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PATRIOTIC PARADE

Matthew Hall

Santa Monica celebrated July 4 with the annual parade on Main Street.

Broken cameras no longer watch crowds on The Pier

KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

Police cameras along the Pier and Third Street Promenade have "reached the end of their useful life" according to a recent report by Chief Cynthia Renaud. In fact, many of the cameras initially installed at Santa Monica's busiest tourist destinations and nearby alleyways are now "inoperable and need replacement." Renaud did not specify exactly how many of the city's 125 cameras are broken in her report.

The City Council has already moved forward with a $1.5 million contract with Convergint Technologies to replace the analog system with digital cameras and eventually expand the police department's closed circuit television system to other parts of the city over the next five years.

The first wave of analog cameras were installed in 2006 to address security deficiencies identified by the Department of Homeland Security. Many of those cameras are no longer operable. The ones that still work only support lower resolution video.

"The recorded video captured by the cameras has often been used for evidence in criminal investigations and prosecutions ranging from misdemeanors to serious felonies," the report said. "The cameras also become a critically important tool during special events such as, but not limited to, the LA Marathon and Twilight Concert Series by providing live video to assess crowd levels, general activity and monitor incidents."

SEE **CAMERA** PAGE 5

Santa Monica and Malibu establish separate fundraising

ANGEL CARRERAS
Daily Press Staff Writer

The amicable divorce between the Santa Monica and Malibu school districts continues as both communities agreed to a revision in policy that would divide school district fundraising models, allowing greater autonomy to both districts.

At a Thursday, June 28 Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District board meeting, the board

SEE **SMMUSD** PAGE 7

Term Limits head to November Ballot

KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

Voters will decide whether to place term limits on elected officials this November after the County Clerk officially certified a citizen initiative Thursday. The measure would limit City Council members to three terms, or twelve years, going forward.

Councilmember Sue Himmelrich, who is running for her second term this year, and Mary Marlow, chair of the Santa Monica Transparency Project, a government-watchdog organiza-

SEE **ELECTION** PAGE 7

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, July 6

Free screening of "Arrival"

This week, Mind Over Movies screens "Arrival," a very different kind of alien invasion movie. Starring Amy Adams and Jeremy Renner. Rated PG-13. Film followed by roundtable discussion and audience Q&A. The Christian Institute, 1308 Second Street. 6:30 p.m. For more information, visit facebook.com/MindOverMoviesLA.

Cinderella Art Exhibit

Join organizers for an art exhibit to celebrate the launch of TOMS Disney Cinderella Collection, the first capsule in the Disney X TOMS collaboration. View Cinderella prints carefully selected from the Disney archives while enjoying Cinderella-themed sips and snacks. TOMS Flagship store, 1344 Abbot Kinney Blvd., Venice, 6 – 9 p.m.

Saturday, July 7

Paws to Read

Practice your reading skills by reading to a trained therapy dog from Paws 4 Healing. Signup in advance for a 15-minute period starting June 18. Call (310) 458-8682 or visit the branch to reserve your spot. 2 – 3 p.m. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave.

Lawn bowling open house

The Santa Monica Bowls Club wants you to try lawn bowling and experience how much fun it is. Sessions are at 10am and noon every Saturday in July at Douglas Park at Wilshire Blvd and 25th. Come as you are but wear flat, smooth soled shoes – we provide everything else.

French Connection: Cercle Français

Celebrate Bastille Day and more with this four-meeting French Club hosted by Margaret Drach. Ideal for those learning French, who want to learn French, as well as French expats who would like to get together in a casual setting. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 2 – 3:30 p.m.

Author Teresa Sullivan: Mikey & Me

Longtime Sunset Park resident Teresa Sullivan shares the moving story of life with her sister Mikey, a severely disabled girl who was institutionalized at twelve years old. Sullivan's award-winning memoir is an unflinching and insightful portrait of sisterhood and family. A book sale and signing follows. 2 – 3 p.m. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd.

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. 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Free. 1450 Ocean. Register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/65681

Ocean Park Book Group: The Last Painting of Sara de Vos by Dominic Smith

A Monthly Meeting of the Ocean Park Book Group. Meets the 1st Saturday of the Month. Open to All. No Registration Required. This month, the group discusses "The Last Painting of Sara de Vos by

SEE **LIST** PAGE 9

For help submitting an event, contact us at
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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Southern California heat wave looms

Southern California is in for a period of high heat, elevated wildfire danger and dangerous surf.

The National Weather Service says a strong high pressure system east of the region could produce record temperatures, including some triple-digit highs in some coastal areas.

But forecasters say people seeking relief from the heat by heading to beaches could face dangers from high surf generated as a south swell from former Hurricane Fabio combines with a northwest swell.

The peak of the heat wave is expected to occur Friday through Saturday, accompanied by very low humidity levels and north winds in some areas that raise the risk of wildfires.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

3 killed, 3 wounded in Los Angeles shooting

Los Angeles police say three people were killed and three others wounded in an early morning shooting west of downtown.

Detective Meghan Aguilar says officers responded to a report of shots fired around 12:30 a.m. Thursday in the Westlake area and found the victims.

Detective Meghan Aguilar says the victims had been at a gathering of 10 to 15 people at a house.

She says the motive remains unclear but gang activity is a possibility.

There's no immediate suspect description, and detectives are trying to determine if there was more than one shooter.

All the victims are only described as being in their 20s.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAS VEGAS

Wrong Lady Liberty on stamp to cost US Postal Service $3.5M

A stamp that mistakenly featured the image of a Statue of Liberty replica in Las Vegas instead of the original New York Statue will cost the U.S. Postal Service $3.5 million in a copyright infringement lawsuit.

Las Vegas sculptor Robert Davidson, who created the replica Lady Liberty in the facade at the New-York-New York casino-resort on the Las Vegas Strip, sued the Postal Service five years ago over its 2011 "forever" stamp design .

The stamp featured the face of his Lady Liberty, which his attorneys argued in court filings was unmistakably different from the original and was more "fresh-faced," "sultry" and even "sexier."

The Postal Service had been releasing the stamps for at least three months before discovering it was not an image of the New York statue.

Postal Service attorneys argued Davidson's design was too similar for him to claim copyright.

Federal Judge Eric Bruggink sided with Davidson last week and agreed his work was an original design with a more modern, feminine and contemporary face. He ordered the Postal Service to pay $3.5 million to the artist — a slice of the $70 million the service made in profit from the stamp.

Postal Service spokesman Dave Partenheimer said in an email that the agency was reviewing the decision and would comment "if and when appropriate."

Todd Bice, Davidson's attorney, said in an emailed statement that his client was pleased that the court recognized the significance of his work.

"As the court noted, Mr. Davidson's artistic creation of the Las Vegas Lady Liberty is highly unique and attractive, which is what prompted the US Postal Service to select a photo of his work for the second ever Forever Stamp, over hundreds of other images," he said.

Court documents show Davidson said he wanted his sculpture, like the rest of the casino-resort's facade, to have the feel of New York's iconic skyline without duplicating it.

MICHELLE L. PRICE, ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

10 charged in Los Angeles homemade gun ring

Authorities say they've charged 10 people who were producing homemade, untraceable handguns and rifles in Hollywood.

The arrests were announced Thursday by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and Los Angeles police.

During a six-month undercover operation, detectives and federal agents purchased dozens of so-called "ghost guns."

LAPD Cmdr. Blake Chow said they face a total of 47 felony counts.

Ghost gun kits can be sold legally over the internet without the kind of background check required for traditional gun purchases. It's legal to build a gun in a home or a workshop.

But authorities say they are increasingly being used in crimes.

Federal authorities have been drawing attention to the dangers posed by "ghost guns," which contain no registration numbers that can be used to trace them.

MICHAEL BALSAMO, ASSOCIATED PRESS



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SACRAMENTO

California senators reach agreement on net neutrality bill

Key California lawmakers say they've reached an agreement on legislation to enshrine net neutrality provisions in state law after the Federal Communications Commission dumped rules requiring an equal playing field on the internet.

The agreement announced Thursday comes two weeks after a state Assembly committee infuriated net neutrality advocates by scaling back the legislation. California's bill is seen as one of the nation's most aggressive efforts to continue net neutrality principles.

Democratic Sen. Scott Wiener, who wrote the bill, repudiated his own legislation when major pieces were removed. He says those provisions have been restored under his agreement with Democratic Assemblyman Miguel Santiago.

Wiener says lawmakers will vote on the bill after they return in August from a summer break.

Internet companies say state-level net neutrality provisions are not practical.

JONATHAN J. COOPER, ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Possibly autistic boy abandoned at Los Angeles train station

A little boy who has difficulties communicating was reunited Thursday with family after being abandoned at a bustling train station in downtown Los Angeles.

Police said the boy, between 5 and 7, may be deaf or autistic because they hadn't been able to communicate with him.

Workers at a cafe in Union Station first saw the boy and a woman eating together on Wednesday evening. They began to worry later when he ran into their kitchen alone and they realized the woman was nowhere in sight, said Adrienne Garrett, supervisor at Cafe Crepe.

Garrett said she and other workers looked for the woman to no avail but she wandered back about 30 minutes later, prompting one worker to tell her that she should be taking care of her child.

"We asked her to come back but she literally walked out the front door," Garrett said. "She did not even acknowledge anything at all. She was silent and kept walking and that's when we decided to get security."

Police bought the boy an ice cream and when he still appeared hungry, Garrett said she gave him some chicken fingers, French fries and apple juice.

Police were able to identify the boy after community members and news media spread word of his discovery.

The department said the child has been reunited with family and that the investigation is ongoing.

It's still unclear who the woman at the train station with the boy is or which relatives are now with him but police said they have arrested the boy's mother and their investigation is ongoing.

Garrett said she was heartbroken for the boy when he was left alone.

"I don't understand how anyone in their right mind would do that," she said. "It's a young boy, it's the Fourth of July, and it's Union Station – anything can happen. It's really upsetting she felt comfortable leaving him here."

AMANDA LEE MYERS, ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Is the Fixer fixin' to flip?

FOR PROGRESSIVES THERE'S BEEN SUCH sparse good news these past 530 days, 12 hours and 15 minutes (but who's keeping count?) that the Laker signing of LeBron James almost qualifies. Fox talk show host, Laura Ingraham, politicized LeBron when she once said he "Should shut up and keep dribbling." Then again, she's also mocked Stoneman Douglas High School shooting survivor, David Hogg, for not getting accepted into his top colleges. How charming. Not!

If LeBron is wonderful news for local sports fans, for fans of "truth" related to POTUS (I hate even using his name) there's the possibility of terrific news. Over the weekend, his long time personal lawyer, Michael Cohen, did a lengthy interview with George Stephanopolous of ABC. Cohen, who once said he was "willing to take a bullet for the president," may now be willing to fire bullets back at him.

Cohen said his loyalty and priorities are to his family and the country, not you know who. For the rest of this column I may have to use Trump's name, which, ironically, is something he hasn't always done. (A con man uses aliases, not a president, but just that we know of, Trump has used three: David Dennison, John Miller and John Barron.)

It's often said that Cohen knows where the bodies are buried and my guess is there's a truckload. Remember on the campaign when Trump said he had absolutely no dealings in Russia? At the time, Cohen was actually negotiating a deal for Moscow Trump Towers.

And, of course, Cohen, who hasn't been charged with any crime (yet) was the "fixer" in the Stormy Daniels $130,000 payoff six days before the election. (Imagine the GOP outrage if Obama had done that.)

Whereas Trump's current lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, compared the FBI agents who raided Cohen's home and office in April, though it seems much longer ago, to "stormtroopers,"Cohen has a much different view. He said the agents were "gentlemen" and that when they left he and the they shook hands. (Still shocks me Giuliani directly compared FBI agents to Nazis. #Shame.)

Cohen also supported the special counsel's Robert Mueller's investigation and rejected Trump's description of the probe as a "witch hunt." (Mueller's team has either indicted or gotten guilty pleas from 20 people and three companies, just so far, which seems like a helluva lot of witches.)

Though it's highly anticipated, Trump hasn't yet attacked Cohen. Instead, he recently repeated "Putin still insists Russia had nothing to do with interfering in the 2016 elections." (And for that matter, O.J. still insists he didn't kill Nicole.)

As any regular reader of this column knows, I genuinely believe Trump, who very well may be a narcissistic sociopath, is without a conscience. This explains why he can mock John McCain battling for his life, two Gold Star families, a disabled reporter, allude to a female anchor's menstrual cycle and endorse an immigration policy that separates 2000 children from their parents for over two months now without inspections or status reports. (Please Google: "New immigration ad uses Ronald Reagan" which ran on TV nationwide on July 4.)

It also explains some of Trump's comments that seem just pure evil. On June 21, syndicated political columnist Charles Krauthammer passed away after spending his adult life paralyzed in a wheel chair. Responding to an occasional Krauthammer criticism, Trump quipped, "I've built an empire. He can't even buy a pair of pants." (What kind of human would say that?)

Switching to N. Korea, our latest intelligence suggests they're actually increasing their nuclear capacity. After the "Singapore summit" Trump said "I've resolved the problem." However, he inadvertently acknowledged, "Maybe in six months I'll be proved wrong. Of course I won't admit it. I'll probably make up some excuse."

That's what Trump has done from day one. From the phony doctor's letter, the phony tax audit, and the phony Trump Tower Russians meeting letter which, it turns out, he dictated.

Like no president in history, Trump attacks NATO and our allies and seems to revere murderous dictators like Putin, Erdogan, Duterte, XiJinping and Jung-un. His subservience to Putin is so obvious the former Prime Minister of Belgium tweeted Trump, "Just tell us what Vladimir has on you, maybe we can help."

As I write this, Trump just tweeted, "If it wasn't for me we'd be at war with N. Korea." And if it wasn't for Trump we wouldn't have a 21 trillion dollar debt and 2,000 helpless kids would be with their parents. Just sayin'.

Michael Cohen has indicated he won't let himself be a punching bag for Trump or be portrayed as the villain in the Russia probe. Speculation is that he hopes to become the John Dean of "Trumpgate." That and LeBron becoming a Laker, all I can say is let the showtime begin.

Jack is at facebook.com/jackneworth, twitter.com/jackneworth and jackdailypress@aol.com

CORRECTION

The free Summer 2018 Performance presented by the Santa Monica College Emeritus Acting Troupe, which was originally scheduled to be held July 14 as reported in our June 25 edition, will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 7 at the The Edye at the SMC Performing Arts Center (1310 11th Street, Santa Monica). Parking is free and seating is on a first-arrival basis.

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Should police use computers to predict crimes and criminals?

DAVE COLLINS
Associated Press

Years of secrecy by America's police departments about their use of computer programs predicting where crimes will occur, and who will commit them, are under fire in legal cases nationwide.

The largest departments — New York, Chicago and Los Angeles — are all being sued for not releasing information about their "predictive policing" programs, which use algorithms to crunch data and create lists of people and neighborhoods for officers to target. Some smaller departments also have been brought to court and before public records agencies.

A top concern, advocates say, is that the computer programs perpetuate the problem of minorities being arrested at higher rates than whites. If arrest and crime location data that show such biases are fed into the algorithms, they argue, police will continue targeting minorities and minority neighborhoods at higher rates.

Several groups and organizations have taken police agencies to court in an effort to find out what data is being fed into the programs, how the algorithms work and exactly what the end results are, including which people and areas are on the lists and how police are using the data.

"Everybody is trying to find out how it works, if it's fair," said Jay Stanley, a senior policy analyst for the American Civil Liberties Union. "This is all pretty new. This is all experimental. And there are reasons to think this is discriminatory in many ways."

The programs are developed by private companies such as Palantir and PrePol and can tell police where and when crimes are likely to occur by analyzing years of crime location data. Other, more criticized programs produce lists of likely criminals and victims based on people's criminal history, age, gang affiliation and other factors.

Some cities are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars, even millions, on predictive policing programs, with many of the costs paid for by state and federal law enforcement grants. Several dozen U.S. police departments use some form of predictive policing, and more than a hundred others are considering or planning to start such programs, according to counts and estimates by different groups.

Police officials say they can't release some information about their predictive programs because of citizen privacy and safety concerns and because some data is proprietary. The programs are helping to reduce crime and better deploy officers in a time of declining budgets and staffing, they argue.

Some studies have arrived at conflicting conclusions about whether predictive policing is effective or biased, but there has not been definitive research yet, experts say.

Critics say they've already seen what they believe is evidence of biases in predictive policing, including increased arrests in neighborhoods heavily populated by blacks and Latinos and people on computer-generated lists being repeatedly harassed by police.

Mariella Saba believes predictive policing labeled her Los Angeles neighborhood, Rose Hill, as a crime hot spot, because she has seen heavy law enforcement activity. Friends and neighbors, many of them Latino, have been stopped by police multiple times, she said.

One friend, Pedro Echeverria, was shot three times by a police officer last year but survived. Prosecutors ruled the shooting justified, saying Echeverria had a gun and fought with officers. Police said they decided to stop him as he was walking on a street because he was in Rose Hill, a "known hangout" for gang members, according to a prosecutor's report.

"It's traumatic. It creates trauma," Saba, 30, of the increased police activity. "I know better to never normalize this or see this as normal. I'm about to burst."

Saba said she can't be certain whether Rose Hill is the subject of predictive policing because police won't release that information. A group she co-founded, the Stop LAPD Spying Coalition, sued the police department in February seeking data about its program.

The LAPD has released some data to the group but hasn't hand over other information, including copies of "chronic offender bulletins" that list people of interest to police. The lawsuit remains pending.

The LAPD can't release some information because of concerns about citizens' privacy, and other data sought by Saba's group doesn't exist, said Josh Rubinstein, a police spokesman.

"We're not trying to dodge anything," he said. "They're making assumptions about what we're doing that aren't true."

The LAPD uses a data mining program developed by Palantir Technologies, which was co-founded by tech financier and PayPal co-founder Peter Thiel with backing from an investment arm of the CIA. The company has helped the military in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Challenges in some other cities:

In Hartford, police are facing a complaint by the Connecticut ACLU to the state public records commission for not releasing information about New Orleans' predictive policing program.

"People are rightfully skeptical of the government using computers to predict who's going to commit a crime," said Matthew Topic, a lawyer for the journalists. "Maybe this heat list is a legitimate tool. Maybe it could be used better. The whole point of having transparency laws is we, as the public, get to second-guess everything government does."

A judge in December ordered New York City police to release records about its predictive policing tools after officials declined to disclose documents requested by the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University School of Law. The center is seeking information about the department's use of Palantir's products and other records.

Information about New Orleans' predictive policing program is being sought in court by Kentrell Hickerson, who is appealing his convictions on gang-related charges. A judge said in April that Hickerson can subpoena city officials for information on whether data from the program were used in his case. The case remains pending.

CAMERA

FROM PAGE 1

The new cameras will be high-resolution digital models that can watch multiple directions. The 68 cameras along the Promenade will be replaced with 28 cameras with 118 views. The 57 cameras on the Pier will be replaced with 43 cameras with 91 views. Lt. Saul Rodriguez said the cameras will allow officers to zoom in and out to get a clear look at crimes and suspects.

"We will have much better coverage," said Rodriguez, who clarified the cameras are not connected to facial recognition software.

The City Council approved two contracts with Convergint Technologies, LLC: $1.5 million to install new systems and a second contract for $500,000 for equipment maintenance and periodic cleaning for the next five years.

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Illegal marijuana market still thrives in Los Angeles

MICHAEL BALSAMO
Associated Press

A slight marijuana smell wafted out as a steady stream of customers walked into a warehouse, its doors and windows covered by bars.

Suddenly, police swooped in.

"Sheriff's department! Search warrant!" a Los Angeles County deputy shouted as the team thundered through the front door and began hauling out people in handcuffs.

The Compton 20 Cap Collective just south of Los Angeles that was raided earlier this spring is one of hundreds of illegal marijuana stores operating in LA County, where marijuana is legal for anyone 21 and over and retailers must be licensed to sell to them.

Broad marijuana legalization arrived in California at the start of the year. From the beginning, there was concern the legal market would be undercut by the massive black market that has existed for decades.

And that's what's happening. Nowhere is it a bigger problem than in the state's biggest legal local marijuana market: Los Angeles County.

The number of outlaw dispensaries in the county greatly outnumbers about 150 licensed storefront retailers.

That reality is a buzzkill for those trying to play by the rules.

Legal pot shops are losing customers who can get products more cheaply at illegal outlets that don't charge or pay taxes, said Adam Spiker, executive director of the Southern California Coalition, a trade organization that represents cannabis growers, distributors and dispensary owners.

It's an "unfair competitive situation for licensed businesses," Spiker said.

"I think if you turn the tables and took cannabis out of the equation — if it was another industry that didn't have the stigmas — the government would do everything they could to give those licensed business paying taxes a level playing field."

One of the selling points for legalization was it would generate a tax windfall for state and local governments. However, during the first quarter, the state reported only $34 million from cultivation and excise taxes, putting it on pace to fall well below the $175 million forecast for the first six months.

In April, state regulators sent nearly 1,000 cease-and-desist letters to cannabis businesses they suspected were operating illegally. An analysis by the trade publication Marijuana Business Daily found about 64 percent of the businesses were in the Los Angeles metropolitan area.

Last month, the Los Angeles city attorney's office charged 142 people as part of a crackdown on illegal dispensaries. It also sent out cease-and-desist letters but declined to say how many.

Los Angeles County boasts the nation's largest sheriff's department, but even it has nowhere near the manpower to take down all the illegal pot shops. A task force overseen by Lt. Frank Montez raids an average of one dispensary a week.

However, the voter-approved ballot measure legalizing cannabis in California included a provision that made possessing more than 28.5 grams only a misdemeanor. That means officers can seize businesses' cash and marijuana, but employees and owners rarely face jail, and illegal operations often quickly reopen.

"It's a money-lucrative business so there are people willing to take the risk," said Capt. Holly Francisco, who commands the sheriff's department's narcotics unit.

Montez sees his work as more than code enforcement. Marijuana sold illegally may be tainted with illegal pesticides and other harmful substances. And licensed marijuana shop owners who pay their taxes should have a fair playing field, he said.

"When you have an illegitimate, illegal dispensary operating, that not only hurts the industry as a whole but that really hurts the community," Montez said.

At the Compton store, a sign above a security window says customers must be at least 18 and have a physician's recommendation to buy medical marijuana and be 21 and have a valid photo ID for anything else. Like many others, the shop operated in plain sight and advertised online, including on WeedMaps, a go-to website for people looking to buy cannabis.

Inside, whiteboards on dirt-smudged walls advertised the prices for different types of cannabis and concentrates.

Cartridges for vapor pens and "Shatter," a honey-like oil containing cannabis extract, cost between $15 and $30. Large display cases held jars of branded marijuana strains — 28 grams of "Purple Dragon" sold for $160.

"People out here on the street are thinking it is a legitimate operation and are smoking this cannabis with all these dangerous pesticides, and they are really killing themselves," Montez said.

Some illegal pot shops look so legitimate that customers may not even realize they are illegal unless they figure out they aren't being charged tax. But like any shopper looking for the best deal, plenty know these places are illegal and go because it's cheaper.

While some illegal LA County pot shops grow their own plants, many are supplied by illegal grows in Northern California, long a major source of all U.S. pot.

Lake County, about 125 miles (201 kilometers) north of San Francisco, is home to many such grows because of its topography, which allows pot farmers to easily hide large operations. It has an abundance of federal and state forests and land where cartels set up operations.

Like the LA County Sheriff, Lake County lacks the manpower to put much of a dent in illegal operations.

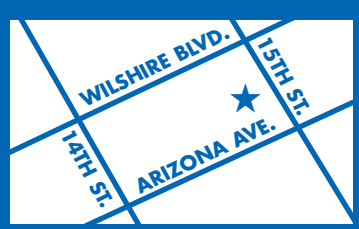
Deputies patrol on the ground and in helicopters, and last year they destroyed about 250,000 plants and arrested 46 people for illegal grows, Sheriff Brian Martin said.

He has no estimate for the number of illegal grows in the county but is confident the hundreds of thousands of plants deputies chop down each year are "just the tip of the iceberg."

Martin said his short-staffed department has assigned a single a detective full-time to marijuana eradication. He counts on help from state and federal agencies, but they too have their priorities.

"It's all about manpower," he said. "No one has enough of it."

Associated Press writer Paul Elias in San Francisco contributed to this report.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SAN DIEGO

Border arrests fall by 18 percent in June

U.S. authorities say border arrests fell 18 percent in June from a month earlier to the lowest levels since February.

Customs and Border Protection said Thursday that it made about 42,600 arrests in June compared with nearly 52,000 in May. That's still nearly double the number in June 2017.

It is unclear what drove the decline. Seasonal trends may be a big influence as scorching, potentially lethal heat deters crossers. President Donald Trump's "zero-tolerance" policy, which resulted in separation of hundreds of families, may also be a driver.

The Border Patrol, which polices between ports of entry, made about 34,000 arrests. The rest occurred at official border crossings.

More than 4 of 10 Border Patrol arrests were of people who came as families or children traveling alone.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

ELECTION

FROM PAGE 1

tion, sponsored the measure.

"Term limits will allow fresh perspectives and new ideas in our City government," Marlow said. "We have a situation now where incumbents almost automatically get re-elected for decades. They are frequently backed by wealthy special interests with business before the Council who pour hundreds of thousands of dollars into each election cycle."

Marlow says only two incumbents have lost reelection over the last 25 years. Two current members, Councilmembers Kevin McKeown and Pam O'Connor, have served more than twenty year on the dais. If passed, the new limits would only apply to terms going forward.

Supporters gathered more than 19,000 signatures to get the initiative on the ballot.

No formal opposition campaign has been formed at this time. However, several councilmembers have criticized the measure, arguing it will decrease the amount of civic experience.

"I just hope voters understand that term limits mean giving up your power as a resident to vote for the person you believe best represents you," McKeown said. "Voters already have the power to remove incumbents in favor of a better challenger. That's called 'elections.' Term limits don't give residents any new power. In truth, they limit your choices in the voting booth."

Future City Councils may be limited in other ways besides terms after the November election. Last week, a Himmelrich and McKeown-backed initiative cleared the City Council with a 4-2 vote. The measure will require a supermajority vote to amend the city's land use plans to increase building height or density.

The measure does not apply to individual projects like the Gehry-designed development at Ocean Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard or the redesign of the Fairmont Miramar Hotel. Rather, it restricts the Council's ability to amend the Land Use and Circulation Element and Downtown Community Plan, which lay out the rules for development throughout the city.

Himmelrich and McKeown are both running for reelection this year. O'Connor's term expires in November but she has not formally announced she is running.

A lawsuit that could require the city to end its at-large election system in favor of district-based elections is heading to trial July 30. It is unknown at this time how that lawsuit could impact the November race for City Council. The California Voting Rights Act bars the use of at-large elections if racially polarized voting occurs, hurting the ability of minorities to elect preferred candidates.

kate@smdp.com

SMMUSD

FROM PAGE 1

approved plans to undo the once controversial centralized fundraising model. In layman's terms, the revision and split means that money fundraised in Santa Monica will be used solely for Santa Monica, and that money fundraised in Malibu will be used solely for Malibu.

The revision was guided by representatives of the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation (SMMEF), PTA Council, Malibu PTAs, Malibu principals, several Board members and others. The newly proposed fundraising structure is similar in function to the approved School Facility Improvement Districts for Malibu and Santa Monica.

A press release from SMMEF said the organization will continue to raise money for district-approved Santa Monica programs such as elementary arts, instructional assistants, ballroom dance and stretch grants and that Malibu's thus far unnamed nonprofit entity will be announced soon.

Under the plan, the board would maintain and develop programs from both districts and have two separate MOUs (memorandums of understanding; a document establishing goodwill between agreeing parties). Programs will be approved by the SMMUSD Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and staff and after collaboration with Superintendent Advisory Committees, of which one will be made for each district. Both districts will follow the same policy.

The change has been in place a few days now as the revision was enacted to begin at the start of the new fiscal year, July 1, 2018.

"I believe this change will lead to even stronger support for our schools in both communities," said district superintendent Dr. Ben Drati, in a letter to community members. "Our district continues its firm commitment to programmatic equity across our schools … Your donations to our schools set Santa Monica and Malibu apart from most districts and allow us to provide outstanding arts, STEM and more for our students. I look forward to our continued success in this new fundraising structure."

A report from the district showed that for the past five years, 95% of money raised in the district has come from Santa Monica parents while only 5% of money raised has come from Malibu, a city with a much smaller population. Members from both communities felt that dividing fundraising would bring greater independence to Santa Monica and Malibu as the districts attempt to gain more freedom and to forge their own identities.

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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **68.9°**

Friday – **FAIR TO GOOD** – SURF: **4-6 ft** shoulder to overhead high
Mid period SSE/S swell and tropical SSE pulse from Fabio. Largest surf to the west, less size for breaks tucked into the Santa Monica Bay..

Saturday – **FAIR TO GOOD** – SURF: **3-4 ft** waist to shoulder high
Fading S/SSE swells.



DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 398 Calls For Service On July 4.

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

Vandalism 1700 block of Olympic 12;17 a.m.
Disturbance 1100 block 12th 1:04 a.m.
Domestic Violence Ocean/Bay 1:25 a.m.
Drunk Driving 800 block Santa Monica 2:04 a.m.
Battery 300 block Colorado 2:41 a.m.
Suspicious person 200 block 24th 3:40 a.m.
Disturbance 1700 block Cloverfield 5:24 a.m.
Loitering 1400 block Ocean 6:11 a.m.
Encampment 400 block Santa Monica 6:24 a.m.
Threats 1400 Block Harvard 7:46 a.m.
Auto burglary 1400 block 4th 7:46 a.m.
Death Investigation 800 block 4th 8:16 a.m.
Encampment 2700 block The Beach 8:31 a.m.
Petty Theft 500 block COlorado 8:49 a.m.
Disturbance 4th/Colorado 9:15 a.m.
Vandalism 200 block San Vicente 9:53 a.m.
Threats 1400 block Ocean 10:25 a.m.
Loitering 1500 block 7th 10:36 a.m.
Auto Burglary 1400 block 4th 10:39 a.m.
Domestic Violence 1100 block Pico 11:56 a.m.
Encampment 1700 block 9th 12:04 p.m.
Medical Emergency 400 block Santa Monica 12:19 p.m.
Vandalism 2300 block 6th 12:21 p.m.
Drunk Driving 14th/Colorado 12:25 p.m.
Hit and run Lincoln/Wilshire 12:28 p.m.
Traffic Collision Centinela/Pico 12:31 p.m.
Auto Burglary 100 block Wilshire 12:32 p.m.
Found Person 1500 Block The Beach 1:16 p.m.
Disturbance 1900 block 17th 1:50 p.m.
Vandalism 300 block Santa Monica 2:08 p.m.
Lewd Activity 300 block Santa Monica 2:36 p.m.
Fight 1200 block Ocean 2:52 p.m.
Battery 1000 block 1000 block Wilshire 3 p.m.
Missing Person 300 Block Santa Monica 3:12 p.m.
Petty theft 2900 block 31st 3:20 p.m.
Battery 300 block Santa Monica 3:35 p.m.
Disturbance 1200 block 3rd 3:51 p.m.
Burglary 1800 block 16th 4:17 p.m.
Illegal weapon 500 block Colorado 4:31 p.m.
Suspicious person 600 block Marine 4:42 p.m.
Medical emergency 300 block Santa Monica 4:50 p.m.
Vandalism Main/Pier 4:57 p.m.
Fight 100 block Broadway 5:16 p.m.
Battery 1500 block 2nd 5:37 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1400 block 4th 5:43 p.m.
Loitering 800 block Broadway 6:18 p.m.
Traffic Collision 1600 block 12th 6:18 p.m.
Encampment 800 block Bay 6:31 p.m.
Grand Theft 2900 block the Beach 7:19 p.m.
Assault 7th/Olympic 7:26 p.m.
Missing Person 1500 block 2nd 7:27 p.m.
Fight 200 block Palisades Beach 7:44 p.m.
Drunk Driving 11th/Ashland 8:20 p.m.
Missing Person 1500 block Ocean Front 8:33 p.m.
Vandalism 3200 Airport 8:47 p.m.
Petty theft 1300 block Santa Monica 9:03 p.m.
Auto Burglary 1300 block 2nd 9:34 p.m.
Person Down Ocean/Washington 10:02 p.m.
Traffic Collision 1600 block Ocean 10:09 p.m.
Medical Emergency 300 block Santa Monica 11:08 p.m.
Loitering 200 block 10th 11:29 p.m.
Officer needs help 2900 block Pico 11:40 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 29 Calls For Service On July 4.

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

Alarm 300 block Ashland 12:04 a.m.
Emergency Medical Service Lincoln/Olympic 1:22 a.m.
Odor of natural gas 1000 block 4th 2:23 a.m.
EMS 1100 block 23rd 7:21 a.m.
EMS 500 block Olympic 7:36 a.m.
EMS 7th/Pico 7:37 a.m.
EMS 800 block 4th 8:13 a.m.
EMS 1300 block 15th 9:14 a.m.
Electrical fire 2200 block 20th 10:44 a.m.
Alarm 1700 block Ocean 11:38 a.m.
EMS 17th/Arizona 12:09 p.m.
EMS 7th/Olympic 1:12 p.m.
EMS 700 Santa Monica 2:12 p.m.
EMS 1200 block 16th 2:41 p.m.
Fire 1600 block Santa Monica 3:05 p.m.
EMS 2900 block Exposition 3:34 p.m.
EMS 400 block Expo 4:13 p.m.
EMS Main/Marine 4:34 p.m.
EMS 6th/Arizona 5:06 p.m.
EMS 1900 block Pico 5:44 p.m.
EMS 2700 block Neilson 7:20 p.m.
EMS Lincoln/Olympic 7:26 p.m.
EMS 1300 block 20th 7:29 p.m.
EMS 1300 block Franklin 8:11 p.m.
EMS 800 block 11th 8:18 p.m.
EMS 1600 block Ocean Front 8:46 p.m.
EMS 2100 block Lincoln 9:21 p.m.
EMS Ocean/Washington 10:02 p.m.
Alarm 2200 block Colorado 11:13 p.m.



LIST

FROM PAGE 2

Dominic Smith. 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St.

Sunday, July 8

Guest House open

Free tours begin at 11 a.m., 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. No reservations needed. 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH.

2nd Sunday Jazz at Mt. Olive

Formerly known as Interfaith Jazz Vespers - Sunday, July 8, 5 p.m. - The Chris Dawson Quartet. Donation at door, free parking, everyone welcome! Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 14th & Ocean Park, Santa Monica

Pool Open

The pool will be open from 10 a.m. to 7p.m.Passes go on sale at 9 a.m. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Curtain Calls

■ John B. Curtis (1827-1897) didn't invent chewing gum, but he's credited as its first commercial producer. Chewing gum, in fact, dates back to Neolithic times and various peoples smacking on naturally produced saps and tars from trees. Curtis invented his product based on boiled spruce resin, beeswax and flavorings, which he learned how to package as sticks.

■ Curtis was an avid chewer himself. He reportedly died from asphyxia caused by a lump of gum stuck in his throat.

Best Medicine

■ Scientists have just discovered the gene for shyness. They said they would have found it earlier, but it was hiding behind a couple of other genes.

MYSTERY PHOTO

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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

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

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

Newsday Crossword

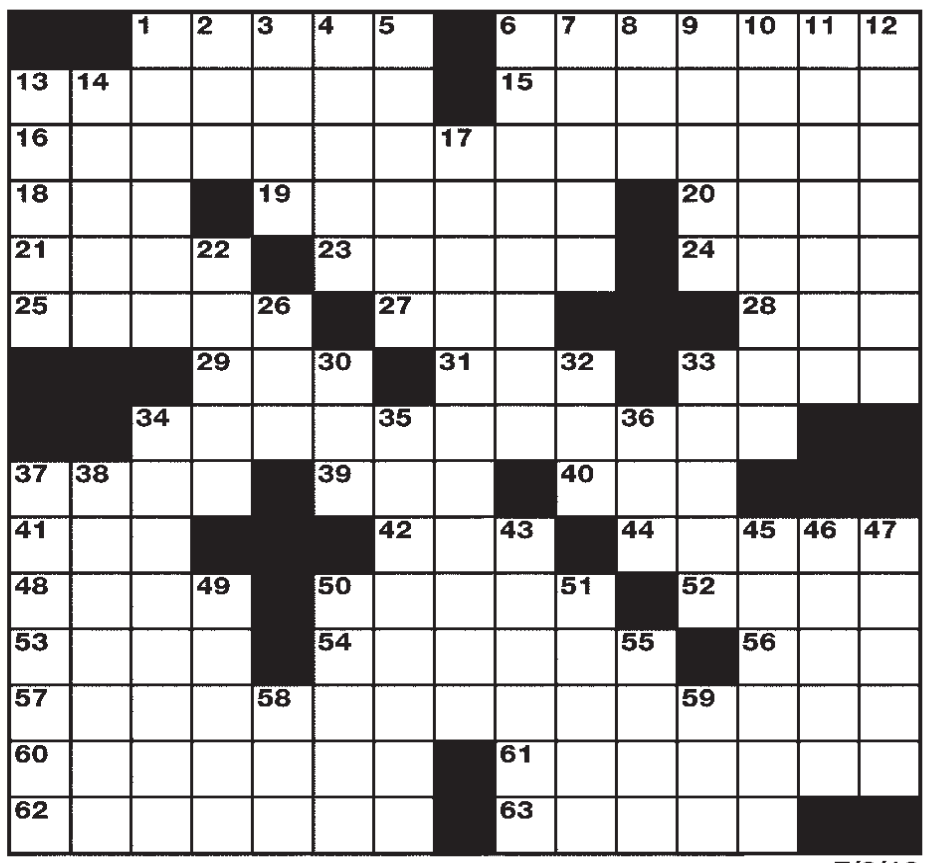
NEVERLAND by S.N.
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Under-the-sink pipe
6 Immeasurable chasms
13 Northern South American river
15 Without exceptions
16 "Never!"
18 Metal in pewter
19 Want to be like
20 Hurdle for high schoolers
21 Grandson of Eve
23 Doctrinal offshoots
24 Cut into a ring
25 Former name on *The View*
27 Elongated runner
28 Poetic contraction
29 HS diploma substitute
31 Compass reading
33 Language close to Hindi
34 "Never!"
37 Park bench piece
39 Home run's course
40 Fast-moving spray
41 Poetic contraction
42 Stretch (out)
44 Word before coat or code
48 Sleekly designed, so to speak
50 Be frugal
52 Obi-Wan before Ewan
53 Burrito, essentially
54 Bound (to)
56 Food for upper-class ancient Romans
57 "Never!"
60 Called it a day
61 Far from stern
62 Saharan nature
63 Gravitates

DOWN

1 Stage filler for a "monster concert"
2 Cause of some blowups
3 *Flor roja*
4 Lab liquids
5 Antoine's apples
6 Cutting short
7 Lab liquids
8 Timeline nos.
9 Cut verbally
10 Whiny litany
11 In braids
12 Sheer
13 Web-footed mammal
14 Lord in the Babar books
17 Unintentionally odd, à la Dickens
22 Tourist attraction
26 Spec for 50 Down
30 What you're made of
32 Business daily, for short
33 It means "beyond"
34 Car company contract
35 Isn't for real
36 Important bank, in headlines
37 Away from shore
38 Less accepting
43 Ultimate aim
45 Unites after splitting
46 Articles in the Constitution
47 Almost inadequate
49 Agree to take part
50 Section of dior.com
51 Sound of amusement
55 Fox's partner of '90s TV
58 Hurdle for some collegians
59 Hair accessory



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2018 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 7/6/18

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 6)

Your life will reflect certain trends of the time, though in many ways you'll be a thought leader. You'll be heard, admired, followed and loved. The money is extra good in September and November. You'll travel to win deals and more in 2019. Personal vitality will increase because of the change you make in February. Gemini and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 3, 33, 28 and 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Beware of collective delusion. When you have an unpopular opinion, it's easy to think that you're the delusional one — when you're actually the only one who understands the reality of what's going on.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Take a picture of the moon or a sunset and it becomes clear that life often looks a lot better than the picture of life. But then there are times when the picture looks better. You'll go out of your way because of a photograph.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
In the animal kingdom, enemies are simply other creatures competing for resources. In human terms, enemies seem more nefarious. Are they? Figure out if the opposition is sinister or just competing for the same thing as you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
You'll be wise to spend several hours cultivating good fortune by way of talking with others, sharing your heart, serving, helping and cleaning and clearing your environment to make way for good luck to drop on in.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Friendship is the most valuable thing that the day has to offer. A spontaneous opportunity to connect will pop up and it will be worthwhile for you veer from your original plan and be social.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
You've been paying attention. Your best guess is a strong one. Act on it. Don't talk about it first or you could talk yourself out of it. Action will begin a fortunate chain reaction.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
You'll gravitate to the strong personalities, the intimidating presence, the people who are sure to impress and even intoxicate you. Get ready: They're sure to throw you off balance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
Dissatisfaction is part of the human experience, so don't blame yourself or anyone else. Offer yourself some kindness, and wish the best for everyone around you. You'll be surprised how that turns it around for the better.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
You can only experience life from your own point of view. So even though you know that you are not the center of the universe, you have to live as though you are, taking the very best care of yourself that you can.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Socrates said, "I know only one thing: that I know nothing." And if Socrates (widely regarded as one of the finest minds of antiquity) knew nothing, then you really have to excuse yourself for being uninformed today.

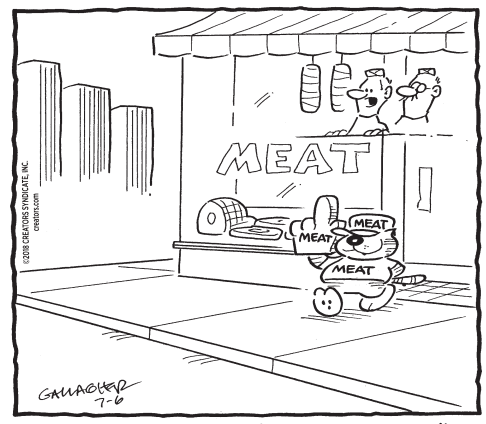
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
This is not a game you win once and become champion of forever. Life's battles are fought over and over. Truly, some of them are getting old. But persist anyway.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Don't skimp on the details today. It's important to be faithful in your attention and commitment to small things because it's the small things that will build your strength.

Challenge Moon
The leaders don't always show up. To some extent, we will all be charged with being our own coaches. This means we have to train ourselves, which is best done by first creating an environment in which we can improve. The Aries moon aspects indicate many challenges. But if you focus on the practice, the match will take care of itself.

DO YOU HAVE COMMUNITY NEWS?
Submit news releases to editor@smdp.com or by fax at (310) 576-9913
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Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



"THE GIFT SHOP IS DOING WELL."

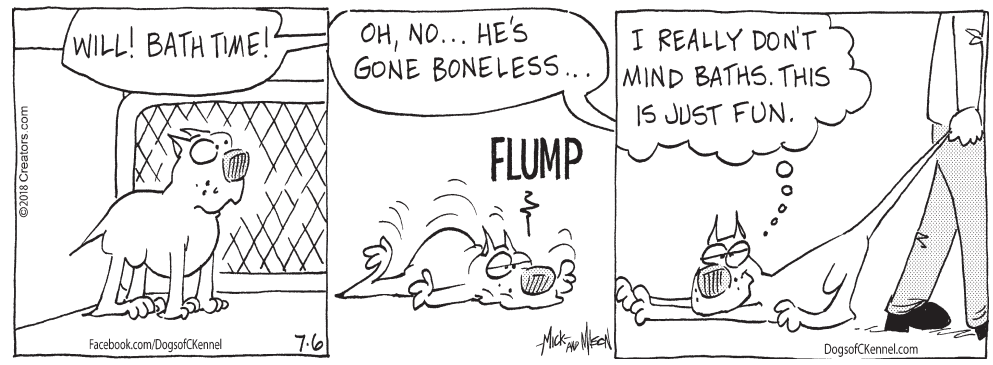
Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



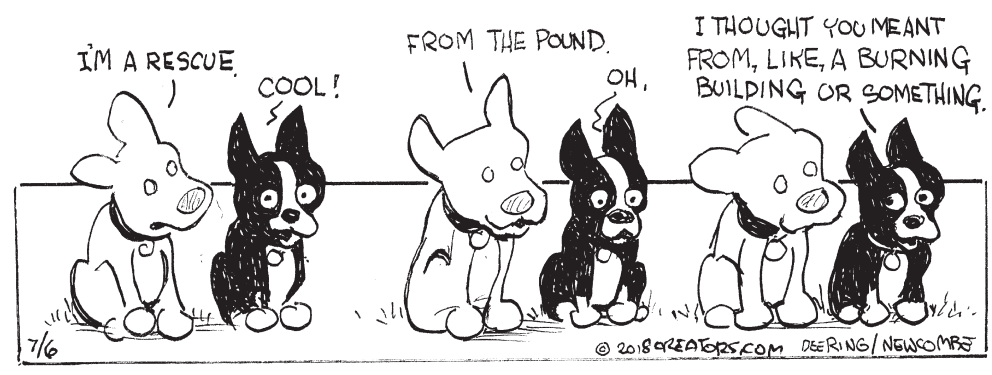
Agnes
By TONY COCHRAN



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



Zack Hill
By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



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Big-name charter school backers donate to key governor races

SALLY HO
Associated Press

Prominent charter school supporters are dishing out campaign money, as key gubernatorial races in several states have now begun in earnest.

June primary contests set up a number of battles for governor in the midterm elections this November, with both Democratic and Republican candidates that could change how public resources flow into charter and private schools in the coming years.

Last week, Netflix CEO Reed Hastings and philanthropist Laurene Powell Jobs donated $29,200 each — the maximum amount — to Democrat Gavin Newsom's campaign for California governor. It's a sign that the potent charter forces in Golden State politics are pivoting toward the state's lieutenant governor, who is widely considered a shoe-in to beat Republican businessman John Cox.

Many of the billionaire philanthropists who want to reshape America's struggling school systems believe that charters — which are privately run but publicly funded schools — help breed better and different ways to educate students who struggle in traditional public schools, especially poor and minority children. Some also support allowing tax dollars to fund vouchers for families that pick private schools, which don't have public oversight. Studies are mixed when considering how those programs result in academic gains.

Critics, notably teachers' unions, reject both charters and vouchers as drains on the cash-starved schools that educate the vast majority of students. Public school advocates also loathe those programs for eroding the neighborhood schooling model that defines communities.

Newsom has said that successful charters would thrive under his leadership, but he would seek to temporarily pause charter school openings to consider transparency issues. The moratorium would be a halting sea-change — if even for a limited time — for California's robust charter school movement, which has for years enjoyed expansions and developments.

Newsom previously said he was disappointed that Hastings, a prolific charter schools supporter in California, gave millions of dollars to one of his primary challengers, former Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa. Newsom on the campaign trail has mostly emphasized his support of traditional public schools and called for more charter school accountability.

Jobs, who is the widow of late Apple CEO Steve Jobs, also supports charter schools and runs a philanthropic group called the Emerson Collective that focuses on reshaping American school systems, among other social causes.

On the campaign trail in Nevada, the gubernatorial candidates have touted education policy plans to address the state's dismal school system that is considered one of the worst-performing nationwide.

It's a popular talking point after years of high-profile moves by the well-liked, term-limited Gov. Brian Sandoval. The Republican tackled the teacher shortage as a statewide crisis. But he also ushered in school voucher-like tax-credit scholarships and education savings accounts meant to help families afford private schools.

Though the education savings accounts program was signed into law in 2015, it has never started because the state Supreme Court ruled its funding model was unconstitutional and legislators haven't been able to pass a fix.

And that could be an issue settled by the next governor.

Though the American Federation for Children hasn't given to either California gubernatorial candidate, an affiliate of the pro-voucher group previously run by U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos has already waded into Nevada elections by supporting state legislative candidates up for election. In June, William Oberndorf, a San Francisco investor who leads the politically active organization, also contributed $50,000 to the Nevada Federation for Children political action committee.

Republican candidate Adam Laxalt, the state's attorney general, said he supports the voucher-like program that was once praised as the broadest school choice initiative in the country.

But Democrat Steve Sisolak, a county commissioner in Las Vegas, has declared he won't allow any taxpayer dollars to flow into private schools over public schools.

Meanwhile, Colorado's governor's race has a pro-charter school candidate who also doubles as a philanthropist invested in education reform.

U.S. Rep. Jared Polis became the Democratic candidate for governor after dropping $12 million of his own money into his campaign.

Considered one of the richest members of Congress, Polis has served on the House's Education and Workforce committee and has declared support for more federal funding for charter schools. The tech millionaire, who made his money in part by starting the ProFlowers online delivery service, also founded his own network of charter schools for homeless and immigrant children.

"He believes that parents should be empowered to choose the best public school for their child," said Mara Sheldon, a Polis campaign spokeswoman.

His opponent, Republican Walker Stapleton, who is Colorado's state treasurer, also supports charters. But the two candidates differ on private school scholarships funded by tax credits. Stapleton supports the voucher-like program and often notes his wife's involvement with a prominent tax-credit scholarship group.

Stapleton's campaign said in an email: "Walker believes the more tools we have to help students succeed the better."

Associated Press reporter Sophia Bollag contributed from Sacramento, California.

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