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Santa Monica Daily Press
TUESDAY
08.14.18
Volume 17 Issue 229

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Council poised to ban plastic straws, containers tonight

KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

Lids are the only exception in a proposed ordinance going before the City Council tonight to ban single-use plastic in restaurants and grocery stores throughout the city.

The ordinance bans plastic plates, bowls, trays, containers, straws, utensils, stirrers, cups and lid plugs unless they are made from degradable materials. Even compostable utensils and paper straws are to be provided only on request.

The move comes as other cities enact similar bans to curb the amount of garbage making its way into the Pacific Ocean. The amount of plastic straws collected on Santa Monica's beach during clean-ups is up 43 percent since 2014, according to Heal the Bay.

The plastic ban would impact approximately 800 businesses in Santa Monica, from large, corporate chains to mom-and-pops. The ordinance would also apply to all city facilities and sponsored events that serve prepared food.

The new law would expand a 2007 ordinance that banned polystyrene food containers.

The City Council will meet Thursday, Aug. 14 inside City Hall Council Chambers at 1685 Main Street, room 213. Public items will be heard no earlier than 6:30 p.m.

kate@smdp.com

Cities warn of unchecked pot deliveries, despite sales bans

MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press

California cities on Monday objected to a proposed change in state rules that they say would allow unchecked home marijuana deliveries in places that have banned local pot sales.

In a letter to state regulators, the League of California Cities said the change would undermine local authority and potentially lure criminal activity to cities that wanted pot businesses kept out of their communities.

SEE MARIJUANA PAGE 5

Questions loom over Tesla deal after CEO reveals Saudi link

BY MICHAEL LIEDTKE & TOM KRISHER
AP Business Writers

Tesla CEO Elon Musk's elaboration on his plan to engineer a buyout of the electric car maker could get the Silicon Valley maverick into legal trouble by revealing that the deal is far more uncertain than how he initially described it in his brash tweet last week.

If everything falls into place, Musk plans to buy Tesla from any existing shareholders willing to sell using money raised through Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund.

Until his Monday blog post,

SEE TESLA PAGE 6

Bird and Lime scramble to rally fans to save Santa Monica operations



File photo

PROTEST: Local scooter companies Bird and Lime are planning events at City Hall tonight but no formal action is before the council. Staff will make a decision on the future of the companies this month.

KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

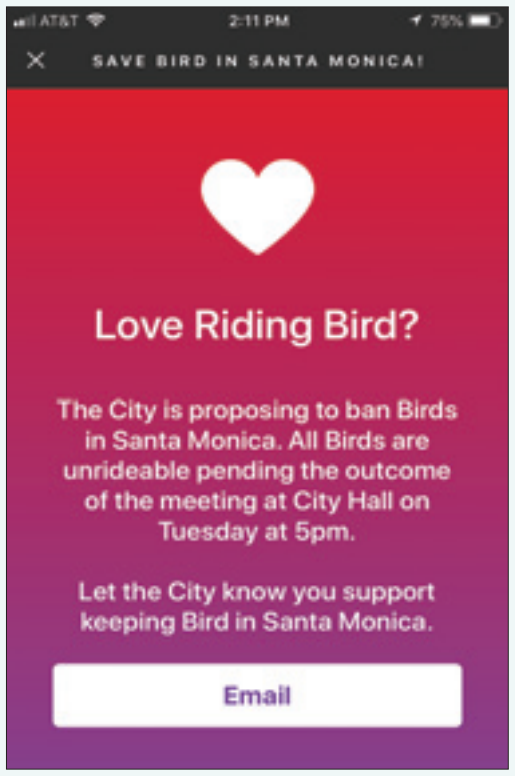
Bird Scooters suddenly shuttered their operations in Santa Monica Monday afternoon in a bold move to save their business here. The local start-up failed to get the endorsement of a key committee for the City's official electric scooter pilot program launching this September.

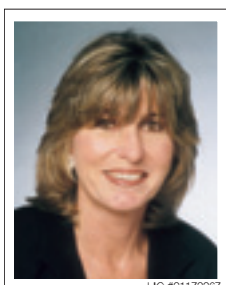
After flooding the City with scooters over the summer in an attempt to compete, Lime also failed to win the endorsement.

Instead, the official selection committee recommended awarding contracts for Lyft and Jump (which is owned by Uber) to launch their own electric bike and scooter operations here.

"This group inexplicably scored companies with no experience ever operating shared e-scooters higher than Bird who invented this model right here in Santa Monica," a Bird spokesperson wrote in an email to local riders. Both companies planned to rally outside City Hall at 5 p.m. Tuesday as City Council officials

SEE SCOOTERS PAGE 5




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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, August 14

New Short Fiction Series: Latinx Life in LA

The New Short Fiction Series, Los Angeles' longest running spoken word series, present "Stories of Latinx Life in Los Angeles." Join us for a spoken word evening with local actors Holger Moncada, Jr., Paul Lasa, Jill Remez, and Sally Shore reading works by local writers Elaine Barnard, Daniel M. Jaffe, Daniel A. Olivas and Desiree Zamorano. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 PCH, 6:30 – 8 p.m.

City Council Meeting

Regular Meeting of the Santa Monica City Council. 1685 Main St, 5:30 p.m.

Fingerboard Event

Bring your own fingerboard, or borrow one from the library, and show off your finger skateboarding tricks. Please call 310-458-8684 to register. Grades 7-12. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd, 4 – 5 p.m.

ASR Time Travel Tuesdays: Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure (1989)

Bill and Ted embark on a 'most excellent' adventure to collect famous figures from history before they fail their final exam. (90 min.) Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 3 – 5 p.m.

Blogging for Beginners

Learn how to create and customize your own free blog using sites such as Blogger.com and WordPress.com. Space is limited and on a first arrival basis. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd, 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Wednesday, August 15

Prospective "Tech Teen" Information Session

High school students and their families: Learn about the library's Tech Teen Volunteer & Leadership Program. We will provide an overview of the certification process, participation requirements, and benefits. Grades 9-12. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 7 – 8 p.m.

Planning Commission Meeting

The Santa Monica Planning Commission normally meets on the first and third Wednesdays of every month in the City Council Chamber, 1685 Main St. 7 p.m.

Montana Book Discussion Group: Forgotten Fatherland

In 1886 Elisabeth Nietzsche, Friedrich's sister, founded a "racially pure" colony in Paraguay with a band of fellow Germans. Macintyre tells of the survivors of this bizarre colony and the colorful history of Elisabeth's return to Europe, where she inspired the mythical cult of her brother's philosophy and became a mentor to Hitler. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Family Game Night

Turn off those electronic devices and spend some quality time with your family. Board games for young and older kids provided — or bring your own! For families. Refreshments provided. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd, 6 – 8 p.m.

The Commission for the Senior Community Regular Meeting

Santa Monica's Commission for the Senior Community focuses on preserving and improving the quality of life for Santa Monicans 60 and older. The Commission advises City Council on a wide range of issues relevant to older adults. The Commission also provides opportunities to educate seniors, their families and caregivers on these issues. Please note: Dates, times and locations are subject to change up to 24 hours in advance of a meeting. 1:30 p.m. Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th St.

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SAN FRANCISCO

California high court sides with police in case over chases

The California Supreme Court on Monday unanimously rejected a lawsuit that sought to make it easier to hold police liable for crashes that occur during pursuits.

A state law says police agencies are immune from liability if they have a written pursuit policy, provide annual training about chases, and require that all officers certify in writing that they have read and understood the policy.

However, the state Supreme Court said it would be almost impossible for large agencies with thousands of officers to show that every officer has met the certification provision.

"A requirement may exist even if not every peace officer complies with it," Associate Justice Ming Chin wrote for the court.

The decision came in a lawsuit filed against the Southern California city of Gardena by Irma Ramirez, whose son was killed in 2015 after an officer bumped the pickup truck he was in during a chase and sent it crashing into a light pole. He was a suspect in an armed robbery.

Ramirez's attorney, Abdalla Innabi, said the decision makes people less safe by protecting departments no matter "how negligent, how egregious, how reckless" the pursuit.

"The standard is now so low that any department will be immune," he said. "All they have to say is, 'We have a requirement,' and that's good enough."

Chin said opening up agencies to liability for a single officer's failure to complete the written certification would reduce the incentive for agencies to craft a pursuit policy and provide training.

SUDHIN THANAWALA, ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Baseball with signatures of 11 greats fetches $623,369

A baseball with the signatures of Babe Ruth, Ty Cobb, Honus Wagner and eight other greats of the game has sold for more than $600,000.

The players all signed the ball on the same day in 1939, when they had gathered to become the first class to enter the Baseball Hall of Fame.

SCP Auctions said Monday that it has sold for $623,369. That crushes the previous record of $345,000 for a signed ball, set in 2013.

The winner was identified only as a Southern California collector.

The ball also includes the signatures of Cy Young, Connie Mack and six others. The only original inductee who didn't sign it was Lou Gehrig, who on that day was headed to a hospital where he'd be diagnosed with ALS.

ANDREW DALTON, ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO

California school boards sue over education funding law

The California School Boards Association is suing over a provision in the state budget it argues could let lawmakers improperly reduce public school funding.

School funding is determined largely through a law passed California voters in 1988 known as Proposition 98.

In a lawsuit filed Friday, the California School Boards Association argues a budget trailer bill enacted this year by the Legislature and the governor lets lawmakers improperly manipulate the formula used to calculate school funding.

The organization's president Mike Walsh said the bill is lawmakers' latest attempt to reduce funding for public schools.

The state's Department of Finance spokesman H.D. Palmer said he could not comment because the department had not received and reviewed the lawsuit Monday afternoon.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Ex-LA County deputy pleads guilty in FBI's drug sting case

A former Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy has pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute drugs after he was caught in an FBI sting operation offering to guard shipments of methamphetamine, cocaine and marijuana.

Fifty-year-old Kenneth Collins of Chino entered a plea Monday. He could face 10 years to life in prison.

Prosecutors say Collins acknowledged that he and at least two other men conspired to accept cash payments as high as $250,000 while providing an armed escort to ship large amounts of drugs from California to Las Vegas.

Authorities say Collins justified the fees by telling the undercover FBI agent: "we're cops" and "all of our transports make it through."

U.S. Attorney Nick Hanna says Collins "trampled his oath by agreeing to sell his badge to assist drug traffickers."

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Uzbek man gets 20 more years for trying to kill warden

An Uzbek refugee serving 25 years in prison for plotting to help a foreign terrorist group has been sentenced to another 20 years for trying to kill a federal prison warden in California.

Fazliddin Kurbanov was sentenced Monday in Los Angeles. Prosecutors say he acknowledged fashioning a knife and trying to slit the warden's throat at a federal prison in Victorville.

Calvin Johnson, the warden, recovered from the 2016 attack.

Kurbanov pleaded guilty in March to attempted murder of a federal officer.

Kurbanov's new sentence will run consecutively with his current sentence for trying to provide material support to the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, a terrorist group.

Authorities say that before his 2013 arrest, Kurbanov bought bomb-making materials and plotted to kill U.S. military personnel or civilians at Fourth of July celebrations.

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What's the Point?

David Pisarra
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Teachers Teach To Learn

THIS IS THE LAST WEEK OF SUMMER vacation for the Santa Monica School District students and teachers. Next week it all starts up again. The students are dreading having to do homework and the teachers are likely polishing up their outlines and agendas. Being a teacher is certainly not a job one goes into for the money, so why do they do it? Because it is emotionally and mentally rewarding. I'm not a schoolteacher, but I definitely teach and can attest to the deep and abiding rewards that are abundant in that profession.

I've been mentoring a young man for about a year and a half. We meet up for two-day retreats somewhere in the country, and so far we've been to Kansas City, Chapel Hill, Los Angeles and this week we are in Denver. It's a great way to bring focus and set out a path forward. He formed his company as a result of the first Deep Dive Weekend we did and he's on track to make an annual profit into six figures this year. Not bad for a first year.

The experience of mentoring someone is rewarding when they take action and move to improve their life and business. I've always enjoyed working with business owners, those scrappy entrepreneurs who see a different path and are willing to try and change the world. Rain Bennett and I started working together because he saw what I was doing with best selling author Chris Luera and wanted my opinion on a few things. Our relationship grew to the point where we now meet about every 3-6 months and dig into the growth path of Six Second Stories, his corporate communications company. He specializes in short form narratives for non-profits.

Being a part of someone's growth is fulfilling. That's why parenting is so rewarding (so I'm told) and at the same time challenging. As the child/student/mentee grows, the parent/teacher/mentor must also grow to continue to be support and benefit. For my part, I've found that working with people who are engaged and challenging me makes for not only a more powerful and enjoyable experience but also keeps me sharp.

In order for me to be of maximum benefit to Rain my mentee, I have to stay up on what is happening in the world of marketing, software solutions, social media and new media trends. I receive a huge benefit from that because I can use it in my family law practice. I have a podcast, website, I've started a videocast, a YouTube Channel and have published books that are for my prospects and clients to read.

The proliferation of media channels and ways to generate business means that putting it all together and keeping it going can be a full-time job if you're trying to keep everything fresh and current. I'm not. My divorce and child custody books, podcasts, videos are all designed to be evergreen content. Which means that I create it once and it keeps its value.

I do commentary on events that are in the news for various publications, based on the latest headlines. The goal always is to be of value to the reporters and readers in explaining complex legal theories and issues in such a way that they make sense. By providing educational insight, everyone wins. This forces me to stay up to date on what the latest laws are so that I am knowledgeable and remain a valuable source to my clients and the reporters who call on me.

To those teachers who are about to embark on yet another year of helping to form the youth, thank you. I hope you enjoyed your summer break, took some time to relax and to also grow and learn more so that you can be ready for this year's challenges. I'm sure there'll be many. Your efforts are often minimized, discounted and dismissed - but I want to say you are appreciated and I hope you continue to get as much from your teaching as you are giving. Happy New School Year.

DAVID PISARRA is a family law attorney focusing on fathers' rights and men's issues in the Santa Monica firm of Pisarra & Grist. He can be reached at dpisarra@pisarra.com or (310) 664-9969.

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

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SCOOTERS

FROM PAGE 1

show up for their public meeting.

Until then, Bird says their scooters will remain inoperable in the city.

"Please let city leaders know how much you have come to depend on Bird, and how you would feel if you woke up one day and Bird was gone - because they decided two car-based rideshare corporations should own all of Santa Monica transportation," Bird said.

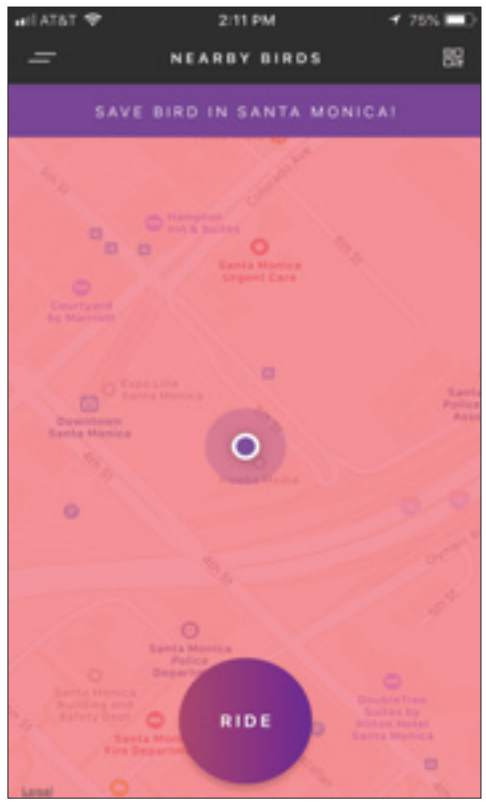
It's not clear whether the companies will try to force an item onto the official agenda Tuesday. Santa Monica's public information officer said any public comment on the scooter issue will likely take place after midnight, when all other business has been concluded. Planning Director David Martin has the actual say on which four companies out of the thirteen that applied will get contracts to operate dockless rideshare services in the city and his decision is expected at the end of the month.

The City Council approved a pilot program earlier this year that will award contracts to two electric scooter companies and two bike share companies. Each company submitted a detailed plan for how their shared mobility fleets would operate in the city. The selection committee made up of city staffers and a Santa Monica Police Department Lieutenant scored each company on seven categories including experience, operations, compliance and safety.

Bird and Lime each performed poorly on the compliance portion of the assessment, which was based on their record with Federal, state and local laws, scoring half as many points on the metric as Lyft and Jump. Bird also scored low on their proposed plans for operations and public education.

Lyft scored highest in those areas, coming out the strongest on the assessment. In a post on the website Medium, Lyft's Co-founders John Zimmer and Logan Green said the Lyft app will soon integrate scooters and bikes, as well as real-time public transportation updates to give customers a variety of options for their commutes. The company has emphasized its commitment to sustainability, encouraging users to carpool through the app, rather than ride alone.

"We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity for the private and public sectors to work together to make our cities designed for people not cars," the co-founders said. "We see the introduction of bikes and scooters to our cities' shared transit ecosystems as one more step in Lyft's civic responsibility."



Courtesy image

BLANKED: Bird disabled all scooters yesterday in advance of the City Council meeting.

Uber acquired Jump bikes earlier this year, promising to quickly integrate bikes and scooters into the app. The feature debuted in San Francisco in February, and the company said bikes rapidly began replacing car trips, particularly when streets were most congested with cars. While the number of rides booked on the app increased by 15 percent, it was mostly driven by the bikes, as car trips declined ten percent.

"The fact that demand for eBikes is currently constrained by limited supply (there are only 250 JUMP bikes in San Francisco) makes this all the more promising," policy research analyst Santosh Rao wrote in a recent blog post about the data.

With names like 'Drop,' 'Gotcha,' Hopr, Razor, Scoot, Skip and Spin, the application process revealed the sheer number of companies trying to vie for a space in a relatively new and rapidly expanding industry. Leaders in cities across the country have been scrambling to update ordinances that do not address a brand new industry that relies on the ubiquity of their products for market dominance.

The report comes as Los Angeles appears poised to ban the scooters until regulations there can be approved and permits issued. Beverly Hills has also enacted a temporary ban on the scooters.

kate@smdp.com

MARIJUANA

FROM PAGE 1

The proposal would unleash "cannabis delivery anywhere in the state, regardless of conflicting local regulations or bans," the group wrote in the letter, released Monday but dated July 27.

"An influx of unapproved local cannabis deliveries will decrease transparency of cannabis operations and increase public safety obligations and costs for local law enforcement," the letter said.

California kicked off broad legal pot sales Jan. 1. What has emerged is a patchwork of local laws, with some cities and counties embracing the legal cannabis economy while others have limited sales and growing or outlawed all commercial pot activity. That's created so-called pot deserts, where sales are forbidden.

The state Bureau of Cannabis Control said in a statement that it was merely clarifying what has always been the case: that a licensed pot delivery can be made to "any jurisdiction within the state."

The state is considering changes to rules that govern the legal marketplace.

At issue is apparently conflicting fine print in the maze of state law and rules involving marijuana.

The cities are pointing in part to Proposition 64, the law approved by voters in 2016 that opened the way for legal pots sales for adults, which allows local governments to ban nonmedical pot businesses. But the state is looking to the business and professions code, which states that "a local jurisdiction shall not prevent delivery of cannabis or cannabis products on public roads" by a licensed operator.

A proposal in the Legislature intended to clarify that a licensed business can deliver cannabis anywhere in California stalled in the Senate.

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

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District of Los Angeles County (SMMUSD) will receive sealed bids from contractors holding a type **"B"** license, on the following: **Bid #18.26.ES.R1 - DSA#03-118598 John Adams Middle School – HVAC & Fire Alarm Project at John Adams Middle School.** This scope of work is estimated to be between $3,300,000 to $3,700,000 and includes construction of, Replacement of HVAC & Fire Alarm systems and installation of new HVAC systems, including selective demolition, asbestos & lead abatement, patching, painting, ceiling repair, concrete pads, rooftop platforms, selective roof repair, and work associated with the installation of a new Southern California Edison transformer and other associated improvements. All bids must be filed in the SMMUSD District's Purchasing Office, 1651 16th Street, Santa Monica, California 90404 on or before 9/6/18 at 2:00 PM at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened. Each bid must be sealed and marked with the bid name and number. Bidders must attend a Mandatory Job Walk to be held at the site, on 8/16/18 at 10:30 AM. All General Contractors and Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (M/E/P) Subcontractors must be pre-qualified for this project per bidding documents. To view the projects bidding documents, please visit ARC Southern California public plan room www.crplanwell.com and reference the project Bid #.

Prequalification Due Date & Instructions for Application Submission:
All applications are due no later than 8/22/18 - Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District has contracted with Colbi Technologies, Inc. to provide a web-based process for pre-qualification called QualityBidders. To submit an application at no cost please visit www.qualitybidders.com. Once you have been approved, you will receive an email indicating your approval expiration date and limit. The Districts approved contractors listing can be obtained via the FIP website at http://fipcontractors.smmusd.org/fip-office-website.aspx.

Mandatory Job Walk:
Thursday, 8/16/18 at 10:30 AM

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

Bid Opening:
Thursday, 9/6/18 at 2:00 PM

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

TESLA

FROM PAGE 1

Musk hadn't identified the source for financing a deal that analysts estimate could cost anywhere from $25 billion to $50 billion.

But when he initially dropped his bombshell in an August 7 tweet , Musk stated he had "funding secured" to buy Tesla stock at $420 per share — 23 percent above its August 6 closing price.

That assurance caused Tesla's stock to surge 11 percent in one day, boosting the company's market value by more than $6 billion to the dismay investors who had been betting Tesla's shares would decline.

It now appears as if financing for the deal is far from locked up, although Musk wrote on Monday that he was encouraged to pursue the buyout in a July 31 meeting with the managing director of Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund.

Discussions have continued this month, Musk wrote, while adding the caveat that the deal remained "subject to financial and other due diligence and their internal review process for obtaining approvals."

That contingency contradicts the financing guarantee that Musk issued in a tweet that already has opened an inquiry by the Securities and Exchange Commission, according to published reports. At least two lawsuits seeking to become a class action also have been filed against Tesla, alleging Musk broke securities laws by making it sound like all the financing for the buyout had been lined up.

"'Funding secured' wasn't exactly funding secured," said Peter Henning, a law professor at Wayne State University in Detroit and former SEC lawyer. "There are some issues here."

After reading Musk's Monday post, former SEC commissioner Joseph Grundfest concluded the chances of regulators taking action against Musk are now "quite high." He believes Musk, who runs cutting-edge aerospace company SpaceX in addition to Tesla, opened a "self-inflicted wound" by announcing the buyout in last week's nine-word tweet instead of spelling out the situation like he did in Monday's post.

"What Elon Musk is trying to do with electric cars and rockets is hard enough without creating more problems for yourself with bad Twitter hygiene," Grundfest said.

Tesla wouldn't comment on a possible SEC investigation or why it took a week for details to be released in the blog. The SEC also declined comment Monday. Six of Tesla's nine board members said last week they there are evaluating Musk's proposal, which would end Tesla's eight-year history as a public company and relieve some of the mounting pressure to reverse its long history of losses.

Besides making assurances about the deal's financing, Musk also sent out another tweet that asserted the only uncertainty was whether the majority of shareholders would approve it.

That statement also helped drive up Tesla's stock, irritating investors such as Mark Spiegel, whose Stanphyl Capital investment firm has been a long-time "short seller" of the shares. Short sellers borrow shares in a company's stock and sell them immediately on the premise they can be replaced at a lower price in the future.

"My guess is he was fooling around," Spiegel said of Musk's early tweets about the buyout. "He probably was getting a good laugh out of it."

Although Musk only recently broached the possibility of buying out Tesla with its board, he wrote Monday that the Saudi Arabian fund had approached him about taking the company private multiple times during the past two years.

Founded in 1971, the Public Investment Fund ranks among the world's largest sovereign wealth funds, giving it the means to buy out Tesla. It already holds about $250 billion investments around the world, according to the Sovereign Wealth Fund Institute, including a $3.5 billion stake in the biggest ride-hailing service, Uber.

Buying all of Tesla's stock would currently cost $72 billion, but a buyout of the Palo Alto, California, company probably wouldn't require as much money. That's because Musk owns roughly 20 percent of Tesla's stock and he envisions two-third of the company's current shareholders retaining their stakes in a newly created special fund.

If only one-third of Tesla's stock is sold in a buyout offer, it would cost nearly $24 billion. Other analysts have estimated financing a Tesla buyout would cost closer to $50 billion.

Investors are much more skeptical about Musk being able to pull off a buyout than they were after his first tweet about the deal. Tesla's stock crept up 92 cents Monday to close at $356.41, well below Musk's proposed bid.

Even if the financing is in place, the deal might not come together because it would involve foreign interests buying at least one-third of a U.S. company that is trying to revolutionize the auto industry with its electric vehicles.

The government's Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States would likely would review this deal because of Tesla's technology and the likelihood that a foreign country would get at least one board seat to gain some control over a U.S. company, said Jeremy Zucker, co-head of the international trade practice at Dechert LLP in Washington, D.C.

Whether it's technology pertaining to longer-life batteries or technology pertaining to what's behind the dashboard in a Tesla car, "I can see CFIUS viewing these technologies as of potential national security interest," he said.

Krisher reported from Detroit. Jon Gambrell in Dubai and Marcy Gordon in Washington, D.C., contributed to this report.



Wu's fight for 'Crazy Rich Asians' part of a bigger crusade

LINDSEY BAHR
AP Film Writer

Constance Wu had resigned herself to the fact that "Crazy Rich Asians" was not going to work out for her. She was under contract for her sitcom "Fresh Off the Boat", both were filming in the fall, and that was that. "Crazy Rich Asians" would be the first studio-made Asian-American movie in 25 years, and Wu, who has established herself as a crusader for Asian-American representation in Hollywood, would have to sit this historic moment out.

But then, feeling "kind of dramatic," and thinking about the significance of the project to her and untold number of Asian-Americans who make it a point to tell her their stories because of her tweets and "Fresh Off the Boat," Wu decided to give it one last shot and composed an email to "Crazy Rich Asians" director Jon M. Chu.

"I said, I know the dates don't work out and whoever you cast, I will be the first in line and I will be their No. 1 fan and supporter, but I did want to let you know that I would put 110 percent of my heart into this project and I know what to do with it and how to carry a movie and if you can just wait for me, I don't think you'll regret it," Wu, 36, said. "I did NOT think this email would work. I did it more for me so that I felt that I had told my truth. But then he read it and said, "You guys, we've got to push the production."

Sitting in a restaurant at the Beverly Wilshire, a hotel famous for co-starring in another "Cinderella" story, "Pretty Woman," and sipping on a "cocktail" of grapefruit juice and sparkling water, Wu is describing how "Crazy Rich Asians," out nationwide Wednesday is also a kind of "Cinderella" story. Based the first book in author Kevin Kwan's popular trilogy, Wu's character Rachel Chu is a middle-class economics professor from the U.S. who finds herself navigating the upper echelons of Singapore's wealthy classes when her boyfriend Nick Young takes her home for a wedding and to meet his disapproving family and all the jealous women also vying for the attention of the "prince."

"It's a fairy tale, it really is," Wu said. "And there are a lot of different shoes in the movie!"

A native of Richmond, Virginia, and a classically-trained theater actress with a passion for musicals, Wu has been working toward a moment like this her whole life, and taking it very seriously. During the shoot, she wouldn't go out with her co-stars for karaoke nights or have a drink after a long day of work. She wanted to be clear of mind and she'd already promised her director that she was going to give it her all.

She knew how unlikely it was that she'd ever get an opportunity as an Asian-American woman to lead a studio movie.

"Even a terrific actress like Sandra Oh was always No. 2 or No. 3 in the movie, she was never No. 1 unless it was an independent movie," said Wu, who is not shy about saying that she only wants to go out for roles where she is the No. 1 star. It's a drive that has made some uncomfortable.

"People are like, 'Who do you think you are? And it's like, I guess I think I'm a talented actor and I guess I'm not a person who is going to let you make me feel small anymore," she said.

But Wu isn't interested in making people feel comfortable at the expense of her truth, which is why at least part of her time is spent amplifying underrepresented voices on twitter, even knowing that it's affected her employment opportunities.

Wu once heard that a friend's liberal boyfriend said he didn't like Wu's politics.

"I'm like, 'Does he not like my politics or does he not like that I have politics?' And she asked him and he was like, "Oh I guess it's that,'" Wu said.

Fame, she said, is silly in that regard. She thinks it's "dumb" that she has a bigger voice than other people, like journalists or academics who are more studied in discourse on race and intersectionality. But, she also realized that while she has this platform, she can at least do some good with it.

Henry Golding, who plays Nick, is in awe of Wu's fortitude.

"She's such a role model for so many people. She has a backbone, which a lot of people don't. She's not afraid of saying what's on her mind and really driving home what she thinks should be done, or what's not happening in the industry that should be happening," said Golding. "She's going to go down as a real fighter and someone who can act the socks off anything. She is Rachel Chu."

As for what's next, Wu said she thinks she's going to have a lot of choices in the coming years.

"I'm very privileged and lucky and I'm at a point where I can sort of get to decide where I want to go with my career," Wu said.

And first up on her wish-list? A musical.



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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **68.3°**

TUESDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** waist to stomach high
S/SSW leftovers from the tropics. Modest SSW Southern Hemi swell picks up.

WEDNESDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
Fun-zone SSW swell. Small NW windswell.

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If you're over 50, you can get coverage for about $1 a day*
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6096E-0917 MB17-NM008Ec

CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

Crime Watch is culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

ON AUG. 13 AT 7:40 A.M. OFFICERS RESPONDED TO AN ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON CALL ON THE 1600 BLOCK OF THE BEACH.

The incident involved three subjects fighting, one female and two males. Officers responded to the area and located the subjects involved in the incident. During the altercation, a bottle and stick were used by the primary aggressors - a male and female suspect. The suspects were taken into custody for an assault with a deadly weapon. The victim was transported to a local hospital in stable condition with head trauma for treatment. Tiahna Aysha Leehale, 43, homeless, was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon. Hakeem Yasir Ali, 25, homeless was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 352 Calls For Service On August 12.

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

Grand theft auto 2600 block 5th 12:09 a.m.
Vandalism 300 block Civic Center 12:17 a.m.
Burglary 800 block 17th 12:19 a.m.
Indecent exposure 1400 block 2nd 12:35 a.m.
Trespassing 800 block Santa Monica 12:42 p.m.
Public intoxication 300 block 26th 12:50 a.m.
Public intoxication 1200 block 3rd 1:19 a.m.
Vandalism 1400 block Ocean 1:50 a.m.
Audible burglar alarm 1400 block Franklin 2:52 a.m.
Sexual assault 2nd/Santa Monica 4:01 a.m.
Trespassing 800 block Santa Monica 4:24 a.m.
Fight 5th/Broadway 5:27 a.m.
Petty theft 2000 block Ocean Front Walk 5:59 a.m.
Urinating/defecating in public 2400 block Main 6:59 a.m.
Traffic collision 20th/Santa Monica 7:35 a.m.
Audible burglar alarm 2700 block Wilshire 8:06 a.m.
Petty theft 2000 block Ocean Front Walk 8:11 a.m.
Battery 1400 block 5th 8:26 a.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block 4th 8:33 a.m.
Vandalism 1200 block 5th 9:01 a.m.
Threats 300 block Santa Monica 9:20 a.m.
Audible burglar alarm 1600 block Euclid 9:34 a.m.
Animal related incident 700 block Hill 10:15 a.m.
Battery 6th/Broadway 11:46 a.m.
Abandoned vehicle 100 block Wadsworth 10:38 a.m.
Battery 1500 block Palisades 11:48 a.m.
Encampment 300 block 7th 12:10 p.m.
Strong-arm robbery Cloverfield/Pico 1:16 p.m.
Grand theft auto 900 block Palisades Beach 1:30 p.m.
Burglary 400 block Broadway 1:31 p.m.
Encampment 3100 block Frederick 1:51 p.m.
Burglary 800 block 2nd 1:56 p.m.
Battery 1700 block Ocean Front Walk 2:13 p.m.
Critical missing person 200 block Santa Monica Pier 3:04 p.m.
Critical missing person 300 block Santa Monica Pier 3:09 p.m.
Assault 1300 block 14th 3:24 p.m.
Bike theft 400 block Broadway 4:03 p.m.
Person down 200 block Broadway 4:20 p.m.
Grand theft auto 900 block Princeton 4:35 p.m.
Person down 17th/Ocean Park 4:44 p.m.
Vandalism 2600 block Barnard 4:56 p.m.
Auto burglary 1400 block 4th 5:06 p.m.
Encampment 1100 block Lincoln 5:15 p.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block 2nd 5:16 p.m.
Encampment 1600 block 7th 5:46 p.m.
Auto burglary 300 block Olympic 6:21 p.m.
Person down 2200 block Main 7:09 p.m.
Animal related incident 1000 block 7th 7:23 p.m.
Drunk driving Euclid/Broadway 7:34 p.m.
Grand theft auto 300 block California 8:35 p.m.
Threats 1800 block Wilshire 8:52 p.m.
Urinating/defecating in public 26th/Santa Monica 9:27 p.m.
Auto burglary 2300 block Kansas 10:47 p.m.
Shots fired 2500 block Kansas 10:53 p.m.
Family disturbance 600 block Broadway 11:04 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 35 Calls For Service On August 12.

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

Emergency Medical Service
Lincoln/Interstate 10 12:15 a.m.
EMS 400 block San Vicente 12:26 a.m.
Automatic alarm 200 block Wilshire 12:45 a.m.
EMS 1200 block 3rd 1:26 a.m.
EMS 1700 block Ocean 1:28 a.m.
EMS Main/Kinney 1:34 a.m.
EMS 1600 block Ocean 2:39 a.m.
EMS 1400 block 2nd 2:51 a.m.
EMS 500 block Colorado 3:15 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1400 block 4th 4:42 a.m.
Trash/dumpster fire 600 block Wilshire 5:15 a.m.
EMS 0 block Village 5:24 a.m.
EMS 1900 block Cloverfield 6:40 a.m.
EMS 2400 block Main 7:14 a.m.
EMS 2800 block Neilson 9:05 a.m.
EMS 200 block Santa Monica 1:40 p.m.
EMS 600 block Palisades Beach 1:49 p.m.
Traffic collision w/injury 1700 block Appian 2:49 p.m.
EMS 1000 block Ocean 3:12 p.m.
EMS 1000 block Ocean 3:15 p.m.
EMS 1100 block 7th 3:31 p.m.
EMS 200 block Broadway 4:20 p.m.
EMS 1100 block Ocean Park 4:29 p.m.
EMS 700 block Broadway 5:08 p.m.
EMS 2200 block Main 7:09 p.m.
EMS 1300 block 17th 7:57 p.m.
EMS 1100 block 20th 8:08 p.m.
EMS 300 block Santa Monica 8:19 p.m.
EMS 1400 block 17th 8:35 p.m.
Electrical fire - no fire visible 200 block San Vicente 9:24 p.m.
Carbon monoxide alarm 300 block 20th 9:55 p.m.
EMS 2800 block Wilshire 10:41 p.m.
EMS 1300 block Santa Monica 11:28 p.m.
EMS 1700 block Ocean Front Walk 11:32 p.m.

DAILY LOTTERY

Powerball
Draw Date: 8/11
5 43 56 62 68
Power#: 24
Jackpot: 40M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 8/10
1 3 12 22 42
Mega#: 6
Jackpot: 75M

Super Lotto
Draw Date: 8/11
11 23 24 28 46
Mega#: 18
Jackpot: 23M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 8/12
1 8 11 21 22

Daily 3
Draw Date: 8/12
MIDDAY: 8 2 9
Draw Date: 8/12
EVENING: 2 0 5

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 8/12
1st: 11 Money Bags
2nd: 03 Hot Shot
3rd: 04 Big Ben
RACE TIME: 1:49.70

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at **http://www.calottery.com**

WORD UP!

laeotropic
1. oriented or coiled in a leftward direction, as a left-spiraling snail shell.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Phobia of the Week

■ Philemaphobia: fear of kissing. The term derives from the Greek word philema, to kiss.

Never Say Diet

■ The Major League Eating record for strawberry-rhubarb pie is 7.9 pounds in eight minutes, held by Patrick Bertoletti. This record has stood unbested for more than 12 years, possibly because it's hard to find anybody who likes strawberry-rhubarb pie.

Medical History

■ This week in 1924, the tuberculosis vaccine was developed by Albert Calmette and Alphonse Guerin, a French physician and veterinarian, respectively.

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	E	L	T	A	■	Y	O	G	A	■	F	R	O	G
I	V	O	R	Y	■	A	L	A	S	■	L	A	D	Y
S	E	G	U	E	■	R	E	F	S	■	A	T	O	M
C	R	O	S	S	I	N	G	F	I	N	G	E	R	S
■	■	■	T	I	N	■	■	E	S	E	■	■	■	■
E	S	S	■	R	A	M	S	■	T	S	H	I	R	T
D	U	L	L	■	W	I	N	S	■	T	Y	P	E	A
G	R	E	A	S	E	S	O	N	E	S	P	A	L	M
A	G	E	N	T	■	C	O	A	X	■	O	D	I	E
R	E	P	E	A	T	■	T	G	I	F	■	S	T	S
■	■	■	S	I	P	■	■	L	O	S	■	■	■	■
H	A	D	T	H	E	U	P	P	E	R	H	A	N	D
A	R	E	A	■	U	R	L	S	■	C	A	M	E	O
Z	I	N	G	■	P	E	A	S	■	E	V	I	C	T
E	A	T	S	■	S	E	N	T	■	D	E	S	K	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	9	4	7	3	2	8	1	6
3	7	1	8	6	9	5	4	2
6	8	2	5	1	4	7	9	3
9	5	8	1	2	7	3	6	4
2	6	7	9	4	3	1	8	5
4	1	3	6	5	8	9	2	7
7	2	5	4	8	1	6	3	9
8	4	9	3	7	6	2	5	1
1	3	6	2	9	5	4	7	8

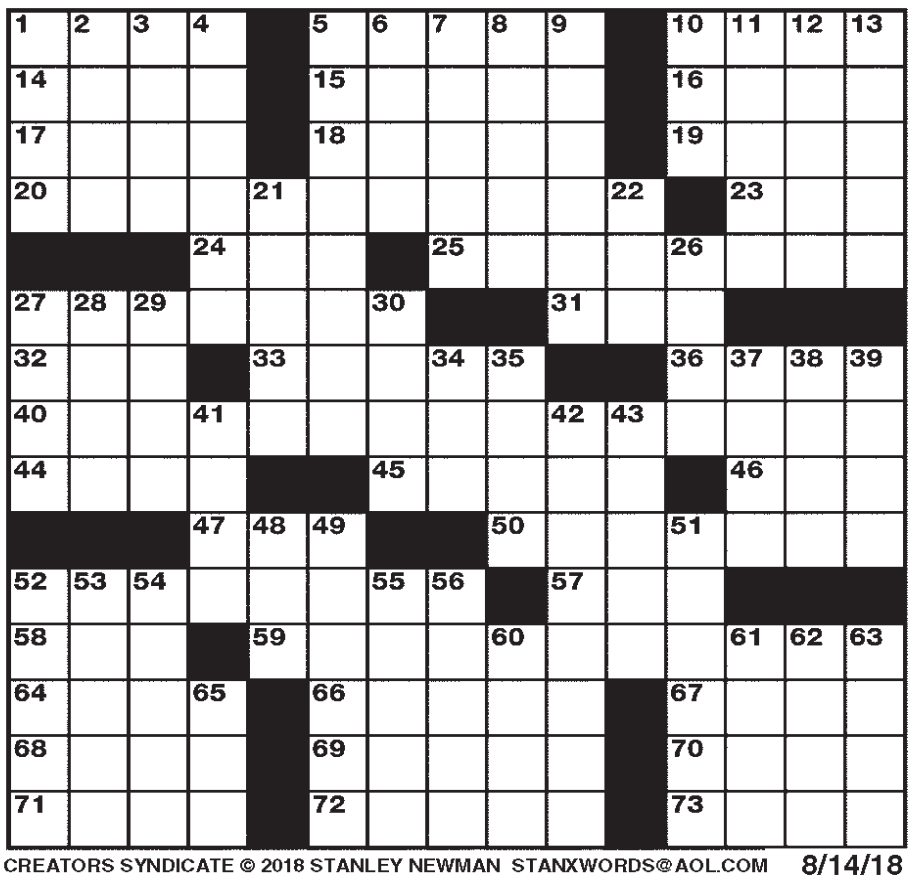
		7		1		2		
8			9					
6				4	8	9		7
	5	2	8			4		
	4			2			3	
		9			1	7	6	
5		8	1	3				4
					7			1
		1		9		3		

Newsday Crossword

NO BIGGIE by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Voice above tenor
5 Wallpaper adhesive
10 Speedy
14 Lion's sound
15 Luau greeting
16 Group waiting for a cashier
17 Pie à la __
18 Twelve-month spans
19 Practical applications
20 The tube, as opposed to movies
23 Allow
24 1/60 of a min.
25 Saloon doors, when opening or closing
27 Liquid in salad dressing
31 Teachers' org.
32 __ Jima (1945 battle)
33 Uninterested
36 Women's links org.
40 Harmless fibs
44 Be jealous of
45 Submarine detector
46 Prefix for cycle or pod
47 Photo, for short
50 Passes, as time
52 Kids' backyard hideaway
57 Baton Rouge sch.
58 Garment's edge
59 Trait of a hothead
64 "Take __ a compliment"
66 Nebraska city
67 Leaf of a book
68 Hold tightly
69 Ward off
70 "Once __ a time . . ."
71 Sacred
72 "We're Off __ the Wizard"
73 Time gone by

DOWN
1 Jacket sleeves
2 Weaver's device
3 "Look what I did!"
4 Last words of a threat
5 Salary range
6 Actor Baldwin
7 Flies high
8 Tossed
9 Enter gradually
10 Winter ailment
11 Path in a theater
12 Look of disdain
13 Exams
21 Allowed by law
22 SSW opposite
26 Audacity
27 Extremely evil
28 Triumphant cry
29 Child's punishment, perhaps
30 Propels with oars
34 "So that's what you're up to!"
35 Parking ticket penalty
37 Peach discards
38 Richard of *Pretty Woman*
39 Without a warranty
41 Work at a keyboard
42 Fish story
43 Rub off the blackboard
48 "No __, ands, or buts!"
49 Partner in crime
51 Fill with air, as a tire
52 Dark-meat chicken part
53 Back-in-style style
54 Computer message
55 Juliet's love
56 Golf hazards
60 "My country, 'tis of __ . . ."
61 Daddy
62 Swelled heads
63 Payment to a landlord
65 Secret agent



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2018 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 8/14/18

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Aug. 14)

You don't care who chooses the path — you've evolved beyond having a big ego. What matters to you is the special experience, the life-enhancing benefit, the good time had by all. Because of this, it will be among your most interesting years, with an adventure for every season. You'll receive an award in January. Capricorn and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 20, 44, 48 and 18.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
To provide love, acceptance and security for someone is among the top gifts that a human could give. Give it to yourself to whatever degree you can and your relationships are guaranteed to be all-around better.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
You've a talent for connecting with other species. It's as if you can communicate with them through the instincts you share. You'll be a friend to the animals today.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
If you want it to stick, you're going to have to do it again and again and again. "As a single footstep will not make a path on earth, so a single thought will not make a pathway in the mind." — Henry David Thoreau

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
Yes, sometimes you don't fit in. That doesn't matter. Do you, and do it to the best of your ability. There is no other person on the entire earth who could do you better.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Although you didn't exactly mouth the words, you still made a promise — or at least you feel in your heart somewhat indebted. It was implied in your behavior, and now you'll be asked to make good on that promise.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
You'll take a risk and feel the exhilarating high that comes from putting yourself on the line. Whether or not you win is irrelevant. Your life will improve either way. Without risk, there is no reward.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Infatuation is full of expectancy, whereas unconditional love expects nothing. You'll feel flattered by the attention of an interested party, though you're not quite sure how to categorize this attention.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
You admire people who keep in touch with others over the span of years, as it shows adaptability. People change so much, becoming someone different in each era. It's a gift, to be loved through the ages.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Everyone is deserving of compassion. Everyone is deserving of care. You'll be a protector for someone who needs it. It's not a good day, however, to be a protector for those who don't need or want it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Thinking of something as "mine" is very distinct from thinking of something as "ours." The shared responsibility makes people act differently and make different choices.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Even if you're not obligated to, the day will favor your choice to leave home, get out and talk to people. Casual conversations build relationships and relationships build your future.

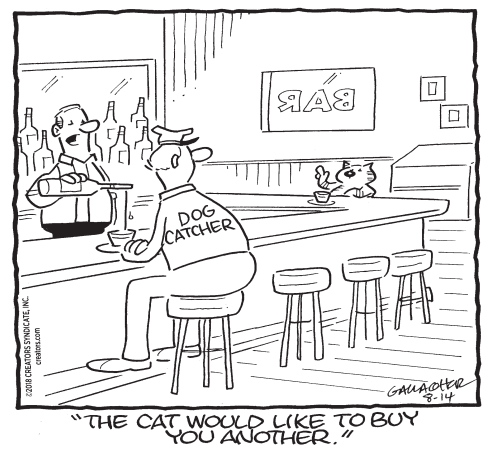
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Your influence on the situation at hand will be more mental rather than practical, and don't underestimate the power in this. To help people think differently is perhaps the most important leadership skill.

Spaghetti Moon

There are days when your mind is a waffle, with little compartments ready to accept sweet bits of information and keep them separate from each other. But today, you're much more spaghetti-like mentally, and the information will mix and mingle accordingly. The Libra moon favors the outcome of this integrated approach to life.

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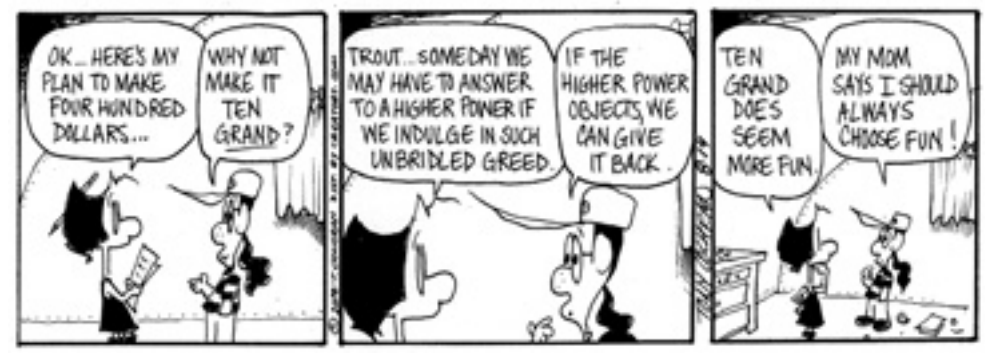
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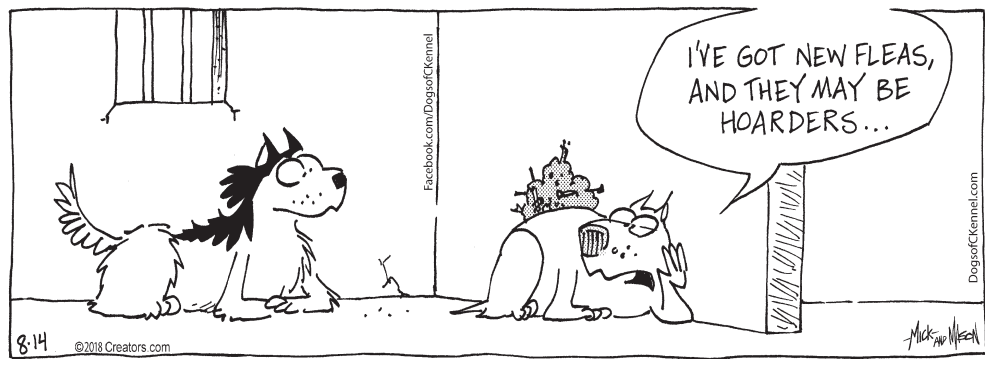
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ST UNIT B SANTA MONICA, CA, 90403. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)07/2018. /s/: DEREK THOMAS STUART. DEREK THOMAS STUART. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 07/31/2018.

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Trump, Omarosa trade insults, charges; reality TV rerun?

BY CATHERINE LUCEY & JILL COLVIN
Associated Press

President Donald Trump and former aide Omarosa Manigault Newman faced off Monday in a messy clash that involved an explosive tell-all book, secret recordings and plenty of insults — reviving their roles as reality show boss and villain.

Trump accused Manigault Newman, the former White House liaison to black voters, as "wacky" and "not smart" after his former co-star revealed her recording of a phone conversation with the president during a media blitz for her new book.

Beyond their war of words, the row touched on several sensitive issues in Trump's White House, including a lack of racial diversity among senior officials, security in the executive mansion, a culture that some there feel borders on paranoia and the extraordinary measures used to keep ex-employees quiet.

In an unusual admission, Trump acknowledged that the public sparring was perhaps beneath a person in his position, tweeting that he knew it was "not presidential" to take on "a lowlife like Omarosa." But he added: "This is a modern day form of communication and I know the Fake News Media will be working overtime to make even Wacky Omarosa look legitimate as possible. Sorry!"

The dispute has been building for days as Manigault Newman promotes her memoir "Unhinged," which comes out officially on Tuesday. The book paints a damning picture of Trump, including her claim that he used racial slurs on the set of his reality show "The Apprentice."

In a series of interviews on NBC, Manigault Newman also revealed two audio recordings from her time at the White House, including portions of a recording of her firing by chief of staff John Kelly, which she says occurred in the high-security Situation Room, and a phone call with Trump after she was fired.

Trump officials and a number of outside critics denounced the recordings as a serious breach of ethics and security — and White House aides worried about what else Manigault Rosa may have captured in the West Wing.

The latest tape recording appears to show Trump expressing surprise about her firing, saying "nobody even told me about it." But Manigault Newman said he "probably instructed General Kelly to do it."

On Twitter Trump declared on Monday that she had been "fired for the last time," a reference to her appearances on his reality TV show. He said Kelly had called her a "loser & nothing but problems," but he himself had tried to save her job — because he liked her public comments about him.

"I told him to try working it out, if possible, because she only said GREAT things about me - until she got fired!" Trump tweeted.

Responding on NBC, Manigault Newman said: "I think it's sad that with all the things that's going on in the country that he would take time out to insult me and to insult my intelligence."

She added: "This is his pattern with African-Americans."

Manigault Newman's exit does highlight the lack of diversity among Trump's top aides. She was the highest-ranking African-American on the White House staff. She said on NBC that in her absence "they're making decisions about us without us."

Trump's battle with his former top black aide underscores the racial tensions that have defined his presidency. He notably blamed "both sides" for violent clashes between white supremacists and counterprotesters in Charlottesville, Virginia, a year ago and has questioned the intelligence of other prominent black figures including California Rep. Maxine Waters, basketball star LeBron James and TV journalist Don Lemon. He also has targeted black NFL players for kneeling in social protest during the national anthem.

Manigault Newman also alleges that Trump allies tried to buy her silence after she left the White House, offering her $15,000 a month to accept a "senior position" on his 2020 re-election campaign along with a stringent nondisclosure agreement.

The offer raises fresh question about the ways that White House aides are being offered safe landing spots after they leave. For example, Trump's former personal aide John McEntee, who was removed from his job in April, went to the campaign.

Trump tweeted Monday that Manigault Newman has a "fully signed Non-Disclosure Agreement!"

It was not clear exactly what he was referring to. White House Counselor Kellyanne Conway said Sunday on ABC that there are "confidentiality agreements" in the West Wing. And Trump's campaign said that in the 2016 race she "signed the exact same NDA that everyone else on the campaign signed, which is still enforceable."

Meanwhile, Trump's attorney, Rudy Giuliani, said on "Fox and Friends" Monday that Manigault Newman may have broken the law by recording private conversations inside the White House.

"She's certainly violating national security regulations, which I think have the force of law," Giuliani said.

But experts in national security and clearance law said that, while she seriously violated rules — and would likely be barred from ever being granted a security clearance — she probably didn't break any law unless the conversations she recorded were classified.

"None of us have been able to identify that it would be illegal if unclassified," said Mark Zaid, a Washington attorney, who has focused on national security law.

In the recording with Kelly, which Manigault Newman quotes extensively in her new book, Kelly can be heard saying that he wants to talk with her about leaving the White House.

"It's come to my attention over the last few months that there's been some pretty, in my opinion, significant integrity issues related to you," Kelly is heard saying, before adding that if she makes it a "friendly departure" then she can "go on without any type of difficulty in the future relative to your reputation."

Manigault Newman said she viewed the conversation as a "threat" and defended her decision to covertly record it and other White House conversations, saying otherwise "no one" would believe her.

She may not be finished talking.

Manigault Newman said: "There's a lot of very corrupt things happening in the White House and I am going to blow the whistle on a lot of them."

Associated Press writers Darlene Superville and Hope Yen contributed to this report.



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