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Santa Monica Daily Press
WEDNESDAY
09.05.18
Volume 17 Issue 248

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Settlement would revoke Home Savings building landmark designation

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The City Council has approved a proposed settlement that would revoke the landmark status of the Home Savings building at 2600 Wilshire and require City Hall to pay $250,000 to the property owners.

Council approved the terms of

SEE LANDMARK PAGE 7

Digital learning, diversity and district advisory committees at upcoming SMMUSD meeting

ANGEL CARRERAS
Daily Press Staff Writer

Santa Monica's education is taking baby steps towards its proposed 21st-century learning future.

On the dais for the Thursday September 6 Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District's board meeting agenda is the proposed

SEE SMMUSD PAGE 6

"You want me to answer if he's a nut job?"

Councilmember Terry O'Day takes the stand in controversial voting rights lawsuit

KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

DEMOCRACY ON TRIAL

Swinging on any given day from the drama of political theater to the banalities of a Cal-Tech statistics classroom, the voting rights trial to determine the future of Santa Monica elections began its second month Tuesday, with Councilmember and 20-year Pico Neighborhood resident Terry O'Day taking the stand.

O'Day testified to improvements made in his neighborhood over the past few decades, including street improvements, the revitalization of Virginia Avenue Park and the construction of a Pico library branch.

O'Day said the hours he's spent knocking on doors during four campaigns for Council informed his opinions on controversial issues.

"When people open up the door, you get to see a snippet of their life," O'Day told Judge Yvette Palazuelos. "You have to talk to a lot of folks and collect a lot of checks to get your campaign off the ground."

With O'Day on the stand, plaintiffs Maria Loya and her husband, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School Board member Oscar de la Torre, sat in the audience. Loya sued the city in 2015 using the California Voting Rights Act, a state law that makes it easier for minorities to overhaul local election systems if they can show minorities vote differently than their white neighbors. Dozens of cities have drawn voting districts rather than go to trial after receiving lawsuit threats brought by the same team of attorneys.

The judge will determine whether the city's at-large election system discriminates against minority voters but it is not clear how her ruling will impact the upcoming election in November.

The plaintiffs paint O'Day and de la Torre as political rivals living in the same neighborhood. Experts for Loya said majority-Latino precincts voted for de la Torre for City Council in 2016 rather than O'Day, who won the seat with support from wealthy, white voters from other neighborhoods.

Their legal team has created a hypothetical Pico neighborhood dis-

SEE TRIAL PAGE 8





Matthew Hall

HISTORIC DISTRICT

Residents of the District who founded it, protected it, supported it gather at the Historic District commemorative plaque at 3rd and Ocean Park Boulevard to celebrate the District. See Page 3 for more information.

Isabel A. Ash Esq.
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, September 5

Planning Commission Meeting

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

Mindfulness Meditation

They invite you to enjoy a pause in the day in which to refresh yourself by simply sitting and paying attention to your senses, feelings, and thoughts. You are welcome to stay for 5 minutes or for the entire 30 minutes. Natalie Bell, Mindful Wellness consultant, will guide the session, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays each month. Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave. 5:30 - 6 p.m.

Thursday, September 6

Soundwaves Concert: Mark Robson PianoSpheres Preview

Mark Robson plays contemporary piano music. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 7:30 - 8:30 p.m.

The College Process from A to Z

This is a great one for middle school kids and for kids in their first couple of years in high school. And parents are welcome too. You'll learn all about the college process, including high school academics and course planning, forming a college list, the application process, and financial aid. These programs are free, open to the public, and there's no registration. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Boulevard. Repeats Thursday, September 20 at the Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Boulevard. Both start at 7 p.m. and go for 90 minutes. Call (310) 458-8604 for more information.

Current Events Discussion Group

Join organizers for a lively discussion of the latest news with your friends and neighbors. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd. 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Friday, September 7

Art Break Day

Since 2011, over twenty-six thousand people in cities across the world have participated in a free and public art-making event known as "Art Break Day." It's a day long celebration that encourages people to sit down, take a short break from their busy lives, and make art for free. The annual event occurs simultaneously in all participating locations on the first Friday of September. Palisades Park, Ocean Ave. 1 - 5 p.m. https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/68819

Gallery open

Gallery hours 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Annenberg Community Beach House, 415 Pacific Coast Hwy.

Saturday, September 8

Indian martial art movement with Aparna Sindhoor

Aparna Sindhoor, her students and company members introduce the basic movements from Kalari Ppayattu, one of the oldest martial arts in the world and sometimes called the "mother of martial arts." Training in Kalari assists you to live a healthy life with physical exercises, yoga-like breathing, massage, self-defense techniques, strong form, beauty and diet. No prior experience necessary. Palisades Park, Ocean Ave. 1:30-2:30 p.m. Cost: $5. Register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/68067

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Ocean Park

Third Street Historic District Commemorative Plaques Installed

The City of Santa Monica recently installed three commemorative plaques in the Third Street Neighborhood Historic District nearly three decades after its designation in 1990. The City's Landmarks Commission is tasked with providing a suitable plaque on or near a landmark or historic district indicating the designation in 1990.

The District, the first of three in Santa Monica, was created through a grassroots effort by neighborhood tenants and property owners. It is located along 2nd and 3rd Streets between Ocean Park Boulevard and Hill Street. Many of Santa Monica's earliest and most prominent residents lived in the District. Thirty-eight Victorian, Craftsman, and Spanish Revival buildings built between 1875 and 1930 contribute to the District's historic character and reflect most of the historic architectural styles in the larger community. Many of Santa Monica's earliest and most prominent residents lived in the District.

The plaques are mounted on boulders located at the southeast corners of Ocean Park Boulevard and 3rd and 2nd Streets, and on the Church in Ocean Park Parsonage lawn on the northwest corner of Hill and 3rd Streets.

SUBMITTED BY SHERRILL KUSHNER

THOUSAND OAKS

Mountain lion kittens found in Santa Monica Mountains

A litter of blue-eyed mountain lion kittens has been discovered in Southern California's Santa Monica Mountains but researchers believe they are the product of inbreeding, a serious problem for the population isolated by a major freeway.

The National Park Service said Tuesday the two males and two females appeared to be in good health when they were checked by biologists, who took tissue samples and placed ear tags on the kittens, now known as P-70, P-71, P-72 and P-73.

The service is studying how cougars survive in fragmented habitat.

The kittens' mother is 8-year-old P-19 and the father is believed to be P-56, her grandson.

A wildlife bridge over U.S. 101 has been proposed to allow the big cats to move between the Santa Monicas and wilderness to the north.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEWPORT BEACH

Official: Anti-gay content found on killing suspect's phone

An investigator testified Tuesday that a California man charged with killing a gay University of Pennsylvania student had troves of anti-gay, anti-semitic and white hate group material on his phone.

Investigator Craig Goldsmith told an Orange County Superior Court hearing that Samuel Woodward had over 100 pieces of content related to the violent hate group Atomwaffen. The group's insignia was the wallpaper on his phone.

The hearing will determine whether Woodward should be tried on a count of murder and hate crime allegations in the January stabbing of Blaze Bernstein.

Bernstein went missing after going out at night with Woodward to a local park in the community of Lake Forest southeast of Los Angeles. His body was found in a shallow grave in the park.

Goldsmith said Woodward's phone was full of anti-gay and homophobic material and pictures with Nazi references.

Bernstein was gay and Jewish.

Woodward, 21, has pleaded not guilty to the murder charge and an allegation that it was a hate crime that would allow prosecutors to seek a sentence of up to life in prison without parole.

Bernstein, 19, vanished in January after he and Woodward, former high school classmates, met at night in Borrego Park in the Foothill Ranch area of Lake Forest.

Bernstein, a sophomore at the University of Pennsylvania, was home in Lake Forest visiting his parents during winter break.

He was missing for nearly a week before his body was found. He had been stabbed more than 20 times.

Woodward told police he became angry after Bernstein kissed him that night, according to court documents.

Defense lawyer Edward Munoz has said Woodward has a "serious mental disorder" and struggled with his own sexual identity.

Woodward was arrested after DNA found in the park and his car linked him to the slaying, according to authorities.

BRIAN MELLEY, ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Prosecutors reject sex abuse cases involving Spacey, Seagal

Los Angeles prosecutors have cited the statute of limitations while saying they won't file sexual assault cases against actors Kevin Spacey and Steven Seagal involving incidents in the early 1990s.

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office made no comments Tuesday on the merits of the accusations.

The cases were reviewed by a task force established to evaluate sex abuse allegations in the entertainment industry in the wake of dozens of women accusing disgraced film mogul Harvey Weinstein and others of abuse.

Representatives for Spacey and Seagal did not immediately return emails T seeking comment.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO

California Passes Sweeping Flame Retardant Legislation

On a bipartisan 52-13 vote, the California State Legislature passed a sweeping ban on household products containing toxic flame retardant chemicals. AB 2998, introduced by Assemblymember Richard Bloom (D-Santa Monica), prohibits the sale of juvenile products, specified mattresses and mattress components, and upholstered or reupholstered furniture in California that contain unnecessary toxic flame retardant chemicals.

"Today we passed the most comprehensive statewide ban on flame retardant chemicals in the country," said Assemblymember Bloom. "For decades, we have allowed these chemicals to be needlessly added to household products, putting ourselves and our environment at risk. AB 2998 prioritizes the health of our families, our environment, and the firefighters who risk their lives protecting us."

Flame retardant chemicals have long been added to a variety of household products to meet now-defunct flammability standards. Today, these chemicals are ubiquitous in American households and have steadily built up in human bodies and in the environment. As a result, Americans have higher levels of these chemicals in their bodies than populations in many other developed countries. Among the general public, children and firefighters have particularly high exposure risks. Infants are exposed to these chemicals at higher levels than adults, often coming into contact with them in dust or through breast milk. Studies have linked these chemicals to lower birth weight, reduced IQ, and impaired neurological development in children. Additionally, when flame retardant chemicals burn, they convert into dioxins and furans: toxic substances known to cause cancer. Firefighters inhale these chemicals in the process of fighting fires and over the past several decades, cancer rates have increased among firefighters in part due to the presence of these chemicals.

AB 2998 prohibits the sale of specific products – juvenile products, specified mattresses and mattress components, and upholstered or reupholstered furniture in California – that contain toxic flame retardant chemicals. All of the products identified in the bill either have no flammability standard or a standard that can easily be met without the use of flame retardant chemicals.

In fact, much of the industry in all three segments, has moved away from the use of flame retardant chemicals, in part due labeling requirements and increased public awareness about their dangers. However, disclosure requirements have been insufficient to fully eliminate these chemicals and legislation is needed to protect all Californians from these chemicals.

"Over the past several years, we have taken significant steps to address the profusion of these chemicals in our homes and in the environment, from updating our flammability standard to instituting labeling requirements. AB 2998 takes the next necessary step to reduce our exposure and make our homes safe."

AB 2998 now heads to the Governor for signature.

Richard Bloom represents California's 50th Assembly District, which comprises the communities of Agoura Hills, Bel Air, Beverly Hills, Brentwood, Hollywood, Malibu, Pacific Palisades, Santa Monica, Topanga, West Hollywood, and West Los Angeles.

SUBMITTED BY NARDOS GIRMA, OFFICE OF ASSEMBLYMAN RICHARD BLOOM|AD 50





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Now It's Personal

OLD DOGS CAN LEARN NEW TRICKS. Maybe that's why they made it to old doggage.

There's nothing wrong with admitting you were wrong. If new information presents itself, whatcha gonna do? Hold on to your old position or go with the facts?

Last week, in a column trying to drive it home how very badly our City Council has handled the scooter invasion, I wrote this about the scooters:

"This might surprise you: I approve of scooters. I think they are a good idea for cutting back on auto trips and increasing use of the transit we have. What I don't like is the way they were rolled out here, and the way our City Council rolled over."

But — not a reversal of position. I've felt that way all along but didn't say it up front because I didn't want to present a mixed message.

A message that in any way downplayed the real lesson we should all be taking away from this ongoing fiasco, which is, that our City Council and staff have put our interests second, to outside big money and their own personal and political agendas. Again.

WHAT ARE OUR INTERESTS?

Beyond the financial and political costs we are paying, much more important is our personal safety. That should be the number one concern of our City leaders, but it clearly isn't. How many injuries have there been? There's no way to measure. Only the most serious injuries produce a hospital record. If you're like me and talk with people, you have heard way too many horror stories.

It became personal for me over the weekend when it was noticed that one of our neighbors (I'll call her Mary) had not been seen for a while. Mary is a sweet, kind and thoughtful lady who has lived in our small complex since way before me even, 40-some years. Even at her advanced age, she has made it a point of pride to haul the recycling bins out to the street every Friday, and haul them back empty. We've never been able to talk her out of it and haven't tried too hard, because it seems to give her a sense of belonging and usefulness.

SMPD TO SMDP WRITER'S DOOR

When the second Friday went by and the bins hadn't been moved, we started to worry. When was the last time anyone saw Mary? A week ago? Her cousin in Colorado called the police and they knocked on our door, and somehow we later managed to find Mary's son's phone number, in another state. He told us that Mary had tripped over a scooter on the sidewalk, probably on her way back from church (she walks everywhere), injured her head but most seriously, her shoulder. She had been in a local facility for surgery, care and rehab for a couple weeks and would probably remain another 4-6 weeks. She was in a great deal of pain and discomfort but is better now, her son told us.

Tell me, City Council members, City staff, why should Mary and too many others here like her have to go through this, because your priorities allowed Bird and Lime to dump their scooters all over our city with no regulation, no enforcement, no safety?

If any of you would like to visit her in the hospital and make your best attempt at an apology, I will give you the information.

TOOL OR TOY?

I also have serious skepticism over how useful they are as a tool for our transportation needs. Here's my unscientific observation over these past 12 months, but I've heard the same from many: most people ride electric scooters for fun. They are fun. But is it a first mile/last mile solution? Hardly, though the companies want you to think so. I challenge them to prove they are being used in that way more than, say, 5-10 percent of the time. They could do that. They have the data. I'm waiting.

I have now joined the ranks of the scooter haters. Too many serious problems, too much needless pain for our residents, for too little benefit.

THERE GO THE NEIGHBORHOODS

There go the boulevards, and Bergamot. We knew this was coming.

On the agenda for the Planning Commission tonight: "Council has since directed staff to explore incentives for housing production on the commercial boulevards and Bergamot area, which may be modeled after the approach taken to incentivize housing in Downtown." JUST STOP INCENTIVIZING HOUSING!! The boulevards could handle three stories, if done right, but if the model is Downtown, look out. Better go to this meeting tonight and voice your concerns. If you can get a word in edgewise in between the paid development people who have been dominating recent meetings.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK: Was there even such a thing as the rumored McDonald Report, paid for by our City to determine if there really was racially polarized in voting in Santa Monica? No! thundered the City's law firm, Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. OK, said the plaintiffs' attorney, we'll subpoena or depose Ms. McDonald and find out, including the content. Oh, well, OK, there IS a report, admitted GD&C, but you can't see it! Plaintiffs attorney Kevin Shenkman told me, "it's not standard practice [for a law firm] to lie to the court." He also said his firm probably won't be able to get the report entered in as evidence.

But if the conclusion was no discrimination, why wouldn't the City want it known? If it's yes, which seems pretty obvious, why did the City proceed with this lawsuit that an expert advised them they might well lose? It could cost us many millions.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "Some people feel the rain. Others just get wet." — Bob Dylan

CHARLES ANDREWS has lived in Santa Monica for 32 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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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.

PUBLISHED BY NEWLON ROUGE, LLC

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Before parental 'screen time' concerns: radio, even novels

BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Technology Writer

When Stephen Dennis was raising his two sons in the 1980s, he never heard the phrase "screen time," nor did he worry much about the hours his kids spent with technology. When he bought an Apple II Plus computer, he considered it an investment in their future and encouraged them to use it as much as possible.

Boy, have things changed with his grandkids and their phones and their Snapchat, Instagram and Twitter.

"It almost seems like an addiction," said Dennis, a retired homebuilder who lives in Bellevue, Washington. "In the old days you had a computer and you had a TV and you had a phone but none of them were linked to the outside world but the phone. You didn't have this omnipresence of technology."

Today's grandparents may have fond memories of the "good old days," but history tells us that adults have worried about their kids' fascination with new-fangled entertainment and technology since the days of dime novels, radio, the first comic books and rock n' roll.

"This whole idea that we even worry about what kids are doing is pretty much a 20th century thing," said Katie Foss, a media studies professor at Middle Tennessee State University. But when it comes to screen time, she added, "all we are doing is reinventing the same concern we were having back in the '50s."

True, the anxieties these days seem particularly acute — as, of course, they always have. Smartphones have a highly customized, 24/7 presence in our lives that feeds parental fears of antisocial behavior and stranger danger.

What hasn't changed, though, is a general parental dread of what kids are doing out of sight. In previous generations, this often meant kids wandering around on their own or sneaking out at night to drink. These days, it might mean hiding in their bedroom, chatting with strangers online.

Less than a century ago, the radio sparked similar fears.

"The radio seems to find parents more helpless than did the funnies, the automobile, the movies and other earlier invaders of the home, because it can not be locked out or the children locked in," Sidonie Matsner Gruenberg, director of the Child Study Association of America, told The Washington Post in 1931. She added that the biggest worry radio gave parents was how it interfered with other interests — conversation, music practice, group games and reading.

In the early 1930s a group of mothers from Scarsdale, New York, pushed radio broadcasters to change programs they thought were too "overstimulating, frightening and emotionally overwhelming" for kids, said Margaret Cassidy, a media historian at Adelphi University in New York who authored a chronicle of American kids and media.

Called the Scarsdale Moms, their activism led the National Association of Broadcasters to come up with a code of ethics around children's programming in which they pledged not to portray criminals as heroes and to refrain from glorifying greed, selfishness and disrespect for authority.

Then television burst into the public consciousness with unrivaled speed. By 1955, more than half of all U.S. homes had a black and white set, according to Mitchell Stephens, a media historian at New York University.

The hand-wringing started almost as quickly. A 1961 Stanford University study on 6,000 children, 2,000 parents and 100 teachers found that more than half of the kids studied watched "adult" programs such as Westerns, crime shows and shows that featured "emotional problems." Researchers were aghast at the TV violence present even in children's programming.

By the end of that decade, Congress had authorized $1 million (about $7 million today) to study the effects of TV violence, prompting "literally thousands of projects" in subsequent years, Cassidy said.

That eventually led the American Academy of Pediatrics to adopt, in 1984, its first recommendation that parents limit their kids' exposure to technology. The medical association argued that television sent unrealistic messages around drugs and alcohol, could lead to obesity and might fuel violence. Fifteen years later, in 1999, it issued its now-infamous edict that kids under 2 should not watch any television at all.

The spark for that decision was the British kids' show "Teletubbies," which featured cavorting humanoids with TVs embedded in their abdomens. But the odd TV-within-the-TV-beings conceit of the show wasn't the problem — it was the "gibberish" the Teletubbies directed at preverbal kids whom doctors thought should be learning to speak from their parents, said Donald Shifrin, a University of Washington pediatrician and former chair of the AAP committee that pushed for the recommendation.

Video games presented a different challenge. Decades of study have failed to validate the most prevalent fear, that violent games encourage violent behavior. But from the moment the games emerged as a cultural force in the early 1980s, parents fretted about the way kids could lose themselves in games as simple and repetitive as "Pac-Man," "Asteroids" and "Space Invaders."

Some cities sought to restrict the spread of arcades; Mesquite, Texas, for instance, insisted that the under-17 set required parental supervision . Many parents imagined the arcades where many teenagers played video games "as dens of vice, of illicit trade in drugs and sex," Michael Z. Newman, a University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee media historian, wrote recently in Smithsonian .

This time, some experts were more sympathetic to kids. Games could relieve anxiety and fed the age-old desire of kids to "be totally absorbed in an activity where they are out on an edge and can't think of anything else," Robert Millman, an addiction specialist at the New York Hospital-Cornell University Medical Center, told The New York Times in 1981. He cast them as benign alternatives to gambling and "glue sniffing."

Initially, the internet — touted as an "information superhighway" that could connect kids to the world's knowledge — got a similar pass for helping with homework and research. Yet as the internet began linking people together, often in ways that connected previously isolated people, familiar concerns soon resurfaced.

Sheila Azzara, a grandmother of 12 in Fallbrook, California, remembers learning about AOL chatrooms in the early 1990s and finding them "kind of a hostile place." Teens with more permissive parents who came of age in the '90s might remember these chatrooms as places a 17-year-old girl could pretend to be a 40-year-old man (and vice versa), and talk about sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll (or more mundane topics such as current events).

Azzara still didn't worry too much about technology's effects on her children. Cellphones weren't in common use, and computers — if families had them — were usually set up in the living room. But she, too, worries about her grandkids.

"They don't interact with you," she said. "They either have their head in a screen or in a game."

Associated Press news researcher Rhonda Shafner contributed to this story.

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Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, 90401, not later than 2:00 p.m. on September 13, **2018** to be publicly opened and read aloud after 2:30 p.m. on said date in City Hall Room 212. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids.

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $150,000 - $200,000
CONTRACT DAYS: 75 Calendar Days
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $1,000.00 Per Day

Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: http://www.smgov.net/planetbids/. The Contractor is required to have a **Class A** or **Class B** license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

Pursuant to Public Contracts Code Section 22300, the Contractor shall be permitted to substitute securities for any monies withheld by the City to ensure performance under this Contract.

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SMMUSD

FROM PAGE 1

integration of a Digital Learning program, which would integrate more tech-based learning into the classroom.

Additional items of note include the potential approval of an independent Latino parent group, District Advisory Committee goals for the year and more.

DISCUSSION: DIGITAL LEARNING

"If we have new technology, why would we teach like we did 20 years ago?"

The phrase pops up in a video link attached to an Education Services presentation to be shared with the Board of Education. Why, the video asks, should students still write essays/work by hand when technology can do so much more?

The Digital Learning Program would propose giving students digital devices to complement their learning, a master plan graph showing Chromebooks and iPads to be given to students in a staggered release plan with 7th graders and high schoolers would getting first crack at Chromebooks in the 18-19 school year with iPads and more Chromebooks to remaining grades to follow.

The plan seeks to further equity and access to students via in-class and take-home technology.

Additionally, Digital Learning also seeks to engage teachers with students and students with parents, with teachers becoming more directly involved with students' learning via tech and parents learning to embrace tech and help their students with digital ethics and privacy concerns.

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL: PEMA

Padres, Estudiantes y Maestros Asociacion (PEMA) journey for official recognition from SMMUSD returns after being tabled last week.

PEMA's roadblock that presumably led to their postponed potential approval was an issue of tax and insurance liability; the district said while the group previously turned in the necessary documents to establish themselves, the outstanding issue for both parties was the group using the Pico Youth and Family Center's tax ID instead of one created for their group.

A PEMA spokesperson said they were told by district officials that using PYFCs tax information wouldn't be an issue as they seek official recognition.

According to PEMA, the parent group operates independently of the school district, whose mission goal is "about empowering Latino parents to become engaged in the education of their children, to have a positive impact on Latino student achievement."

DISCUSSION: DAC CHARGES (GOALS) FOR 2018-19

Months after delivering their year-end reports, District Advisory Committees (DAC) will be presenting their goals for the new school year.

The Early Learning DAC will work on accessibility to preschool education, working to investigate and solve issues that may impede attendance; Health and Safety DAC will focus on wellness and drugs in light of a new drug policy revision; Special Education DAC seeks to foster community building, develop programming to close the achievement gap, develop and understand Assistive Technology Plans, and ensure Special Ed needs are being incorporated to the school district's standards. The Visual Arts and Performing Arts DAC plans to align with and promote the district's Excellence Through Equity Plan.

Additional items on the board meeting's agenda include an unaudited financial report, potential approval of a district-funded structure for employee health benefit plans and revising the district's drug policy.

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LANDMARK

FROM PAGE 1

the settlement as part of the closed session discussions at last week's council meeting but as of press time, the settlement had not been formally filed with the court.

"The settlement would set aside the city's decision landmarking the property, which would remain not landmarked nor designated as a structure of merit for a period of five years," said City Attorney Lane Dilg at the Aug. 28 Council meeting. "It would involve preservation and donation of the four pieces of artwork on site to the city or a nonprofit and a payment of $250,000."

The settlement is the latest chapter in an ongoing saga over the historic importance of the building. The discussions reached City Council in 2017 after a protracted debate.

Council officially landmarked the property and overruled a technical denial by the Landmarks Commission.

Preservation of the building has hinged on renowned painter Millard Sheets who designed the building and the mosaic on the front. Sheets worked on dozens of other Home Savings branches throughout California in the 1950's, 60's and 70's. The modern and classically formal architecture was meant to heighten the public's trust in the financial institution. The mosaic titled "Pleasures along the beach" embodied Santa Monica's values but Sheets has criticized the Santa Monica work saying he didn't like the final result.

In landmarking the property last year, Council found the building met landmark criteria because of its post-war architectural history, unique artwork and connection to Sheets regardless of his feelings towards his work.

At the time, Roger Diamond, the attorney for the property owner, said the decision would go to the courts. If finalized, the settlement would end the court case but historic preservation advocates urged the city to reject the proposal.

Carol Lemlein, President of the Santa Monica Conservancy said the building has architectural and cultural significance to the development of Santa Monica and the Southern California region.

"The evidence of structure significance is compelling," she said. "It was twice designated in 2013 and 2017 as meeting five of the six criteria specified in our landmarks ordinance, these findings were supported by consultants' reports written for the city."

While no permits or proposals are on file to demolish the building, Lemlein said revoking landmark status would limit the City and public's ability to protect it. She said the proposal to donate the artwork was also questionable because the sheer size of the pieces would make them difficult to rehouse.

"It is incredibly expensive and takes a good deal of care to do it properly," she said.

According to Lemlein, the agreement to donate the art is only meaningful if there's somewhere else to put it.

The Conservancy sent out a press release following the meeting with additional information on the case.

"The Conservancy has consistently supported the designation of Home Savings, and made a strongly-worded statement of that position to Council before the closed session commenced," said Lemlein in the statement. "We believe this proposed settlement, which appears to remove all due process protections from the landmark, would do irreparable damage to our cultural heritage and the credibility of our Historic Preservation Program."

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- **A Concert for the New Year-** Sunday evening, September 16, 2018 at 7:30. (The evening will honor Debra Constance and Sister Pat Connor, and 100% of the profits will go to A Place Called Home, mentoring youth in the inner city.
- **Kol Nidre evening service-** Tuesday, September 18-7:30 pm
- **Yom Kippur Day-** Wednesday, September 19: 10 am

Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur-the Jewish New Year. Bayit Shelanu will celebrate with 4 High Holy Day experiences, all at **The Broad Stage-Santa Monica**, led by Rabbi Jan Goldstein.

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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **68.9°**

WEDNESDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
May have some lingering SSW tropical energy from Norman. Modest SSW Southern Hemi swell picks up. Small NW windswell. Keeping an eye on Olivia in the tropics for building SSE swell.

THURSDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** waist to stomach high
New SSW swell slowly trending up. Small NW windswell. Keeping an eye on Olivia in the tropics.

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TRIAL

FROM PAGE 1

trict that would be roughly 34 percent Latino. The City maintains that most Latino residents would live outside that proposed district, arguing the lawsuit is self-defeating, since it doesn't advance their interests. While he is not Latino, 63 percent of Latino voters selected O'Day in 2012 and 55 percent in 2016.

"Plaintiff's own expert David Ely's analysis of the 2016 election shows that – in the district system he himself proposed – O'Day would defeat district proponent Oscar de la Torre in two out of three scenarios," said City spokesperson Debbie Lee.

While O'Day lives about a dozen blocks from de la Torre, he said he no longer attends Pico Neighborhood Association meetings, citing "polarizing rhetoric" and "bombastic language" from Loya and de la Torre. In the current at-large election system, O'Day represents the entire city, rather than only his own neighborhood.

At one point, Loya's lawyer, Rex Parris, asked O'Day whether he thought de la Torre is a nutjob.

"You want me to answer if he's a nutjob?" O'Day asked.

"I know he's not a nutjob … I want to know if you think he's a nutjob," Parris said.

"I think Oscar engages in arguments for the sake of arguments sometimes," O'Day said.

Parris handed O'Day a large, blue Sharpie marker to list various environmental hazards in the Pico Neighborhood, including the city's maintenance yard, Interstate 10, a solid waste transfer facility, a hazardous waste facility, the Olympic water treatment facility and a Santa Monica Fire Department training center. Parris suggested O'Day's lack of action to relocate or mitigate the effects of those facilities in his own neighborhood was hypocritical, given his stated commitment to environmental justice.

"The City Yard is about 12 to 14 blocks from my house," O'Day said. "The freeway is 150 feet."

Even with those facilities, O'Day said he believes the Pico Neighborhood is a great place to raise his family.

"I see a community that has values that I share," O'Day said.

O'Day said city staff and various levels of local, state and Federal agencies protect residents from the potentially hazardous effects of those facilities. He said the upcoming $115 million makeover of City Yards would likely reduce the impacts of the maintenance yard on the surrounding community.

In 2016, O'Day was found to have violated the Oaks Initiative, a local anti-corruption statute, when he accepted $340 campaign contributions from developers Marc Luzatto, a principal of Village Trailer Park, and Dan Emmett, the Chairman of Douglas Emmett. O'Day said it was a clerical oversight, returned the money and paid a $500 penalty to the City's General Fund.

kate@smdp.com

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 397 Calls For Service On September 3.

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

Domestic violence 1400 block Lincoln 12:08 a.m.
Overdose 700 block 16th 12:34 a.m.
Strong-arm robbery 1200 block 4th 06:25 a.m.
Person w/gun 1600 block Ocean 06:46 a.m.
Fight 20th/Arizona 06:47 a.m.
Auto burglary 2600 block 2nd 07:18 a.m.
Auto burglary 300 block San Vicente 08:14 a.m.
Auto burglary 800 block 25th 08:22 a.m.
Person down 1800 block Lincoln 08:30 a.m.
Battery 200 block San Vicente 08:55 a.m.
Grand theft auto Ocean/Bicknell 08:56 a.m.
Battery 1600 block Ocean 08:59 a.m.
Auto burglary 1500 block Stanford 10:06 a.m.
Battery 5th/Colorado 10:08 a.m.
Lewd activity 2200 block Virginia 10:14 a.m.
Auto burglary 1000 block 20th 10:45 a.m.
Auto burglary 1200 block 10th 10:54 a.m.
Animal related incident 1400 block Palisades 11:03 a.m.
Fight 5th/Broadway 11:21 a.m.
Fight 1600 block Ocean Front Walk 11:27 a.m.
Auto burglary 1200 block Hill 11:54 a.m.
Domestic violence 1800 block Michigan 12:12 p.m.
Animal related incident 500 block Pier 12:14 p.m.
Battery 1000 block Georgina 12:32 p.m.
Grand theft 6900 block Strathmore 12:33 p.m.
Auto burglary 12:37 p.m.
Auto burglary 1500 block Pacific Coast Hwy 1:04 p.m.
Battery 200 block Palisades Beach 1:13 p.m.
Burglary 2200 block Colorado 1:14 p.m.
Battery 6th/Wilshire 1:30 p.m.
Person down 1300 block 4th 1:42 p.m.
Burglary 1400 block 5th 1:51 p.m.
Burglary 1000 block 11th 1:58 p.m.
Fight 300 block Santa Monica Pier 1:59 p.m.
Battery 2200 block Colorado 2:18 p.m.
Auto burglary 1500 block Harvard 2:35 p.m.
Suicide 1000 block Cedar 3:16 p.m.
Indecent exposure 1200 block Lincoln 3:34 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 40 Calls For Service On September 3.

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

Emergency medical service 1400 block Lincoln 12:21 a.m.
EMS 700 block 16th 12:34 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1500 block 5th 12:41 a.m.
EMS 1700 block Cloverfield 12:53 a.m.
EMS 1100 block Princeton 01:08 a.m.
EMS 3300 block Barnard 02:39 a.m.
EMS 1400 block 16th 02:50 a.m.
EMS 400 block Wilshire 03:17 a.m.
EMS 1800 block Lincoln 08:30 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1300 block 3rd Prom 08:41 a.m.
EMS 2500 block Kansas 08:52 a.m.
EMS 1900 block Pico 10:21 a.m.
Elevator rescue 100 block San Vicente 10:41 a.m.
EMS 2300 block Main 11:12 a.m.
EMS 300 block 23rd 11:40 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1400 block 7th 12:05 p.m.
EMS 2400 block 21st 12:33 p.m.
EMS 1000 block Georgina 12:34 p.m.
Lock in/out 1300 block 2nd 12:49 p.m.
Traffic collision w/injury Lincoln/Interstate 10 1:13 p.m.
EMS 2700 block Main 1:43 p.m.
Lock in/out 1100 block 9th 2:42 p.m.
EMS 1600 block Berkeley 3:10 p.m.
EMS 800 block 19th 3:11 p.m.
EMS 1000 block Cedar 3:17 p.m.

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 9/1
11 54 55 61 66
Power#: 9
Jackpot: 100M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 8/31
7 18 29 32 45
Mega#: 17
Jackpot: 167M

SUPER LOTTO
Draw Date: 9/1
12 14 27 29 37
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 29M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 9/3
10 15 20 25 39

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 9/3
MIDDAY: 1 8 8
Draw Date: 9/3
EVENING: 0 4 7

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 9/3
1st: 07 Eureka
2nd: 01 Gold Rush
3rd: 02 Lucky Star
RACE TIME: 1:42.12

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**

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WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Get Me That, Stat!

■ Teen drivers are eight times more likely to be involved in a collision or near-miss during the first three months after getting a driver's license, compared to the previous three months on a learner's permit, according to the National Institutes of Health. Teens are also four times more likely to engage in risky behaviors, such as rapid acceleration, sudden braking and hard turns, during this period. Teens still on a learner's permit, however, drove more safely and with their crash/near crash and risky driving rates similar to those of adults.

Observation

■ "When I'm not in my right mind, my left mind gets pretty crowded."
–AMERICAN COMEDIAN STEVEN WRIGHT

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

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

Sudoku

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

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

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

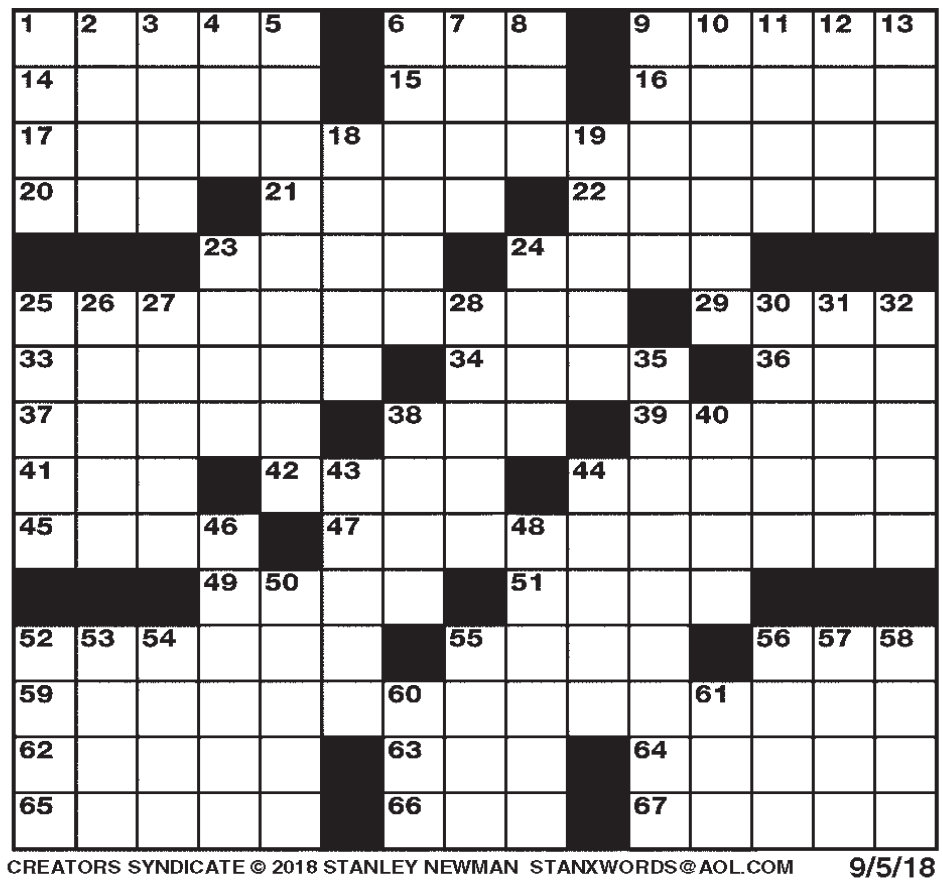
5	1	8	4	6	9	3	7	2
6	2	4	5	7	3	9	8	1
7	9	3	2	1	8	4	5	6
2	5	6	7	9	4	8	1	3
8	3	9	6	5	1	2	4	7
1	4	7	8	3	2	5	6	9
9	8	2	1	4	6	7	3	5
3	6	5	9	8	7	1	2	4
4	7	1	3	2	5	6	9	8

Newsday Crossword

FOLLOW ALONG by Carolyn Stewart
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Censoring sound
6 Put a limit on
9 Church donation of 10%
14 Petroleum-carrying ship
15 Need to pay
16 Very pale
17 "Follow the __" (*Wizard of Oz* instruction)
20 Novelist Grafton
21 Damp, as morning lawns
22 Red card suit
23 Shape of some coffee sugar
24 Hydrant attachment
25 Follow __ (keep up with via social media)
29 Eyelid hair
33 Shingle installer
34 Profound
36 Get the __ of the land
37 Informal restaurant
38 Commercials, for example
39 Monarch's domain
41 Superlative suffix
42 A few of
44 Minister's speech
45 Take five
47 Follow __ (do as told)
49 Swelled heads
51 Quick-witted
52 Sign displayed by spectators
55 Actor Sean
56 Luau side dish
59 Follow __ (emulate a role model)
62 Shades of color
63 Aussie bird
64 Artist's stand
65 Sleeping sound
66 Rainy
67 Castle-building material

DOWN
1 Lads
2 In __ of (instead of)
3 Fashion magazine whose name is French for "she"
4 Electrified fish
5 People funding a play
6 Spider's trap
7 Out of kilter
8 Architect I.M.
9 Accepts
10 Tel Aviv's land
11 Norse god of thunder
12 What a furnace provides
13 Concludes
18 Barbecue grill brand
19 Fail in a crisis
23 Informal restaurant
24 Farm implements
25 Command
26 What earplugs cut down on
27 Typefaces
28 More peculiar
30 San Antonio shrine
31 Beauty parlor
32 Religious songs
35 False claims
38 French friends
40 St. Patrick's land
43 Clues for hounds
44 Clue for a hound
46 Two fins
48 Barely manage
50 V-formation fliers
52 Crumbs of food
53 Author unknown: Abbr.
54 Prohibited thing
55 Apple or pear
56 Mexico City money
57 Unlock
58 Spot of land in a sea
60 Hardly any
61 Art on an arm, for short



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2018 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 9/5/18

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 5)

This solar return reveals secret answers to life's big questions, many of which were in plain sight all along. For instance, the secret to finding love is to see it everywhere you look. The secret to a good relationship is to make the other person feel important every day. With these answers, you'll create wonders. Libra and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 40, 44, 42 and 11.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
If you enjoy wholesome things, you don't have to choose between a good reputation and a good time. Of course, most people need some spice on their vegetables. This explains the afternoon.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
If it's Venus who lends the special stardust of super-attraction, then the lady of the sky practically empties her purse over you today. You're so attractive that you need reminding to wield that power responsibly.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
How important is it to you that the ones you share space with also share your aesthetic sense? Answer: It's just important enough for you to get bothered over a little something tonight. Be cool, be nice, and it all gets worked out.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
There's nothing that will make you feel more loved than someone listening to you, really giving you their full attention instead of just waiting for their turn to talk. Humor, fun and play all start with listening.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Your heart is hungry. Feed it by seeking to connect with quality people. Romance comes to your life like a cat. Chase it and it runs away. Ignore it and it purrs at your feet.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Your inner drive for material success will connect you with others who either want the same thing, or who can provide it. If there's one thing that will help, it's a philosophical acceptance of life and its many changing states.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Does it feel like opposing forces are fighting for your soul? More likely it's just a sign that you could do more to help yourself follow your own rules. Is there a way to be happier with what's good for you?

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
You're on a social hot streak. Work the phone, throw a party, take advantage of your popularity. The best relationships start with a solid basis of friendship.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
You'll appreciate the range of people in your life today. Some folks are a party, some a dirge, and most are a mixed bag of spoils. No one is better than another, and all have their proper place in your scene.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Self-criticism can be constructive if you're fair and if you focus on what you want to improve. Self-bullying isn't the same thing. Recognize the difference.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
You're usually the giver, so when loved ones take care of you for a change today, it will feel a little strange. Allow it anyway. Balance must be restored.

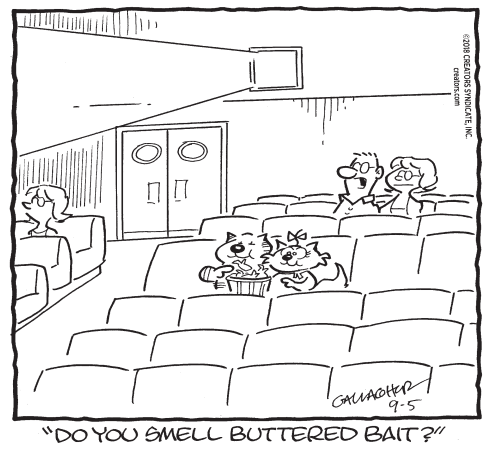
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Mentally trade viewpoints with those you want to influence. What's in it for them? Ask this over and over, as the first answers are likely to be only a small part of the entire dynamic.

Mercury Enters Virgo

The people who aren't criticized are the ones who aren't doing anything. The moment you decide to put something in the world, you also agree (though perhaps unconsciously) to the comment of others, as it's an inextricable part of the deal. As Mercury enters critical Virgo, bear comment proudly. It means you're doing something.

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smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

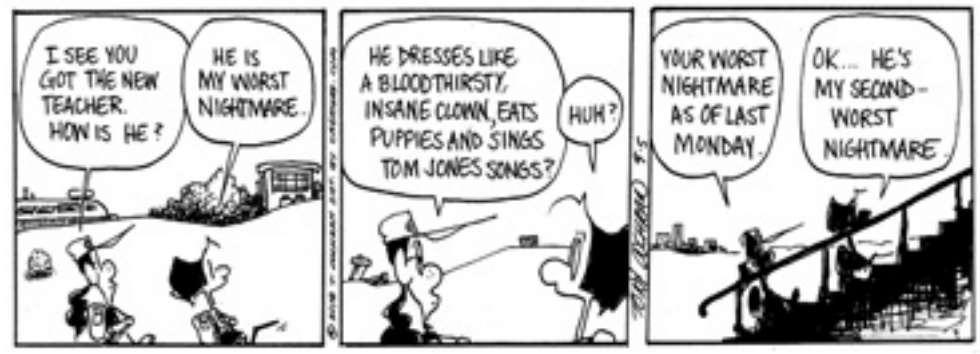
Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



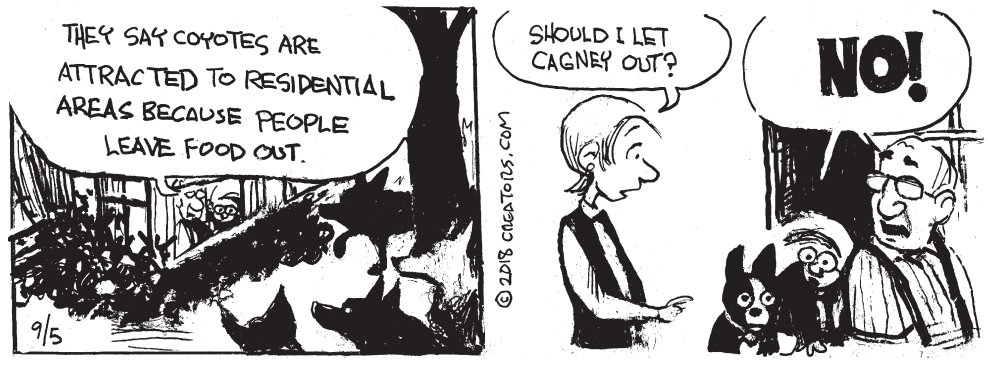
Agnes
By TONY COCHRAN



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



Zack Hill
By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



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Potential 2020 Democrats seize on Kavanaugh Senate hearings

KEN THOMAS
Associated Press

Spoiling for a fight, a trio of Democratic senators weighing 2020 presidential campaigns seized upon the opening moments of Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh's Senate confirmation hearings Tuesday in a show of force aimed at countering President Donald Trump.

One by one, Democrats on the Senate Judiciary Committee, including Kamala Harris of California, Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota and Cory Booker of New Jersey, demanded that Republicans delay Kavanaugh's hearing after a last-minute release of more than 40,000 pages of documents and the withholding of more than 100,000 others.

The Democrats' coordinated showdown with the committee's chairman, Iowa Sen. Charles Grassley, served as a theatrical preview of what is expected to be a wild, unpredictable 2020 campaign against Trump, who has stoked outrage among Democratic activists and is expected to fuel an unusually large field of challengers.

The hearing showed the degree to which the Senate could be the testing ground of resistance among Democrats who are prepared to fight the Republican president's agenda in a field without an obvious frontrunner. And it harkened back to how Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton and other Democratic senators battled President George W. Bush's administration before launching presidential bids of their own in the 2008 contest.

Grassley hadn't even introduced Kavanaugh by name when Harris interjected, objecting to the late Monday night release of Kavanaugh's documents. Harris, who has created a number of viral moments with her tough questioning of witnesses during her first term, noted lawmakers hadn't had a chance to "review or read or analyze" the papers and said the hearing shouldn't move forward.

"You're out of order. I'll proceed," Grassley responded, banging his gavel.

As Grassley tried to introduce Kavanaugh, Klobuchar called for the hearing to be postponed as the two senators attempted to talk over each other. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., jumped in, asking that the hearing be adjourned, prompting loud cheers and applause in the room.

Kavanaugh, a veteran judge and a former aide to Bush, sat silently as the spectacle unfolded.

Booker then appealed to Grassley's "sense of decency and integrity," pushing for more transparency in the hearing.

"We are rushing through this process in a way that is unnecessary," Booker said.

Harris, Klobuchar and Booker are considering whether to enter the presidential campaign following the November midterm elections, along with other Senate Democrats who aren't on the Judiciary Committee, such as Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts, Kirsten Gillibrand of New York and Jeff Merkley of Oregon. Warren on Tuesday joined with activists opposed to Kavanaugh's nomination who had gathered in a Senate office building.

Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders, an independent who unsuccessfully battled Clinton for the 2016 Democratic presidential nomination, also is weighing another campaign.

The field could include a number of Democratic governors, members of Congress, mayors and political newcomers along with familiar faces such as former Vice President Joe Biden, who appeared at a Labor Day parade in Pittsburgh on Monday.

"The first three issues that have to be addressed for any presidential candidate is can you beat Trump and can you beat Trump and can you beat Trump," said Jeff Link, an Iowa-based Democratic strategist. "If they can find a way to make that sort of argument in the context of the Kavanaugh hearing, I think they'll benefit."

Trump, even with his party facing a challenging midterm election, has relished the prospect of facing off against Democrats when the presidential campaign begins in earnest next year.

The president didn't immediately respond to the Democrats' opposition to Kavanaugh on Tuesday. But he dismissed the possibility of another prospective candidate, former Secretary of State John Kerry, Democrats' 2004 presidential nominee.

"I should only be so lucky," Trump tweeted Monday, adding, "although the field that is currently assembling looks really good - FOR ME!"

None of the Democrats on the judiciary panel is expected to support Kavanaugh's nomination. While they won't be able to delay a vote, they are wary of appearing like they're capitulating to Republicans, mindful of calls from liberals to do everything possible to block the nomination.

Michael Avenatti, a potential 2020 candidate and a lawyer pursuing a civil case against Trump for actress Stormy Daniels, said Senate Democrats had acted too slowly and hadn't done enough to delay the hearing. "Outrage this morning is not enough," he tweeted.

Republicans accused Democrats of politicizing the hearing. "It is about Democratic senators trying to re-litigate the 2016 election and, just as importantly, working to begin litigating the 2020 presidential election," said Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, a former 2016 contender.

During the hearing, the room was filled by demonstrators shouting at Kavanaugh, a reminder of the bitterness against Trump's presidency and Democrats' outrage over the treatment of Merrick Garland, Obama's last Supreme Court nominee, who was denied a hearing in 2016 by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell before Trump's election.

While Senate Republicans have the votes to approve Kavanaugh on their own, Democrats can use the confirmation process to amplify their warnings that he could help overturn the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision, which established a woman's constitutional right to an abortion, or undermine health care or other Democratic priorities.

Democrats are expected to press Kavanaugh on those issues when questioning begins Wednesday.

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