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smdp
Santa Monica Daily Press
THURSDAY
06.28.18
Volume 17 Issue 190

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Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews

Santa Monica Rocks, Plus Reggae

GO TO MCCABE'S, GO TO THE LIBRARY!

For many years I hid my shame, that the film "The Harder They Come" was my introduction to reggae music and my passion for it. It's widely known that KCRW's Reggae Beat (originating from Santa Monica College, carried by 130 stations worldwide) DJ Roger Steffens, the world's foremost authority on Bob Marley and probably on reggae music as a whole, got turned on to the magic of Marley with that 1973 album "Catch a Fire." His first guest on that radio show was Marley, and Steffens promptly took a short leave to join the Wailers' tour.

I moved to LA from NM in 1980, with a passion for reggae but not much background. No Internet then, folks. No record stores in Albuquerque carrying any reggae albums except that soundtrack. I had seen the film at a local art theater, Don Pancho's, and it

SEE MUSIC PAGE 5

Culture Watch

By Sarah A. Spitz

Two Must-See Documentaries

"THREE IDENTICAL STRANGERS" will blow your mind, while "Five Seasons: The Gardens of Piet Oudolf" will bring it down to earth and calm it. Both open tomorrow

SEE CULTURE PAGE 6

Elections lawsuit headed toward trial

KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

The City of Santa Monica is gearing up for a showdown next month, as Malibu lawyer Kevin Shenkman prepares to take them to trial July 30 over City Council elections. Santa Monica is the first California city to challenge Shenkman regarding the California Voting Rights Act since Palmdale was forced to change to district elections in 2015. The settlement in that case required the city to pay $4.5 million in attorney's fees for the plaintiffs.

Since the Palmdale decision, a mere letter from Shenkman's firm has led to election overhauls in about 40 cities, as municipalities seek to avoid a protracted and expensive legal battle. The lawsuits and letters are based on a 2001 state expansion of federal rules that make it easier for minority groups to prove their votes are diluted in "at large" elections.

"In 2016, Palmdale had its first district elections and elected its first Latino Democrat ever," Shenkman said. "It's amazing to see the level of development and improvement on that portion of

SEE TRIAL PAGE 3

Parking study validates field construction at the Civic Center

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Parking, or a lack thereof, should not impede construction of a field at the Civic Center site according to a new study.

Plans to build a field in the Civic parking lot require approval from the Coastal Commission and the City Hall said the study had been required by the Commission as a condition for hearing the application. Walker Consultants released their report this week concluding there are ample options for parking and/or alternate transit in the immediate area.

"Walker's analysis of the transportation options serving the Civic Center and broader Study Area, including the current and future supply of parking, demonstrates sufficient parking and transportation resources within a reasonable walking distance of the Civic

SEE STUDY PAGE 3













NOW OPEN

Niko James

Mel's Drive-In is now open for limited hours. The restaurant is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and anticipates moving to a 24-hour schedule when they hold a ribbon cutting in early July. Mel's is located at 1670 Lincoln Blvd., at the corner of Lincoln and Olympic.


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, June 28

Beach Eats

Beach Eats is a weekly food truck gathering at Marina "Mother's" Beach on summer Thursdays through September 27, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. New this year, enjoy live music from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. while you picnic by the sea! Bring your own beach chair and enjoy the free show. Visitmarinadelrey.com/beacheats; 424-526-7900.

Wearable Circuit Workshop with Brittany Ransom

Make custom wearable electronics using a basic LED light circuit. Using conductive thread, felt, a watch battery, and an LED, you'll come away with a light up bracelet. Basic sewing is helpful, though not required. Palisades Park, 1450 Ocean Ave., 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/65734

Bubblemania

Get ready to explore the science and fun of bubbles with a certified Bubblologist. Tickets are free and available the day of the program. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St., 2:30 - 3:15 p.m.

Soundwaves Concert: Elliott Levin/Don Preston

New music concert. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Ooze and Gooze Lab: Slime

Mix, measure, stir, and learn chemistry basics and make your own slime. Limited space; registration starts 6/7. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd., 3 - 4 p.m.

Decorative Miniature Plant World

Create a miniature planted succulent world in a container you uniquely design. Instructor Amy Muscoplat teaches how to blend the natural world of succulents with the decorative craft world in order to fashion your own living plant work of art to care for and enjoy. All supplies provided. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave., 5 - 7 p.m.

Family Game Night

Back by popular demand. Turn off those electronic devices and spend some quality time with your family. Board games for young and older kids provided – or bring your own. For Families. Refreshments provided. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Friday, June 29

SMPL at the Beach

Organizers are packing up the books and heading back to the shore for more fun in the sun with SMPL at the Beach, Southern California's only seaside pop-up library. Join them at the Annenberg Community Beach House for a fun-filled day of family friendly activities like Seaside Storytime and Nautical Crafts, sign out books from their curated collection of beach reads, enjoy games like bocce and ladder toss, or kick back, relax and read in the shade of their Surfside Lounge. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast HWY, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Pool Open

The pool will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Passes go on sale at 9 a.m. *Pool closes early on 8/25 at 5:30pm for the Cardboard Yacht Regatta. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturday, June 30

Design in 3D: Open Lab

Explore 3D printing possibilities at the Library. Prepare your own three-dimensional plastic objects for 3D printing. Staff will be available to help with basic troubleshooting. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Virginia Ave Park

Restorative Justice: The End of Punishment in Our Schools?

Restorative Justice is a popular concept for those people struggling with the development of alternatives to punitive approaches to justice in our educational and court systems. For its July 1st workshop, Committee For Racial Justice has invited Robert Howard, who is the Restorative Justice Coordinator at Santa Monica High School, to present his ideas & experience with how we can begin to form restorative justice alternatives that could impact the suspension to prison pipeline that affects students of color in our communities.

Robert J Howard III is a dynamic inspirational speaker, restorative justice trainer & practitioner, group facilitator, and a conflict mediator.

Since 2005, Robert has been facilitating multiple youth and community human relations programs. He has been a speaker/presenter at numerous conferences and workshops nationwide including the National Conference on Community & Restorative Justice as well as Mediators Beyond Borders Conference.

Come and see how to move from a punishment mindset to one that restores community to schools, families, and neighborhoods.

This is part of an ongoing monthly workshop series sponsored by the Committee For Racial Justice. Co-sponsored by Virginia Ave. Park; the African American Parent, Staff, Student Support Group; and the Church in Ocean Park.

For more information, call Joanne at (310) 422-5431.

The free workshop will be held Sunday, July 1, 6 - 8:30 p.m. Potluck supper at 6 p.m. and program starts at 6:30 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park, Thelma Terry Bldg. 2200 Virginia Ave.

SUBMITTED BY JOANNE BERLIN

TRIAL

FROM PAGE 1

the city that had been ignored for decades."

The plaintiffs in the case are the Pico Neighborhood Association, including co-chair Oscar de la Torre and his wife Maria Loya.

Lawyers for the City of Santa Monica say since latino voters are spread throughout the city, the CVRA doesn't apply here. In March, lawyers attempted to avoid trial by filing a motion for summary judgment, arguing local Latino voters "can and do exercise their full voting power to elect the City Council candidates they prefer." Current City Council Member and former Mayor Tony Vazquez, for example, is a latino-preferred candidate.

However, a stumble by attorneys at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP snowballed into a major misstep last week when Shenkman noticed they failed to serve him documents by the correct date.

"It floored me when I looked at the calendar and figured out they were late," Shenkman told the Daily Press. "This is something a first year attorney shouldn't be screwing up and they have a lot of experience over there with thousands of attorneys."

The Judge presiding over the case, Yvette M. Palazuelos, was not persuaded by Gibson Dunn attorneys' arguments that they had emailed Shenkman the documents on time. Palazuelos did not weigh in on the merits of the City's motion when she dismissed it.

"We believe the trial court erred in declining to consider the City's summary judgement motion on the merits," said Theodore J. Boutrous Jr., a partner at Gibson Dunn and counsel for the city. "We are considering options, which include asking the Court of Appeal to reverse the decision. But whatever happens on this procedural issue, we remain confident that the City is going to prevail on the merits."

Shenkman has hired a 'districting guru,' whose firm, Compass Demographics, has drawn voting districts for Whittier, Garden Grove, Costa Mesa and others to demonstrate how to give Latinos a more powerful voting block in Santa Monica. David Ely's proposed outline for the Pico Neighborhood would combine parts of Mid-City and create a district that is 30 percent Latino and 10 percent black, according to Shenkman.

"You don't need a Latino-majority district to be effective," Shenkman said. "What he found is, the Latino-preferred candidates usually lose in the city as a whole but they usually win in that illustrative Pico neighborhood district. That demonstrates, even with 30 percent Latino population, that district would solve the problem."

Santa Monica voters have rejected two ballot initiatives that would have changed the local voting system to district elections. Judge Palazuelos will preside over the trial in July.

kate@smdp.com

STUDY

FROM PAGE 1

Center to provide adequate access to the site and the broader area for employees, visitors, including coastal visitors, and other members of the public," said the report. "Our analysis also shows a path for meeting the access needs of the Civic Auditorium in the future, and includes suggestions to facilitate all mobility options to maximize accessibility to the Auditorium."

According to the report, there are currently 740 spaces available at the site as construction of the Early Childhood Lab School has already removed 230 spaces from the lot. The field will require removal of 644 spaces. With other construction concerns and restriping of the available land, the Civic Center surface lot will be expected to have 75 – 85 spaces once construction of the field is complete.

The report says transportation options will continue to increase but said for the purposes of the analysis, no reduction in parking demand was assumed by increased use of alternate transit in the area. However the report also recommends establishing a "mobility hub" that would allow companies like Lyft or Uber to use the space while creating options for future innovations.

"The recent growth trends in ride-hailing services (e.g., Uber, Lyft) and new mobility services (e.g., Breeze Bike Share, Waive Car, ZipCar), and automated vehicles in the not too distant future, open the possibility to rethink how visitors will access the Civic Center area," said the report. "This presents an opportunity to lay the groundwork for a different mobility strategy that promotes smarter and integrated transportation choices for the public."

To offset the reduced number of spaces, the report said some of the monthly parking permits issued for the Civic lot should be transferred to one of the five public lots that are within walking distance from the Civic. The report said employees that park in the area on a daily basis are going to be more familiar with the City and therefore better able to navigate the short walk to their destination. About 288 monthly parkers could be moved to other locations on a weekday. Short-term visitors could still use the Civic lot for their temporary business. Weekend parking is not likely to require alterations as the number of users is far less.

Staff said the report will be sent to the Coastal Commission as part of the application for the field and the timeline for the project remains on track with submittal to the commission by August 15 of this year.

editor@smdp.com

High time for Cheech's art museum: California gives millions

JOHN ROGERS
Associated Press

Just months after California legalized recreational marijuana the state is giving stoner comedian Cheech Marin's Chicano art museum $9.7 million.

It must be kismet.

The money was rolled up in the $139 billion California budget for 2018-2019 that Gov. Jerry Brown signed Wednesday.

The Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art, Culture and Industry is scheduled to open in 2020 in Riverside, east of Los Angeles.

"The Cheech," as Marin prefers to call it, will include approximately 700 paintings, drawings, sculptures and other works he's collected over more than 30 years.

Among them are works by such internationally acclaimed Chicano artists as Gilbert "Magú" Lujan, Frank Romero and Carlos Almaraz.

"I have dreamed for many years of finding a home for the hundreds of pieces of art that I have spent much of my life collecting, protecting and showing, when possible, at major museums around the world," Marin said Wednesday. "The Riverside community has made this dream a reality."

Marin and the Riverside Art Museum had already raised approximately $3 million since plans for the museum were unveiled last year.

It will be located in a refurbished building next door to Riverside's historic Mission Inn, a stopping point since it opened in the 1870s for numerous celebrities and presidents including Theodore Roosevelt, Richard Nixon and George W. Bush.

Marin, a lifelong art lover, began collecting soon after he and cannabis comedy partner Tommy Chong became famous in the 1970s.

He's said over the years he focused on Chicano art not so much because he's a Chicano but because of how brilliant he found the artists to be and how, in the early years, so few people were aware of their work.

That began to change as Marin, 71, persuaded museums across the country to stage exhibitions. After one at the Riverside Art Museum last year drew more than double its normal attendance officials approached him about permanently housing his collection there.

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Your column here

Francis Engler
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Editorial response

ON JUNE 23RD MATTHEW HALL MADE false statements about our Union, UNITE HERE Local 11, and the Santa Monica Daily Press published them. We believe that these false statements were intended to attack the reputation of the union to advance a political goal. That Mr. Hall has a political agenda about the City's labor peace discussion is his business with the City. That the SMDP published false statements about our Union is unacceptable and causes harm to the members of our organization. Because Mr. Hall is the Editor in Chief of the paper, we have no editorial board to appeal to correct these misstatements. We ask that the Mr. Hall apologize, that the SMDP immediate correct these untrue statements, and that paper be transparent with the public about who asked them to attack the Union and where the false information came from.

First Mr. Hall falsely claims that there were no labor conflicts on city property before the Council's discussion about labor peace. He repeats this incorrect claim three times in one paragraph for effect. But Mr. Hall should know from his own reporting that this is not true. Before the protests at the Spitfire Grill, Mr. Hall reported on a dispute about the Typhoon Restaurant. As a simple google search or fact-checking inquiry to the Union would show, the Santa Monica Lookout and Santa Monica Next both reported on picket lines at the Santa Monica Airport over this dispute in March of 2017. This false statement is central to Mr. Hall's political argument, because he claims (without evidence), that the cause of protests on city land were the discussions of the Council, which the Typhoon protest disproves.

Second, Mr. Hall makes a number of unsubstantiated statements about the Union's motivations for picketing the Spitfire Grill. He claims that no worker had asked the Union to be there and that there were no complaints about working conditions. How could he possibly know if this is true? Did he ever try to verify this with the Union? If the workers complained to the Union or supported protest, how would he find out other than by asking the Union? Yet Mr. Hall stated this as fact without presenting evidence in his article. The truth is that Spitfire Grill workers did complain about working conditions and did encourage the Union to be there.

Finally, Mr. Hall claims that local entrepreneurs did not open restaurants at the 5th and Colorado in part because of a "unionization requirement". I am not aware of any such requirement in the development agreement with the City of Santa Monica for that site, so there may be a misstatement in his premise here, but it is hard to know because he again states this as fact without evidence. What is true is that several local restaurant owners considered this site with the encouragement of the Union. Based on the restaurant operators that have spoken to us, more local restaurants have seriously considered this restaurant space than have chain restaurants, again contradicting Mr. Hall's assertion. Most local restaurant operators that have decided not to open in this space told us that they did so because of individual business considerations like rent, space design, or parking. The Union has tried to be transparent in explaining where our information came from, so where did Mr. Hall get his information? I don't think this misinformation came from the owner of the property, so who is saying these things? Was this information given to him by a lobbying organization with an anti-union agenda? Who did the fact-checking? This final claim about the 5th and Colorado space is especially dangerous, because if a misstatement ends up discouraging operators from considering the space there will be actual economic harm to workers and the city not from any actual disagreement but from misinformation.

Mr. Hall made a political argument, and attacked the character of the Union to make his point. He made false statements as part of that attack. We know that picketing can be controversial, and we respect that he disagrees with us about our actions. But a newspaper should do fact-based, fair journalism that seeks to present an even-handed account of the positions of the parties involved in a disagreement. Editors should demand that their staff check their facts and have enough discussion with all sides of a conflict that they can accurately represent their point of view. We do not know why Mr. Hall wrote what he did, or if he was the source of the false information or if it came from a person or organization with an anti-union agenda. The public deserves to know.

Thank you for your consideration,

Francis Engler
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The Santa Monica Daily Press publishes Monday - Saturday with a circulation of 10,000 on weekdays and 11,000 on the weekend. The Daily Press is adjudicated as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles and covers news relevant to the City of Santa Monica. The Daily Press is a member of the California Newspaper Publisher's Association, the National Newspaper Association and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. The paper you're reading this on is composed of 100% post consumer content and the ink used to print these words is soy based. We are proud recipients of multiple honors for outstanding news coverage from the California Newspaper Publishers Association as well as a Santa Monica Sustainable Quality Award.

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WINNER



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MUSIC

FROM PAGE 1

changed my life. But arriving in LA, that was all I had. Steffens had a seven year lead on me. And also, hanging with Bob on tour.

Nonetheless, when I began my forays into writing for LA publications, BAM (Bay Area Music) Magazine, liking what I had given them, asked, what do you know about reggae? Are you kidding? I replied, it's my number one. OK, we need a history of reggae music in LA. No problem, says I.

Of course, I knew nothing. But I had introduced myself to this guy Steffens at a reggae seminar at Cal State Dominguez Hills, because from the questions he was asking he seemed to know more than the person conducting the seminar, who passed himself off as the president of Mango Records but was, Steffens said he later found out, "just a guy in the office who translated patois." Steffens and I became friends, he showed me his mind-blowing collection at his home — which at that time consisted of a walk-in closet stacked floor to ceiling with cassette tapes of reggae music you couldn't find anywhere else… now his reggae archives overflow the entire bottom floor of his Silverlake home, seven packed rooms — and so I called him in desperation after taking on an assignment I had no business accepting. No problem, Steffens intoned, I can help.

He did, gave me so much information, guided me to all the right people to interview, and I wound up with an impressive multi-page, referential spread in BAM, with photographs, that immediately established me, the kid from New Mexico who had only seen "The Harder They Come," as a reggae authority in Los Angeles. Newly arrived, I nonetheless knew a few dozen people already who knew lots more than I did. Don't tell.

It was a great lesson: the spoils go to those with the cajones to raise their hand and say, I'll do it! (Of course, then you have to deliver.)

Decades later I was overjoyed to read somewhere that most American reggae fans came to it from "The Harder They Come."

Roger Steffens had a birthday 11 days ago. God bless him and his kind heart and his lifetime of accomplishments in so many fields.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! — TOM PAXTON (come hear and see a Greenwich Village folk music legend, now 80, and support our local legendary music lessons, instrument store and concert venue McCabe's on their 60th anniversary, oh the shows I've seen here and boo hoo the ones I've missed, Paxton wrote one of my favorite songs ever, "The Marvelous Toy" — Chad Mitchell Trio version — also "What Did You Learn in School Today?," "The Last Thing On My Mind," "Ramblin' Boy," "Bottle Of Wine," "Talking Vietnam," "Whose Garden Was This?," Judy Collins is a huge fan and has always performed his songs and Holly Near said, "Every folk singer I know has either sung a Tom Paxton song, is singing a Tom Paxton song or will soon sing a Tom Paxton song, now either all the folk singers are wrong or Tom Paxton is one hell of a songwriter" — also three different, excellent shows at McCabe's Fri-Sat-Sun), 9 p.m., McCabe's Guitar Shop, Santa Monica, $60, VIP $100 (hey! It's a fundraiser — it's Tom Paxton!).

RECOMMENDED:

TONIGHT! — Soundwaves New Music Concert with DON PRESTON, Elliott Levin, Bobby Bradford (Bradford is known for his work with Ornette Coleman, Levin is a poet of note and ferocious hornblower who has traversed from Cecil Taylor to Harold Melvin & the Blue Notes, but 85-year-old Preston is the one you go to see for his attack style on the piano and his wealth of musical experience and leadership from eight years with Zappa's Mothers of Invention, that's where I discovered him, what a band, and was surprised when he returned to his jazz roots, having played with Nat King Cole, Elvin Jones, Charles Lloyd, Charlie Haden, Yusef Lateef, Don Ellis, Herbie Mann, Al Jarreau, Johnnie Ray, Flo & Eddie, Nelson Riddle, Connie Francis, John Lennon), 7:30 p.m., Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd., no cover.

TONIGHT! —THE ENGLISH BEAT (with what's playing tonight right here in Santa Monica you'd have to be a huge Beat fan to drive to Pasadena but, I'd understand, this is one very entertaining band with more great songs than you remember, Dave Wakeling still singing the same and looking like he's aged 10 years since 1980), 9 p.m., the Rose, Pasadena, $24-38.

FISHBONE (it starts! — the great summer outdoor mostly free music avalanche that makes LA freeways, Santa Monica gridlock and other bothers worth it all, great eclectic schedule from Levitt Foundation, 50 free concerts every Thurs-Sun through Sept., actually started June 9 but this is the first one I could heartily recommend, God bless Fishbone, first saw them in '80, an outrageous idea still doin' it, ska rock R&B funk insanity, never know what you'll get but you will be entertained), Fri 7 p.m., Levitt Pavilion, MacArthur Park LA, no cover.

FARTBARF (go look it up, I've bragged on these masked maniacs so many times in this column, absolutely one of my favorite local bands, or don't look them up, just show up and have your mind blown, at one of the coolest bars in LA), Fri 9 p.m., the Redwood Bar & Grill, downtown LA, $10.

GERALD CLAYTON (brilliant local pianist and bandleader, this time a quartet that includes his famous bassist father, brought to us by the Jazz Bakery in their venue of choice, the acoustically-fantastic Moss Theater, right here in Santa Monica, ain't we lucky!), Sat 8 p.m., Ann & Jerry Moss Theater, New Roads School, Santa Monica, $35.

GEORGE KAHN (financial advisor by day, ace ivory tickler by night, with Santa Monica roots, he has become a rising star on the local jazz scene, for his playing, his interesting musical conglomerations, and for his compositions, in LA's most gorgeous and acoustically superb jazz room, great sight lines even from the bar, thank you Herb Alpert), Sat 6:30 p.m., Vibrato Grill & Jazz, Beverly Glen, $20.

BAND NAMES OF THE WEEK: Destroy Boys, Death by Stereo, Nekromantix, Yip Yops, Negative Gemini, Left for Dead, Dead Air, Sweater, Slugs, Illuminati Hotties, Dynasty Handbag, Dumb, Lopez Beatles, Flaccid Mojo, Spare Parts for Broken Hearts, Pet Sex, Death Cat, Handsome Karnivore, Lust.

LYRIC OF THE WEEK: "Many rivers to cross but I can't seem to find my way over, wandering I am lost as I travel along the white cliffs of Dover. Many rivers to cross and it's only my will that keeps me alive, I've been licked, washed up for years and I merely survive because of my pride.

And this loneliness won't leave me alone, it's such a drag to be on your own, my woman left and she didn't say why, well I guess I have to try.

Many rivers to cross but just where to begin, I'm playing for time, there'll be times I find myself thinking of committing some dreadful crime.

Yes, I've got many rivers to cross but I can't seem to find my way over, wandering, I am lost as I travel along the white cliffs of Dover.

Yes, I've got many rivers to cross and I merely survive because of my will." — Jimmy Cliff (from the soundtrack of "The Harder They Come")

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 32 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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SMMUSD
SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
smmusd.org

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 #18.19.ES.R1-DSA#03-118549 Olympic High School – Windows, Paint, Floors, Doors & HVAC Project at Olympic High School.** This scope of work is estimated to be between **$3,100,000 - $3,400,000** and includes Abatement and replacement of specific existing Windows and Doors with new painted Windows and Doors in buildings A, B & D, HVAC upgrades, Repair and replacement of gutters, Exterior trim painting, ADA upgrades, Plumbing/Bathroom upgrades, Site Railing, Abatement and renovation of MPR & Stage(BLDG A), Landscape improvements, renovation of Classroom #303 in Building D and renovation of Room #205 in Building B and other associated improvements per bidding documents. All bids must be filed in the Districts Purchasing Office located at 1651 16th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90404 on or before 7/31/18 no later than 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 7/10/18 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 7/17/18 - Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has contracted with Colbi Technologies, Inc. to provide a web-based process for prequalification 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 approval 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:
Tuesday, 7/10/18 at 10:30 AM

Job Walk location:
Olympic High School located at 721 Ocean Park Blvd, Santa Monica, CA 90405 –**All Attending Contractors MUST meet representatives inside the front entrance of Olympic High School.**

Bid Opening:
Tuesday, 7/31/18 at 2:00 PM

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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Scooter fantasy

Those of you who still believe the fantasy that electric scooters are replacing car trips or used for the "last mile" to or from the Expo line, should take a walk on the beach path. In theory, motorized devices except wheel chairs are prohibited, but the scooters are lined up all along the path and many riders are using them for their real purpose, just like the ones on the streets and sidewalks, as new toys for "fun" rides. Some of the riders are kids, too young for a driver's license, some parents ride two to a scooter holding their kids, and NO-ONE is wearing a helmet. the scooters are present in Palisades Park, where motorized devices except wheelchairs are also prohibited, and even on the pier crowded with visitors.

The city council has given the two companies carte blanche to put scooters wherever they want, and the riders freedom to use them as they please, without any consideration for those of us who walk and are inconvenienced by them. If the council had been reasonable, they would have limited the number of scooters in the city, but now that the flood gates have been opened, at least they should enforce the rules.

Fredric Reichel
Santa Monica

CULTURE

FROM PAGE 1

and in a sense, they're about the same thing: nature versus nurture. In Three Identical Strangers, it's about a horrendously unethical study done on a number of unknowing, adopted twin children; in Five Seasons, it's about nurturing the wild in a controlled environment and letting nature take its course.

THE TRIPLETS

Robert Shafran, David Kellman, and Eddy Galland were triplets separated at birth, whose adoptions were handled by the "prestigious" Louise Wise Adoption Services in Manhattan. Each went to a Jewish family in the New York suburbs, knowing nothing of the others' existence; their parents were never told there were other brothers; a good deal of the upfront part of the movie is the extraordinarily serendipitous story of how they discover one another and the enormous media storm that followed.

Robert (Bobby) Shafran, now in his mid-50s explains how, at age 19, he found out he had a twin brother. At Sullivan Community College, a place he's never been before, people greet him like an old friend, girls kissing him and saying "Eddy's back!" Eddy had attended but left school the prior year. (There are recreations of scenes interspersed with actual footage.)

When Bobby tells Eddy's friend, "I'm not Eddy," he's told, well you have a twin! And they proceed to call Eddy's parents to connect them. The reunion is nothing short of amazing. Two nearly exact lookalikes, with the same taste in women, engaged in the same sport (wrestling), smoking the same brand of cigarettes. Newspapers hail it as the human interest story of the year.

But then a friend of David's shares the newspaper images with him and says, "You look just like these guys." Now the twins' story morphs into a triplet story…with one mother saying, "They're coming out of the woodwork!" and the media falling over itself to turn them into celebrities on TV and in print. They moved in together, partied at Studio 54, and even opened their own restaurant.

UNETHICAL BEHAVIOR

But things turn dark, when the brothers and parents begin to question why they were never told there were other siblings, and as memories of their childhoods come back to them, including blind rages, head banging, and the fact that they were being studied regularly, like lab rats, by the agency's minions.

The agency told parents they were studying adopted children, but in fact they were conducting a secret, never published, psychological study of twins and triplets to examine the "nature vs. nurture," genetics versus environment, debate. Each boy was deliberately placed with a family that had a non-twin adopted daughter, one into a shopkeeper's working-class family, another middle-class with a teacher for a father, and the third with a wealthy lawyer.

As Bobby says, "This is, like, Nazi s**t."

There are many twists, turns and stunning surprises in this film, but to tell you about them would be to give away plot points. Suffice to say, it will keep you in your seats with eyes and ears glued to the screen; and you'll be thinking about it long after you leave the theatre.

Don't miss "Three Identical Strangers," opening on Friday, June 29 at the Landmark in West LA and Arclight in Hollywood.

FIVE SEASONS

Dutch garden and landscape designer Piet Oudollf has many gardens to his credit, but perhaps one of his best known is the elevated High Line in New York City. This converted rail track has become one of the most popular places for locals and tourists in Manhattan.

Its plants are a mixture of perennial grasses, trees, shrubs, flowers, each with its own story and unique purpose (such as fixing nitrogen in soil) and all presenting something of interest to look at across every season, whether it's a shading of color as the plant dies back, seed pods offering textures and sounds or the blooms and blossoms.

Now 73, in his 20s Oudolf began working in a garden center, where he says, "I met plants." And they became his lifelong passion. He and his wife bought a property in Hummelo, Netherlands, where they began growing and selling plants, and as his plant knowledge grew exponentially, he branched out into design.

Time is as important as the plants he uses. "A garden is a promise of what will be there," he says, and points out that "Plants are my characters; I put them on stage. I cannot control them, I can only conduct." While his gardens look wild, he says, "This is what you'd want to see in nature." His work is a celebration of diversity in the face of extinction.

His drawings are art pieces themselves; in fact, the renowned gallery Hauser and Wirth not only hired him to create their Garden at Durslade Farm in Somerset, England—which in time lapse we see being designed, laid out, stocked and then in bloom—but also created an exhibition around his intriguing design drawings, with their meandering shapes and multicolored squiggles and lines.

This wonderful, quiet and meditative movie is the perfect antidote to the political storms raging across our social landscape these days. Director Thomas Piper will be in the house for Q&A at Laemmle's Royal in West L.A. following the 7:30 screening on June 29.

SARAH A. SPITZ is an award-winning public radio producer, now retired from KCRW, where she also produced arts stories for NPR. She writes features and reviews for various print and online publications.





Desperation 'you can smell' as pot shops sell untested weed

BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press

Bargain basement bud is on the menu in California, but you need to act fast to cash in on the cheap weed.

Regulations being phased in six months after the state broadly legalized marijuana require that pot sold after Saturday meet strict quality standards, so retailers unloading untested inventory are offering blowout prices.

Deep discounts on everything from edibles to joints reflect the last days of the heady first phase of legal recreational pot. They could be followed by empty shelves as many stores scramble to restock with properly tested and packaged products.

"You can smell it. There's a certain desperation from stores that bought too much and they have to dump it," said John Atari, CEO of Source Cannabis Farms, a licensed cultivator in Los Angeles. "There's going to be a big shortage of clean product come July 1."

At Firehaus, a shop along an LA freeway, a fire sale of sorts unfolded this month with a 50 percent off "summer blowout" sale advertised on a popular marijuana app and texted and emailed to regular customers.

Patrons leaving the brick storefront on a recent day were happy to double their value, but were unaware of the reason behind the bargains.

A half-dozen of those interviewed said they welcomed testing designed to weed out pesticides and contaminants such as solvents and mold, though they were largely unconcerned about the safety of the cannabis they've used for years.

"I smoked pot for 40 years that wasn't tested, from dealers on the street, and it smelled like anything from gasoline to perfume," said Catherine Lanzarotta, who stocked up on "Blue Dream." "So I've never had that concern."

Testing will also examine concentrations and potency of the ingredient that gives users a buzz.

The change in rules was part of the state's decision to allow the industry in its legal infancy to get a running start at the beginning of the year. Shops were given six months to burn through supplies of grass grown and cookies and other products made without strict testing requirements.

Any marijuana harvested this year or for sale July 1 must meet quality and safety standards or be destroyed.

Before the legalization of recreational marijuana, testing of pot sold for medical purposes was largely done for marketing. Growers could promote the potency of their product or the fact that it was free of contaminants.

Robert Martin, co-founder and CEO of CW Analytical Laboratories in Oakland, said the voluminous new rules are draconian, with a mandate to test for heavy metals, which he said is unnecessary, and one to keep tested samples 45 days. There are also requirements about what technicians must wear, and lab employees have to pick up test samples directly from suppliers.

"The new regulations have us twisting," Martin said. "We feel like we're trying to do yoga on two mats."

There are concerns that the 28 testing facilities licensed by the state will not be enough, though labs said even with a spike in recent months, they have been able to handle capacity.

A larger concern is a lag in testing as business owners banked on delayed implementation of the new rules. That could put them in a precarious position as they try to push product through a limited pipeline to restock shops with clean weed.

The fear is there will be a repeat of what Oregon experienced two years ago as distributors held out for a rules reprieve that never materialized and held up the supply chain.

The resulting bottleneck at labs meant testing that should have taken days dragged on for weeks, said Lori Glauser, chief operating officer of EVIO Labs, which has locations in California, Oregon, Colorado, Florida and Massachusetts.

Glauser said the recent surge in business she's seen indicates a similar scenario in California that will lead to a temporary shortage of marijuana in dispensaries once they can no longer sell untested product.

Some shops prepared for the new regulations by gradually replacing pot they sold with products that pass the tests.

Jamie Garzot said she reopened her Shasta Lake medical marijuana shop to recreational customers Jan. 1 with the same untested inventory as the day before.

But by February, she estimated, about 15 percent of inventory at 530 Cannabis had been approved by testing labs. In April, that jumped to about 50 percent, and earlier this month Garzot said she figured about 95 percent of her goods passed muster.

"Everyone in the game knew this was coming," she said. "My hope is that everybody has been doing their job getting systems dialed in for an uninterrupted supply chain."

Garzot waited until the bitter end before launching a "fire sale" with discounts ranging from 15 percent off Thursday on all non-compliant products to 45 percent off on Saturday.

That means Chem Dog that normally sells for $10 per gram of loose flower would be priced at $5.50 at the end of the sale and a pack of five pre-rolled joints from FloraCal Farms that normally sells for $45 would be as low as $24.75.

Everything — that hasn't passed tests — must go.



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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **65.3°**

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** waist to stomach high
Lingering S swell. New SW/SSW swell continues to trend up. Small NW windswell.

FRIDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
SW/SSW swell picks up a little further. More NW windswell possible.

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6096E-0917 MB17-NM008Ec

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 JUNE 14, AT ABOUT 7:45 A.M.

While patrolling the 300 block of Wilshire Blvd., officers saw a subject walking in a crosswalk against a pedestrian signal. Officers detained the subject for the vehicle code violation. A computer check of the subject revealed an outstanding "No Bail" warrant for his arrest from Kern County. The warrant was for resisting arrest with violence. The subject was taken into custody for the warrant. Jason John Eglen, 37, from Palmdale, was arrested for walking against a signal and a warrant. He was denied bail.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 361 Calls For Service On June 26.

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

Petty theft 3rd/Arizona 12:07 a.m.
Suspicious person 2500 block 2nd 12:23 a.m.
Disturbance of the peace 2000 block Stewart 12:23 a.m.
Disturbance of the peace 1200 block 11th 12:56 a.m.
Battery 300 block Santa Monica 2:17 a.m.
Trespassing 300 block California 2:48 a.m.
Loud music 2600 block Ocean Park 3:15 a.m.
Trespassing 1400 block Colorado 4:05 a.m.
Disturbance at a business 1900 block Pico 06:34 a.m.
Transport prisoner 300 block Olympic 7:26 a.m.
Fight 12th/Arizona 7:37 a.m.
Death investigation 800 block 19th 7:55 a.m.
Auto burglary 3100 block 3rd 8:15 a.m.
Panic alarm 500 block 9th 8:44 a.m.
Animal related incident 1400 block 17th 8:59 a.m.
Civil dispute 1500 block 15th 9:23 a.m.
Petty theft 5th/Idaho 9:34 a.m.
Suspicious person 700 block Idaho 9:34 a.m.
Vandalism 1300 block 2nd 10:47 a.m.
Animal related incident 700 block Santa Monica 10:57 a.m.
Battery 900 block 4th 11:48 a.m.
Auto burglary Ocean/Olympic 11:58 a.m.
Fraud 1700 block Wilshire 12:07 p.m.
Burglary 2100 block Delaware 1:21 p.m.
Extortion 300 block Olympic 1:33 p.m.
Battery 800 block Ocean 1:53 p.m.
Auto burglary Ocean/Olympic 2:36 p.m.
Bike theft 1500 block Pacific Coast 2:37 p.m.
Indecent exposure 1500 block 2nd 32:38 p.m.
Defrauding innkeeper 600 block Broadway 3:03 p.m.
Illegal weapon Ocean/Olympic 3:05 p.m.
Grand theft 2600 block 26th 3:35 p.m.
Animal related incident 200 block Main 3:39 p.m.
Public intoxication 1600 block Santa Monica 3:45 p.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 1600 block 7th 4:11 p.m.
Animal related incident 1400 block Centinela 4:13 p.m.
Trespassing 1400 block Olympic 4:26 p.m.
Grand theft 1400 block Franklin 5:17 p.m.
Child abuse 1700 block Wilshire 5:45 p.m.
Injured person 33rd/Pico 7:02 p.m.
Attempt burglary 1700 block Montana 8 p.m.
Person down 1500 block Palisades 8:12 p.m.
Encampment 2200 block The Beach 8:26 p.m.
Battery Ocean/Colorado 8:31 p.m.
Strongarm robbery 3100 block Wilshire 9:10 p.m.
Trespassing 1100 block Centinela 9:19 p.m.
Trespassing 1400 block 10:00 p.m.
Encampment 2900 block The Beach 10:08 p.m.
Injured person 1600 block Ocean 10:25 p.m.
Public intoxication 600 block Broadway 10:38 p.m.
Auto burglary 200 block Santa Monica 10:40 p.m.
Encampment 1500 block The Beach 10:43 p.m.
Family disturbance 2900 block 4th 10:44 p.m.
Missing person 300 block Olympic 11:14 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 45 Calls For Service On June 26.

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

Emergency Medical Service 1900 block 20th 12:23 a.m.
EMS 2600 block Wilshire 12:36 a.m.
EMS 1500 block Ocean 12:39 a.m.
EMS 1300 block 17th 12:44 a.m.
EMS 2700 block Neilson 1:24 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 2200 block Colorado 1:44 a.m.
EMS 1300 block 15th 1:53 a.m.
EMS 1800 block Lincoln 2:15 a.m.
Automatic alarm 200 block Broadway 2:58 a.m.
EMS 1400 block 16th 4:46 a.m.
EMS 900 block Ozone 5:05 a.m.
EMS 1300 block 15th 6:50 a.m.
EMS 800 block 19th 7:48 a.m.
EMS 1300 block Franklin 8:55 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2400 block 16th 9:40 a.m.
EMS 1300 block 20th 9:50 a.m.
EMS 1900 block Colorado 11:45 a.m.
EMS 2700 block Pennsylvania 1:56 p.m.
EMS 400 block Ocean 2:20 p.m.
EMS 1200 block Oak 2:33 p.m.
EMS 1900 block 18th 2:35 p.m.
EMS 700 block Pico 2:35 p.m.
EMS 1300 block 11th 2:38 p.m.
Elevator rescue 2600 block Centinela 2:40 p.m.
Wires down 200 block San Vicente 2:50 p.m.
Traffic collision w/injury 2900 block Santa Monica 3:13 p.m.
Public assist 900 block 5th 3:53 p.m.
Traffic collision w/injury 25th/Wilshire 4:05 p.m.
EMS 2700 block Montana 4:34 p.m.
EMS 500 block Colorado 4:57 p.m.
EMS 100 block California 5:08 p.m.
EMS 500 block 15th 5:55 p.m.
Traffic collision w/injury 900 block 14th 6:27 p.m.
Public assist 800 block Broadway 6:54 p.m.
EMS 900 block 3rd 7:18 p.m.
EMS 1500 block Ocean Front 7:40 p.m.
Trash/dumpster fire 200 block Santa Monica 8:04 p.m.
EMS 1500 block Palisades 8:12 p.m.
EMS 1900 block Lincoln 8:40 p.m.

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 6/23
16 29 43 45 56
Power#: 25
Jackpot: 50M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 6/26
17 25 29 39 60
Mega#: 19
Jackpot: 232M

SUPER LOTTO
Draw Date: 6/23
2 6 9 13 23
Mega#: 22
Jackpot: 9M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 6/26
5 13 27 28 32

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 6/26
MIDDAY: 6 5 8
Draw Date: 6/26
EVENING: 8 5 2

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 6/26
1st: 09 Winning Spirit
2nd: 10 Solid Gold
3rd: 02 Lucky Star
RACE TIME: 1:46.15

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!

farouche

1. French. sullenly unsociable or shy.
2. French. fierce.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Counts

■ 1.2: Percentage that retail sales of traditional milk are projected to drop in 2018

■ 3: Percentage that alternative "milks" – oat, soy and almond – projected to increase

SOURCE: BLOOMBERG

Best Medicine

■ Patient: "Doctor, I swallowed a bone!"

■ Doctor: "Are you choking?"

■ Patient: "No, I really did."

Observation

■ "The colder the X-ray table, the more of your body is required to be on it."

–COMEDIAN STEVEN WRIGHT

MYSTERY PHOTO

SPONSORED BY Chick-fil-A



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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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.

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

Newsday Crossword

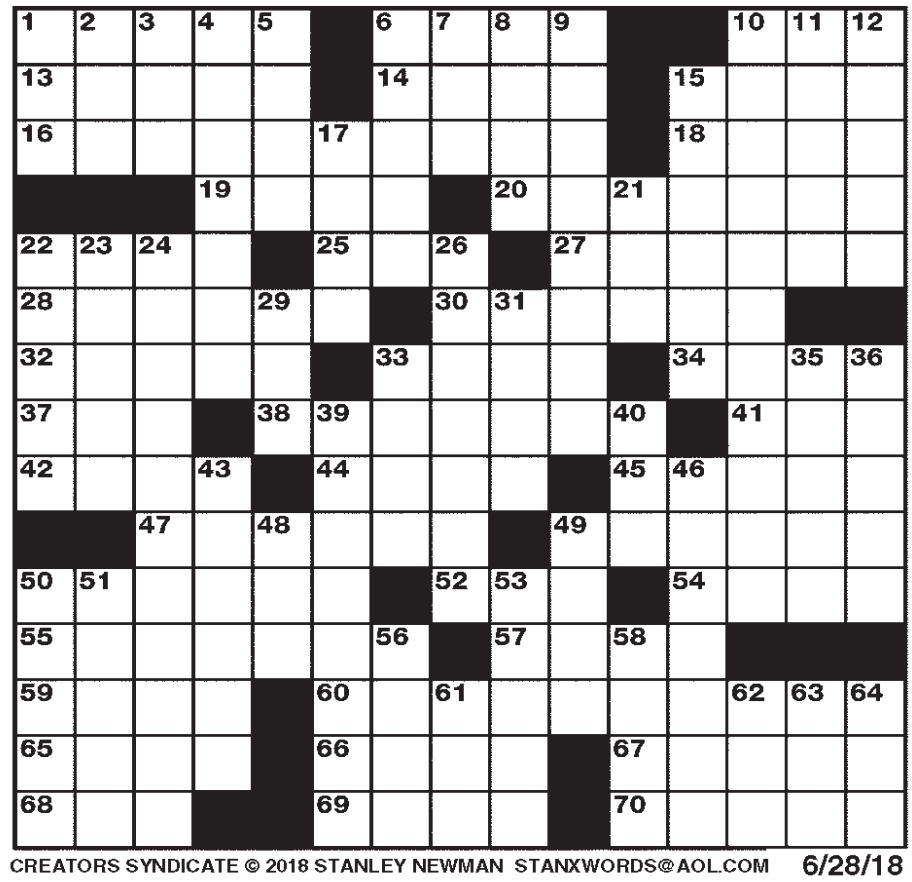
DOUBLE DOUBLES by Mark McClain
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Put down, as a rebellion
6 Great bulk
10 Nostalgic film channel
13 AL East city, for short
14 Podded plant
15 Tea variety
16 Key TV ratings period
18 Green land
19 Dressed like a storied piper
20 Unproductive procedure
22 Beseeches
25 Verizon's ISP
27 New staff
28 Ready, as a red carpet
30 Extremely small
32 Courtroom figure
33 Gym dance
34 Shoot the breeze
37 Poetic preposition
38 '70s superstar singers
41 Compass reading
42 Harmonize
44 African primates
45 Justice Kagan
47 Reddish-brown horse
49 Puts away
50 Patriotic rendition
52 Puppy sound
54 "Gotcha"
55 Bach's genre
57 Check out
59 Shelley selections
60 Rambles around without constraints
65 Food ingested
66 Not budging
67 Slip-up
68 Ingest
69 Vast amounts
70 Some of a VP's staff

DOWN

1 Signal callers, for short
2 MI-based AFL-CIO affiliate
3 Inn stock
4 Blended family member
5 Native Arizonan
6 Informal greeting
7 Scrape (out)
8 Toon caveman
9 After-tax
10 Traditional loud approval
11 Knighted two-Oscar actor
12 Objects to
15 Comedian called "The Entertainer"
17 Shut up
21 Intention
22 Urban fleet
23 Blog post
24 Bogart adversary in *Casablanca*
26 For the most part
29 Slow throw
31 Low digits
33 Looney Tunes skunk
35 A year in Montréal
36 Needle verbally
39 Winter wear
40 Not budging
43 Share the emceeing
46 Stays idly by
48 Mandated: Abbr.
49 Flow with force
50 "Humble" residence
51 Gymnastic Comaneci
53 News bits
56 Part of Ohio's border
58 __ butter (moisturizer)
61 King's reign, for instance
62 EMTs' destinations
63 Group to be auctioned
64 Many 33 Across attendees: Abbr.



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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 28)

Your elastic heart will expand to include more people. Joy will double up inside your world. Anger and compassion cannot coexist. As you become increasingly compassionate, fewer things frustrate and irritate you. You'll get a power surge in September and change something that's been bothering you for a long time. Leo and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 30, 33, 37 and 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
You're in a daredevilish mood. Your invitation to risk will come by way of your heart. Extend it and you'll likely get hurt at some point, as it goes with hearts — and it will also be completely worth it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
The social excitement is like a fire. It might take a second to get it started, but once it catches on it will keep going until all the fuel has been exhausted. Have fun!

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
Before you make a choice, it will feel as though you're being weighed down. But once you choose and go, the universe will be like water, getting out of your way as you move.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
In real life, there is no clear first-place winner of anything. Each case is unique. There is no linear judging system. Such a system can be created, just to simplify things and name a winner, but it will be a forced and false construct.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Don't bother with trying to be universally liked; it's not going to happen for you or for anyone else, and it never has in the history of the world. Luckily, it's safe for you to go against the flow and to speak the truth that others don't share.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
The energy has been low, and the progress has been slow. Things will pick up after a nice long rest. So if you needed permission to take one, consider this your yellow slip.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
You'll be looking for ways to increase your talents, powers and capabilities. Currently, that doesn't require learning or adding; rather, it requires pulling back to assess and organize.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
For you, intuition isn't an alternate form of intelligence. It's always engaged. Today it will be the driver that has you getting ready to take a turn before you could possibly see which way the road goes.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Effective people move on when the project is completed, knowing that nothing will ever be perfect, and good enough is good enough. In other words, get out while the getting is good.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You probably don't want to be the one to break the spell with reality, to point out the problem or to speak the unpopular opinion. And yet, the responsibility falls to you. Use a kind voice and all will go well.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Be wary of advice from those who feel that they've figured life out and now know how everybody can win. It's a mistaken assumption. There is no "everybody" when it comes to life paths. The wins happen on a case-by-case basis.

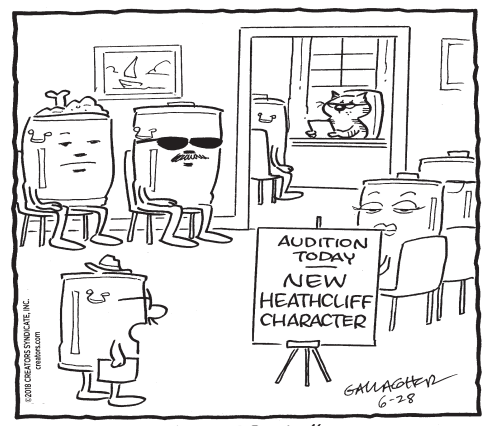
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
A break from routine will be an energy-restoring, soul-satisfying luxury, no matter what the break is. As long as it's out of your ordinary pattern, and also out of your alternative pattern to that, it will revitalize you.

Full Moon's Question

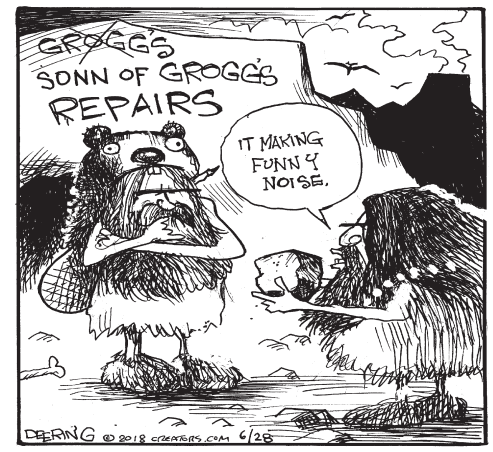
To those who pride themselves on great taste and a wicked sense of humor, the concept of "nonjudgmental" anything may seem like a joke. The full Capricorn moon speaks to that with a question: How important is peace? Would you rather cling to your personal criterion for taste and decorum, or would you rather have peace?

DO YOU HAVE COMMUNITY NEWS?
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smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



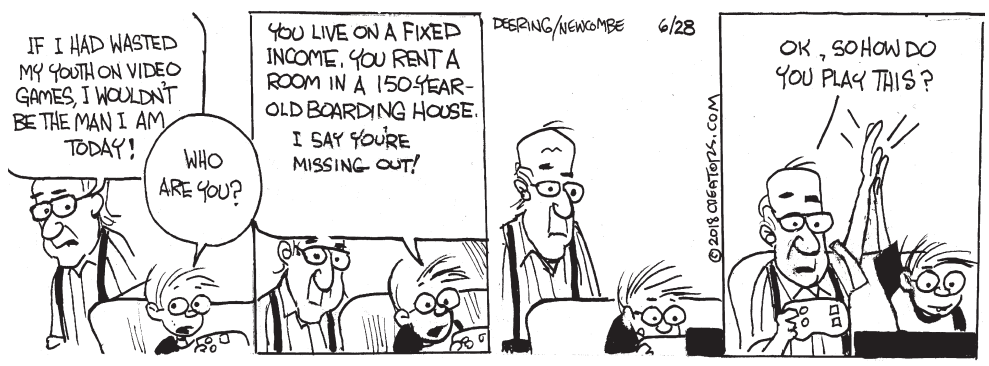
Agnes
By TONY COCHRAN



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



Zack Hill
By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



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California governor touts turnaround in his final budget

JONATHAN J. COOPER
Associated Press

Gov. Jerry Brown took a victory lap Wednesday after he signed a $139 billion California budget that marks a stark turnaround from the financial crisis he inherited almost eight years ago.

Nearing the end of his second two-term stint as governor, Brown has celebrated the state's financial strength and thriving economy, even as President Donald Trump and his allies paint the nation's most populous state as in decline.

Brown has largely eschewed the pomp and circumstance of his office in recent years. But he savored the spotlight for his last budget, which he signed in front of cameras at a state office building in downtown Los Angeles.

"This is a budget that represents the collective effort of the people of California," Brown said. "This is the way we together, 40 million people, invest in our collective future."

Brown said he took office in 2011 with a $27 billion deficit and pledged to fix it, adding that his signature Wednesday "fulfills that pledge and prepares us for the future."

The spending plan fills the state rainy day fund to its constitutional maximum and beefs up other reserve funds, boosting the state's total savings to $16 billion.

Even more money is set aside for specific one-time purposes such as building construction and maintenance — projects that could easily be canceled if the state runs into trouble.

Still, massive debts remain for pensions and retiree health care. And California relies immensely on income taxes collected from the wealthy — a revenue source that is extremely volatile.

Brown, who leaves office in January, appeared alongside Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon and Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins, the top legislative Democrats with whom he negotiated the final budget agreement.

Brown has generally faced tougher criticism from his fellow Democrats than from Republicans, who dislike some specific spending items but welcome his efforts to restrain the growth of long-term budget commitments.

Democrats have advocated more aggressive efforts to help people living in poverty, including expanding the state Medicaid program, Medi-Cal, to cover some people living in the country illegally.

"Clearly there is more to do in these areas, but by investing in our people and saving for the future this budget gives us the tools we need to keep doing better," Rendon said.

The budget includes $138.7 billion from the state's general fund. Including bonds and special funds that must be used for specific purposes, total state spending tops $201 billion.

Brown did not use his line-item veto authority, which allows him to strike specific expenditures from the spending plan.

The budget boosts funding for higher education, staving off tuition increases, and increasing welfare grants that have been slow to return to their pre-recession levels. It creates more slots for subsidized child care and gives a raise to doctors and dentists who see low-income patients on Medi-Cal, which covers one in three Californians.

It also seeks to tackle the housing and homelessness crisis, a problem that has exploded on Brown's watch as more Californians struggle to find an affordable place to live.

Brown has tangled with the Trump administration on a range of issues, particularly immigration and the environment. Trump said California is "out of control," taking sharp aim at the state's efforts to the protect immigrants living in the country illegally from deportation. In a tweet urging supporters to back Republican John Cox to replace Brown, Trump referred to "High Tax, High Crime California."

Brown, by contrast, portrays California on a march toward the future and points to its thriving economy as evidence that high taxes and aggressive business regulations aren't an impediment.

City of Santa Monica

RECIRCULATED NOTICE OF PREPARATION/ NOTICE OF SCOPING MEETING FOR A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE MIRAMAR HOTEL PROJECT

DATE: June 28, 2018

TO: State Clearinghouse, Responsible & Trustee Agencies, Organizations, Neighborhood Groups, and Interested Parties

LEAD AGENCY: City of Santa Monica, CA 1685 Main St., Rm. 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401
EIR Contact: Rachel Kwok; E-Mail: rachel.kwok@smgov.net

A Notice of Preparation/Notice of Scoping Meeting was originally sent out for the project on May 1, 2013. However, since that time, the project has been revised. Therefore, the City is recirculating the Notice of Preparation and will be hosting a new Scoping Meeting.

The City of Santa Monica intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Miramar Hotel Project (the proposed project). In accordance with Section 15082 of the State CEQA Guidelines, the City of Santa Monica has prepared this Notice of Preparation to provide the public, Responsible Agencies, and other interested parties with information describing the proposed project and its potential environmental effects. The EIR will address the proposed project's potential effects for the following environmental issue areas:

- Aesthetics (including Shadows)
- Biological Resources
- Construction Effects
- Geology and Soils
- Hazards & Hazardous Materials
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Transportation and Circulation
- Mandatory Findings of Significance
- Air Quality
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Greenhouse Gas/Climate Change
- Hydrology/Water Quality
- Neighborhood Effects
- Public Services (Police, Fire, Parks)
- Utilities (Sewer & Water)

PROJECT APPLICANT: Ocean Avenue, LLC
100 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 1700, Santa Monica, CA 90401

PROJECT LOCATION AND EXISTING ONSITE USES: The project site encompasses two parcels in the Downtown district of the City of Santa Monica, County of Los Angeles. The main parcel is approximately 4.5 acres in size and is located at 1133 Ocean Avenue. The main parcel is currently improved with 301 hotel rooms and related hotel programming space located within a number of buildings. There are two city-designated landmarks located on the main parcel – the Moreton Bay Fig Tree and the six-story Palisades Building. The other parcel is located directly across the street to the east at 1127 2nd Street (Second Street parcel). The Second Street parcel is currently improved with a surface parking lot.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project involves redevelopment of two parcels in the Downtown district of the City: the main parcel and Second Street parcel.

Under the proposed project, the main parcel would be redeveloped to include a new mixed-use hotel and residential project with ground level open space, food and beverage facilities, meeting space, and ground floor retail uses along Wilshire Boulevard. The two City-designated landmarks would be retained. The existing Landmark Palisades Building would be rehabilitated for continued use as hotel guestrooms while the Landmark Moreton Bay Fig Tree on the project site would be preserved and featured. In addition, the main parcel is proposed to be redeveloped with two new buildings, the California Building and the Ocean Building. The California building would be seven stories (~79 feet tall) and would include hotel guestrooms and amenities. The Ocean Building would range in height between two stories (29 feet) at Wilshire Boulevard, seven stories along Second Street, and ten stories (a maximum of 130 feet) in the center of the main parcel. The main parcel would include 312 guest rooms (11 net new), 11,500 sf of food/beverage space (4,418 sf net new), 13,000 sf (net reduction of 5,525 sf), 6,600 sf of retail (5,365 sf net new), 12,500 sf (6,931 sf net new), and up to 60 DU. The proposed total above grade floor area for the project would be approximately 502,157 sf; the current hotel on the main parcel consists of approximately 262,284 sf of floor area. The Main Parcel would also include ground level open space that would consist of an approximately 14,000 sf publicly accessible open space at the corner of Wilshire Boulevard and Ocean Avenue and approximately 36,000 sf of open space around the Moreton Bay Fig Tree. These open space will be activated with food and beverage outlets. A three level subterranean garage below the Main Parcel would provide for up to 428 striped parking spaces. Vehicular access is proposed on Second Street, Ocean Avenue, and California Avenue.

The Second Street parcel would include a new 100% affordable housing development, providing up to 48 affordable housing units and subterranean parking.

The proposed project is located in the Downtown Community Plan area within the Established Large Sites overlay. In accordance with the Downtown Community Plan, the project requires a Development Agreement. The City is preparing a Local Coastal Program Update of its Land Use Plan (LCP). Until such time as a final LCP is adopted by the City Council and certified by the Coastal Commission, the proposed project will require an amendment to the City's 1992 Land Use Plan.

REVIEW PERIOD: As specified by the State CEQA Guidelines, this Notice of Preparation will be circulated for a 30-day review period. This NOP and project site plans can be viewed online at https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Environmental-Reports/Miramar-Hotel-Mixed-Use-Project-EIR/. The City of Santa Monica welcomes public and agency input during this period regarding the scope and content of environmental information that must be included in the Draft EIR. **Comments may be submitted in writing, by 5:30 PM on July 30, 2018** and addressed to:

Rachel Kwok, City of Santa Monica – City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401
E-mail: rachel.kwok@smgov.net

SCOPING MEETING: A Public Scoping Meeting for the EIR will be held to describe the proposed project, the environmental review process, and to receive public comments on the scope and content of the EIR. The Public Scoping Meeting is scheduled at the following date, time and location:

Thursday July 19, 2018, 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM
Ken Edwards Center (Rooms 100A & 100B)
1527 4th Street, Santa Monica, California 90401

(Public transit to the scoping meeting location is provided by the Big Blue Bus and Expo Light Rail.)

The City will consider all comments, written and oral, in determining the final scope of the EIR.

ESPAÑOL: Este es una noticia para la preparación de un reporte sobre los posibles efectos ambientales en referencia a la construcción propuesta de un edifico, lo cual puede ser de interés a usted. Para más información, llame a Carmen Gutierrez, al numero (310) 458-8341.

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