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Methopolis

Santa Monica and the surrounding area see spike in methamphetamine use

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

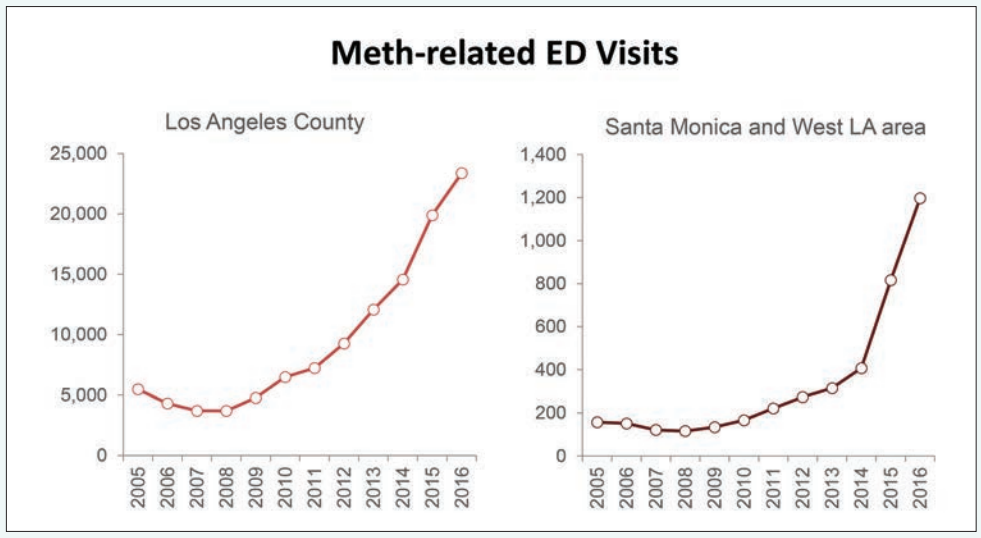
Low cost, high quality methamphetamine is flooding local streets fueling an increase in crime, hospitalizations and overdose deaths.

The trends come as no surprise to law enforcement agencies who said while the highly addictive drug might not have received as much attention as opioids in recent months, it never lost its hold on the Los Angeles area.

According to data provided by the County of Los Angeles, meth-related visits to emergency departments began rising in about 2010 and skyrocketed in recent years. Countywide trips to emergency departments for meth use increased from about 7,000 in 2010 to about 24,000 in 2016. Visits tripled in Santa Monica and the West LA area between 2014 and 2016. Deaths attributed to the drug countywide went from 81 in 2010 to 284 in 2016.

The County of Los Angeles Public Health data provides side by side comparisons for Los Angeles County as a whole and for Zip codes within four miles of Santa Monica. While the trends are similar, the Santa Monica area saw a dramatic increase in individuals seeking treatment for

SEE **METH** PAGE 6



Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

SPIKE: Methamphetamine use has been increasing locally for about a decade but the pace has increased significantly in recent years. Officials said the spike is caused by a combination of factors including reduced penalties for drug use, reduced price for methamphetamine and a regional proximity to the supply lines.

CANDIDATE PROFILES 2018

Santa Monica College Board



BARRY A. SNELL

The Daily Press will run a profile of each candidate in the 2018 election.

NAME: BARRY A. SNELL
AGE: 63
OCCUPATION: CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
NEIGHBORHOOD OF RESIDENCE: PICO NEIGHBORHOOD
OWN/RENT: RENT
MARITAL STATUS: MARRIED
KIDS: 5
POLITICAL AFFILIATION: DEMOCRAT
SCHOOLING: MOREHOUSE COLLEGE AND GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY
HIGHEST DEGREE ATTAINED: MASTER OF SCIENCE IN TAXATION
HOBBIES: VOLLEYBALL, BIKE RIDING AND PLAYING GOLF

WHAT SANTA MONICA ORGANIZATIONS OR INSTITUTIONS ARE YOU INVOLVED WITH OUTSIDE OF SMC?

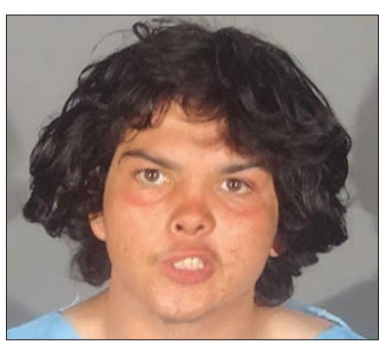
I am a board member of Downtown Santa Monica and on the finance committee for the Santa Monica Education Foundation.

WHAT SMC CLASSES HAVE YOU TAKEN? WHAT WAS YOUR GRADE?

I have taken three golf classes at SMC and have gotten a passing grade in each class.

WHAT CLASSES ARE ESSENTIAL OFFER-

SEE **SNELL** PAGE 3



PEREZ:

Homeless man arrested for Tongva Park murder

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

The Santa Monica Police Department has arrested a suspect in connection with a murder in Tongva Park.

SMPD announced the arrest of Joseph Ramirez Perez, 21, on Thursday morning after a man was stabbed and killed in the park on Wednesday night.

According to a press release, officers responded to the park at about 8:12 p.m. on Wednesday Oct. 3 for an assault with a deadly weapon call and found the victim suffering from a wound to the stomach.

"Additionally, officers saw a male suspect running away from the crime scene and were able to quickly detain the suspect (Perez) for an investigation," said the release. "Santa Monica Fire Department Paramedics

SEE **ARREST** PAGE 5

Isabel A. Ash Esq.
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City of Santa Monica

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Housing Division

The City of Santa Monica announces it has committed Citywide Housing Trust Funds in the amount of $398,863 to Step Up on 26th, LLC, for the rehabilitation of property located at 2621, 2622 and 2726 26th Street, an affordable housing development.

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, Oct. 5

Craft Supply Swap
Do you have leftover yarn, extra buttons, or scraps of ribbon you haven't used in months? Join us to share your crafting supplies or find new crafting treasures. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd, 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 6

Compost Giveaway
Residents can come and fill up five large burlap sacks with compost, while supplies last.
Event Hours: 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. City Yards, 2500 Michigan Avenue.

Connected Families: Robot Playtime at Main
Bring your family to play with the robots and coding toys at the library. Work together to complete challenges or see what sparks your imagination. For kids and Families. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Video & Memory with LD Wedgeworth
A digital video workshop exploring narrative video making. Lisa will show some of her works and discuss issues to consider when creating documentary, self-exploratory and investigative works. Bring a camera phone or digital camera, laptop and cables if needed, and install iMovie or other editing software on your device(s). 1450 Ocean, 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Cost: $5. Register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/68143
or call (310) 458-2239.

Ocean Park Book Group: The Door by Magda Szabo
A Monthly Meeting of the Ocean Park Book Group. Meets the 1st Saturday of the Month. Open to All. No Registration Required. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 7

COAST Open Streets Festival
The City of Santa Monica will host the third year of COAST, an open streets event that gets people walking, biking, skating, and scooting through two miles of activated streets. Along the route, participants will experience live music and performances, local food, art installations, exciting restaurants, one-of-a-kind shops, promotions on the Pier, and unique areas promoting mobility, art, and sustainability. Main Street, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 8

Landmarks Commission Meeting
Regular meeting of the Santa Monica Landmarks Commission. City Hall, 1685 Main St. 7 p.m.

Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library Board Meeting
Monthly Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library Board Meeting. Administration Conference Room near Computer Commons. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 7 - 9 p.m.

The Disabilities Commission Regular Meeting
The mission of the Disabilities Commission is to help improve the quality of life for people with disabilities in Santa Monica by prioritizing issues of concern and advising the City Council and staff on those issues. Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th St, 6:30 p.m.

Community Helper Storytime
Join organizers for a monthly series. Special guest Chief Rose of Santa Monica Fire Department will share stories for preschoolers. Ages 3 - 5. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd. 6:30 - 7 p.m.

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

SNELL

FROM PAGE 1

INGS TO PREPARE STUDENTS FOR THE MODERN JOB MARKET?

I believe there are many classes that are essential to prepare students for the modern job market. However the following four (4) classes; (1) ACCTG 1 Introduction to Financial Accounting, (2) Bus 27 Intro to E- Commerce, (3) Bus 32 Business Communications and (4) Cis 70 Social Media Applications are needed to prepare students for the modern job market.

HOW MANY ARTS EVENTS (PLAYS, CONCERTS, ART SHOWS) FEATURING SMC STUDENTS HAVE YOU ATTENDED IN THE PAST TWO YEARS?

I have attended approximately 8 art events in the past two years featuring SMC students.

WHAT MORE CAN BE DONE TO BRING STUDENTS TO CAMPUS WITHOUT THE USE OF A CAR?

We can continue to advocate in Sacramento for allowing students to ride the metro train (any line/anywhere) for a student rate. We need to begin discussion with our other public entities the possibility of student housing. This would help with the reduction in the use of cars and support our student homelessness issues that are on a rise.

IS THE SMC BOARD MORE ACCOUNTABLE TO STUDENTS (WHEREVER THEY MIGHT LIVE) OR RESIDENTS (REGARDLESS OF THEIR SMC AFFILIATION)?

Understanding the concerns and needs of the community that the college resides in is one of the most difficult parts of school governance. The Board of Trustees are elected representatives of the residents of Santa Monica and Malibu who provide appropriate high-level guidance and leadership to ensure the College acts to meet the communities' needs.

The primary role of the Board of Trustees, as it pertains to its students, is to provide a safe environment and a quality education.

So I believe that we are accountable to both equally.

IS THE CAMPUS A NEVER-ENDING CONSTRUCTION PROJECT OR CAN YOU FORESEE AN END TO EXPANSION?

The campus will always need some type of upgrades and construction to state of the art buildings. However I don't see the College expanding and as on-line learning expands it may reduce the need to add building projects.

HOW MUCH TIME AND ENERGY SHOULD BE PUT INTO CONTINUING ADULT EDUCATION VS. UNDERGRAD?

Equal time and energy should be put into continuing adult education vs. undergrad. The new funding formula however is somewhat tied to completion which means that we will have to develop programs that focus on undergraduates not only transferring but also getting the required courses for completing their college career.

DOES THE FUTURE OF COLLEGE EDUCATION STILL FOCUS ON THE CAMPUS EXPERIENCE OR WILL EDUCATION BECOME MORE VIRTUAL?

The future of college education will still be focus on the campus experience even though the State has allocated $150 million to on-line learning in its most recent budget.

WHAT QUALIFIES YOU TO LEAD A MAJOR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION LIKE SMC AND HOW WILL/DO YOU CONTRIBUTE TO THE BOARD?

I have been involved in education policy in Santa Monica for over 16 years. I have served on the SMMUSD school board, been part of bond initiatives, and have advocated at the State level for issues relating to SMC. I am involved in the community as a board member to Downtown Santa Monica regarding issues of housing, traffic and safety. I am a CPA and have worked in various capacities on education finance and budgets. My commitment and expertise in these areas I believe will be an asset to SMC should I am re-elected to the Trustee Board. Living in the Pico neighborhood I am always concern how decisions made at the College affect my neighborhood as well as other neighborhoods in the Cities of Santa Monica and Malibu.

WHY IS SMC AND THEREFORE THIS ELECTION RELEVANT TO RESIDENTS WHO HAVE NOT ATTENDED SMC?

SMC and this election are relevant to the residents who have not attended because the Trustee board will be making decisions as to development of our Campus. We have various campuses around the city of Santa Monica and are building a campus in Malibu.

Although the residents have never attended SMC, their children, relative or friend probably has and they should be concern that the College is meeting these individual's needs.

Residents need to be confident that the Trustees they voted for are listening to their concerns and ideas.

No free lunch for renewables: More wind power would warm US

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

Ramping up wind power in America would also dial up the nation's temperatures, a new study out of Harvard found.

While wind energy is widely celebrated as environmentally friendly, the researchers concluded that a dramatic, all-out expansion in the number of turbines could warm the country even more than climate change from burning coal and other fossil fuels, because of the way the spinning blades disturb the layers of warm and cold air in the atmosphere.

Some parts of the central United States are already seeing nights that are up to 2 degrees Fahrenheit (1.1 degrees Celsius) warmer because of nearby wind farms, said study lead author Lee Miller, an environmental scientist at Harvard.

"Any big energy system has an environmental impact," said Harvard engineering and physics professor David Keith, a study co-author. "There is no free lunch. You do wind on a scale big enough ... it'll change things."

The researchers and other scientists stressed that climate change from greenhouse gas emissions is clearly a far bigger threat globally and over the long term than turbine-caused warming, which is temporary and stops when the blades aren't turning.

Despite the potential drawbacks, wind energy still makes more sense for the environment than fossil fuels, Keith said.

It's just that advocates of wind power have been ignoring growing evidence of a downside, he said.

Overall, the Harvard study, published Thursday in the journal Joule , found that in the unlikely event that the U.S. switched massively to wind to supply nearly all of its electricity, there would be so many turbines that on average the nation's temperature would go up about 0.4 degrees (0.2 Celsius). Some central areas would see localized warming around 2.5 degrees (1.4 Celsius), though there would also be some cooling in places, such as the East Coast.

Right now, wind provides 6.3 percent of the nation's electricity, according to the American Wind Energy Association.

The study, which looked at just the United States, said that the turbines would cause more warming in the short term this century than the carbon dioxide America spews into the atmosphere would.

The reason for this effect : Normally the air is more still at night, with cold air staying near the surface and warmer air resting a little higher. But turbines bring the warm air down and cool air up, making the ground a bit toastier. The effect is seen less during the day but is still there.

Still, the effect from turbines is different from human-caused climate change. It mostly consists of warming, it's local, and it's temporary. When the turbines are still because the air is calm, there's no warming.

Climate change, in contrast, is a global effect that involves many more elements than temperature, such as sea level rise, extreme weather, melting glaciers and shifts in the jet stream. Even if a country stopped emitting greenhouse gases, it would still experience climate change if the rest of the world kept on polluting.

Past studies have observed a temporary nighttime warming of as much as 2 degrees (1.1 Celsius) in places with lots of wind turbines, such as North Texas. The Harvard study took observations and used computer simulation to project what a dramatic increase in turbines would look like for temperatures.

Other technologies considered environmentally friendly have their downsides, too. Nuclear energy has no carbon dioxide emissions, but there are concerns about waste, safety and cost. The ethanol boom has wiped out habitats, led farmers to plow over prairies, caused water pollution and raised food prices.

Wind advocates emphasized that the Harvard study doesn't show turbines causing global warming, just local heating.

"If the paper instead looked across the global and long-lasting timescales that matter, renewable resources would fare hundreds of times if not infinitely better than fossil resources," Michael Goggin, vice president of Grid Strategies and a former researcher for a wind energy group, said in a statement.

Ken Caldeira, a climate scientist at the Carnegie Institution for Science who wasn't part of the research, said the study is sound.

"The climate effect of burning fossil fuels is cumulative," Caldeira said in an email. "The longer you run a coal plant, the worse the climate change gets. In contrast, the climate effect of wind turbines is what it is. You build the wind turbine. Climate is affected. But as long as you run the wind turbine, the climate change doesn't get any worse. So in the long run, as far as the climate is concerned, wind turbines are obviously better than fossil fuels."





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One Thing's Clear, Bart Loves Beer

By tomorrow or early next week, Brett Kavanaugh will likely be Supreme Court Justice Kavanaugh. Yikes! (In a 1983 letter in which he admitted he was "an obnoxious drunk," Kavanaugh called himself "Bart," and, now, so will I.)

I'm sorry I'm so pessimistic in predicting his confirmation despite his 29 "false or misleading statements." Unlike Bart, I suppose I'm a "keg half empty" kind of guy.

For many reasons, Kavanaugh is unfit to be SCOTUS. Then again, he was nominated by someone unfit to be POTUS.

As opposed "self made billionaire," the NY Times reports Trump received, in today's dollars, $416 million in his father's decades-long tax fraud. The scheme began when Donnie Johnny was 3 and made him a millionaire by 8. (Apparently, the Emperor does have clothes but they were bought by daddy.)

Back to Bart, should his nomination somehow fail, he could be the perfect spokesperson for ... Budweiser! A lifelong football fan, imagine Bart's thrill if his Bud commercial was aired during the Super Bowl. Instead of a lifetime appointment to the Supreme Court, it could be a lifetime of free beer.

Joking aside, I'm still shocked by Bart's belligerent testimony, ironically, Kavanaugh once wrote about the temperament required to be a judge. "A judge has to demonstrate civility, to display, that you're trying to make the decision impartially, dispassionately, based on the law and not based on your emotions." Forget sexual assault, Bart's erratic and emotional temperament alone are disqualifying.

With each fact that makes Bart, whom I also call "Kegs," unfit to be SCOTUS, I will ring a metaphorical bellhop bell. The truth is, Kegs was out of control angry before he even sat down. He had a scowl on his face as he nervously rearranged items on his desk and then immediately launched into an almost shouting tirade. (Ding.)

Keep in mind, the Judiciary Committee hearing is essentially a job interview. With his angry yelling I doubt he'd have passed the interview if it were for Dunkn' Donuts. And, other than Marco Rubio, who nervously drinks that much water? (Ding.)

Dr. Christine Blasey Ford's testimony was calm and thoughtful. Even "Richie Rich" Trump said, "She was very compelling" and "a fine person." And yet, at a Tuesday night rally, bully Trump mocked and belittled her. Senator Jeff Flake commented, "It was appalling." He was too kind.

As Trump ginned up the crowd, it was reminiscent of a Nazi rally. There was an evil "Lock her up" chant referring to Dr. Ford. Any wonder why female victims of sexual assault are reluctant to come forward. Frankly, how woman can vote for the GOP and its leader, our "Admitted Sexual Assaulter in Chief," is beyond me.

As opposed to Dr. Ford, Bart's testimony was all over the map, including tears at the weirdest moments. For example, as evidence of his innocence he presented his calendar from 1982. (Which actually validated much of Ford's testimony.)

Tearfully, Bart explained the calendar was a custom of his father who shared the entries with his with his family on Christmas Day. As Bart's tears flowed, I assumed his father had passed years ago. But no! His dad looked fit as a fiddle (not sure why fiddles are necessarily fit) and was sitting right behind Kegs. (Ding.)

Bart also cried when recalling boozing and lifting weights with pals P.J. and Squee. (Ding, ding!) Note to Bart: When accused of drunken sexual assault it's a little suspicious to cry about drinking with pals while weight lifting.

For me, Bart's ugly side revealed itself when he was questioned by Minnesota Senator, Amy Klobuchar who was actually very polite. Up front, she acknowledged that her father had been an alcoholic, and proceeded to ask Bart about his high school and college drinking, Downright hostile, Kavanaugh questioned Amy about her drinking and asked if she'd ever "blacked out." (Ding, ding, ding, ding!)

It was so inappropriate and rude, some opined that if a witness in Judge Kavanaugh's court had acted similarly he'd have likely found them in contempt. After a short break, Bart "apologized" but lamely as he blamed his behavior on the "process." Say what?

To be serious, when Kavanaugh ascends to the Supreme Court, the integrity of our most highly regarded institution will be called into question. Already Congress and the Senate seem to favor party over country. With Trump's constant attacks on the press people don't know what to believe. Our citizenry may be as divided now as we were during the Civil War. And who must be just loving every minute? Comrade Vlad. (Putin!)

Under Trump's control, the FBI "investigation" was a joke. Extremely credible people are positive Kavanaugh perjured himself. I'd comment further about why he shouldn't be on the Supreme Court but, with so many dings, Bart has broken my bell.

Google "Damon SNL Kavanaugh," to see Saturday Night Live's hilarious 13-minute cold open starring Matt Damon as boozer Bart. Jack can be reached at jackdailypress@aol.com.

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ARREST

FROM PAGE 1

responded to the scene to treat the victim and transported him to a local hospital. Unfortunately, while at the hospital, the victim succumbed to his injuries a short time later."

The circumstances of the assault are still under investigation but officers said the victim may have been sleeping on a park bench prior to the attack.

Officers said Perez is believed to be homeless but the case has no connection to the recent string of attacks on individuals sleeping outside.

Perez was booked for murder and assault with a deadly weapon. Perez remains in custody at SMPD Jail with a bail of $2 million pending future court proceedings. The case will be presented to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office-Airport Division Courthouse on October 5, 2018 for filing consideration.

Anyone with information related to this incident is encouraged to call Detective Goodwin at (310) 458-8942; Detective J. Rodriguez (310) 458-2233; or the Santa Monica Police Department at (310) 458-8491.

editor@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

Biden in California to rally Democrats in tough House races

With control of the U.S. House on the line, Democrats are looking to Joe Biden to give their California congressional candidates a boost Thursday.

The former vice president will be in Orange County to headline a rally for five Democrats in tight U.S. House races.

The potential Democratic presidential contender in 2020 has been using his political star power to help candidates and raise money around the country. He's predicted that Democrats will control both chambers of Congress next year and he's been critical of President Donald Trump's leadership and agenda.

In a state where Trump is unpopular, Democrats are hoping to seize a string of GOP-held House districts that Hillary Clinton carried in the 2016 presidential election.

The party needs to flip control of 23 seats to take the U.S. House.

Four of the candidates scheduled to appear at the rally at California State University, Fullerton, are vying for seats in districts that are all or partly in Orange County. They are Gil Cisneros, Katie Porter, Harley Rouda and Mike Levin. The fifth candidate, TJ Cox, is seeking a seat in the Central Valley.

The races are all seen as competitive. Republicans, meanwhile, have been spending millions of dollars on advertising to defend their turf.

In Orange County, Rouda is trying to oust longtime Republican Rep. Dana Rohrabacher in the coastal 48th District, while Porter is taking on another incumbent, Rep. Mimi Walters, in the 45th District. Cisneros and Levin are competing in open seats.

Cox is facing Republican Rep. David Valadao in the 21st District.

Republicans have been losing ground in California for years. Democrats hold every statewide office, control both chambers of the Legislature and hold a 3.7 million edge in voter registrations over the GOP. Independents also outnumber GOP voters.

Democrats see the California seats as critical to their plans to take control of Congress next year. Orange County was long seen as a Republican stronghold, but Clinton carried the county in 2016, the first Democratic presidential candidate to do so since 1936.

MICHAEL R. BLOOD, ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Alan Alda to receive SAG Life Achievement Award in 2019

Alan Alda will receive the SAG Life Achievement Award at next year's Screen Actors Guild Awards ceremony.

The actors union announced Thursday that Alda will accept its highest honor on January 27. The award to given annually to an actor who fosters the "finest ideals of the acting profession."

Alda's long list of credits include 11 seasons as Dr. Hawkeye Pierce on "M.A.S.H.," TV turns on "The West Wing" and "Ray Donovan," and roles in films such as "Manhattan Murder Mystery" and "The Aviator."

He has earned an Oscar nomination, six Emmys, six Golden Globes and three Tony Award nominations. He also founded the nonprofit Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science.

Previous Life Achievement Award recipients include Morgan Freeman, Carol Burnett, Betty White, Elizabeth Taylor, Sidney Poitier and George Burns.

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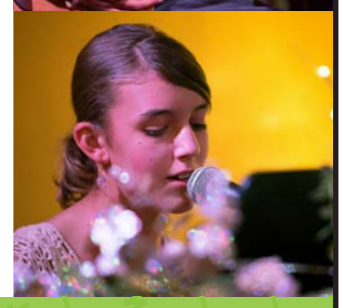




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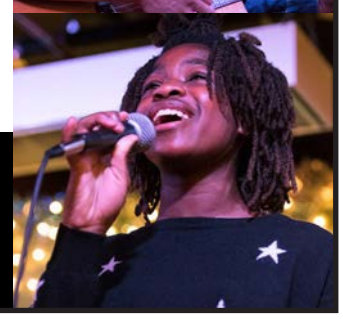
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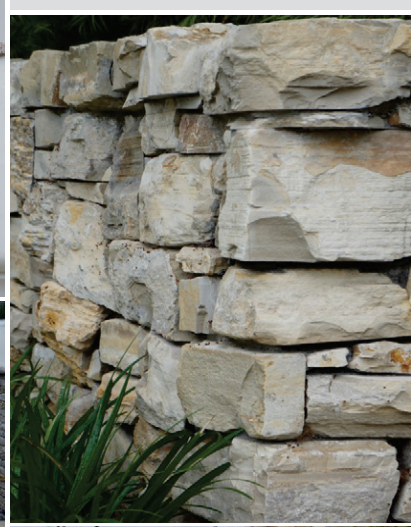
Pavers and Flagstone

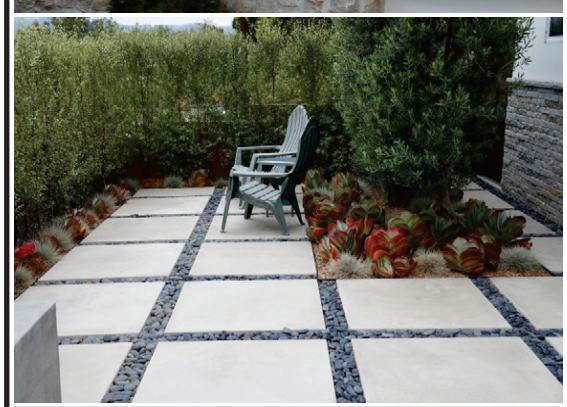
Boulder and Cobbles

Wall Rock and Veneer

Stone Slabs and Pool Coping

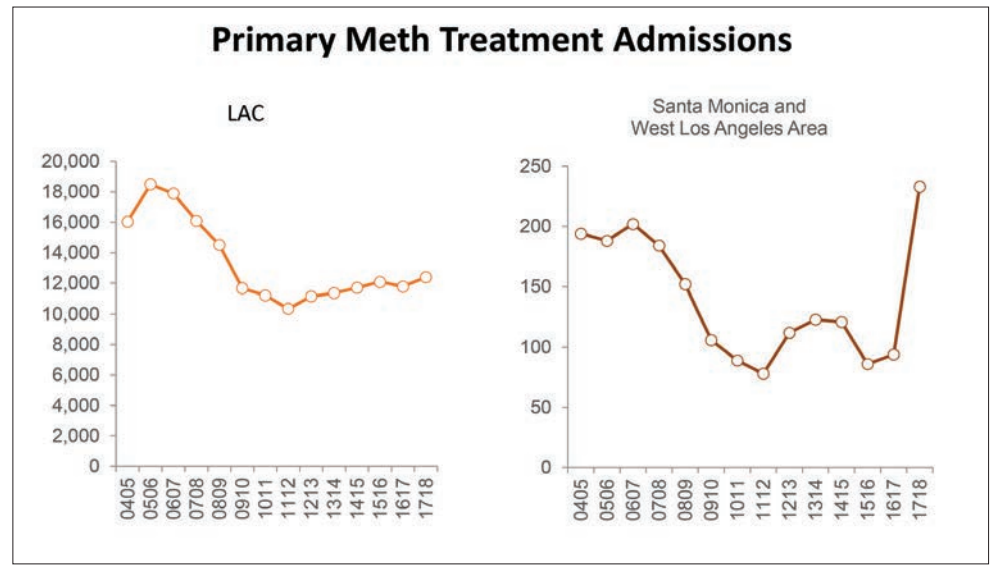








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Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

ADMISSIONS: Treatment for methamphetamine addiction spiked starting in about 2016.

METH

FROM PAGE 1

methamphetamine addiction in the last two years while the County figures remained relatively stable.

Dr. Gary Tsai, Medical Director and Science Officer with Substance Abuse Prevention and Control for the County of Los Angeles Dept. of Public Health said there's no single, definitive answer as to why the problem is increasing.

"What I can tell you, is according to recent national data that was released from the National Drug Survey on Drug Use and Health, methamphetamine numbers are increasing across the board, particularly for younger folks (18-25) nationally," he said.

He said his department didn't know precise causes but there were some theories regarding methamphetamine use on the Westside.

"Some of it may be, with respect to Santa Monica, some of it may track with the homeless population," he said. "Sometimes homeless individuals say that they tend to rather use uppers as opposed to downers because they like to be more vigilant when they are out on the street ... As we've seen homelessness increase one could expect that we'd see drug use increase."

Lt. Saul Rodriguez with the Santa Monica Police Department said local officers have always seen meth on local streets but changes at the state level have undermined enforcement for some drug crimes. He said officers make arrests for both sale and possession but possession charges are now reduced to a citation.

"There's really nothing that has any teeth to it for possession," he said. "We used to have guys in jail or we could send them to drug court but you don't have that anymore. That started back in 2015 when Prop. 47 passed."

Proposition 47 was approved by voters in 2014 and became law in 2015. The initiative required misdemeanor sentencing for "non-serious, nonviolent crimes" including personal use of most drugs.

"It's a very addicting narcotic and if there's no remedy for a user to find a way to seek treatment, or be mandated through the justice system or voluntarily going through it, then it's a cycle that keeps happening," he said. "It's a very bad drug."

He said users are responsible for some of the property crime increase in the city.

Rodriguez worked on narcotics in Santa Monica for over 11 years and supervised SMPD's Narcotics Unit from 2010 to 2015. He said methamphetamine was second only to crack cocaine for its ability to hook users.

"We did see a rise in meth use sales and the amount of methamphetamine on the street," he said. "In my opinion and my opinion only, I think it's pretty similar (to the county numbers). It's one of the more prevalent narcotics we're seeing."

Rodriguez said reduced sentencing increased the customer base for the drug and at about the same time, Mexican cartels entered the meth market.

DEA Special Agent, Timothy Massino said the cartels have created a far more potent product and are able to ship it in huge quantities.

"The Mexican cartels have basically industrialized the process," he said.

Massino said the popular TV. show Breaking Bad was fictionalized, but the producers talked with the DEA and some of the themes were true to life, particularly the profitability of a purified product.

"It's almost a limitless supply and therefore the price is at an all-time low," he said. "A lot of the country is dealing with the opioid epidemic and has been for a few years but for this area, Southern California and the western U.S., methamphetamine has not once ceased being the number one drug threat over the last several years."

Because much of the illegal import comes across the southern California border, the Los Angeles area in particular is flooded with the drug.

"This is arguably the number one transportation/shipment point. This is where they generally set up shop and then just like any other commodity it's trafficked all over the USA," he said. "There are a lot more people involved in the business here than as you make your way farther east and into smaller cities and that's at all levels, whether street availability or more wholesale."

He said that generally the drugs flow from the south to the north and east. The money from drug sales flows in the opposite direction.

The drug is sold by the pound at wholesale levels and according to Public Health figures, the estimated price per pound dropped from $11,000 in 2012 to $2,400 in 2016. Massino estimated very high quality meth would be sold for between $1,500 and $2,000 a pound today.

In addition to bringing the cost down and the purity up, the cartels have sophisticated import practices that have enable them to flood the market despite seizures doubling since 2010.

The DEA does work with local law enforcement agencies to target all kinds of drug operations, including methamphetamine sales. Massino said the cooperative approach is part of an ongoing focus on preventing drug sales.

Dr. Tsai said that at the end of the day, methamphetamine is a significant public health concern that will require a coordinated response.

"This is all of our problems ..." he said.

editor@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES

1st Southern California storm of the season brings showers

The first Pacific storm of the season has brought showers and occasional downpours to Southern California but skipped some areas entirely.

The National Weather Service says a shower Thursday morning dropped more than a half-inch of rain on downtown Santa Barbara but it missed the vast burn scar of the Thomas Fire, which spewed a deadly debris flow through Montecito during a Jan. 9 deluge.

Santa Barbara County emergency managers say rainfall over Montecito and nearby Carpinteria have been below thresholds for debris flows.

Forecasters say shower activity has been settling down as a more stable air mass moves in.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO

Musk takes swipe at SEC on heels of fraud settlement

Tesla CEO Elon Musk is apparently taunting the government agency that accused him of duping investors just days after negotiating a settlement to keep his job.

Musk jabbed the Securities and Exchange Commission on his Twitter account, the same agency that went after him for an August 7 tweet in which he declared he had secured financing for a Tesla buyout. The SEC alleged that Musk hadn't locked up the estimated $25 billion to $50 billion that it would have required to pull off that deal.

In a Thursday tweet , Musk praised the "Shortseller Enrichment Commission" for "doing incredible work."

Musk has long feuded with short sellers, a category of investors that have been betting on Tesla's stock to fall.

Tesla shares declined 2 percent in extended trading after Musk's tweet.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LANCASTER

Deputies aid woman after her motorized wheelchair lost power

Two Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies went the extra mile for a woman after her motorized wheelchair ran out of power.

The wheelchair wouldn't fit in their patrol car and the woman did not want to leave it behind. So in a video posted on Facebook, one of the deputies pushed her back to her Lancaster, California, home.

His partner teased him about the "slow" pace of the trip, which was about a mile (kilometer). The woman is heard on the video chuckling about that.

ASSOCIATED PRESS







SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 68.3°

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft waist to stomach high
SSE tropical swell fills in. Leftover WNW mix in the AM. New WNW mix possible in the PM.

SATURDAY - **FAIR TO GOOD** - SURF: 4-5 ft chest to head high occ. 6 ft
Tropical swell eases. WNW mix possible. New SW swell shows.



CRIME WATCH BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

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

ON SEPTEMBER 27, AT ABOUT 7:12 P.M.

Officers responded to a radio call for service at Bubba Gump's - 301 Santa Monica Pier - regarding a subject trying to steal merchandise. The male subject was known to the employees and subject to a court ordered stay way order. Officers spoke to Bubba Gump's employees and learned the subject entered the store and walked around the sales floor. Employees recognized the subject from previous thefts and has taken money from a tip jar. Officers located the subject on the pier holding money in his hand. A witness told officers the subject took money from a performer's tip jar. The subject was taken into custody. Sadique Jhalon Compton, 26, homeless was arrested for petty theft. Bail was set at $500.

DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 355 Calls For Service On Oct. 3.

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

Suicide 4th / Colorado 12:51 a.m.
Burglary 800 block Wilshire 2:59 a.m.
Recyclables theft 1700 block 10th 6:21 a.m.
Encampment 1200 block 14th 8:32 a.m.
Traffic collision 2800 block Lincoln 9:06 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 100 block Georgina 9:20 a.m.
Burglary 800 block Broadway 9:23 a.m.
Petty theft 1900 block Main 9:34 a.m.
Sexual assault 2900 block Exposition 9:35 a.m.
Encampment 100 block Palisades 12:02 p.m.
Grand theft 900 block 18th 12:09 p.m.
Bike theft 1800 block Lincoln 12:09 p.m.
Person with a gun 600 block Pico 12:19 p.m.
Indecent exposure 1100 block 15th 12:20 p.m.
Encampment 2900 block the beach 12:36 p.m.
Encampment 2200 block the beach 12:45 p.m.
Battery 300 block Arizona 1:07 p.m.
Bike theft 2000 block Ocean 1:13 p.m.
Theft suspect 1200 block 4th 1:18 p.m.
Indecent exposure 11th / Santa Monica 1:23 p.m.
Fight 2000 block Ocean 1:24 p.m.
Encampment 1300 block the beach 1:26 p.m.
Traffic collision Ocean / Colorado 1:38 p.m.
Elder abuse 2800 block Washington 1:47 p.m.
Battery 1700 block Ocean 1:58 p.m.
Traffic collision 20th / Colorado 2:27 p.m.
Petty theft 3000 block Main 2:55 p.m.
Sexual assault 1800 block the beach 3:21 p.m.
Identity theft 1000 block Broadway 3:33 p.m.
Burglary 1800 block 16th 3:53 p.m.
Auto burglary 1200 block 4th 4:24 p.m.
Petty theft Cloverfield / Santa Monica 4:42 p.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block 4th 4:50 p.m.
Traffic collision 4th / Santa Monica 5:01 p.m.
Auto burglary 2500 block Santa Monica 5:18 p.m.
Traffic collision 1200 block 2nd 6:03 p.m.
Traffic collision 3200 block Olympic 6:16 p.m.
Auto burglary 1200 block 4th 6:28 p.m.
Battery 1600 block Cloverfield 7:18 p.m.
Burglary 500 block Broadway 7:22 p.m.
Battery 1300 block 4th 7:44 p.m.
Auto burglary 23rd / Wilshire 8:01 p.m.
Assault w/deadly Main / Olympic 8:12 p.m.
Drunk driving Ocean / Colorado 8:20 p.m.
Traffic collision 4th / California 8:29 p.m.
Traffic collision Centinela / Pico 8:33 p.m.
Burglary 1800 block 16th 8:44 p.m.
Grand theft 1300 block 3rd Street Prom 8:56 p.m.
Indecent exposure 1200 block Wilshire 9:05 p.m.
Traffic collision Appian / Seaside Ter 9:06 p.m.
Petty theft 1800 block Appian 9:22 p.m.
Battery 1800 block 7th 10:35 p.m.
Person down 1600 block Cloverfield 10:36 p.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block 2nd 10:59 p.m.
Person with a gun 1500 block 2nd 11:50 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 28 Calls For Service On Oct. 3.

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

Emergency 900 block palisades beach 12:54 a.m.
Emergency 7th / Taft 1:06 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1200 block 15th 2:41 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2300 block Cloverfield 7:48 a.m.
Emergency 2000 block Virginia 7:54 a.m.
Emergency 2600 block Broadway 7:59 a.m.
Emergency 2800 block Lincoln 9:03 a.m.
Emergency 2000 block Santa Monica 9:25 a.m.
Emergency 1400 block 14th 10:23 a.m.
Emergency 300 block Santa Monica Pier 1:33 p.m.
Emergency 700 block Broadway 2:22 p.m.
Traffic collision with injury 20th / Colorado 2:27 p.m.
Emergency 1300 block 4th 3:08 p.m.
Emergency 1400 block Carlyle 4:47 p.m.
Emergency 2300 block 4th 6:31 p.m.
Emergency 2nd / Broadway 6:32 p.m.
Traffic collision with injury 3200 block Olympic 6:37 p.m.
Emergency 800 block Lincoln 7:56 p.m.
Emergency 800 block 2nd 8:13 p.m.
Emergency Main / Olympic 8:14 p.m.
Emergency 4th / California 8:29 p.m.
Traffic collision with injury Centinela / Pico 8:33 p.m.
Emergency 600 block Colorado 9:15 p.m.
Emergency 1400 block 10th 9:42 p.m.
Emergency 1600 block Cloverfield 10:36 p.m.
Arcing wires 1700 block Expo Line 11:10 p.m.
Emergency 1900 block Stewart 11:45 p.m.

YOUR OPINION MATTERS! SEND YOUR LETTERS TO
• Santa Monica Daily Press • Attn. Editor: • 1640 5th Street, Suite 218
• Santa Monica, CA 90401 • **letters@smdp.com**

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 10/3
41 53 59 63 66
Power#: 3
Jackpot: 253M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 10/2
2 22 29 31 34
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 405M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 10/3
9 16 18 20 32
Mega#: 15
Jackpot: 11M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 10/3
5 8 10 25 27

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 10/4
MIDDAY:
Draw Date: 10/3
EVENING: 0 9 8

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 10/3
1st: 07 Eureka
2nd: 01 Gold Rush
3rd: 12 Lucky Charms
RACE TIME: 1:42.58

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!

tump
1. British Dialect. a small mound, hill, or rise of ground.
2. British Dialect. a clump of grass, shrubs, or trees, especially rising from a swamp or bog.
3. British Dialect. a heap or stack, as a haystack.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Never Say Diet

■ The speed-eating record for potato latkes (a sort of pancake) is 48 in 8 minutes, held by "Furious" Pete Czerwinski. Note: It's unclear why Mr. Czerwinski is nicknamed "Furious" unless it's because he thought latkes come with maple syrup. They do not. Most often they are served with sour cream, cottage cheese or apple sauce - all of which are nice, but aren't maple syrup.

Best Medicine

■ Wife: Well, what did the doctor say about your obsessive-compulsive disorder?
■ Husband: He said I have CDO.
■ Wife: What's that?
■ Husband: It's like OCD, but the letters are in alphabetical order – as they should be.

MYSTERY REVEALED!

SPONSORED BY Chick-fil-A



Peter Smith correctly identified the photo as Docs Ski & Sports at 3101 Santa Monica Blvd. He wins a prize from the Daily Press.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

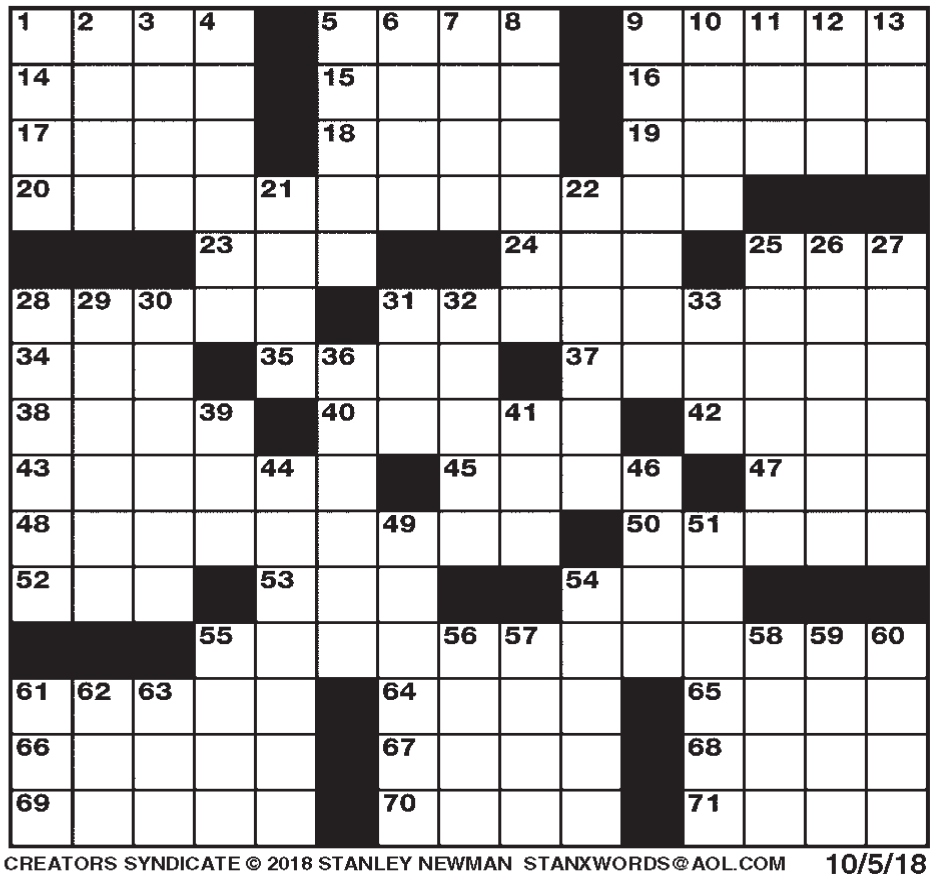
	3		8		4		9	
2		5				3		4
8				2		6		
	9				6		2	
		2		9		7		
	8		1				4	
		4		1				6
1		3				9		2
	6		2		7		1	

Newsday Crossword

ON THE GRID by Greg Johnson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Verbal or physical pokes
5 Apt. listing detail
9 Not yet tidied
14 Farmstead measure
15 Mysterious atmosphere
16 Thickly stuck (on)
17 Secluded spot
18 One not to trust
19 Brown and its rivals
20 9-by-9
23 Towel rack component
24 Something to pump at a filling station
25 Elhi auxiliary
28 Neo-Druid, for instance
31 5-by-5
34 UN source of workers' stats
35 Shade similar to teal
37 Drywall mineral
38 Scoff at
40 Exhortation of solidarity
42 Palm berry
43 Garlicky shrimp
45 Lead balloons
47 Aesopian saver
48 3-by-3
50 Sings cheerfully
52 Talk on and on
53 Commandment pronoun
54 Playground pursuit
55 8-by-8
61 "Don't remind me"
64 Catch __ (learn)
65 Its ruins are a Turkish attraction
66 "And here it is!"
67 Guy courting
68 Part of
69 Barely passing
70 Boxing prize
71 Erudite volume

DOWN
1 Binges
2 Bill of Rights advocate
3 Engendered
4 Toledo title
5 Toast at a taqueria
6 Wisecrack
7 Hamburg honorific
8 Hero of 60+ films since 1918
9 Irish PGA star
10 Icicle spot
11 What you can do indoors in Dubai
12 Pay a call on
13 Fabric store qty.
21 Coffee from Mauna Loa
22 Sharply swerved
25 French mathematician/philosopher
26 Unexcused absentee
27 Acknowledges
28 Mud bath spot
29 Keys of song
30 Reverse direction
31 Something grilled on a barbecue
32 Japanese martial art with swords
33 Certain financial advisor
36 Brunch serving
39 Fire dept. employee, perhaps
41 Datebook letters
44 Route
46 Big rib serving
49 Rival of the Babe
51 "Aha!"
54 Salmon cousin
55 Young zebra
56 Joint used for jumping
57 Citation abbreviation
58 River through Pisa
59 Follower of waiting or wiggle
60 Unit of force
61 Drips for patients
62 Pond carp
63 Turn down



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2018 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 10/5/18

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (OCT. 5)

Most measures of joy, well-being and effort are internal. Only you know what's worth it and what's not. It's your year to trust your own assessments and do what makes you happy. Highlights this solar return include an extremely satisfying vacation, a new way to enjoy your family and a metal of some kind. Cancer and Sagittarius adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 7, 40, 38, 22 and 18.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
You are gracious and social even when you don't feel like dealing with people. Somehow doing it anyway just puts you right in the mood, and as a direct result, good things happen for you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Don't underestimate the power of feeling liked. Even people who profess not to care if others like them or not may in fact very much appreciate a sign of your acceptance.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
Should you stick with what you know, or make a switch to the new way? That's the juncture you'll come to today and both paths have pros and cons. Truthful testimonials and recommendations will help you decide.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
Since what you say always reflects what's going on inside you, the easiest way to say the right thing is to be the right thing. You may need to sort through some feelings and get clarity. It will step up your conversational game.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
The competitor with nothing to lose will surpass the one who has to make a strategic choice about what to risk – an important consideration in today's proceedings.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
It's the little ways a person shows you that he or she is paying attention that will go straight to your heart and turn someone into your favorite in an instant.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
The best way is not to compare yourself to anyone. But since that's also a very unrealistic expectation of yourself today, then at least compare yourself to an example that is both attainable and worthy of you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
How can you make things clearer to the most amount of people with the least amount of cost, trouble or time? The answer may be in a sign. A message built for all to read saves you having to whisper to each person.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
You're always training people. Each interaction is a training. It never ends. Give a thought to what you're teaching as you go about your day, specifically, how you're teaching people to treat you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You're handling a lot of responsibility today but you also needn't take it so seriously. Keep your perspective and your humor and you'll stay relaxed enough to handle anything that comes up.

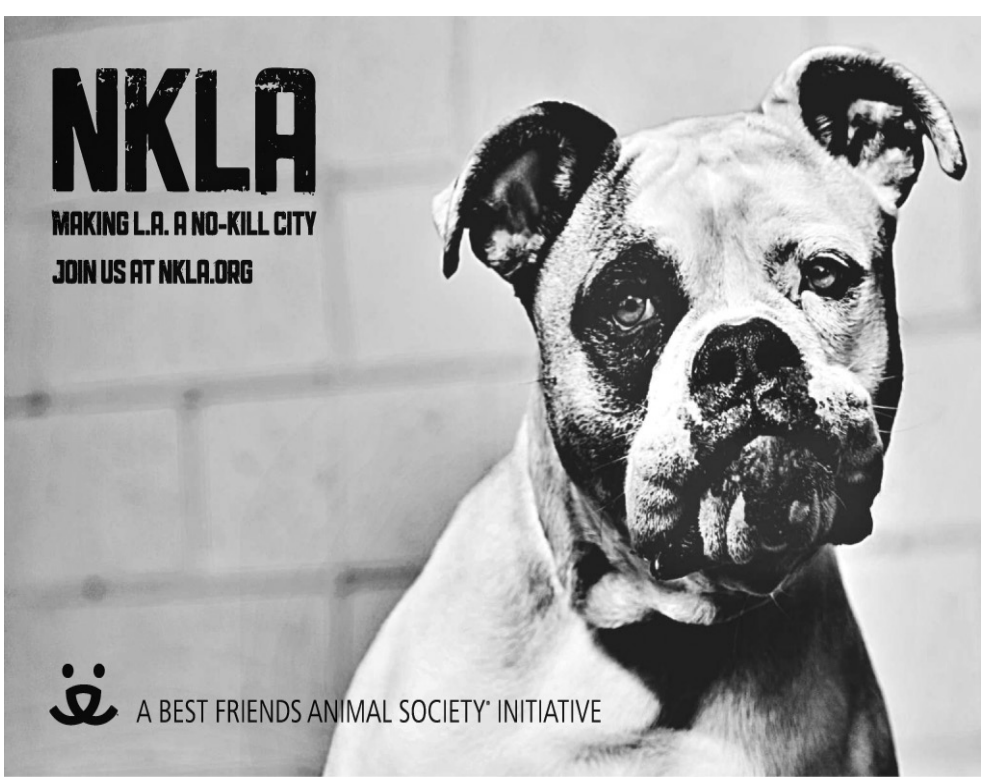
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Set an expectation early on about what you'd like to see happen. Otherwise, no one knows will know quite what to do you'll wind up with all the frustrations of a cat-herder.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
You'll have the pleasure of getting to know someone through teamwork on a project. It's the best way to learn what people are all about, and it will be a very accurate picture of what future work and play together will be like.

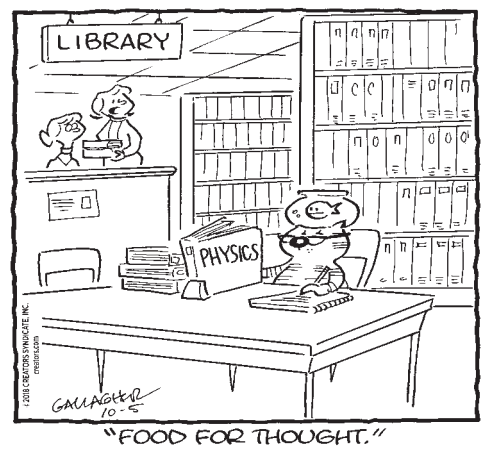
VENUS RETROGRADE

The new, more efficient way of doing things won't seem, at first, to be efficient at all. For a while it will take more time, money and energy than the old way... in other words, the opposite of efficiency. But in the long run, the time, money and energy saved will be far greater. Bear with the transition marked by these first Venus retrograde days.

YOUR OPINION MATTERS! SEND YOUR LETTERS TO
• Santa Monica Daily Press • Attn. Editor: • 1640 5th Street, Suite 218
• Santa Monica, CA 90401 • **letters@smdp.com**



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



City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that bids will be received by the City of Santa Monica located at **1717 4th Street Suite 250**, Santa Monica, California, 90401 until 3:00 p.m. on the date indicated at which time they will be publicly opened, read and posted for:

BID #4299 FURNISH AND DELIVER TWENTY-FIVE (25) NEW AND UNUSED, CURRENT MODEL YEAR OR NEWER, MIGHT-E TRUCK NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC VEHICLE (NEV), OR EQUAL, TO BE USED BY THE CEMETERY, FARMER'S MARKET, FACILITIES MAINTENANCE, PIER MAINTENANCE, PROMENADE MAINTENANCE, AND PARK MAINTENANCE

Submission Deadline is October 23, 2018 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Bids must be submitted on forms supplied by the City of Santa Monica. Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the **City's Online Vendor Portal.** The website for this Notice of Inviting Bids and related documents is: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm. There is no charge for bid package and specifications.

Perfect Rams look to continue early run facing Seahawks

TIM BOOTH
AP Sports Writer

The last time the Los Angeles Rams visited Seattle, they were announcing themselves as the new powerhouse in the NFC West by handing the Seahawks a drubbing unlike any they had experienced in Pete Carroll's tenure.

As much as the Seahawks would like to forget that day last December, a 42-7 loss to a division rival lingers.

Less than a year later, the Rams are more than just the favorites of their division. A quarter through the season, they may be the prohibitive Super Bowl favorites. The Rams (4-0) make their annual trip to Seattle on Sunday looking to take control of the division just five weeks into the season.

"I think there's definitely a lot of confidence that comes with playing well and definitely can get some momentum going, but I think we're just executing," Rams quarterback Jared Goff said. "We've done a pretty good job executing."

And there is little reason not to believe Los Angeles will be leaving town with a three-game lead.

The Rams are scoring an absurd amount of points, having scored at least 33 points in all four games. Goff is coming off a career-high 465 yards passing and five TDs, carving up a Minnesota defense that was regarded as among the best in the NFL and posting a perfect passer rating in the process. Cooper Kupp, Robert Woods and Brandin Cooks each had 100 yards receiving against the Vikings.

Oh, and there's still Todd Gurley, who the last time he saw the Seahawks rushed for 152 yards and scored a career-high four total touchdowns. And this time, they'll be facing a Seahawks defense without safety Earl Thomas after suffering a season-ending lower leg fracture last week against Arizona.

"Not having Earl now, this week changes a lot and just how good he is at understanding offenses and concepts," Goff said. "You wish he was there, you want to get them at full strength with him as part of that and how good he is. Would have been great to compete against him."

The Seahawks (2-2) have recovered from a 0-2 start by knocking off Dallas and Arizona in consecutive weeks. The Seahawks have rediscovered their run game with consecutive 100-yard rushers and their defense has held three straight opponents to under 305 total yards of offense.

But they know the Rams are a different challenge.

"They're going to do something that we haven't seen before, but if we're disciplined and we do what we practiced, we should be fine," Seattle linebacker Bobby Wagner said. "That's why your eyes are so important this week."

Here's what else to watch for:

FIRST THINGS FIRST

Slowing the Rams' powerhouse offense on first down would be huge for the Seahawks, but it's been almost impossible this season. Goff is an astonishing 46 of 56 for 668 yards and six touchdown passes on first downs in the Rams' first four games, averaging 11.9 yards per pass. Add in Gurley's steady running on every down, and Los Angeles is tough to contain.

"We've done a pretty good job so far (of) staying in second-and-manageable, and then third-and-manageable, as well," Goff said.

RUNNING OPTIONS

Seattle is coming off consecutive 100-yard performances by running backs for the first time since the 2014 season. But it was two different backs accomplishing that feat, leaving open the question of how Seattle divides the carries going forward. Starter Chris Carson is expected to return Sunday after missing last week with a hip injury. Mike Davis has earned a role after rushing for a career-high 101 yards and two TDs in the win over Arizona. And, rookie first-round pick Rashaad Penny has started to look more like the back Seattle expected in a limited role.

Running won't be easy against a Rams defense giving up just 86 yards per game on average.

TEDRIC TIME

Second-year safety Tedric Thompson knows he's about to get a lot of attention. Thompson will be stepping in at free safety replacing Thomas after the former All-Pro was lost for the season in last week's win. Thompson gained plenty of experience in the offseason and training camp when Thomas was holding out as part of a contract dispute, but there couldn't be a tougher team to debut against than the top passing offense in the NFL through four weeks.

"He's really mature about stuff, he's really worked hard to understand the scheme and the principles of what we want and he plays really strict and disciplined football," Carroll said.

TEMPORARY KICKER

Kicker Cairo Santos will make his Rams debut in Seattle. Los Angeles signed the former Chiefs kicker Tuesday after cutting Sam Ficken and determining that All-Pro Greg Zuerlein isn't quite ready to return from a groin injury.

Santos, who injured his own groin twice last season, is getting his shot at an NFL return in a high-pressure rivalry game, but he welcomes the challenge.

"Coming out and playing for a great offense, hopefully I'll get a bunch of kicks and show the other 31 teams that I'm back and I belong in this league," Santos said.



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