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Santa Monica Daily Press
TUESDAY
08.13.19
Volume 18 Issue 232

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Big quake could shutter local businesses



Courtesy photo

REPAIRS: Businesses in brick buildings are at risk in a large earthquake unless their building has been retrofitted.

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Forty percent of small businesses never reopen after a natural disaster and another 25% that reopen fail within a year, emergency management experts warned last week at a forum on how Santa Monica businesses can prepare for earthquakes.

Last month's Ridgecrest earthquakes prompted local leaders to hold an information session for the city's business community on how to protect buildings, employees and tenants from earthquakes and other hazards. Speakers at the forum told businesses that a 7.8 magnitude earthquake on the San Andreas Fault will cause $96 billion in business damages.

"The shaking will last two minutes, and your recovery will last a decade," said Jeanne O'Donnell, a program manager at the Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management.

Property owners must retrofit their buildings to minimize inevitable financial losses and keep their commercial tenants after an earthquake, said Ali Sahabi, CEO of the retrofitting company Optimum Seismic, Inc. Tenants have a responsibility to prepare as well, he said.

"The businesses in a multi-unit building typically

SEE **QUAKE** PAGE 6



Courtesy photo

TAIWAN: Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica President Elect Neil Carrey with six of the 80 Kiwins (High School level Kiwanians) who spent the day cleaning Santa Monica Beach as one of their community service projects. See page 4 for more information.

Schools considering upgraded alarms after brake-ins

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Local schools are looking to upgrade security systems district-wide following a spate of break-ins at local campuses.

The Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District Board will see two security contracts at their Aug. 15 meeting. The first could approve $590,862 for monitoring services while the second could correct an administrative oversight for security contract services.

Both items are part of the meeting's consent calendar. Consent items are often approved as a group with little or no discussion. However, public comment is allowed on the items and any boardmember can ask for a consent item to be discussed in detail.

The first item is a request to approve a new contract with Tel-Tec for surveillance equipment, installation and a five-year monitoring agreement.

"The security system throughout the district has been failing," said the staff report. "The district has had several break-ins, costing the district in repairs, replacements, and cleanup. The new system will have real-time alarming, which will help the district avoid damages caused by these break-ins."

Five students broke into the John Muir / SMASH campus earlier this year and vandalized several rooms.

Two companies, Bay Alarm and Tel-Tec, submitted proposals for the security system and staff are recommending the cheaper of the two.

A second security item will also be before the Board Thursday as staff are asking for an amendment to an existing contract to address

SEE **ALARM** PAGE 11


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RFP: # 235 HAZARDUS MATERIAL APARATUS REFURBISHMENT

•Submission Deadline is August 29, 2019 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.

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



What's Up Westside
OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, August 13

Red Hen Press Reading
Join Red Hen authors Francesca Bell and Ilya Kaminsky for an evening of readings. Annenberg Community Beach House, Annenberg Community Beach House, 6:30 - 8 p.m. For reservations, visit http://annenbergbeachhouse.com/beachculture.

City Council Meeting
Regular Meeting of the Santa Monica City Council. City Hall. 5:30 p.m.

Walk-In Tutoring
Friendly volunteer tutors provide help with basic reading, writing, and computer skills; using the Internet to search for information; opening and using an email account; filling out online forms or applications; learning how to write a resume or cover letter; and more. Main Library, 5 - 7 p.m.

Preschool Explorers: Stars
Explore the stars with stories and hands-on activities. Fairview Branch Library, 3 - 3:45 p.m.

Wednesday, August 14

The Commission on the Status of Women Regular Meeting
The Commission on the Status of Women works to ensure that Santa Monica is a place where women and girls can fully realize their potential and have a strong voice in all aspects of the community. The Commission explores policy and issues relevant to women and girls, and supports leadership and career advancement opportunities. Ken Edwards Center, 7 p.m.

Montana Mystery Book Group: Blood Strand
Detective Jan Reyna has distanced himself from his mysterious childhood in the Faroe Islands. He finds himself drawn back when his father becomes the center of a rare island mystery. Jan agrees to help investigate, determined to get to the bottom of his family's secrets. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Pajama Storytime
Wear PJs and bring your favorite stuffed animal for this special Space themed storytime. For Families. Ocean Park Branch Library. 6:30 - 7 p.m.

Movie: At Eternity's Gate (2018)
Willem Dafoe earned an Oscar nomination for his performance in this lush, imaginative biographical film on painter Vincent van Gogh. (111 min.) Fairview Branch Library, 6:30 - 9 p.m.

Crafty Kids: Watercolors
Katarina C. teaches you Spanish words while creating a calendar with unique watercolor inspirations drawn from famous Watercolor Artists. Limited space; registration starts 7/31. Bilingual program in English/Spanish - Programa en ingles/español. GRADES K-5. Pico Branch Library. 3 - 4 p.m.

Thursday, August 15

Adult Summer Reading: Mars Insight Mission
Dr Farah Alibay, a space system engineer at JPL, discusses her work on the InSight Mission, a Mars lander that safely touched down on the red planet in November 2018. Dr. Alibay shares details of the mission, her path to JPL, and what it's like to operate on a robot on Mars. For Adults and Teens. Ocean Park Branch Library, 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Mat Pilates Class For Beginners With Raghavan
Develop core strength and coordination, this class draws traditional Pilates exercises with breath and correct alignment. Including resistance to body weight training and core isolation. Helping the body to increase movement to joints and tone the abdominal muscles. Pico Branch Library, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Current Events Discussion Group
Join organizers for a lively discussion of the latest news with your friends and neighbors. Fairview Branch Library, 1 - 2:30 p.m.

For help submitting an event, contact us at
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What's the Point?

David Pisarra Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Brian Banks Is The Most Inspirational Movie Of The Year

If we prosecuted perjury in this state, it's the only thing we'd ever get done; which might not be such a bad result in the end, when one considers how many atrocities are perpetrated as a result of the courts not caring about perjury. For more than 20 years I've sat in family law courtrooms and listened to people weave their tales of treachery. I think I've developed a pretty good nose for distinguishing between the liars and the exaggerators, but I am still amazed at what people get away with in court. The hours that I've sat in the Santa Monica Courthouse, listening to absurd stories have given me a treasure trove of material for an eventual book.

The calculus that judges must engage in, is a balancing act of ferreting out credibility in the face of highly emotional testimony. It's hard to see past the crocodile tears and impart a malevolent agenda to a person who is possibly traumatized, or merely a good actor.

But that is why the court system is set up the way it is. We have an adversarial system that is, in theory, designed to sniff out the truth, and if not punish the liars, at least reduce their credibility to zero. Sadly, the system often fails because, for the moment, it is still reliant upon humans, and frankly we're less than reliable. Humans have biases and prejudices that influence our view of the facts and who is credible, which leads us to be incompetent truth seekers.

I started my journey in the field of law thinking that I could play my role as an advocate for one side in a conflict. It was my belief that if both sides had competent counsel that the truth would win out – and I continue today to hold that belief – however I am much more skeptical these days that it will happen, as I've seen the way the courts are biased.

I was very excited to see the movie Brian Banks. It's the story of one man's relentless fight to clear his name after the system failed, and he lost 11 years of his life. Brian was a top choice for colleges and eventually the National Football League when he was playing for Long Beach Poly High School. He grew up in Long Beach and had a burning passion to be in the NFL. Unlike many dreaming youth, he was actually on track to make it, when 'she' entered the picture.

Her name was Wanetta Gibson, and she lied about being raped by Brian. No one but her knows exactly why she lied, but the controls in our system that are supposed to prevent this type of injustice didn't work. The district attorney ran with their usual overcharging to force the defendant to take a plea. The defense attorney that was supposed to defend Brian, failed miserably in their job, and basically was of the "bleed 'em and plead 'em" mentality. No one did their job in this case, and a young man's life was irretrievably altered.

The movie stars Aldis Hodge in a standout performance of amazing depth as Brian Banks. Greg Kinnear plays the California Innocence Project attorney who takes up the banner for Banks in a role that should have had greater impact, especially for such a talented actor as Kinnear. Overall this movie was definitely worth watching and is a damning take on the judicial system that far too often is more concerned with clearing dockets and playing to stereotypes, than in find the truth and justice.

One of the saddest elements of the movie for me, was the futility that was faced by Banks, and is still faced today by any former felon who is looking for work, almost no one would hire him. As a society we make people "pay their dues" by their time in prison, but we don't actually let have redemption. We make it almost a certainty that someone who is convicted of a felony will have to re-offend just to survive, because they cannot become employed. There are many reasons for this vast unemployment problem but primarily it is the insurance companies that are behind this as a way to limit their liability. It is yet another failure of our system to properly address major issues, and instead we rely

SEE **MOVIE** PAGE 11

City of Santa Monica

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RFP: # 242 FISCAL SPONSOR

• Submission Deadline is, September 13, 2019 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.

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The Beach

Kiwanis cleans the beach

Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica members said they are fortunate to be able to support multiple Kiwanis affiliated youth groups from grade school to university level. For a recent beach clean-up event, 80 of their high school level Kiwanians from as far away as Taiwan, led by the Palisades High Kiwins spent the day making the beach a better place for everyone.

Members often say that supporting our Kiwanis youth groups is the most important thing they do and Neil Carrey, who was one of the chaperones for the event stated: "... when you spend some time with the Kiwanis Youth, it reinforces the main reason you become a Kiwanian. More importantly when you get to know them and see them in action, it makes you feel that our country is not in trouble and will be saved by this next generation."

For more information about the Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica go to KiwanisClubSM.org

SUBMITTED BY JOSEPH PALAZZOLO

LOS ANGELES

Chief: Killing of young LA officer 'leaves a lasting scar'

A young Los Angeles police officer gunned down while off duty at a taco stand was memorialized by his chief for his big smile, bright mind and devotion to public service.

Hundreds of his fellow officers packed the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels on Monday to honor Officer Juan Jose Diaz.

"Juan's death leaves a lasting wound, his murder a lasting scar," police Chief Michel Moore told mourners.

The 24-year-old officer was shot July 27 after confronting a man spray-painting gang graffiti on a wall. Diaz had been hanging out and eating tacos with his girlfriend and her two brothers in the Lincoln Heights neighborhood.

Diaz will be remembered as someone with humility and sharp sense of humor who "continually strove to help others," Moore said.

The officer's family and friends wore white and were seated in the front pews of the downtown cathedral, where Los Angeles Archbishop Jose Gomez presided over a bilingual Mass.

His sister, Anahi Diaz, said her brother had wanted to be a police officer since he was 5 years old. She laughed as she remembered him eating cereal out of a Los Angeles Dodgers batting helmet and singing country music – "and not very well."

A hearse arrived at the cathedral with a police motorcycle escort. After the service, the casket was escorted for interment at Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills cemetery.

Diaz had been on the force for two years and was assigned to the police department's Professional Standards Bureau, which conducts investigations into department personnel.

He was shot as he and his group tried to drive away to avoid a violent confrontation, investigators said. One of his girlfriend's brothers was seriously wounded but is expected to recover.

Two men and a woman were arrested Aug. 2 in connection with the killing. They were identified as Francisco Talamantes, 23; Cristian Facundo, 20; and Ashlynn Smith, 18, police said. They're due in court next month on multiple charges including murder with a gang allegation, prosecutors said.

It wasn't immediately clear whether the defendants had obtained lawyers.

Detectives said the shooting occurred during a two-hour series of crimes by gang members that included another attempted shooting nearby where the targets were unhurt.

Diaz is the second off-duty officer killed in the Los Angeles area in recent months. In June, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy Joseph Gilbert Solano was shot at a Jack in the Box restaurant in the suburb of Alhambra.

The suspect, Rhett Nelson of Utah, is also charged in the killing of professional Russian snowboarder Dmitry Koltsov. Authorities have said that the killings of Solano and Koltsov are believed to be random. Nelson has pleaded not guilty in both cases.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beverly Hills

Woman Sentenced for Beverly Hills DUI Crash That Killed Two

A 31-year-old woman was sentenced today to seven years in state prison for a crash in Beverly Hills that killed two of her passengers and injured three others, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Jeffrey Megee said Taisha Warie Welch of Los Angeles pleaded no contest on Feb. 23, to two felony counts of gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated and admitted an allegation of multiple victims.

On April 27, 2018, Welch was driving under the influence when she lost control of the vehicle causing a rollover crash near Wilshire Boulevard and Santa Monica Boulevard, the prosecutor said. Two of the passengers, Denesha Stewart, 24, and Jenetta Williams, 30, were killed.

Three other passengers were injured in the crash, two of them suffering great bodily injury, the prosecutor added.

Case SA097934 was investigated by the Beverly Hills Police Department.

SUBMITTED BY RICARDO SANTIAGO, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER WITH THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE



PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Angel Carreras
angel@smdp.com

Madeleine Pauker
madeleine@smdp.com

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Jenny Rice
jenny@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Cindy Moreno
cindy@smdp.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Charles Andrews,
Cynthia Citron,
Jack Neworth,
David Pisarra,
Sarah A. Spitz

PRODUCTION
Grape Multimedia Productions
production@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Achling Holliday
ross@smdp.com

Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

Santa Monica Daily Press
1640 5th Street, Suite 218
Santa Monica, CA 90401
OFFICE (310) 458-PRESS (7737)
FAX (310) 576-9913

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AWARD WINNER

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WINNER

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Goal of fighting fire with fire faces hurdles in US West

BRIAN MELLEY
Associated Press

The thick scent of smoke hung in the midday air when a trail along the Kings River opened up to an ominous scene: flames in the trees and thick gray smoke shrouding canyon walls.

Firefighters were on the job. In fact, they had started the blaze that chewed through thick ferns, blackened downed trees and charred the forest floor. The prescribed burn — a low-intensity, closely managed fire — was intended to clear out undergrowth and protect the heart of Kings Canyon National Park from future wildfires that are growing larger and more frequent amid climate change.

The tactic is considered one of the best ways to prevent the kind of catastrophic destruction that has become common from wildfires, but its use falls woefully short of goals in the U.S. West. A study published in the journal Fire in April found prescribed burns on federal land in the last 20 years across the West has stayed level or fallen despite calls for more.

Prescribed fires are credited with making forests healthier and stopping or slowing the advance of some blazes. Despite those successes, there are plenty of reasons they are not set as often as officials would like, ranging from poor conditions to safely burn to bureaucratic snags and public opposition.

After a wildfire last year largely leveled the city of Paradise and killed 86 people, the state prioritized 35 brush and other vegetation-reduction projects that could all involve some use of intentional fire, said Mike Mohler, deputy director of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

Despite the push for more burns, there are disastrous reminders of prescribed fires blowing out of control — such as a 2012 Colorado burn that killed three people and damaged or destroyed more than two dozen homes.

Overcoming public fears by teaching about "good smoke, bad smoke, out-of-control fire and prescribed fire" is just one hurdle before firefighters can put match to kindling, Mohler said.

"It's the difference between fire under our terms and fighting fire on Mother Nature's terms," he said.

It can take years to plan and clear federal, state and local environmental and air pollution regulations. A burn among giant sequoias once took 13 years to accomplish, said Michael Theune, a spokesman for Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks.

In the American West, where the landscape is steep and downed trees, brush and other fuels

SEE **GOAL** PAGE 11

MYSTERY PHOTO

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QUAKE

FROM PAGE 1

have much more value than the building itself," he said. "Therefore, tenants have as much at stake as the owners of the building do."

But in Santa Monica, 77% of seismically vulnerable buildings have not yet been retrofitted, according to the city's building and safety department. The city launched a seismic retrofit program two years ago that sets deadlines from August 2019 to October 2037 for different types of buildings.

Evan Reis, executive director of the United States Resiliency Council, said property owners will benefit financially in the long run by spending slightly more on retrofits that go beyond minimum safety requirements.

"Modern seismic codes focus on protecting lives, not on minimizing damage or facilitating recovery," Reis said. "Going above the minimum code will make a building recoverable after an earthquake and only cost 1 to 2% more."

Business owners can prepare for earthquakes by securing their inventory to shelves and walls, stocking disaster supplies that will last at least three days and creating a resiliency plan with their employees, said Lindsay Call, the city's chief resiliency officer.

She said businesses should also be aware that a major earthquake will disrupt essential services for weeks, including water and sewer lines, airports and ports, and roads and transit.

For example, ruptured water mains in Southern California would cost $50 billion in lost economic activity and the Port of Los Angeles would operate at just 10% capacity for more than two weeks after the earthquake, Call said.

"Fifteen percent of trade coming into Southern California would be diverted to other ports, and it would not be recovered," she said.

Call outlined local resiliency resources that businesses can take advantage of, including a three-day Community Emergency Response Team, or CERT, course that teaches citizens how to extinguish fires, conduct basic search and rescue operations and perform first aid. The city also operates an AM radio station, 1680 AM, which will disseminate information on shelters, supplies and road closures during an emergency.



Courtesy photo
PROMENADE: A significant earthquake could force many local businesses to close.

She also asked businesses to sign a memorandum of understanding with the city to provide supplies after a disaster and join Santa Monica Organizations Active in Disaster, or SMOIAD, a coalition of local businesses, government agencies, non-profits and service organizations that strives to prepare the community before a disaster and pledges to serve after one.

Laurel Rosen, president and CEO of the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce, urged businesses to register for the 2019 California ShakeOut, a statewide earthquake drill that will take place at 10:17 a.m. on Oct. 17. Almost 8 million individuals in California will practice how to prepare for, respond to and recover from a major earthquake.

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (AUGUST 13)

Ambitions sizzle in your heart, yet somehow you enter this solar cycle with a laidback attitude. You'll build plans and execute ideas with a flexibility that accommodates others and makes them want to contribute generously to your dreams. Family will be the magic ingredient that tips fortune's favor to you. Aquarius and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 40, 22, 37 and 10.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Being well-rounded, you detach from details that would bother people who didn't know as much about the world. Life is easier because you take things as general information rather than personal information.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your crew will need two things from you today: space and support. Creating space is easy – just back up. Support is trickier, just because it comes in so many forms. Find out which kind is preferred.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). There will be those who seem to have an argument for everything. Hear what they have to say without providing any resistance. Then declare your decision and retreat.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). From the seaweed to the crab to the surfer, all of life thrives by working with the cyclical forces instead of fighting them. Events will be swayed by tides stronger than your will. Let go; let flow.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll conduct small but key experiments to learn about the world and your place in it. Emboldened by the possibilities, you're willing to play with variables that you once wouldn't have touched.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Normally, you wouldn't think twice before going out of your way for the people you love. But right now, it's important to check the balance of a relationship. If you're the one inconvenienced more often than not, this is a red flag.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Because you're easy to turn to, you'll be in on information before the others. Some of it is so sensitive that you almost wish you didn't know it. But your famous discretion will kick in. You can handle this.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Going too soft on yourself will be a danger. Make yourself comfortable but not coddled. The challenge ahead requires that you develop some coping mechanisms and fight back.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You're such a stellar driver of your own life that you may be asked or tempted to drive another person's life as well. Of course, this never works, as no one can drive two vehicles at once.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Some say natural attractions are futile to resist. If only we were strictly attracted to what was best for us! There is more than one way to use the energy of attraction. Channeled properly, it will fuel your best work.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You feel like you're not doing enough, but actually you're doing too much and skipping the rest and recuperation phase, a.k.a. the part of the cycle that allows you to be stronger, smarter and more capable of amazing yourself.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). It's not quite accurate to say that you'll fearlessly lead the way for the others. Leadership is scary. The fear is real. But you'll hide it, march forward, and the rest will follow in kind.

Celestial Cat Conjunction

As it is in the animal kingdom, rituals and instinctive behaviors kick in wherever there's an assemblage of strangers. The social order gets worked out. You may not think you know the rules of this type of interaction, but they are embedded in your very nature. The solar conjunction to Venus in Leo favors a feral justice. Don't overthink it.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTION

"I've been getting into tarot lately and using it in my meditations regarding the healing of our planet. Is there a card in the typical Tarot deck that represents the planet Earth?" The very last of the major arcana cards is The World, which symbolizes Gaia, Mother Earth and all her creatures. The World depicts a woman holding a womb-shaped mirror. This card reminds us that our world is a reflection of how we see ourselves. It represents a culmination of hard work, the triumph and sense of completion that you get when you see your life has turned out exactly as you envisioned it. When this happens, it's as if we're about to be reborn into a new life full of creative possibility. Sometimes, however, we don't appreciate what we have. The World card in reverse (upside down) reminds us that caring for the Earth is not something we can take for granted. If we continue to pollute our oceans, air and soil, we pollute our own bodies and our minds. I hope this insight helps to enrich your mediations and bring you new ideas about how you can take both spiritual and practical action in the crusade for a healthier planet.

CELEBRITY PROFILES

Iconic filmmaker Alfred Hitchcock was referred to as "The Master of Suspense" for his manner of delivering psychological thrills and chills. Born when the sun and Venus were both in Leo, the sign of entertainment, it should not come as a surprise that Hitchcock's moon was in Scorpio, the sign associated with life, death, transformation and mystery. **Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.**

WORD UP!

Subitize

verb (used without object) [soo-bi-tahyz] Psychology.

To make an immediate and accurate reckoning of the number of items in a group or sample without needing to pause and actually count them.

Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



"IT'S RAINING GARBAGE."

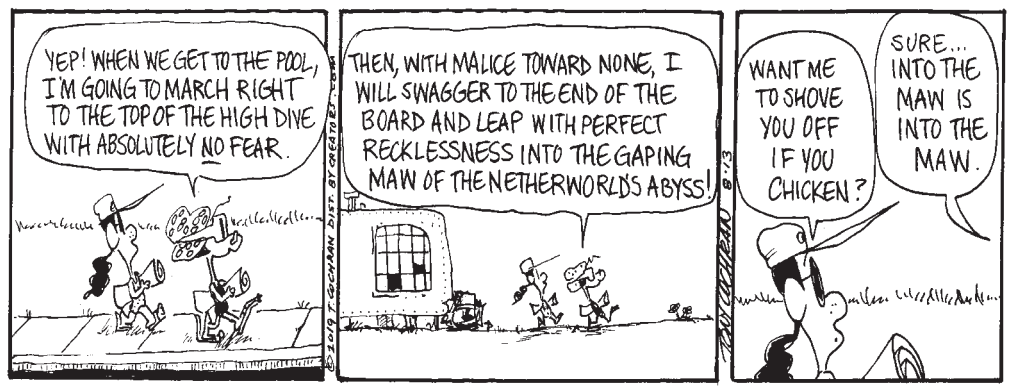
Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



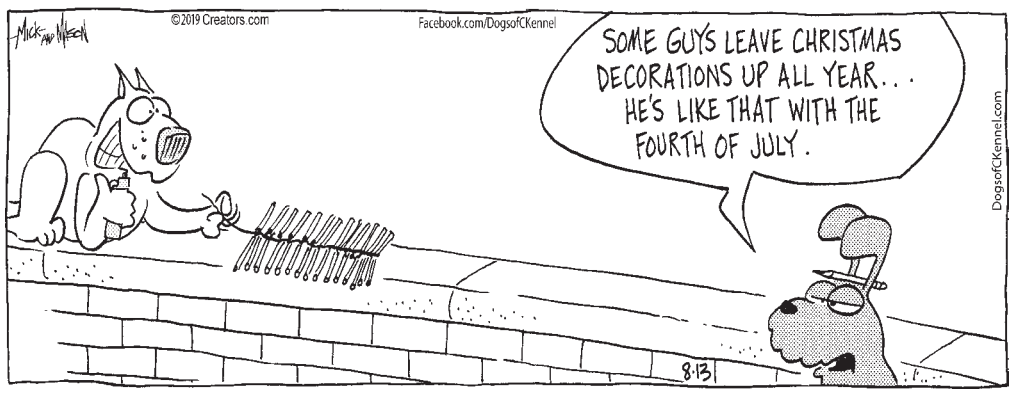
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



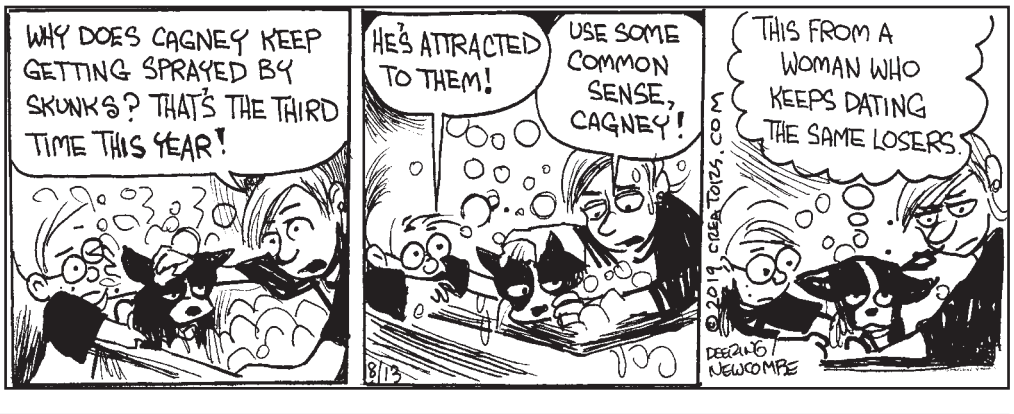
Dogs of C-Kennel

By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



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DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL calottery
Draw Date:08/10
35 41 44 58 59
Power#: 3
Jackpot: 138 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 08/09
15 53 56 59 63
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 65 M

SuperLOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 08/10
11 24 39 40 45
Mega#: 27
Jackpot: 70 M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 08/11
2 3 8 10 13

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 08/11
Midday: 7 2 1
Draw Date: 08/12
Evening: 8 4 3

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 07/11
1st: 10 - SOLID GOLD
2nd: 5 - CALIFORNIA CLASSIC
3rd: 07 - EUREKA
RACE TIME: 1:45.54

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



SURF REPORT

SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 70.7°

TUESDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft knee to waist high
Small blend of SW/S swells. Minor NW windswell.

WEDNESDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ knee to waist high occ. 4 ft
New SW swell creeping up. Minor NW windswell.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

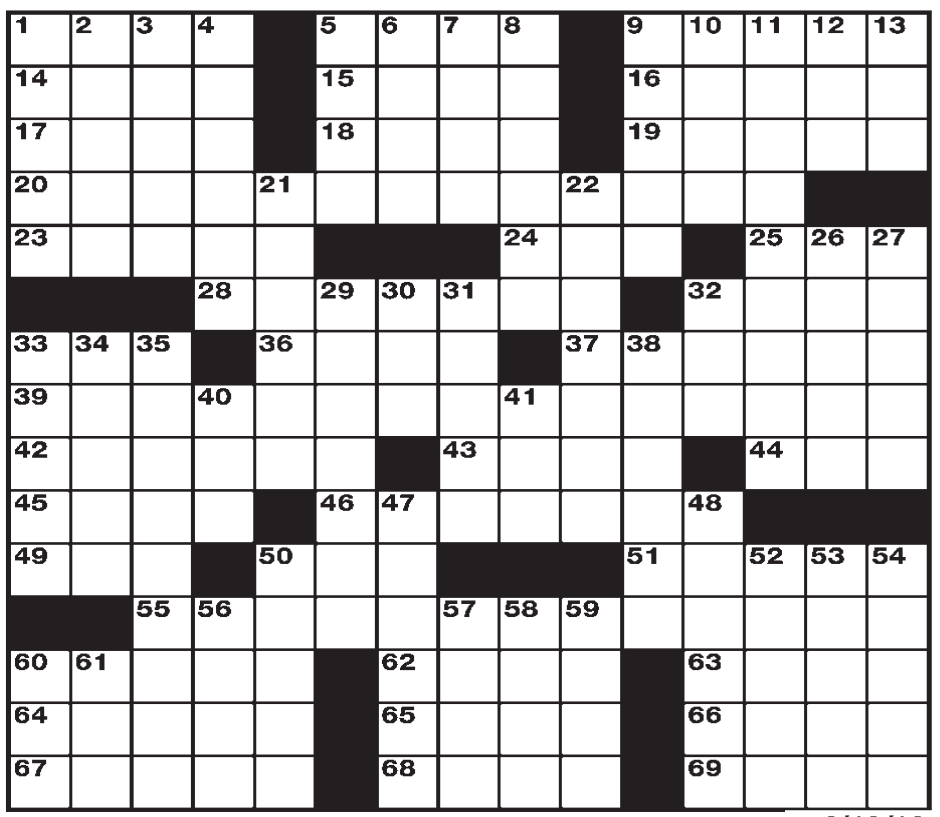
8	1	3		7				
					4	9		8
	6		1		8		3	
	9				6			1
		4		1		6		
1			9				5	
	4		7		2		8	
2		1	3					
				8		5	9	2

Newsday Crossword

BEAT THE HEAT by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Male deer
5 Karate move
9 __ one's time (waited)
14 Therefore
15 Nevada casino city
16 Get out of bed
17 Vietnam neighbor
18 Granola grains
19 Bath bars
20 Apparel like T-shirts and shorts
23 Pebble or boulder
24 "You've got mail" company
25 Remind constantly
28 Veteran sailor
32 A second helping
33 St. Louis summer hours
36 Weaving machine
37 Adjust in advance
39 Home-cooling technology
42 Mexican lizard
43 Boys in the family
44 __ Paulo, Brazil
45 __ roast (beef cut)
46 Do-it-yourself diagnostic tool
49 Antonym: Abbr.
50 Hair stylist's goo
51 Wipe a whiteboard clean
55 Ginger ale, lemonade, etc.
60 Crown of a princess
62 Mouth-related
63 Annoying noises
64 Farmland measures
65 Subtle eye signal
66 Otherwise
67 Complete makeovers
68 Recognizes
69 Poor grades

DOWN
1 Gets cash for
2 Characteristic
3 Galore, in the disco era
4 Emphatic denial
5 Gator cousin
6 Make well again
7 Not deceived by
8 Mail-related
9 Pesto sauce herb
10 Metal in barbells
11 Physician's conclusion
12 Clairvoyance, for short
13 __ Moines, IA
21 Tattle about
22 Flashy lipstick shade
26 Venue for boxing
27 Very beginning, slangily
29 Gave to a charity
30 Roll of turf
31 Out of whack
32 Guys
33 Egypt's capital
34 Unearth
35 Advantage, from the game of bridge
38 More optimistic
40 Baseball hat
41 Small kid
47 Arm joints
48 Swapped
50 Window material
52 Nimble
53 Sight or smell
54 Double-curve letters
56 Tri-layer cookie
57 A Great Lake
58 Barn-top instrument
59 Relatives of deer
60 Road paving material
61 Winter skating surface



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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Conman Sentenced to more than 7 Years in Federal Prison

A Canadian national was sentenced today to 87 months in federal prison for running a $7.5 million Ponzi scheme in which he defrauded investors by posing as a successful beverage entrepreneur with close ties to well-known business executives and professional sports stars, including NBA star Stephen Curry.

Khemraj Dave Hardat, 50, a former resident of the Ritz-Carlton Residences at L.A. Live in downtown Los Angeles who has been in federal custody since his arrest last November, was sentenced by United States District Judge Dale S. Fischer, who said Hardat was "not a misguided businessman; he was a very skillful fraudster."

Hardat was sentenced after pleading guilty on April 22 to five counts of wire fraud. When he pleaded guilty, Hardat admitted that, from August 2014 through November 2018, he raised money from investors by falsely holding himself out as a successful investor and businessman in the performance beverage and water-bottling industries. Hardat duped his investors by falsely representing that he had a doctorate and that he maintained relationships with established business figures such as computer entrepreneur Michael Dell and the chief executive officer of PepsiCo.

Hardat falsely claimed that professional basketball star Stephen Curry would be endorsing one of his company's products, and that PepsiCo and Dr. Pepper Snapple Group, Inc. owed him more than $100 million as the result of purported business deals he had consummated with them.

Hardat supported his bogus claims of financial success by showing victims doctored digital images of bank account statements showing inflated balances. One fraudulent image emailed to a victim showed a balance of nearly $500 million in one bank account, while another phony image showed a bank account balance of nearly $170 million.

In reality, Hardat used investor funds to pay off his personal debts, purchase luxury cars worth more than $100,000 each, pay rent at the Ritz-Carlton Residences, pay tuition to exclusive private schools, and purchase luxury boxes and tickets for sporting and entertainment events. Hardat also admitted that, in the style of a Ponzi scheme, he made payments to prior victim-investors out of subsequent victim-investors' money. During the course of the scheme, Hardat took in approximately $7.5 million from investors, who suffered losses of more than $6.4 million.

"Fleeing the fallout and escaping the consequences of frauds he perpetrated in Canada, defendant immigrated to the United States, where he overstayed his visa and reconstituted his lucrative, luxurious life of financial crime," prosecutors wrote in a sentencing memorandum. "[Hardat] befriended neighbors, fellow parents at his children's school, and entrepreneurial would-be co-venturers, whose trust, loyalty, and hopes he carefully nurtured, only to betray them at the earliest opportunity."

This matter was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Adam P. Schleifer of the Major Frauds Section.

SUBMITTED BY CIARAN MCEVOY, USDOJ PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 36 CALLS ON AUG. 11

Emergency Medical Service 500blk 21st Pl 12:02 a.m.
EMS 1300blk Ocean Ave 12:42 a.m.
EMS 900blk 2nd St 12:47 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2100blk Santa Monica Blvd 1:01 a.m.
Automatic alarm 100blk Colorado Ave 1:29 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 20th St 1:38 a.m.
EMS 300blk Santa Monica Pier 1:39 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 2nd St 2:40 a.m.
Traffic collision with physical rescue 20th St / Virginia Ave 2:45 a.m.
EMS 800blk 12th St 4:10 a.m.
Haz mat - level 1 1300blk 2nd St 4:22 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 4:48 a.m.
EMS Berkeley St / Wilshire Blvd 4:49 a.m.
EMS 900blk 6th St 7:37 a.m.
EMS 200blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:48 a.m.
Automatic alarm 500blk Pico Blvd 8:43 a.m.
EMS 1800blk 11th St 9:00 a.m.
EMS 1100blk Ocean Front Walk 9:54 a.m.
EMS 300blk California Ave 11:05 a.m.
EMS 400blk Colorado Ave 11:09 a.m.
EMS Ocean Ave / Vicente Ter 11:25 a.m.
EMS 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 11:49 a.m.
EMS 4th St / Interstate 10 12:55 p.m.
EMS 3000blk Ocean Front Walk 1:39 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 2nd St 4:06 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 2nd St 4:29 p.m.
Structure fire 2300blk 34th St 5:04 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 6th St 5:51 p.m.
EMS 500blk Raymond Ave 6:29 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 17th St 7:19 p.m.
EMS 700blk California Ave 8:22 p.m.
EMS 700blk Pico Blvd 8:39 p.m.
EMS 1500blk Ocean Front Walk 8:43 p.m.
EMS 2600blk Barnard Way 9:28 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 19th St 9:43 p.m.
Traffic collision with injury 2000blk Olympic Blvd 10:02 p.m.

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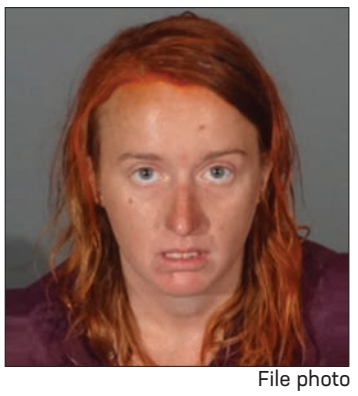
Santa Mor office (310) 458-7737

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 JULY 31, AT 11:16 A.M.

Officers responded to the AM/PM located at 332 Pico for an assault. Upon arrival they found the suspect riding a skateboard. They made contact with the suspect and detained her. They met with the two victims. One victim was slapped in the face unprovoked. The second victim tried to stop the suspect from fleeing. The suspect took her skateboard and swung it at his head. To prevent from being struck, he put up his forearm to block the attack. Elizabeth Shubert, 27, homeless, was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon, battery and assault. Bail was set at $30,000.



File photo

ELIZABETH SHUBERT

DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 331 CALLS ON AUG. 11

Loud music 600blk Pacific St 1:14 a.m.
Identity theft 1400blk 11th St 1:20 a.m.
Vandalism 200blk Ocean Ave 1:27 a.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 100blk Wilshire Blvd 1:44 a.m.
Suicide 1300blk 2nd St 2:39 a.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 20th St / Virginia Ave 2:45 a.m.
Drunk driving Lincoln Blvd / Olympic Blvd W 4:21 a.m.
Petty theft 1700blk Ocean Front Walk 4:22 a.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 2400blk Oak St 8:37 a.m.
Hit and run 7th St / Marguerita Ave 8:46 a.m.
Abandoned vehicle 200blk Bay St 8:49 a.m.
Auto burglary 800blk 5th St 8:59 a.m.
Petty theft Johnny Rockets 9:02 a.m.
Hit and run 1300blk 2nd St 9:08 a.m.
Abandoned vehicle 1200blk 5th St 9:15 a.m.
Out of order traffic signals 11th St / Broadway 10:06 a.m.
Trespassing Ocean Ave / Colorado Ave 10:20 a.m.
Encampment 400blk Santa Monica Pier 10:21 a.m.
Petty theft 1600blk Ocean Park Blvd 10:39 a.m.
Person with a gun 1100blk Ocean Front Walk 10:43 a.m.
Silent robbery alarm 1300blk 4th St 10:46 a.m.
Grand theft auto 11th St / Arizona Ave 11:08 a.m.
Petty theft 1600blk the beach 11:27 a.m.
Failure to pay parking fee 2600blk Barnard Way 11:35 a.m.
Traffic collision with injuries 19th St / Santa Monica Blvd 11:47 a.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 2200blk Virginia Ave 11:47 a.m.
Auto burglary 1600blk Idaho Ave 11:49 a.m.
Bike theft 200blk Pier Ave 11:51 a.m.
Handicap zone violation 1200blk 5th St 12:00 p.m.
Auto burglary 1200blk Yale St 12:57 p.m.
Petty theft 1900blk Ocean Way 1:12 p.m.
Child abuse 1100blk Pacific Coast Hwy 1:13 p.m.
Assault 2500blk Pico Blvd 1:18 p.m.
Prowler just left 2300blk 21st St 1:20 p.m.
Petty theft 3000blk Wilshire Blvd 1:34 p.m.
Mark & tag abandoned vehicle 1300blk Yale St 2:49 p.m.
Hit and run 900blk Princeton St 2:57 p.m.
Mark & tag abandoned vehicle Ocean Ave / Strand St 3:04 p.m.
Battery 500blk Olympic Blvd W 3:27 p.m.
Failure to pay parking fee 2600blk Barnard Way 3:28 p.m.
Vandalism 1600blk Montana Ave 3:29 p.m.
Petty theft 2000blk Main St 3:32 p.m.
Petty theft 200blk Broadway 3:49 p.m.
Abandoned vehicle 1000blk 12th St 3:57 p.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 2400blk Oak St 4:01 p.m.
Petty theft 800blk Wilshire Blvd 4:11 p.m.
Burglary 2000blk Washington Ave 5:09 p.m.
Vandalism 2600blk Pico Blvd 5:20 p.m.
Petty theft 400blk Broadway 5:21 p.m.
Theft suspect in custody 1200blk 4th St 5:32 p.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 1100blk 21st St 6:02 p.m.
Battery 1300blk 2nd St 6:05 p.m.
Encampment 900blk 3rd St 6:14 p.m.
Encampment 1300blk Palisades Beach Rd 6:29 p.m.
Hit and run felony 4th St / Arizona Ave 6:45 p.m.
Strongarm robbery 1700blk Appian Way 7:18 p.m.
Battery 500blk 15th St 7:59 p.m.
Burglary 1000blk Lincoln Blvd 8:39 p.m.
Burglary 1400blk 18th St 8:50 p.m.
Battery 1900blk Pico Blvd 8:52 p.m.
Drunk driving Cloverfield Blvd / Interstate 10 9:01 p.m.
Petty theft 200blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:08 p.m.
Hit and run 3rd Street Prom / Arizona Ave 9:39 p.m.
Assault 25th St / Wilshire Blvd 9:54 p.m.
Traffic collision with injuries 2000blk Olympic Blvd 10:02 p.m.
Hit and run 1500blk 7th St 10:10 p.m.
Auto burglary 800blk Santa Monica Blvd 10:59 p.m.
Defrauding innkeeper in progress 2900blk Main St 11:25 p.m.
Encampment 300blk Civic Center Dr 11:30 p.m.
Burglary Appian Way / Pacific Ter 11:34 p.m.
Kidnap 1200blk 16th St 11:37 p.m.

GOAL

FROM PAGE 5

have built up over decades of fire suppression, the so-called burn window can be short because of hot, dry conditions.

Relaxing environmental restrictions has cleared the way for more prescribed fires in some cases.

Oregon recently changed air quality rules for planned fires to strike a balance between smoky winter skies and bad summer blazes. California proclaimed a state of emergency to allow it to fast-track brush clearing.

Most states and federal agencies in the U.S. West have ambitious goals they don't achieve, said Crystal Kolden, a University of Idaho forest and fire science professor whose study concluded that not enough prescribed fires are being done in the region.

"They know they need to be doing more prescribed fire, they want to be doing more prescribed fire," she said. "They are simply unable to accomplish that."

Opponents cite the threat to wildlife and release of greenhouse gases. In California, some environmentalists opposed intentional burns because they can destroy natural drought-tolerant shrubs and replace them with flammable invasive weeds and grasses.

Rick Halsey of the California Chaparral Institute said reintroducing fire through prescribed burns is appropriate in the Sierra Nevada, where more frequent lightning-sparked fires and blazes historically set by Native Americans are believed to improve forests by clearing brush to allow taller trees to thrive and opening sequoia seed pods so they can reproduce.

But Halsey said prescribed fires don't help much of the rest of the state. The fire that tore through Paradise showed how ineffective clearing underbrush can be — it roared across 7 miles (11 kilometers) that had burned just 10 years earlier.

"It was still grasses and weeds and shrubs, and that's the model these prescribed burning advocates have used," Halsey said. "They say if we have younger fuels on the landscape, we'll have less fires or lower intensity fires, and we can use those areas to protect communities. And that has never happened in wind-driven fires."

The state acknowledged in a draft environmental impact report that clearing vegetation may not slow or halt extreme fires.

But successful prescribed burns can save property from some future fires, supporters said.

Four years ago, Cedar Grove in the bottom of Kings Canyon escaped a massive lightning-ignited fire — flames burned up to where periodic prescribed burns had thinned undergrowth. About $400 million in property, including employee housing, lodging, campgrounds and a water treatment plant, was spared, said Theune, the parks spokesman.

Last winter was a very wet one in California, and that left brush and vegetation less volatile through spring. In Kings Canyon, firefighters returned in June to burn different segments along a narrow strip of pines, cedars and manzanita between the raging Kings River and a road that ends in the canyon.

With other firefighters standing by in case embers escaped, a half-dozen members of the park's Arrowhead Hot Shots methodically dripped flame from gas-and-diesel torches to ignite dry pine needles, twigs and other accumulated material.

A mosaic-like pattern of fire crept through grasses, pine cones and dead branches. Downed ponderosa pines became occasional flashpoints. Teams with hoses doused flames that threatened to climb living trees.

Ideally, Sequoia and Kings Canyon parks would burn 10,000 or more acres a year, Theune said. The annual target is about a fifth of that, and the actual acreage burned often falls far short of that goal.

Over two days, the fire crew blackened the 218 acres targeted, doubling the total area burned last year in the two parks.

But it was merely 10% of the parks' annual goal and just a tiny fraction of land in the U.S. West that could be treated with prescribed fire.

ALARM

FROM PAGE 1

an administrative oversight that omitted $2,750 from a more than $100,000 contract for "reimbursable expenses."

"During the June 27, 2019, BOE meeting the Board approved the award of an agreement to Vantage Technology Consulting Group to provide support with the evaluation, design, and implementation of a video surveillance system at all District campuses," said the agenda. "Due to an administrative oversight, the reimbursable expenses associated with the agreement were excluded from the approval. Contract Amendment #01 is to rectify this oversight."

Both items are funded through the voter approved Measure ES. The bond measure passed in 2012 and provided $385 million.

According to the district, "this bond money will be utilized to upgrade technology throughout the district, increase safety and security through fire alarm upgrades and gate access improvements, and to modernize and build new facilities at multiple campuses."

The August 15 meeting will be held at the District Administrative Offices, 1651 16th Street. The open session will begin at 5:30 p.m.

The Board will hold an extended closed session before the public portion of the meeting beginning at 12:30 p.m.

"The purpose of this meeting is for board members and staff to discuss items they would not normally have time for during a regular closed session," said the District in a statement.

editor@smdp.com

MOVIE

FROM PAGE 3

upon this absolutist thinking that accounts for none of the grey in life.

Banks has gone on with his life and is now a father and professional speaker who has worked in and for the NFL. I hope to one day meet him, shake his hand and tell him in person what an inspiration he is to the power of persistence and maintaining a positive mental outlook.

David Pisarra is a Los Angeles Divorce and Child Custody Lawyer specializing in Father's and Men's Rights with the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He welcomes your questions and comments. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or 310/664-9969.You can follow him on Twitter @ davidpisarra

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