each bid must be sealed and marked with the bid name and number. Bidders must attend a Mandatory Job Walk to be held at the site, on 5/2/18 at 10:30 AM. All General Contractors and Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (M/E/P) Subcontractors must be pre-qualified for this project per bidding documents. To view the projects bidding documents, please visit ARC Southern California public plan room www.crplanwell.com and reference the project Bid #.

Prequalification Due Date & Instructions for Application Submission:

All applications are due no later than 5/16/18 - Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has contracted with Colbi Technologies, Inc. to provide a web-based process for pre-qualification called QualityBidders. To submit an application at no cost please visit www.qualitybidders.com. Once you have been approved, you will receive an email indicating your approval expiration date and limit. The Districts approved contractors listing can be obtained via the FIP website at <http://fipcontractors.smmusd.org/fip-office-website.aspx>.

Mandatory Job Walk:

Wednesday, 5/2/18 at 10:30 AM

Job Walk location:

John Adams Middle School – 2425 16th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90405 - All Attending Contractors MUST meet representatives outside the front entrance of the school to be signed in and escorted to the meeting room.

Bid Opening:

Monday, 5/31/18 at 2:00PM

Any further questions or clarifications to this bidding opportunity, please contact Sheere Bishop at smbishop@smmusd.org directly. In addition, any pre-qualification support issues relative to Colbi Technologies, Inc., website or for technical support please contact support@qualitybidders.com directly.

Calendar

2

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2018

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Healthy Lunches for Seniors!



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WISE & Healthy Aging offers a weekday lunch program for Santa Monica residents age 60 and older. Your trusted community source for a nutritious meal.

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, April 27

Crafty Kids: Earth Day

Find out ways to take care for our planet. Start your own garden. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave. 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Citizenship Classes

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

Yoga

All levels. Drop in for \$15/class or sign up for series. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH. 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Saturday, April 28

The History of Ocean Park with Richard Orton

Local historian Richard Orton discusses the history of the Ocean Park neighborhood in a slideshow about the area's colorful past. Now moved to the Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd. 3-4p.m.

Raw Food Made Simple

Learn about the healing nature of raw foods, how to create simple raw food recipes, and sample some raw food dishes. Taught by Valerie Lernihian of Cleansing Waters Wellness Center. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave, 2 - 3 p.m.

Día Celebration with Roda Ahmed

In celebration of Día's commitment to celebrating diversity and motivating children and their families to be readers, we invite you to join author Roda Ahmed present her book Mae Among the Stars. Free signed book giveaway, while supplies last. For grades Pre-K-3. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd, 12:15 - 1 p.m.

Image Collage Poetry with Kate Ingold

Sit down with Camera Obscura Studio Artist in Residence Kate Ingold and make collages that combine words with image(s) to create a third work that is greater than the sum of its parts. Challenge yourself with an intellectual and visual puzzle that utilizes chance and juxtaposition! Participants will make collages out of magazines, newspapers, and other 2D sources, then learn techniques for helpful critique of each other's work. 1450 Ocean, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/image-collage-poetry-with-kate-ingold-tickets-43481757106>

Get Connected: an Older Adult Tech Fair

Save the Date! Back by popular demand. You won't want to miss this great one-day series of events. There will be workshops, hands-on one-on-one tech help. Bring your own fully charged device or take a class in our computer classroom. More info coming soon. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Arts & Literacy Festival

Join organizers to discover local arts, literacy resources, and enjoy a day of fun activities and performances. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Free Paper Shredding and Electronics Recycling

The City of Santa Monica's Resource Recovery & Recycling Division can help you safely dispose of your unwanted records and documents from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. during a Free Paper Shredding event. The event is open to Santa Monica residents and will be held at the City Yards, 2500 Michigan Ave. Documents brought to the event will be commercially shredded – safely and properly – by the trained, licensed and bonded document destruction specialists of Confidential Data Destruction. For more information, visit Resource Recovery and Recycling online at www.smgov.net/r3events or call (310)458-2223.

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Pico Blvd
SMC Public Policy Institute presents
7th annual Spring Symposium

The Santa Monica College Public Policy Institute (PPI) presents its 7th Annual Spring Symposium May 7-12. The theme for this year's symposium is "Healing: Mending Lives and Seeking Healthfulness through Innovative Policies and Approaches."

The symposium features the screening of an Academy Award-winning documentary, panel discussions, interactive faculty-student forums, a community talk on health advocacy, and a Santa Monica College (SMC) student film which was recently accepted into The American Pavilion at the 2018 Cannes Film Festival. Audiences will explore the ways in which California's citizens can influence public policy to protect their values not just in their neighborhoods, but throughout the country and the world. All symposium events are free and open to the public. Seating is on a first-arrival basis, unless reservations are required.

"SMC's Public Policy Institute educates students to identify problems and seek steps to solve them," said PPI co-director and SMC Professor of Political Science Dr. Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein. "Through programming such as the Spring Symposium, we help students become better advocates for policies that relate to health care, understand the bigger policy picture, and to develop career goals."

The full symposium lineup is:

"Mindful Monday" Film Screening: "Life in Color"

Monday, May 7 | 5 p.m. | Free
Auditorium/Room 180, Center for Media and Design, 1660 Stewart Street.

A screening of SMC student film "Life in Color," an official selection in competition at The 21st American Pavilion Emerging Filmmaker Showcase at the 2018 Cannes Film Festival. After the film, SMC Film Production Professor Mickey Birnbaum will lead a discussion along with the student filmmakers about the issues explored in the film and their relation to mindfulness and mental health.

"Flourishing? What's it Gonna Take?": A Discussion

Tuesday, May 8 | 11:15 a.m. | Free
Stromberg Lecture Hall (HSS 165), SMC Main Campus, 1900 Pico Blvd.

Four professors will share their views on film, humor, and politics to prompt and facilitate a community discussion about what keeps us from flourishing in today's world. Panelists are Paul Klumpe, Amber Katherine, Ali Mohsen, and Natalina Monteiro.

Lunch & Learn with Westside Family Health Center (WFHC)

Wednesday, May 9, 12 noon | Free, RSVP required
Virginia Avenue Park (Thelma Terry Room), 2200 Virginia Avenue, Santa Monica
Debra Farmer, President/CEO of WFHC will discuss "Women as Advocates."
RSVP required: Email jkirk@wfhcenter.org or call Julie Kirk at (310) 450-4773 ext. 230.

"Healing the Body, Mending the Mind": A Panel Discussion

Thursday, May 10 | 11:15 a.m. | Free
Stromberg Lecture Hall (HSS 165), SMC main campus

Panel discussion exploring the interconnection between physical, psychological, and emotional healing from trauma with Operation Mend, an innovative UCLA program providing advanced medical treatment, comprehensive psychological support, and an intensive treatment program for post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury for post-9/11-era service members, veterans, and their families, in collaboration with the SMC Veterans Resource Center.

Keynote Discussion: "How Does Health Policy Impact Lives and Opportunity?"

Thursday, May 10 | Reception: 6 p.m. | Program: 7 p.m. | Free, RSVP required
SMC Performing Arts Center, East Wing; 1310 11th Street.

This keynote panel features Dr. Jody Heymann, Dean of the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and Mayra Alvarez, President of The Children's Partnership discussing pressing issues in access to health care and other services essential to health in underserved communities. Sponsored by the SMC Associates. For RSVPs, email ppi@smc.edu.

"Heaven is a Traffic Jam on the 405": A Screening & Panel Discussion

Saturday, May 12 | Film Screening: 7 p.m. | Panel discussion: 8 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. | Free
Aero Theater, 1328 Montana Avenue

Producer/Director of the 2018 Academy Award-winning short subject documentary "Heaven is a Traffic Jam on the 405", Frank Stiefel—who is also an SMC alum—will lead a post-screening panel discussion with Mindy Alper, the artist featured in the documentary. The discussion will delve into innovative approaches to dealing with mental health issues.

SMC's Public Policy Institute provides nonpartisan community programs exploring key economic, social, and political issues. The Institute, which presents information discussions on the policy issues that affect our daily lives, offers an Associate in Arts degree and Certificate of Achievement in Public Policy, with specialties in five public policy areas: arts and cultural affairs, education, environment and sustainability, public health, and urban/socioeconomic issues.

The symposium is co-sponsored by a wide range of education, government and community organizations, and donors, including: Associated Students of Santa Monica College, SMC Associates, SMC Foundation, and SMC Veterans Resource Center. For more information about the symposium or the Public Policy Institute, contact Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein (310) 434-3541 or Shari Davis at (310) 721-6446, or visit the Institute's website at: www.smc.edu/ppi.

GRACE SMITH, SMC PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

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Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

If You're Innocent, Act Like It!



Courtesy image

GUILTY: President Trump seems to have trouble acting like an innocent man.

DURING THE 5TH CENTURY, SAINT Augustine, a revered Christian theologian and philosopher, once said, "A lie disturbs the universe." It's safe to say if Auggie were alive today, he'd be so disturbed he couldn't walk straight. (As so many of us are.)

If he'd been around, he'd have likely rolled his eyes when Nixon said, "I'm not a crook." He might have gasped when Bill Clinton said, "I did not have sexual relations with that woman." And he'd likely have gotten nauseous when O.J. Simpson said, "I'm going to spend the rest of my life trying to find the real killers."

But perhaps no one in history could have tested Auggie's devotion to truth more than Donald Trump. It's ironic that our first POTUS, Washington, who as far as we know didn't use any aliases, reportedly said, "I can not tell a lie," Meanwhile our 45th POTUS, who's used at least three aliases, might as well say, "I can not tell the truth." (Proving Darwin was wrong.)

If Auggie only followed Trump's twitter feed. For example, consider Trump's repeating over and over on the campaign trail, "I'll release my tax returns after the audit." If Auggie spoke in modern parlance, he might have said, "That dude just makes sh*t up!"

A common problem for congenital liars is they often forget they're supposed to innocent. Take O.J. and his feud with the Goldman's. If Simpson had been innocent, instead of attacking Fred Goldman, he'd likely have said, "Your son died trying to protect the mother of my children and to me he's a hero." That clearly didn't dawn on O.J.

Or let's consider Trump's comments about whether Michael ("5th Amendment") Cohen will "flip." What Trump (aka David Denison) should say is, "I didn't do anything illegal, so there's nothing to flip."

Most of Trump's legal advisers desperately don't want him to interview with Robert Mueller. They're worried about a "perjury trap." What they're basically admitting is that Trump is essentially incapable of telling the truth. It's not a trap, it's Trump.

In 2016, Ted Cruz said, "Trump is a pathological liar." Chris Christie said, "Trump is temperamentally unfit to be president." Marco Rubio said Trump is "a con artist" and Rick Perry said Trump was "a cancer on conservatism and a barking carnival act." Now they love the guy. Go figure.

Speaking of universes, Trump lives in his own. Listen to the 1984 phone call to a Forbes Magazine reporter where Trump pretends to be PR executive "John Barron." (Alias #1 or #2?) Amateurishly trying to

alter his voice, it's clearly the classic Trump con though he denies it's him. Duh.

Let's not forget that Trump has denied the "Access Hollywood" tape wasn't his voice as he denies affairs with Stormy Daniels and Karen McDougal. Trump's mentor, the remarkably evil Roy Cohn, taught his pupil well, "When in doubt, deny, deny, deny."

Amazingly, "Barron" persuaded Forbes into listing Trump's worth at \$400 million, when it was likely 1/20th of that. With his fake Forbes Top 400 ranking Trump obtained mega-millions in bank loans, many of which he defaulted on.

Eventually American banks stopped lending to Trump. (They tend to get testy when you don't pay them back.) This led to Trump turning to Russian financing, which led to Russian interference in the 2016 election, which led to Robert Mueller, which hopefully leads to prison. (A guy can dream, can't he?)

Alarmingly, often Trump lies when he doesn't have to. In the infamous chat with James Comey, Trump insisted he hadn't spent the night in Russia during the Miss Universe pageant in 2013. It's since been thoroughly proven he spent at least one night, maybe two. "Do I look like the type of man who needs hookers?" he asked. (Given Stormy and Karen, uh, yes!)

Concerned even if there was a 1% chance Melania believed it, Trump asked Comey to investigate the salacious "kinky sex" rumor.. Once again, he forgets he's "innocent" If he wasn't with two hookers in Moscow what would there be to investigate? What Trump was actually instructing Comey to do was to find out how close the truth was to being revealed. (Hopefully, very.)

Trump's lying is contagious among his cabinet. Carson, Pruitt, Mnuchin have lied about spending taxpayer funds. Mick Mulvaney, rumored to be the next Chief of Staff, admitted he only talked to lobbyists who gave him money. Instead of draining the swamp, it's Trump and the Swamp Creatures.

Even the White House doctor, Ronny Jackson, who, amid scandal, withdrew his name as head of the V.A., lied. He said, "The President weighs 239." (Please! Have you seen him in tennis shorts?)

French philosopher Rene Descartes once opined, "I think, therefore I am." For Donald Trump it appears to be, "I lie, therefore I am."

To hear Trump as John Barron click here: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5640775/Donald-Trump-lied-wealth-make-Forbes-rich-list-reporter-claims.html> Jack, just as **JACK**, is at jackdailypress@aol.com.

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AWARD WINNER



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles mayor backs gondola to Dodger Stadium

Los Angeles baseball fans would avoid freeway traffic and be whisked by air to Dodger Stadium via gondola, if a plan backed by the mayor moves forward.

Supporters of the privately-funded project say the aerial trip from downtown's Union Station would take about five minutes.

Mayor Eric Garcetti will announce the proposed gondola Thursday at a Metropolitan Transportation Authority meeting. Metro would have to sign off on the project.

A company founded by former Dodgers owner Frank McCourt would pay a portion of the estimated \$125 million cost. The firm would seek private financing for the remainder.

In a statement, the Dodgers called the gondola "an important and innovative project" that would improve the fan experience.

Garcetti says the system could be running by opening day in 2022.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

LA police officer arrested in workers' comp fraud case

The Los Angeles Police Department says one of its officers has been arrested on suspicion of workers' compensation fraud.

Officials say Officer John Bailey was taken into custody Tuesday after a felony warrant was issued for his arrest. It wasn't known Thursday if he has an attorney.

City News Service reports the investigation stems from a medical claim filed by Bailey earlier this year. The 43-year-old is accused of knowingly committing workers' compensation fraud and receiving benefits under false pretenses.

Bailey, who lives in San Bernardino County, was jailed in lieu of \$60,000 bail.

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LAGUNA BEACH

Woman dies after being swept off coastal rocks in California

Authorities say the body of a woman who was swept off seaside rocks in Southern California's Laguna Beach was pulled from the water about two hours later.

Police Sgt. Jim Cota says the woman was walking with a man near Victoria Point Wednesday night when a wave washed them into the ocean.

Cota says the man was pulled to safety but the woman remained missing. He says a good Samaritan initially tried to save her, but was unsuccessful.

Emergency responders found the woman dead around 10 p.m. She has not been identified.

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Local

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FROM PAGE 1

Santa Monica is not the only local transit agency looking to transition their fleet to electric vehicles to help reduce pollution and combat global warming. LA Metro has ordered 100 zero emission vehicles to transition their fleet. Foothill Transit in the San Gabriel Valley already has 30 zero emission buses, with 14 in regular service.

Officials with Southern California Edison sent a letter to the Council criticizing the staff report for overestimating the costs of electrification and underestimating the benefits.

"The procurement decisions now will impact California for generations to come, it is therefore important that we invest wisely," said SCE's government affairs manager Diane Forte. Forte says there is sufficient power for 23 electric chargers at current facilities, should the BBB choose to replace retiring buses with electric ones.

The transition to electric comes as the

agency faces significant headwinds and declining ridership over the system's 58 square mile service area. Ridership is down 20 percent over the last three years, according to BBB director Ed King. The agency is on track to purchase more buses in 2021 to replace the aging fleet.

Cole said that means the agency should plan carefully amid shifting transportation trends. The BBB faces challenges as more commuters buy or lease their own cars, use ride-hailing apps like Uber and Lyft or take the Expo line.

"What we're talking about is taking one step at a time," Cole said. "People want us to leap into the great unknown."

Despite declining ridership, the service still transports about 13.6 million passengers a year. The BBB will now work on a transition plan to understand the costs and trade-offs of an all electric fleet.

"It's our job to get started on this and we have to get going," O'Day said.

kate@smdp.com



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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **58.8°**

FRIDAY – FAIR TO GOOD – SURF: **3-4 ft** waist to shoulder high occ. 5ft
S swell fills in further and peaks - larger sets for S swell focal points.
Minor NW swell-mix blending in. Deep AM high tide.

SATURDAY – FAIR – SURF: **3-5 ft** waist to head high
Holding S swell - larger sets for S swell focal points. NW windswell rebounds. Deep AM high tide.



CITY OF SANTA MONICA REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

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

Civil Engineering Contractual Services for Reservoir Water Treatment Mixing and Disinfectant Control Systems Project SP2544

The City of Santa Monica is inviting proposals from qualified persons or firms interested in furnishing contractual services to design-build automated water treatment mixing and disinfectant control systems at the Mount Olivette, Rivera, and San Vicente reservoirs to enhance the City's drinking water quality.

The prospective firm is expected to work mainly with the City's Civil Engineering Division and coordinate with other City departments as may be necessary.

Proposers shall provide one (1) electronic copy of the proposal via <http://www.smgov.net/planetbids/> and one (1) physical copy of the proposal to:

Carlos Rosales, CIP Project Manager
Public Works/ Civil Engineering Division
1437 4th Street, Ste 300
Santa Monica, CA 90401

not later than **5:00 p.m. on May 15, 2018.**

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

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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 APRIL 19, AT ABOUT 3:35 A.M.

While patrolling the area of 2000 block of Washington Avenue officers saw a car with expired registration. Officers conducted a traffic stop of the car. A computer check of the passenger revealed he had a felony warrant for his arrest for receiving stolen property out of Bakersfield. The driver was driving without a valid driver's license and consented to a search of the car, which led to the recovery of burglary tools - pliers, bolt cutters, vice grips, drills and pry bars. Both suspects were taken into custody. Nicky Anthony Sessions, 46, from Bakersfield, was arrested for an outstanding felony warrant. Bail was set at \$15,500. Lane Sessions, 22, was arrested for possession of burglary tools, delaying an officer and driving without a license. Bail was set at \$20,000.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 338 Calls For Service On Apr. 25.

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

Hit and run ocean / Colorado 12:18 a.m.
Burglary 2100 block Cloverfield 3:01 a.m.
Battery 400 block Colorado 7:24 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1700 block Colorado 7:30 a.m.
Injured person 20th / Arizona 7:40 a.m.
Identity theft 2500 block 3rd 7:42 a.m.
Panhandling 1300 block 4th 8:17 a.m.
Traffic collision 4th / Bay 8:25 a.m.
Traffic collision Lincoln / Ocean Park 8:26 a.m.
Elder abuse 1500 block 7th 8:52 a.m.
Hit and run 17th / Montana 9:02 a.m.
Death 2200 block 29th 9:15 a.m.
Traffic collision 11th / Wilshire 9:29 a.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon Ocean / Colorado 9:46 a.m.
Petty theft 800 block Idaho 10 a.m.
Hit and run Ocean / Colorado 10:03 a.m.
Hit and run 17th / Montana 10:14 a.m.
Hit and run 1500 block 10th 11:03 a.m.
Identity theft 1900 block Pico 11:03 a.m.
Petty theft 2200 block Oak 11:04 a.m.
Grand theft 7th / Montana 11:18 a.m.
Traffic collision Olympic / Centinela 11:50 a.m.
Truant juvenile 700 block Ocean Park 11:50 a.m.
Battery 1900 block Ocean 11:54 a.m.

Hit and run 800 block Santa Monica 12:26 p.m.
Drinking in public 3000 block Wilshire 1:01 p.m.
Auto burglary 1400 block 2nd 1:04 p.m.
Bike theft 1700 block Expo Line 1:23 p.m.
Traffic hazard 1200 block 26th 1:52 p.m.
Petty theft 1000 block Lincoln 1:55 p.m.
Death 2200 block 29th 2:12 p.m.
Traffic collision 2900 block Main 2:24 p.m.
Traffic collision 20th / Pearl 2:37 p.m.
Fraud 200 block Broadway 2:44 p.m.
Petty theft 800 block Wilshire 2:49 p.m.
Panhandling 1800 block Wilshire 3:35 p.m.
Burglary 2400 block 4th 3:41 p.m.
Petty theft 2600 block Centinela 3:52 p.m.
Traffic collision Cloverfield / Pico 3:57 p.m.
Identity theft 1300 block 12th 4:10 p.m.
Threats 1500 block Berkeley 4:11 p.m.
Traffic collision Cloverfield / Pico 4:16 p.m.
Hit and run 7th / Arizona 4:35 p.m.
Hit and run 1600 block 7th 4:43 p.m.
Hit and run 7th / Olympic 4:45 p.m.
Elder abuse 1300 block 15th 4:49 p.m.
Grand theft 100 block Wilshire 5:28 p.m.
Overdose 1400 block Ocean 5:43 p.m.
Grand theft 1600 block Appian 6:05 p.m.
Fight Lincoln / Ocean Park 8:05 p.m.
Petty theft 300 block Santa Monica Pier 8:08 p.m.
Battery 1100 block 25th 8:23 p.m.
Traffic collision 14th / Wilshire 8:28 p.m.
Auto burglary 2500 block 3rd 9:08 p.m.
Found property 1400 block 5th 10:52 p.m.
Stolen vehicle 1300 block Ocean 11:04 p.m.
Found property 1700 block 15th 11:14 p.m.
Party complaint 1300 block Euclid 11:19 p.m.
Traffic hazard Lincoln / Colorado 11:21 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 28 Calls For Service On Apr. 25.

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

Emergency Medical Service 2600 block Expo Line 12:08 a.m.
Automatic alarm 200 block Ocean Park 4:27 a.m.
Elevator rescue 2800 block Neilson 5:50 a.m.
EMS 1300 block 23rd 6:55 a.m.
EMS 20th / Arizona 7:40 a.m.
EMS 2000 block Main 8:30 a.m.
Traffic collision with injury 1200 block 11th 9:32 a.m.
EMS Ocean / Colorado 9:47 a.m.
EMS 1400 block Stanford 9:48 a.m.

EMS 2800 block Pico 9:53 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2300 block Virginia 11:01 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2300 block Virginia 11:46 a.m.
Traffic collision with injury Olympic / Centinela 11:49 p.m.
EMS 1300 block 11th 1:30 p.m.
EMS 500 block Colorado 3:48 p.m.
Traffic collision with injury Cloverfield / Pico 16:04:42
Elevator rescue 2800 block Neilson 4:09 p.m.
EMS 900 block Pico 4:29 p.m.
EMS 1200 block 16th 5:12 p.m.
EMS 400 block San Vicente 5:26 p.m.
EMS 2400 block Wilshire 5:32 p.m.
EMS 2500 block Wilshire 5:55 p.m.
EMS 900 block 3rd 6:16 p.m.
EMS 1300 block 15th 6:57 p.m.
Automatic alarm 800 block 11th 7:01 p.m.
EMS 1900 block 20th 7:04 p.m.
EMS 1900 block Wilshire 8:28 p.m.

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DAILY LOTTERY



Draw Date: 4/25
17 18 39 56 64
Power#: 12
Jackpot: 177M



Draw Date: 4/24
3 19 31 32 48
Mega#: 10
Jackpot: 111M



Draw Date: 4/25
8 18 20 36 45
Mega#: 21
Jackpot: 9M



Draw Date: 4/25
9 11 14 23 35



Draw Date: 4/25
MIDDAY:
Draw Date: 4/25
EVENING: 3 2 8



Draw Date: 4/25
1st: 09 Winning Spirit
2nd: 11 Money Bags
3rd: 08 Gorgeous George
RACE TIME: 1:40.37

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!

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WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LALEE

Observation

■ “The best medical specialty is dermatology. Your patients never call you in the middle of the night. They never died of the disease. And they never get any better.”
—AMERICAN PHYSICIAN MARTIN H. FISCHER (1879-1962)

Body of Knowledge

■ The surface area of the average, healthy human lung – that is the tissue lining that exchanges inhaled oxygen and exhaled carbon dioxide – is comparable to a tennis court.

Counts

■ 50: Estimated percentage of persons who stop taking a statin within one year of being prescribed the drug

SOURCE: STAT

MYSTERY PHOTO

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SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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.

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

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

Newsday Crossword

- ACROSS
- 1 Chin locales
6 Hang-up
10 Engagement, for short
14 Lucy's landlady
15 Opposite of "enhance"
16 Novelist Roberts
17 Quirk of BRING/BUY/CATCH/FIGHT/SEEK/TEACH/THINK, part 1
20 Cause for complaint
21 Pond's competitor
22 Halves of matching sets
23 Overfamiliar, as a one-liner
24 Mrs. Lennon
25 Austin Powers adversary
26 Quirk, part 2
30 Up to, in verse
31 Wheel alignment
32 Maintenance machine
33 Exploitations
34 It may be felt in Westerns
38 Out of luck
41 Symbol of sturdiness
42 ___ loading (racer's ritual)
46 Pinch preceder
47 Quirk, part 3
50 Moon of Mars
52 Agcy. with auditors
53 Sports tour operator
54 Parts of gables
55 It's surrounded by *agua*
57 "Not so fast!"
58 Quirk, part 4
61 Bart's bus driver

- DOWN
- 1 Fast ferry
2 Shakespearean general
3 Cajole
4 10th-century explorer
5 Type of digital camera
6 Synagogue salutation
7 Exploratory agency
8 Ostentatious
9 Setting at the BBC
10 Boutros-Ghali successor
62 Brew with barley
63 Unconditional
64 Soon afterward
65 Sound system boxes
66 Interpretative piece

- 11 Certain "Sign Here" stickers
12 Early arrival, informally
13 Loafer ornaments
18 Small mount
19 Give forth
24 Shout of distress
25 A great deal
27 Steves of travel prose
28 Call forth
29 What the Norse call a "fjord"
33 Lowest median-age state
35 Apt rhyme for "pursues"
36 Successor of 10 Down
37 They may be disappearing

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- 38 Supplementary poker pile
39 Find by great effort
40 Innocent nature
43 Meals
44 Seed of a business breakthrough
45 Speaking skill
47 Tip of a spout
48 Gretzky NHL team
49 Male or female nickname
51 Particle with a quark
55 Checklist component
56 Checklist component
57 Sprinkles
59 Bulls run for it
60 *Glee* cheerleading coach

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
20						21					22			
23					24					25				
26			27				28	29				30		
31							32				33			
			34		35	36				37				
38	39	40			41					42		43	44	45
46				47				48	49					
50			51					52				53		
54						55	56				57			
58					59					60				
61					62					63				
64					65					66				

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (April 27)

You're onto something. You know it, and the world knows it. There will be a bit of a journey before the deals get made. The generosity you give others will make things happen in their lives. You will lead with love, without strings or guilt. What comes of this will be more important than money, although that comes, too. Cancer and Scorpio adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 5, 20, 13 and 28.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

This circumstance at work is potentially very tricky. Maybe you feel as though you've done it before, but it wasn't like this. You can think of all that other stuff as practice for what's to come.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

The careful listener will learn everything there is to know through casual conversation about nothing in particular. You're such a person, if you want to be. Much will depend on how badly you want to know.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)

Most of the day will seem to be spent in recovery mode as you react to one thing after another. Get up. That's where the glory is – not in the lack of stumbles but in the getting up and up and up again.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)

Conversation will flow; commerce will happen quickly; the trends you take part in will gather momentum. Forwarding your own interests will have to do with the levity of your attitude.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

You're not an open book. You're more like a diary, with a lock to open the thing – and then another lock on each chapter. And each chapter requires a different key, and there are some chapters that nobody has the key to at all.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You drive a hard bargain, but only sometimes. When the situation feels right, you don't even drive a bargain. The bargain seems to drive you. And mutually satisfying deals are struck in the moment without accompanying legalese.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)

You sometimes feel close to people you don't know, and that's because you are close to them. You don't have to know a person in a daily and real sort of way to know that you have compatible minds, made from the same stuff.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)

If life is like an exam (and it certainly feels that way today), then it's not the kind of test where everyone gets the same questions. Rather, your test is different from the test of the person next to you. That's why it does no good to copy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Justice will be served, and you'll be a huge part of why and how this happens. You're especially keen in fighting for those who cannot stand up for themselves.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

It is possible for relationships to take a new direction at any time. However, where there's a void to be filled, it will be much easier to find someone new than to try to bend an existing relationship into a new mold.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

The pressure you feel is because you've decided there's something to uphold, but you could just as easily decide that there's not. What if you don't have to be anything to anyone?

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

Whether you're traveling the interstate or the road of life, there's nothing more irritating than a backseat driver. It cuts out a lot of confusion to work out this mission solo.

Togetherness Moon

People say, "Believe in yourself," but what does it really mean? You know you're here. You know you can make something happen. Being a presence and a force really has little to do with self-belief. It has to do with being curious about others and willing to support them. Together under this Libra moon, all will figure out what needs to be done.

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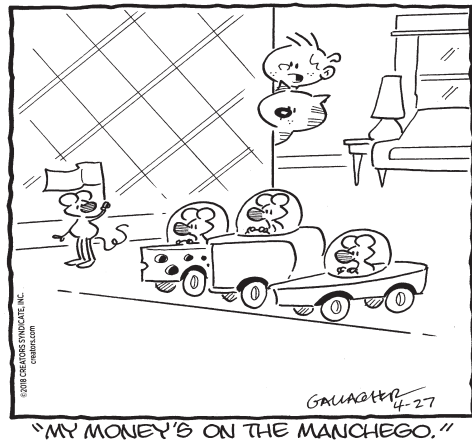
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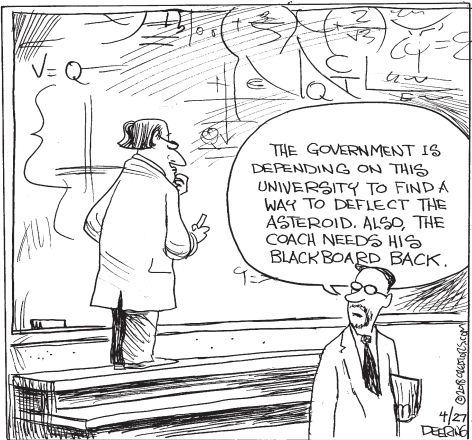
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



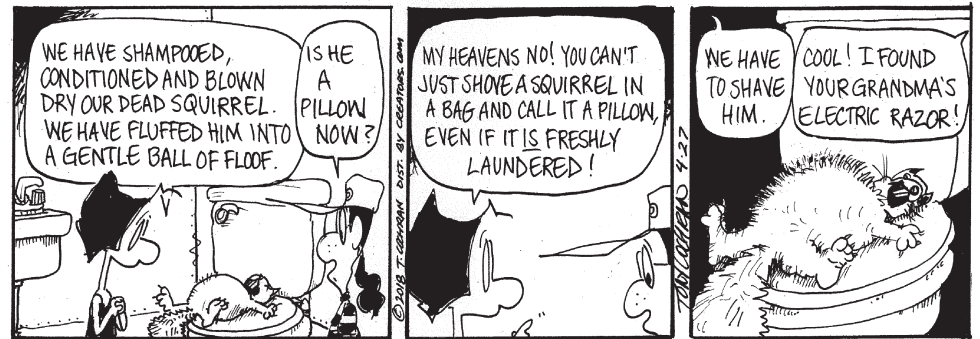
Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



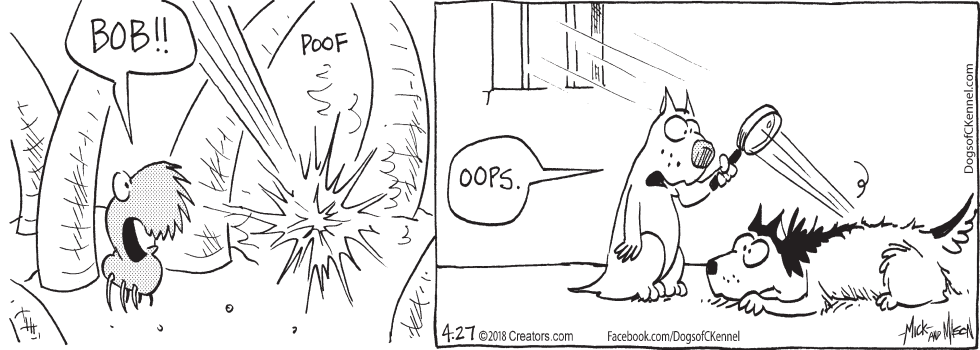
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Oregon's struggles tracking pot reflect industrywide problem

ANDREW SELSKY
Associated Press

To the beat of electronic dance music, men and women inside a slate-gray building harvested marijuana plants festooned with radio-frequency identification tags. In another room, an employee entered the tag numbers into a government database.

The cannabis tracking system used by Avitas, a marijuana company with a production facility in Salem, is the backbone of Oregon's regulatory system to ensure businesses with marijuana licenses obey the rules and don't divert their product into the black market.

A huge amount of data is entered into the system by Oregon's 1,800 licensees every day, a reality that means the state has a tremendous amount of information at its fingertips. But the reality also is the state doesn't have the manpower to monitor all that data.

The marijuana regulatory agency — the Oregon Liquor Control Commission — has only one marijuana data analyst, and not enough inspectors to randomly inspect grow sites and processing facilities to ensure the accuracy of the data they are providing.

A recent state audit concluded the lack of trained inspectors and "reliability issues" with self-reported data hurt the commission's monitoring of Oregon's adult-use marijuana program.

"I think this is a fundamentally sound system," the commission's executive director, Steve Marks, told The Associated Press. But he conceded: "It's not being used to its capabilities. We don't have the workforce there."

Oregon's experience is reflective of one of the significant challenges in the expanding legal

U.S. marijuana industry: the ability of governments to keep track of their own markets.

Washington, which with Colorado became the first state to broadly legalize marijuana in 2012, recently switched tracking contractors after it outgrew the first system, and quickly ran into major technical problems. Colorado has reported no significant technical issues but has only five people on the data analysis staff to help with investigations and look for potential violators.

Last year, Nevada switched tracking companies after its first system crashed. California became the world's largest legal marijuana market on Jan. 1 without the promised vast computer system for tracking. It won't be available for months.

The Oregon tracking system was created by Franwell, a Florida-based technology company that has contracts in a handful of states, including California. Licensees log entries into the system as seeds sprout into plants, the plants are harvested, processed, sent to stores and then sold.

The flood of data is checked by the single full-time marijuana data analyst, with occasional help. Five more will be hired soon, but they'll have their hands full as an estimated 2,000 medical marijuana growers start entering the tracking system on July 1.

According to the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, a recent inventory of adult-use marijuana in the state stood at more than 1 million pounds (0.45 million kilograms). That's roughly 4 ounces (113 grams) for each of the state's 4.1 million residents.

Avitas general manager Joe Bergen said the pot businesses are inputting a "ridiculous" amount of information to the tracking

system. He said 10 percent of Avitas' staff at the Salem facility is dedicated to rules compliance: tagging plants and finished products, tracking the inventory and filling out official shipping manifests.

"It's important to do it, but it's burdensome for a small business," Bergen said.

The data has been useful in confirming wrongdoing in roughly 50 investigations, though less than half of them were triggered by the data, commission spokesman Mark Pettinger said.

On a recent morning, Cecilia Espinoza sat at a table inside Avitas' production facility, staring at a desktop computer. A small wheel spun on the screen for a couple of minutes as she waited for the web application to open so she could update information about the hundreds of plants growing in the 12,000-square-foot (1,115-square-meter) building.

"We call it the 'spinning wheel of death,'" Espinoza said with a laugh. "It's tedious."

Across the room, Bergen placed marijuana products into a bin for delivery to Mr. Nice Guy, a marijuana shop in Salem. He then walked back the history of one of the cartridges of marijuana oil. The powerful oil was produced from Strawberry Fields, a marijuana strain that the pot review site Leafly says is "tranquilizing."

Bergen clicked on a column and added filters until he found a date — Nov. 14, 2016. That was when one of the plants whose THC was a component of the oil was cloned, when an Avitas grower snipped a sprig from a mother plant and stuck it into spongy material soaked in nutrients.

"It's the first batch we ever produced

here," Bergen exclaimed, grinning and pointing at the screen. "That's the beginning; that's the origin story!"

Cannabis producers and regulators compare the tracking system to filing income taxes: They operate to a large extent on good faith, but when an auditor or inspector comes there better be evidence to back the numbers.

However, the chances of a "compliance inspector" showing up at a site is low. The Oregon commission only employs 19, with four more to be added soon.

They don't have time to randomly check grow sites and compare amounts of marijuana they see with the data. Instead, inspectors are largely tied up investigating complaints, for example on someone carrying out a function beyond the scope of a license, or harvesters lacking the required permit, commission officials said.

Companies that have gone the legal route — paying for licenses, security and other systems to meet the requirements — say regulators should focus on those who remain outside the legal system. They note the illegal producers are unfair competition, without the large overhead.

"Really, there is no incentive for us to do anything but stay in the recreational market," said Bergen, whose company invested millions in the Salem facility. "Why would we have gone to all this trouble, just to lose our license from doing something stupid like selling on the black market?"

Associated Press writers Eugene Johnson in Seattle and Kathleen Foody in Denver contributed to this report.

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