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Santa Monica Daily Press
FRIDAY
09.21.18
Volume 17 Issue 262

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Murder investigation under the Santa Monica Pier

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica Police Department is seeking information about a potential murder near the Santa Monica Pier.

According to a statement released by SMPD, a body was found underneath the pier at about 6:40 a.m. on Thursday morning. The body was found in the sand between the ocean the pier tunnel and officers believe the victim might have been sleeping on the beach.

"Officers arrived on scene and determined the deceased, a male in his 30's, suffered an injury consistent with blunt force trauma to the head," said the statement.

SMPD said the evidence at the scene suggests homicide over accidental death. Forensic technicians were on site Thursday but no time of death had been determined. Officers said there's nothing to suggest the death was connected to the Twilight on the Pier concert Wednesday night.

Detectives are asking anyone with information about the case to come forward, particularly witnesses who may have been around the pier in the early morning hours.

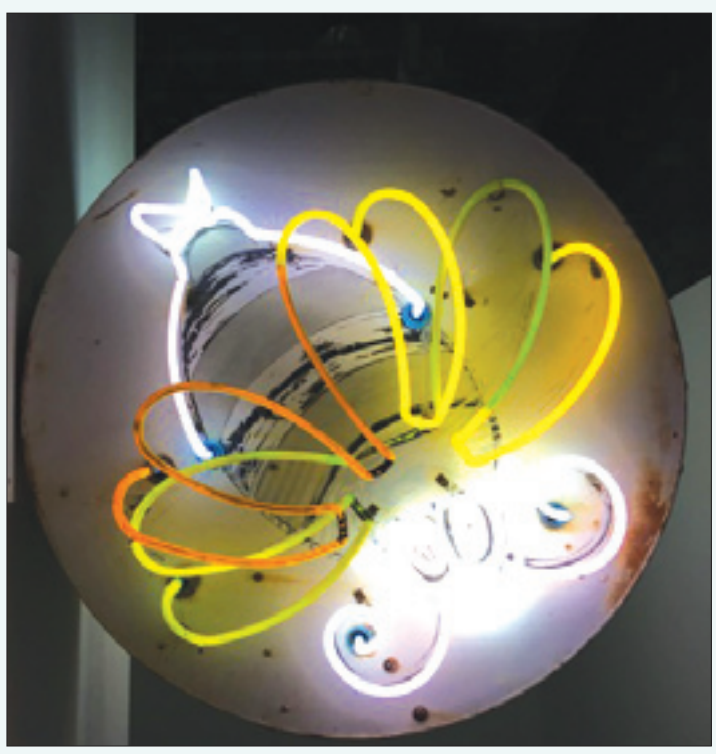
Lieutenant Saul Rodriguez said the investigation is ongoing but has no impact on routine activities on the Pier.

The death is the fourth murder in Santa Monica this year. Suspects are in custody in the first three cases. SMPD investigated two murders last year. In those cases, one suspect was arrested but the investigation remains open into the second case.

Anyone with information is encouraged to call Detective Leone at (310) 458-8943; Detective Goodwin at (310) 458-8942; or the Santa Monica Police Department at (310) 458-8481.

editor@smdp.com

Ultralight Bee: Busy Bee gets a neon rebirth





Courtesy photos

LIGHT: While the Busy Bee Hardware store is gone, the neon sign has been preserved at the Museum of Neon in Glendale

ANGEL CARRERAS
Daily Press Staff Writer

Born in the 1920s, local hardware store Busy Bee was a Santa Monica mainstay, buzzing around Santa Monica Boulevard for nearly a century. The business flapped its wings for the final time in 2017 after problems with its lease, leaving the familial neighborhood store and its signature neon bee a soon-to-be-forgotten memory.

Or so Santa Monica thought. The future of the Busy Bee's bee, at the very least, is now bright.

Busy Bee's owners recently crossed paths with the Museum of Neon Art, a museum filled with glowing relics of a bygone era. Naturally, that made the bee itself a perfect fit for the museum's collection of neon signs, keeping the Santa Monica stalwart's memory alive for generations to come.

The sign will now be a featured piece in

SEE BUSY BEE PAGE 5

LA LA Land: Chargers, Rams meet for 1st time since moving

GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

During the NFL's 21-year absence from Los Angeles, the area's professional football fans survived just fine. They watched the best game of each week on television, and they rooted for their favorite teams from afar.

Or more likely, they just went to the beach.

Now that the Rams have returned and the Chargers have arrived to saturate the nation's second-largest market with a home game nearly every weekend, Los Angeles fans have a wealth of football at their doors.

What LA doesn't have is a true local rivalry — not yet, and maybe not ever.

The Chargers (1-1) and the Rams (2-0) will meet on the Coliseum field Sunday for the first time since their relocations. The players and coaches on both sides agree that any attempt to portray this Week 3 schedule quirk as a fight for the city's heart would be a cheesy ploy of marketing or motivation.

"I'm glad LA has got two teams, but it doesn't matter," Rams cor-

SEE NFL PAGE 3

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, September 21

WISE & Healthy Aging Volunteer Information Session

Free WISE & Healthy Aging: Volunteer Information Session. 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th Street, Santa Monica. To register, call (310) 394-9871, ext. 552.

Saturday, September 22

Baby Story Time and Sensory Play

Bond with your baby and meet other parents during a short story time and sensory play activities at the Main Library on Saturday, September 22 at 10:30 am. This free 90 minute program is for parents with babies ages 0-17 months and will be held in the Children's Activity Room. The Santa Monica Main Library is located at 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

St. Monica Annual Boutique Sale

Sat., Sept. 22 from 3 to 7pm and Sun. Sept. 23 from 8am to 7pm. Features all handmade gift items. Gifts for all occasions: quilts, baby items, afghans, scarves, small bags and purses. Christmas ornaments and more. Annual quilt raffle. St. Monica Church, 725 California Ave., Santa Monica

Health Benefits of the Mediterranean Diet

Angeline Park of Independence at Home presents an introduction to the Mediterranean Diet and how its sensible food choices can benefit your body, mind, and health. We'll also share seeds from our Seed Library so you can start growing diet-friendly vegetables in your own home garden. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd, 11 – 11:45 a.m.

Ethiopian Cultural Festival

The City of Santa Monica hosts the annual Ethiopian Cultural Festival at Virginia Avenue Park (VAP). There will be craft area for kids that will include learning how to write their name in Amharic, the language of Ethiopia, and making daisy crowns and pins. Performances will include music and dances from the different regions of Ethiopia and a fashion show. Guests will be able to taste a sampling of Ethiopian cuisine and participate in the traditional coffee ceremony. The event is free and open to the public. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave, 5 – 10 p.m.

3D Kids: Balloon Car

Use a free computer program called Tinkercad to create a balloon-propelled car design for 3D printing. No prior experience required. Space is limited. Grades 3-8, Montana Avenue Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave, 1 – 2:30 p.m.

Public Memory, a writing session with Lisa Diane Wedgeworth

In this writing workshop, you'll identify narratives driven by the cultural and social communities that inform your life and influence your art work. Open to all who would like to explore not just their personal memories but those histories that are rooted in culture, race, religion, gender, etc. We all have history of place and familial stories. Some are perceived to be much more "exotic" because the history of place or ancestral story is foreign to us, yet, they are all important. 1450 Ocean, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Free. Register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/68121
or call (310) 458-2239.

Sunday, September 23

A Classical Afternoon with Sean Stackpoole & Kenton Youngstrom

Flutist/saxophone player Sean Stackpoole and guitarist Kenton Youngstrom present an afternoon of classical music, featuring selections by Bach (C maj Sonata for Flute), Piazzolla (History of the Tango), and more. 3 – 4 p.m. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

The Beach

Congressman Ted Lieu Champions Tourism And Celebrates Surfing In Santa Monica



SURF

Courtesy photo

Congressman Ted Lieu celebrated local tourism yesterday with a visit to Santa Monica to recognize California Surfing Day.

Congressman Ted Lieu paid a visit to Santa Monica today to draw attention to the importance of travel to the state's economy and celebrate California's new official sport – surfing.

At a roundtable event held at Shutters on the Beach Hotel, the Congressman heard from travel advocates and businesses directly and indirectly impacted by travel. Travel is one of the largest industries in the United States, employing more than 14 million Americans. In California alone, close to one million people are directly employed by the travel industry.

"Tourism continues to be one of the most significant local contributors to Santa Monica's thriving and sustainable economy," said Misti Kerns, President and CEO of Santa Monica Travel & Tourism (SMTT). "Visitor spending in 2017 generated nearly $2 billion in revenue, 13,345 jobs that cannot be exported, and $54 million into the City of Santa Monica's general fund through the Transient Occupancy Tax."

Members of the SMTT Board of Directors and other regional travel stakeholders joined Congressman Lieu at the roundtable hosted by the U.S. Travel Association, the national organization that leverages the collective strength of those who benefit from travel to grow their business beyond what they can do individually. The meeting highlighted policies the state's Congressional delegation can support in Washington to encourage travel, welcome more visitors, and generate economic activity at the local level.

"It was great to meet with so many travel and tourism leaders today," said Congressman Lieu. "I am proud to represent such a beautiful and iconic district, where people from far and wide come to visit. California's 33rd district is home to some of the most widely recognized vistas and landmarks in California. I look forward to continuing to work with small business owners, tourism stakeholders, and local elected officials to ensure that this essential sector of the economy is supported by Congress."

Following the roundtable, the Congressman stepped onto Santa Monica State Beach to celebrate the first-ever 'California Surfing Day' with local surfers including Jessi Miley-Dyer, Women's Commissioner for World Surf League and Chef Raphael Lunetta of twin restaurants 'Lunetta All Day' and 'Lunetta At Night.' Eddie Mack, Global Messenger for Special Olympics Southern California also attended to join in the festivities to celebrate Santa Monica, the location of the organization's first international games in 1972.

Last month, California declared surfing its official state sport and designated Sept. 20 as an official holiday to celebrate the Golden State's surfing lifestyle, and honor the history, culture, and future of the sport. With the ocean as a playground, it's no surprise that Santa Monica has a rich surf culture. Year-round warm weather, the 3.5 mile stretch of coastline, and a wide selection of surf schools make it an ideal location to learn how to ride a wave. Providing excellent conditions for beginners, Santa Monica's sand bottom beaches receive rolling waves from the Pacific all year long, making it one of the most consistent surfing destinations in Southern California.

"The World Surf League is a global company that runs over 180 professional surfing events around the world and we're proud to have our head office in Santa Monica," said WSL Women's Commissioner, Jessi Miley-Dyer. "Both Santa Monica and California have a rich history of surfing and we are excited to celebrate surfing as the official state sport."

Following Congressman Lieu's departure, Eddie hit the waves with instructors from Aqua Surf, a Santa Monica-based surf school that works to educate, inspire, lead, and empower people to a greater sense of awareness, knowledge, health, and eco-responsibility through surfing.

"When you come to Santa Monica and go surfing you're able to get away from the busyness of city living, spend time in the ocean and ride some waves," said Dylan Sohnjen, General Manager of Aqua Surf. "You feel like you're in a different place. Actually, you're in the best place – Santa Monica."

SUBMITTED BY LAUREN SALISBURY, SANTA MONICA TRAVEL & TOURISM

NFL

FROM PAGE 1

nerback Marcus Peters said. "Come on. They're in the AFC. We're in the NFC."

Although they'll be roommates in a multi-billion-dollar Inglewood stadium complex in 2020, Los Angeles' two franchises are divided by conference alignment, a lack of history — even the 94 miles of freeway traffic between their training bases in Thousand Oaks and Costa Mesa.

They're unlikely to meet much more often than once every four seasons under NFL scheduling policies. As the 49ers and Raiders can attest, that's not a recipe for a rivalry, even if the teams also schedule an annual preseason meeting.

"It's hard to have a true rivalry (with) a team once every four years," Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers said. "I think as players in the locker room, we see it as a fight for game No. 3. You know, find a way to get to 2-1. So it's something I guess both teams are obviously getting used to, with both being in the same area. But I don't sense that they're becoming a huge rival, because you're not going to see them twice a year. You're not going to see them every year."

So don't expect a crackling derby atmosphere at the Coliseum. Instead, expect a high-level game between two potential Super Bowl contenders.

LA might not have a rivalry, but it has two solid teams coming off winning seasons in 2017. Both clubs' offenses and defenses are ranked in the league's top 10, and both rosters are fairly stacked with stars and compelling matchups.

Rivers isn't afraid to throw at former Chiefs cornerback Peters, who has intercepted passes from the veteran quarterback four times in their six matchups. On the other side, Chargers' pass-rushing phenom Melvin Ingram will be in pursuit of Jared Goff, who will attempt to get his throws past cornerback Casey Hayward.

Add up the two-team collection of Pro Bowl talent from Aaron Donald to Keenan Allen, and this inaugural crosstown showdown has the potential for high excitement — even if the raw emotions of a true rivalry just aren't there.

"It's definitely a rivalry, but just because it's kind of a battle for home turf, so to speak," Rams right guard Jamon Brown said. "We've got to approach it just the same as we do any other game. The next one is the most important, and it happens to be the Chargers."

Here are more things to watch in these teams' first meeting since 2014, when San Diego beat St. Louis 27-24:

STRENGTH ON STRENGTH

The Rams' defense hasn't allowed a point in six quarters after shutting out Arizona last week, while the Chargers have racked up 890 yards of offense in just two games. Coordinators Wade Phillips and Ken Whisenhunt should have a high-level duel as the Rams attempt to slow down a Bolts offense that has put up extraordinary numbers since the middle of last season.

BIG NUMBERS

The Rams have scored 67 points in two games, propelled by an offense that keeps adding new wrinkles in its first season since its total transformation under coach Sean McVay in 2017. The Chargers' defense remains solid, and it has received a boost from playmaking rookie safety Derwin James, who already has two sacks.

PHILIP TALKS

Several Rams defensive players talked about their competitive respect for Rivers, whose impressive arm and genial trash-talking skills are widely admired. He will test the Rams' revamped defensive secondary while avoiding the rushes of Donald and Ndamukong Suh, who has a warm friendship with Rivers. "I love playing against Philip," Suh said. "He's a character on the field. Off the field, I've spent some time with him, Pro Bowls and whatnot. I can see a great competitor. ... I talk with my pads. I'm not much of a talker, but every now and then, Philip has gotten me out of character and we've exchanged words now and then."

INJURED BOLTS

The Rams got good news when Chargers pass-rushing monster Joey Bosa was ruled out for the third consecutive week. Bosa's absence with a foot injury has allowed offenses to focus on stopping Ingram, although the Chiefs were a whole lot more successful than the Bills. The Chargers also will be without right tackle Joe Barksdale, putting Sam Tevi in the starting lineup again.

WADE'S GUYS

Chargers coach Anthony Lynn was a rookie running back with the Denver Broncos in 1993, and Phillips was his head coach. Both are looking forward to the reunion. "I just know that I liked him as a head coach and as a man," Lynn said. "He's been good over the years, so he hasn't slowed down at all in that department. I know his defense will be ready to go. I think the world of him."

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LEMLE LAW GROUP, PC

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa
ross@smdp.com

PARTNER
Todd James
todd@smdp.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Matthew Hall
matt@smdp.com

STAFF WRITERS
Kate Cagle
kate@smdp.com
Angel Carreras
angel@smdp.com

MARKETING DIRECTOR
Robbie Piubeni
robbie@smdp.com

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Jenny Rice
jenny@smdp.com

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Tyree Beavers
tyree@smdp.com

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

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Darren Ouellette
production@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Achling Holliday
ross@smdp.com
Keith Wyatt
ross@smdp.com

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

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

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WINNER

Laughing Matters

Jack Neworth
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Will Magic Help Trump Disappear?

AT THE HEIGHT OF WATERGATE, AS young reporters Bob Woodard and Carl Bernstein were closing in on President Nixon, their stern Washington Post editor, the late Ben Bradley, warned them. "All that's riding on this," he said ominously, "is only the future of the republic and democracy itself."

With a nod to Bradley, that's how I feel about the November 6 election which is only 46 days away. (I can already say, election eve, I'm going to be a wreck!) Some are calling this the most crucial mid-term in 100 years. I say it's not life and death. It's way more important.

At stake is whether we restore the constitutional checks and balances or we enable an autocratic and dictatorial presidency. However, judging from my emails, some are apparently comfortable with a $21 trillion national debt; separating families at the border; housing immigrant children in cages (13,000 currently with 1,500 "missing") chaos and corruption (five Trump advisers and counting convicted of felonies); winking approval at white supremacists; cozying up to ruthless dictators; and alienating NATO and leaders of the free world. (Is that all?)

Under the category of "money over morality," some of my readers give the petulant POTUS a pass because their 401's are thriving. If these readers also have no interest in world class magic (will explain the connection shortly) I'm saying I'd understand if they now turn to the crossword puzzle. (My hope is one day, under the crossword puzzle, it reads, "If you don't like today's puzzle feel free to turn to 'Laughing Matters.'")

With the midterms being so crucial, the tension in the air is almost overwhelming. I confess, however, when friends say, "It's so crazy, I don't want to get involved," it's all I can do not to strangle them!

I have a close friend and neighbor who's found a creative way to reach out to others in hopes of saving democracy and is doing so through his lifelong passion for magic. I find his dedication and passion inspiring and I hope you will, too.

Longtime Santa Monica resident and acclaimed magician, Albie Selznick, has been appalled for the past 18 months by Trump's policies and behavior. Albie's been searching for a way he could help prevent our democracy from slipping into an autocracy. Fortunately, he crossed paths with "Swing left."

When I mentioned "Swing Left"to one of my conservative readers, he asked sarcastically if it was a dance group. It's actually a volunteer organization with 500,000 members nationwide mobilizing to restore governmental checks and balances by regaining a Democratic majority in Congress. (If only.)

As regarding the reference to magic, for years, Albie has staged, performed and hosted the commercial and critical hit "MagicMonday" at the Santa Monica Playhouse. Almost single-handedly he's turned our fair city into a mini-capital of magic.

Recently, Albie's decided to present a one-night magic extravaganza that will take place this coming Monday, September 24, with all the proceeds going to Swing Left. The evening is called "10-10," and features 10 world-class magicians, all of whom are donating their talent, each doing an eye-popping10-minute routine. (Think ESPN's "Top Plays" only it's magic.)


Courtesy image
MAGIC: A Monday show supports Swing Left.

About Trump and the mid-terms, Albie didn't pull any punches. "It's agonizing to witness women, minorities, LGBTQ , the environment and our closest allies, being trashed by an amoral, narcissistic incompetent whom I wouldn't trust to run a 7-11! The GOP used to stand for law and order, fiscal responsibility and viewed Putin as evil. Instead they've sworn fidelity to Trump in return for judges and tax breaks for corporations and the rich."

Albie echoed John Kerry's quote about Trump, "He's the first president who spends more time looking at his Twitter 'likes' than reading his briefing books or the constitution." Referring to Helsinki where Trump shockingly stood with Putin over the U.S. Intelligence communities, Kerry added, "Trump has the maturity of an 8-year-old boy with the insecurities of a 13-year-old girl."

Trump has woken up the Democrats. Albie theorizes, "By his pro-Putin and essentially unpatriotic actions, Trump has reminded us what it is to be an American, what America stands for and what we want our future to be." Or, as Obama recently asked his audience, "How hard is it to say Nazis are bad?". Moments later he added, "We're supposed to stand up to bullies, not follow them."

Obama has also opined, "If you thought elections don't matter, I hope these last two years have corrected that impression." He's famously fond of saying, "Don't boo, vote." To that Albie adds, "Don't complain, get involved," asking, "What are you going to say to your grandchildren about your action or inaction in this moment in history?"

Albie and his friends are donating the proceeds from their show. The question is, what are you going to do?

To "get involved" go to: Swingleft.org, VoteSaveAmerica.com and Indivisible.org. "10-10" magic extravaganza at the Santa Monica is on Monday, September 24. For tickets, go to MagicMondayLA.com. **JACK** is at jackdaily-press@aol.com.

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BUSY BEE

FROM PAGE 1

the MONA's upcoming exhibit, KINETIC ENERGY: Art That Won't Sit Still, an art exhibit that will display kinetic sculptures, animated neon signs and plasma art pieces.

Kim Koga, Executive Director of the MONA, discussed what made the Bee special, what went into restoring the sign and more before KINETIC ENERGY's opening reception this weekend.

COULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR ROLE AT MONA?

I'm a hands-on director — meaning I'm involved with all aspects of the museum.

We've been around since 1981, and I joined as director in November of 1998.

We were in downtown LA (what's now the ARt's District), then to Universal CityWalk, back to downtown Grand Hope Park area (by FIDM) for 10 years,then to a 4th and Main St. location for a few years, and then closed for about 5 years (June 2011 - November 2015) for the move to Glendale. We've been in our new home almost 3 years already!

WHAT IS IT ABOUT NEON ART THAT CAPTIVATES YOU AND MUSEUM CURATORS?

I saw neon being used as an art form in the mid-70s: A neon sculpture of a pair of red lips made in ruby red neon on pedestal in a Seattle art gallery, and an Antonakos piece by the waterfront, also in Seattle. It struck me as something special — color in its purest form. It was as powerful as seeing the Aurora Borealis or any other natural light phenomenon (lightening, a rainbow).

WHAT MADE YOU CHOOSE THE BUSY BEE SIGN? IN YOUR WORLD OF NEON SIGNS, WHAT MAKES BUSY BEE STANDOUT / UNIQUE?

There is so much handcraft and artistry in its animated design of a bee "busily" flapping its wings and the beautiful hand painted brush strokes of the bee on the metal can.

Santa Monica artist Dave Quick has been a long-time MONA member and on the first Board of Directors of the museum in 1981 and a kinetic artist himself. Dave curated the exhibit—-and at his suggestion we included animated neon sculpture and signs and plasma sculpture.

MONA has historically exhibited kinetic electric sculpture—-and it was time to revisit that genre after not having done so in a decade or more.

HOW DID YOU COME ACROSS BUSY BEE? DID THE STORE OWNERS CONTACT YOU? VICE VERSA?

Eric Evavold, who used to serve on our Board, had been keeping an eye on the sign and heard through the neon grapevine that the business was closing. So he did the legwork and contacted the owner and inquired about the sign. He's been a devoted member in helping us with procuring historic signs. It's usually a long protracted pursuit, and then when the sign is ready to comes down, it becomes a frantic deadline. It's a mixture of sadness to see a long-time sign leave it's home —- and excitement—- to know that we will restore and relight the sign and give it a new home and life.

THIS IS THE 2ND SIGN YOU'VE RECEIVED FROM SANTA MONICA, CORRECT? (TINDER BOX BEING THE FIRST.)

Yes, Eric Evavold also helped us procure that one.

ARE THERE OTHER SIGNS IN SANTA MONICA THAT SOMEDAY MAY BE INTERESTING TO THE MUSEUM?

We missed the Arby's sign that came down a while ago. We expressed an interest in it but it disappeared. Maybe a private collector got it?

HOW HAS BUSY BEE RESPONDED IN REGARDS TO MONA PRESERVING THEIR LITTLE PIECE OF LOCAL HISTORY?

I think the owner was thrilled. They're out of state, so they haven't visited to see it here yet. Usually they wouldn't follow through with a donation unless they had a love of the sign themselves.

We had another sign we were donated and when the owner visited, he teared up when he saw all of our visitors taking selfies and posing in front of his sign. He had no idea that the sign would bring so much joy to people.

LASTLY, COULD YOU DESCRIBE THE RESTORATION PROCESS TO AN OLDER SIGN LIKE THIS?

Every sign poses a different restoration challenge.

Some signs, such as the Busy Bee, have enough remnant of the original hand painting on it that we didn't repaint it. We also salvaged some of the original glass on it and only added new glass where we had to. The original bending was so beautiful we wanted to reuse the original tubes. It's a good example of seeing how the neon colors age. In areas where we added new glass it's a brighter yellow than the original yellow glass.

If we do decide to paint a sign, we have to do a lot of research to find what it looked like originally. Sign painters had a certain palette of colors back then, so we use a combination of what colors existed in the sign industry, what evidence of paint color remains on the sign, and then go from there.

The bending of the neon tubing requires yet another set of skilled crafts people and knowledge of what colors of neon tubing existed in the era of the sign.

Without good neon benders we wouldn't be able to restore these signs. It's one of the reasons we moved to Glendale — as we were able to set up a neon fabricating shop on the premises for teaching this unique and dying craft. We need a new generation of neon benders to keep the craft alive.

And last but not least, there's the installer — the person who puts the neon glass units onto the sign and does the electrical wiring of it on the inside of the sign. It's not rocket science, but every sign's wiring is different. Animated signs are more complicated than non-animated signs, but ALL signs that are old are challenging because they contain layers of repairs and old components on the inside of the metal cans. It is tedious and painstaking work.

The KINETIC ENERGY: Art that Won't Sit Still opening reception takes place Saturday, September 22, 7:30 p.m. - 10:30 p.m. at the Museum of Neon Art, 216 S Brand Blvd, Glendale, CA 91204.

For more information, visit neonmona.org

angel@smdp.com

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CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

RFP: # 193 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD CORRIDOR SAFETY ENHANCEMENT STUDY

- **Submission Deadline is October 30, 2018 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL**. The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bid-search4.cfm. There is no charge for the RFP package.

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites Contractors to complete and submit sealed bids for the:

Public Safety Facility Tenant Improvement Projects
SP 2393

Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Architecture Services,1437 4th Street, Suite 300, Santa Monica, California, 90401, not later than **2:30** p.m. on **Wednesday, October 17, 2018**, to be publicly opened and read aloud after **3:00** p.m. on said date at the **Large Conference Room, 1437 4TH Street, Suite 300**. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids.

MANDATORY PRE-BID JOB WALK:
Thursday, September 27, 2018 @ 8 a.m.
Lobby, Public Safety Facility, 333 Olympic Drive, Santa Monica, CA 90401
Parking is available at the Civic Parking Structure at bidder's own expense.

PROJECT ESTIMATE: $65,000.00
CONTRACT DAYS: 90 Calendar Days
LIQUIDATED DAMAGES: $150.00 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 B or C** 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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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

California police try podcast in fugitive millionaire hunt

A California police department has written and produced a six-episode "true crime" podcast in hopes of intensifying a potentially global manhunt for a millionaire suspected of killing his wife in 2012 then vanishing while free on $1 million bail.

Police in Newport Beach announced "Countdown to Capture," which tells the story of Peter Chadwick going from a seemingly quiet family man to a suspect in his wife's slaying and then a fugitive who disappeared with millions of dollars.

Authorities say Chadwick and his wife disappeared on Oct. 10, 2012. He called 911 the next day and told authorities his wife was killed by a handyman who kidnapped him.

Chadwick quickly became the suspect, however, and his wife's body was found a week later in suburban San Diego.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Suge Knight pleads to manslaughter over fatal confrontation

Former rap mogul Marion "Suge" Knight pleaded no contest Thursday to voluntary manslaughter and after he ran over two men, killing one, nearly four years ago.

The Death Row Records co-founder entered the plea in Los Angeles Superior Court and has agreed to serve 28 years in prison.

Knight was charged with murder, attempted murder and hit-and-run after fleeing the scene of an altercation in January 2015 outside a Compton burger stand. Knight and Cle "Bone" Sloan, a consultant on the N.W.A. biopic "Straight Outta Compton" were involved in a fistfight that ended with Knight clipping the man with his pickup truck and running over businessman Terry Carter, who died from his injuries.

Knight's attorneys have said he was acting in self-defense and was fleeing armed attackers when he ran over Carter and Sloan.

During Thursday's hearing, Knight answered Judge Ronald Coen's questions, loudly and quickly saying "no contest" when the judge asked for his plea.

The plea deal calls for Knight to serve 22 years in prison on the voluntary manslaughter count, and another six years because it is a third strike violation.

Knight, 53, was a key player in the gangster rap scene that flourished in the 1990s, and his label once listed Dr. Dre, Tupac Shakur and Snoop Dogg among its artists. Knight lost control of the company after it was forced into bankruptcy. He has prior felony convictions for armed robbery and assault with a gun. He pleaded no contest in 1995 and was sentenced to five years' probation for assaulting two rap entertainers at a Hollywood recording studio in 1992.

He was sentenced in February 1997 to prison for violating terms of that probation by taking part in a fight at a Las Vegas hotel hours before Shakur was fatally wounded in a drive-by attack as he rode in Knight's car just east of the Las Vegas Strip. Shakur's slaying remains unsolved.

He had faced life in prison if convicted of murder for killing Carter.

ANDREW DALTON, AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Suspect arrested after 2 shot across street from LA school

A man was arrested and police were searching for a second male suspect following a shooting Thursday that wounded two people across the street from a Los Angeles charter school, authorities said.

The CHAMPS Charter High remained locked down more than an hour after gunfire erupted at a nearby Jack in the Box restaurant in the city's Van Nuys neighborhood, Officer Ray Brown said.

Officers with their guns drawn combed the area about 15 miles northwest of downtown Los Angeles.

The victims were hospitalized in unknown condition, Brown said.

TV news footage showed two people sitting up on gurneys being wheeled into ambulances.

Brown said he did not have additional information about the suspect in custody.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO

California law makes milk or water default kids' meal drink

Milk or water will be the default drink sold with kids' meals in California.

A law signed Thursday by Gov. Jerry Brown doesn't ban restaurants or fast-food chains from selling soda or juice with children's meals. But it says only milk; a non-dairy milk alternative; or sparkling, still or flavored water can be handed out as default and advertised on the menu.

Democratic Sen. Bill Monning says his bill aims to combat diabetes, obesity and other health problems in California.

Republican lawmakers who opposed the bill say it represents government overreach.

The law will take effect Jan. 1.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO

New California law to limit plastic straws in restaurants

People who want straws with their drinks at California restaurants will have to request them under a new law.

The law signed Thursday by Gov. Jerry Brown makes California the first state to bar full-service restaurants from automatically giving out single-use plastic straws. It takes effect next year.

The law doesn't ban plastic straws outright like some cities have. San Francisco and Seattle passed bans earlier this year.

California restaurants that don't comply will get two warnings before being fined up to $300 per year. It will apply only to full-service restaurants, not fast food establishments.

Democratic lawmakers who support the policy call it a small step toward reducing ocean pollution.

Brown, who has made environmental issues a signature priority, pointed to the large amount of plastic dumped in oceans every year that can kill whales and fish and contaminate people's food and water supply.

"Plastic has helped advance innovation in our society, but our infatuation with single-use convenience has led to disastrous consequences," Brown wrote in a statement. "Plastics, in all forms — straws, bottles, packaging, bags, etc. — are choking the planet."

Critics argue California's new law is government overreach that won't significantly improve the environment. Some say restricting straws hurts disabled people who rely on them.

Some Republican lawmakers who voted against the measure said it would unfairly punish restaurants, although the restaurant industry didn't oppose the proposal.

SOPHIA BOLLAG, ASSOCIATED PRESS



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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **71.1°**

FRIDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to waist high
Leftover S swell. AM high tide. Lighter afternoon onshores.

SATURDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** knee to waist high
Modest S swell. Minor NW windswell. AM high tide.



DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 394 Calls For Service On Sept. 19.

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

Prowler 600 block Lincoln 12:39 a.m.
Burglary 1400 block 5th 6:51 a.m.
Assault 1700 block the beach 7:15 a.m.
Indecent exposure 21st / Ocean Park 7:16 a.m.
Encampment 1700 block 9th 7:21 a.m.
Petty theft 3200 block Wilshire 8:03 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 200 block Santa Monica 8:33 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1900 block California 8:34 a.m.
Petty theft 3100 block Ocean Park 8:37 a.m.
Person with a gun 4th / Broadway 8:43 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1100 block 18th 8:45 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1400 block Lincoln 8:47 a.m.
Auto burglary 1200 block 2nd 8:52 a.m.
Petty theft 400 block Hill 9:05 a.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block Berkeley 9:22 a.m.
Battery 1400 block 2nd 9:49 a.m.
Fight 1500 block Palisades Park 9:55 a.m.
Auto burglary 300 block 12th 10:29 a.m.
Injured person 1200 block 16th 10:43 a.m.
Battery 1300 block Ocean 10:48 a.m.
Burglary 2200 block Main 10:51 a.m.
Failure to pay parking fee 1100 block Pacific Coast Hwy 10:53 a.m.
Failure to pay parking fee 400 block Pacific Coast Hwy 11 a.m.
Burglary 1400 block 7th 11:01 a.m.
Petty theft 1000 block Colorado 11:17 a.m.
Public intoxication 700 block Broadway 11:26 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 2nd / Arizona 11:26 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 3300 block Pico 11:44 a.m.
Auto burglary 700 block Georgina 11:51 a.m.
Burglary 2200 block Main 12:03 p.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1000 block 5th 12:04 p.m.
Petty theft 2200 block Virginia 12:36 p.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1500 block 10th 12:40 p.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1500 block 19th 1:01 p.m.
Auto burglary 700 block Georgina 1:06 p.m.
Traffic collision 1700 block 26th 1:10 p.m.
Illegal weapon 1500 block the beach 1:12 p.m.
Failure to pay parking fee 1500 block Pacific Coast Hwy 1:13 p.m.
Failure to pay parking fee 400 block Pacific Coast Hwy 1:14 p.m.
Grand theft auto 900 block 2nd 2:16 p.m.
Fraud 1600 block 26th 2:17 p.m.
Strongarm robbery 1700 block Ocean Front Walk 2:26 p.m.
Bike theft 3300 block Exposition 2:56 p.m.
Bike theft 3300 block Exposition 2:57 p.m.
Hit and run 1100 block Michigan 3:02 p.m.
Auto burglary 100 block Larkin Pl 3:05 p.m.
Burglary 200 block 7th 3:17 p.m.
Petty theft 0 block Pico 3:27 p.m.
Traffic collision 12:00 a.m. block Lincoln 15:28:39
Identity theft 2300 block 32nd 3:48 p.m.
Defrauding innkeeper 200 block Arizona 3:48 p.m.
Petty theft 1600 block Ocean Front Walk 3:57 p.m.
Battery 1400 block 14th 4:24 p.m.
Petty theft 1400 block Ocean 4:34 p.m.
Traffic collision 5th / Wilshire 5:30 p.m.
Assault 1600 block 11th 5:33 p.m.
Fight 500 block Santa Monica Pier 5:53 p.m.
Burglary 1400 block 7th 6 p.m.
Battery 2600 block Barnard 6:03 p.m.
Kidnap 800 block Ocean 6:51 p.m.
Grand theft auto 1900 block Lincoln 6:58 p.m.
Battery 800 block 4th 7:11 p.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 1700 block Main 7:35 p.m.
Auto burglary 1200 block 4th 7:57 p.m.
Illegal weapon 1400 block 3rd Street Prom 8:02 p.m.
Petty theft 700 block Broadway 8:17 p.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block 4th 8:31 p.m.
Indecent exposure 1600 block the beach 8:42 p.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block 2nd 9:24 p.m.
Shots fired 800 block San Vicente 9:29 p.m.
Shots fired 400 block San Vicente 9:30 p.m.
Person down 7th / Colorado 9:32 p.m.
Shots fired 300 block 11th 9:33 p.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block 2nd 9:35 p.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block 2nd 9:41 p.m.
Fight 1100 block 5th 9:54 p.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block 2nd 9:54 p.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 500 block Colorado 10:07 p.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block 2nd 10:33 p.m.
Burglary 1700 block 11th 10:42 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 41 Calls For Service On Sept. 19.

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

Emergency 1300 block Wilshire 1:04 a.m.
Trash/dumpster fire 1400 block Franklin 1:15 a.m.
Emergency 300 block Olympic 2:37 a.m.
Flooded condition 0 block Pico 3:51 a.m.
Trash/dumpster fire 1200 block 11th 5:59 a.m.
Automatic alarm 500 block Broadway 6:30 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1200 block 5th 7:05 a.m.
Emergency 21st / Ocean Park 7:30 a.m.
Automatic alarm 800 block 4th 8:17 a.m.
Emergency 500 block Olympic 9:21 a.m.
Emergency 1300 block Stanford 9:26 a.m.
Emergency 2000 block Santa Monica 9:29 a.m.
Emergency 1100 block 5th 10:01 a.m.
Emergency 1200 block 16th 10:43 a.m.
Emergency 2900 block Ocean Park 11:03 a.m.
Emergency 700 block Broadway 11:24 a.m.
Emergency 2400 block 34th 12:05 p.m.
Emergency 2300 block 4th 12:07 p.m.
Emergency 2400 block Wilshire 12:47 p.m.
Emergency 2900 block Main 1:15 p.m.
Automatic alarm 800 block 11th 2:22 p.m.
Emergency 1700 block Cloverfield 2:49 p.m.
Emergency 3100 block Wilshire 3:16 p.m.
Emergency 2700 block Santa Monica 4:11 p.m.
Emergency 1600 block Ocean 4:29 p.m.
Emergency 1000 block 26th 4:35 p.m.
Emergency 200 block Santa Monica Pier 4:41 p.m.
Elevator rescue 1200 block 16th 5:03 p.m.
Emergency 2000 block Santa Monica 5:09 p.m.
Emergency 2100 block Ocean 5:33 p.m.
Emergency 2600 block 33rd 6:31 p.m.
Emergency 100 block California 6:50 p.m.
Wires down 400 block Lincoln 6:52 p.m.
Emergency 2200 block Colorado 8:04 p.m.
Emergency 200 block bay 8:08 p.m.
Water heater rupture 1100 block 15th 8:46 p.m.
Emergency 3100 block Neilson 9:03 p.m.
Odor investigation 800 block Pearl 9:48 p.m. 10:03 p.m.
Emergency 2400 block Wilshire 10:09 p.m. 10:20 p.m.
Emergency 2000 block California 10:31 p.m.

DAILY LOTTERY

Powerball
Draw Date: 9/19
4 39 48 50 51
Power#: 11
Jackpot: 178M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 9/18
31 32 43 63 68
Mega#: 17
Jackpot: 275M

Super Lotto
Draw Date: 9/19
8 13 15 30 41
Mega#: 24
Jackpot: 7M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 9/19
5 10 17 24 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 9/20
MIDDAY: 2 1 0
Draw Date: 9/19
EVENING: 3 6 3

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 9/19
1st: 09 Winning Spirit
2nd: 04 Big Ben
3rd: 07 Eureka
RACE TIME: 1:45.00

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!

dandle

1. to move (a baby, child, etc.) lightly up and down, as on one's knee or in one's arms.
2. to pet; pamper.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Curtain Calls

■ In 1923, George Herbert, the fifth Earl of Carnarvon, died after a mosquito bite on his face, which he cut while shaving, became seriously infected, leading to blood poisoning and eventually to pneumonia. The death of the English aristocrat is sometimes, fabulously attributed to the so-called "curse of the pharaohs" because Carnarvon was the financial backer of the search for and excavation of Tutankhamun's tomb in Egypt in 1922.

Life in Big Macs

■ One hour of general aerobics burns 442 calories (based on a 150-pound person) or the equivalent of slightly more than half a Big Mac or 1.6 Snickers bars.

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

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

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

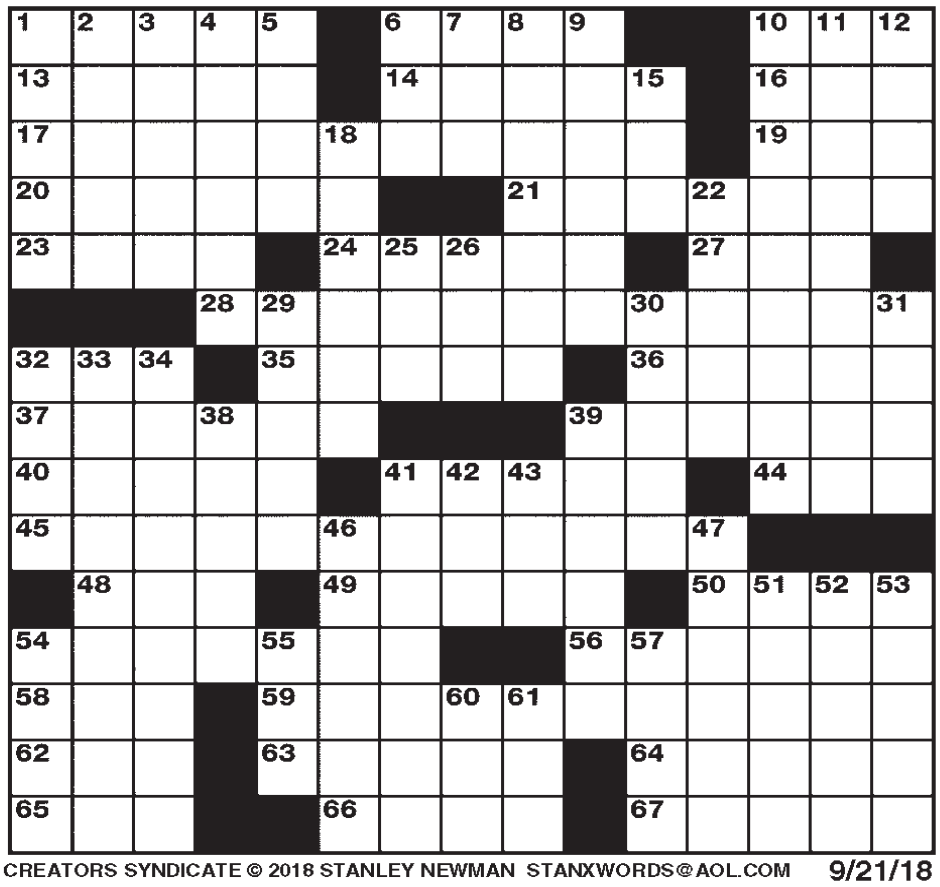
6		2				4		5
		8			3	2		
1	4		2					3
	5			7			9	
			1		2			
	7			8			4	
4					9		2	7
		3	7			6		
7		9				5		4

Newsday Crossword

YOU'RE EXCUSED by Greg Johnson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Davis with two Oscars
6 Use a chisel on wood
10 It means "more or less"
13 Put forth
14 Mother of Isaac
16 Annual *31 Days of Oscar* airer
17 Trade restriction of a sort
19 HBO rival
20 "I'm flummoxed"
21 Deep spaces
23 Ecto- opposite
24 Handle appropriately
27 Seed protector
28 To-watch list for many millions
32 Fabric flaw
35 Alternating current advocate
36 Eurasian chain
37 Except possibly
39 Tightens (up)
40 Marie Curie's Nobelist daughter
41 Tea-leaf readers
44 Retired NBAer Ming
45 Press conference phrase
48 Battle it out
49 From birth
50 Apt to share one's feelings
54 Backslide
56 Neighborhood with bodegas
58 PC bookmark
59 Film spoofing *Star Trek*
62 Org. employing air marshals
63 Worth keeping
64 *Odd Couple* role
65 Boys and men
66 Old-fashioned outburst
67 In harmony

DOWN
1 Blass contemporary
2 Gas giant
3 Lackluster
4 Stepped all over
5 Henri's existence
6 JD's designation
7 Frat letter
8 NATO member since 2009
9 39 Down protector
10 "A snap!"
11 Form with itemized deductions
12 Care managers
15 Food for guinea pigs
18 Personal preferences
22 Turn away
25 Fluffy threesome
26 Right-angled pipe
29 Footnote abbr.
30 Taco chip dip
31 2 Down, formerly
32 Wreck
33 From back to front
34 Lucite alias
38 Penetrate
39 Fedora lookalike
41 Snail without a shell
42 Current D.C. setting
43 When an EMT is due at the ER
46 Precarious
47 What's put up at a shutout
51 Pietro's "No problem"
52 Iron, in Austria
53 Our, to Renoir
54 Novelist Rendell
55 Obstacle to humility
57 Seascape hue
60 Free-bird connection
61 Filled (in) or crossed (out)



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2018 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 9/21/18

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Sept. 21)

You'll perform tremendous feats in May. Your devotion brings someone up. A team will help you achieve a personal goal in July. It's the extra action steps you take in August that will net you new fans and customers. Taurus and Pisces adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 44, 37, 9, and 50.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
People are so complex that they often don't even know their own reasons for taking a certain action. Introspection only captures but the tiny fraction of a thought process. So go easy on yourself. You had your reasons.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
If you haven't decided what goals to set for yourself, don't rush. Your sincere desire to be useful and helpful will propel you forward better than any other ambition would.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
You'll be reassessing what matters to you. It's almost as if your priorities come up for review when the sun is about to change signs, and today you'll be reassessing what matters to you in order to better plan your future.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
Staying healthy is about prevention, eating right, sleeping long and being happy. Later you'll be glad you put today's energy toward creating better habits around self-care.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
The zoom function of your mind is touchy, and you'll have to check yourself to keep from getting too analytical. Every action counts for something, but no actions count for everything. Hopefully, that takes some of the pressure off.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
A surge of inner determination will be your lovely parting gift as the sun prepares to leave your part of the sky. You'll push forward, no hesitation, and face life head-on.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
The best way to handle compliments is to turn them around, flattering the kindness and observation of the giver. These and other niceties are old hat to you. The cosmic attention coming your way will activate your social grace.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
You'll make the first call, and you'll also be the one to repeat call when the other person isn't calling you back. That doesn't make you less powerful; it makes you more in control of the relationship's destiny.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
People from the past will figure in and you'll find out what they're up to. You'll also note what's changed — your entire self-concept, for starters. Because you see yourself in a new light, the world does, too.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Gather more information to satisfy your curiosity or to help yourself understand a situation better, but don't worry about passing judgment. This one is not for you to decide.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Unfortunately, just because it's called a game doesn't automatically make it fun. But the players can make up the difference today, so invite your favorite people to join you in this "game."

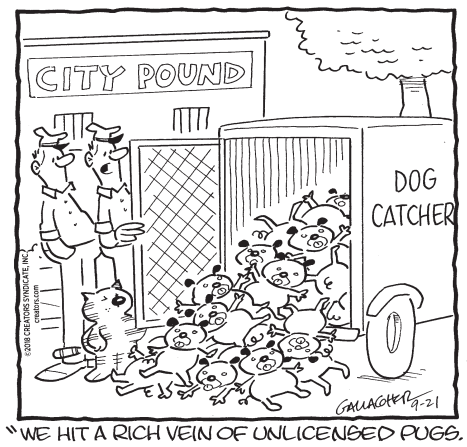
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
You have a talent for relating to those whose education and culture is different from your own and this will come in handy today as your life is enhanced by connecting with those from other walks of life.

Equinox Eve Focus

It's human nature to believe oneself to be at the center of the universe, as it should be. If each person weren't charged with their own survival, the human race could not have lasted this long. That said, on this eve of the autumnal equinox, your survival is assured so you can happily focus the best of your attention on loved ones.

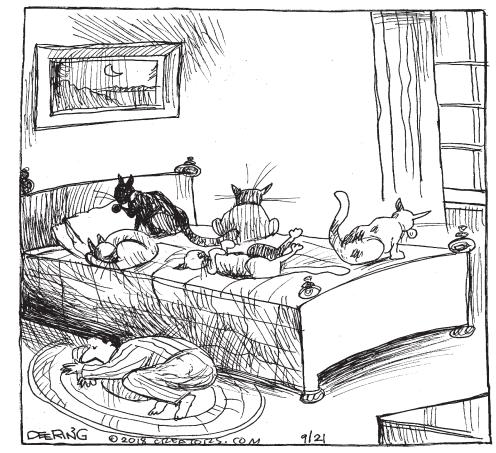
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Telling men to 'step up,' Sen. Hirono strides into spotlight

MARY CLARE JALONICK
Associated Press

Hawaii Sen. Mazie Hirono, one of only four women on the 21-member Senate Judiciary Committee, asked Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh the same questions on sexual harassment she has asked dozens of other nominees.

Had Kavanaugh "made unwanted requests for sexual favors" or committed verbal or physical harassment of a sexual nature since he became a legal adult? And had he ever faced discipline or settled with anyone over that kind of conduct?

Kavanaugh said "no" to both questions at his confirmation hearing earlier this month. But few in the room, or watching on television, knew at the time how relevant Hirono's questions would prove to be.

A little more than a week later, a California professor named Christine Blasey Ford contended that at a house party in the 1980s, a drunken, 17 year-old Kavanaugh tried undressing her and muffling her cries on a bed before she fled. Kavanaugh denies that account.

Ford's accusation has upended his previously smooth confirmation process for Kavanaugh — and thrust the often low-key Hirono, 70, into the spotlight as one of the most outspoken senators in Ford's defense.

"I just want to say to the men in this country: Just shut up and step up. Do the right thing, for a change," Hirono said Tuesday, stealing the show at a press conference that featured several high-profile Democrats.

Hirono told The Associated Press Thursday in an interview that her "shut up and step up" comment hasn't just resonated with women.

"I have talked to a lot of men who are really happy I said that, because they want to be part of the movement," Hirono said.

Hirono's outrage — and her commitment to holding male nominees accountable — has a deep history. When she was a child, her mother fled an abusive marriage in Japan and took Hirono and her brother to Hawaii, crossing the Pacific in steerage of an American ship.

"There is an environment where people see nothing, hear nothing, and say nothing," Hirono said this week about the #MeToo movement against sexual misconduct. "That is what we have to change."

Hirono became a state legislator in 1980, where she says she worked on improving sexual assault laws. The issue remained important to her as she became Hawaii's lieutenant governor in 1994, a member of the House in 2007 and eventually replaced longtime Democratic Sen. Daniel Akaka in 2013. She has kept a mostly low profile in her 12 years in Washington, but that has changed in the past year.

At a news conference Thursday, Hirono and New York Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand defended Ford and said the Judiciary panel is being unfair to her. President Donald Trump and Senate Republicans have rejected Ford's request for an FBI investigation of her accusation, which she says should take place before she testifies. Gillibrand accused Republicans of "bullying her."

As Hirono arrived at the press conference, people cheered her arrival, with several yelling her name. Her newfound political celebrity was also apparent earlier in the day, when protesters against Kavanaugh's nomination greeted her with cheers and applause at a Senate office building. Some of the protesters snapped selfies with her.

"They knew who I was and came up and encouraged me, and I thanked them," Hirono said. "It was very energizing."

It wasn't the first time Hirono has interacted with protesters. Earlier this year, she was one of just a few senators who mingled among a large group in the same Senate Hart Office building who were opposing the Trump administration's separation of families at the border. Hirono often calls herself the only immigrant in the Senate, and she is the sole senator who was born outside the United States to parents who were not citizens, according to the Senate Historical Office.

She acknowledges her profile has risen in recent months, saying "The Trump administration gives me so many more opportunities to be verbal and vocal."

Hirono's public ascent has also come amid health troubles, as she announced last year that she had been diagnosed with kidney cancer. She is still undergoing immunotherapy treatment.

"She's a badass," said Christina Reynolds of the advocacy group EMILY's List, which supports women candidates. "The fact that she's getting up there and calling it out, I think it's inspiring for us to watch."

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer says Hirono may have seen soft-spoken over the years, but adversaries shouldn't forget that she has a "spine of steel."

Hirono is encouraging other women to be active in politics, predicting their frustration will be felt in the outcome of the midterm elections.

"We work really hard to get elected," Hirono said. "Nobody hands anything to us."

Associated Press writers Lisa Mascaro and Dustin Weaver contributed to this report.



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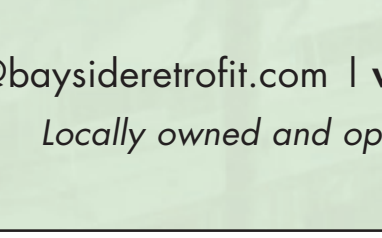
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