

CRIME
Santa Cruz:
Local roots
in 'forensic
genealogy'
Community » B1



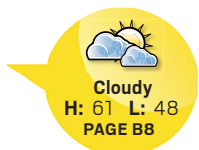
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LEO'S HAVEN

ALL INCLUSIVE PARK IS A HIT



Children play on an inclusive swing set Saturday morning in the newly built LEO's Haven playground at Chanticleer Park. The playground is designed to be accessible for children with disabilities and is the first of its kind in Santa Cruz County.

LEO's Haven opens with fanfare

By Bek Phillips

newsroom@santacruzsentinel.com

SANTA CRUZ » Children clattered down the roller slide, they felt their way along the braille panel, they clambered up and down the corkscrew climber, they rolled by and explored interactive displays, they laughed, hooted and hollered on top of each other in the blender spinner — across the park children of all ages and abilities frolicked together, and in the act of play saw one family's dream fully realized.

As the sounds of merriment filtered through the gathered crowd Saturday, the community came together to celebrate the result of the largest community park fundraising effort in Santa Cruz County history — the creation of LEO's Haven and Chanticleer Park. LEO's Haven is the county's first all-inclusive playground and brain child of Patricia Potts. Among the hundreds of community members, numerous partners

and individuals essential to the essence and creation of the project were present. County Parks, Chanticleer Park Neighbors/Vecinos, Shane's Inspiration, Santa Cruz Playground Project and Friends of Santa Cruz County Parks were all acknowledged as partners.

"It's nice to have that background noise of the kids playing. We always want people to listen to us because our words are so important — yeah, no. That's important," Assemblyman Mark Stone said motioning to the children. "That's what we should be celebrating, are those kids behind us."

The importance of the park, he stated, is in the inclusion of every child and the opportunity to let them play and mingle together.

"Kids are not naturally segregated — they include," he said. "So when we build and we segregate, we teach that segregation. This park undoes that. This park teaches inclusion, this park makes sure every kid can play together regardless of



Tricia Potts, with her son Oliver by her side, gives a speech Saturday morning during the grand opening of LEO's Haven in Chanticleer Park. The playground is designed to be accessible for children of any ability.

ability, because internally they all have the same ability and needs."

The idea for the park stemmed from and was brought to fruition by Patricia Potts, whose children were the inspiration and namesake for the playground. Oliver, who uses a wheelchair for mobility, and his two sisters Lauren and Evelyn now finally have a location to play together and have seen a promise from the mother fulfilled.

"I made a promise to my children, and I couldn't finish that promise without your help," Potts said. "Thank you for helping me fulfill a promise to my children."

This promise came about six years ago when she had taken them to the grand opening of another inclusive park — Tatum's Garden. Following the experience, she set out on a mission only fully realized with

PARK » PAGE 2

IMPEACHMENT

Dems say case against Trump

By Eric Tucker and Zeke Miller

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON » House Democrats were preparing to outline their case for removing President Donald Trump from office in a legal brief due Saturday, as opposing sides in the impeachment case look ahead to the opening of the historic trial in the Senate.

Trump on Friday appointed several nationally known lawyers to the team that will defend him in the proceedings, set to open Tuesday afternoon.

The submission of the legal brief, due by 5 p.m. Saturday, follows the latest revelations in the case against Trump.

Democrats on Friday released more information — documents, text messages, audio and photos — turned over by Lev Parnas, an indicted associate of Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani. The release included multiple photos of Parnas, a Soviet-born Florida businessman, posing with Giuliani or Trump or Donald Trump Jr., the president's son.

It included messages between Parnas and a staff member for Rep. Devin Nunes, R-Calif., a Trump ally who opposes the president's impeachment by the House. Parnas appeared to be connecting the staff member to Ukrainian officials

TRUMP » PAGE 2

PROTESTS

Thousands gather for Women's March rallies across US

By Lynn Berry

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON » Thousands gathered in cities across the country Saturday as part of the nationwide Women's March rallies focused on issues such as climate change, pay equity, reproductive rights and immigration.

Hundreds showed up in New York City and thousands in Washington, D.C. for the rallies, which aim to harness the political power of women, although crowds were noticeably smaller than in previous years. Marches were scheduled Saturday in more than 180 cities.

PROTEST » PAGE 2

MLB COMMENTARY

Whistleblower deserves applause, not criticism

When future generations are documenting history, Fiers will be one of baseball's most significant figures. **PAGE C1**



WILDFIRES

Firefighters save world's only rare dinosaur trees

Firefighters have saved the last remaining wild stand of a prehistoric tree from Australia's wildfires. **PAGE B7**

POLITICS

Gun-rights activists gear up to show force

Police scouring the internet about plans for mayhem and workers putting holding pens around Capitol Square. **PAGE A5**

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INDEX Comics Insert | Opinion A13 | Obituaries B6 | Weather B8 | Sports C1 | Puzzles C4 | Volume 164, Issue 19 | **MediaNews Group**



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MATCHMAKING IN REAL ESTATE SINCE 1999

TODAY IN HISTORY

1861

Georgia became the fifth state to secede from the Union.

1915

Germany carried out its first air raid on Britain during World War I as a pair of Zeppelins dropped bombs onto Great Yarmouth and King's Lynn in England.

1944

The federal government relinquished control of the nation's railroads to their owners following settlement of a wage dispute.

1955

A presidential news conference was filmed for television and newsreels for the first time, with the permission of President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

2006

Osama bin Laden, in an audiotape that was his first in more than a year, said al-Qaida was preparing for attacks in the United States; at the same time, he offered a "long-term truce" without specifying the conditions.

2009

Russia and Ukraine signed a deal restoring natural gas shipments to Ukraine and paving the way for an end to the nearly two-week cutoff of most Russian gas to a freezing Europe.

Birthdays

Movie director Richard Lester is 88. Country singer Dolly Parton is 74. Rock singer-musician John Wozniak is 49. Comedian Frank Caliendo is 46. Olympic gold medal gymnast Shawn Johnson is 28.

Star report

Grammys CEO Deborah Dugan put on leave

The Recording Academy has placed Deborah Dugan, its president and CEO of just six months, on administrative leave following an allegation of misconduct by a senior leader at the organization. The move announced late Thursday comes 10 days before the 2020 Grammy Awards will be held in Los Angeles. Dugan became the first woman appointed to lead the academy. Recording Academy Board Chair Harvey Mason Jr., the music producer who has worked with Jennifer Hudson and more, will serve as interim president and CEO of the academy.

— The Associated Press

LOTTERY

FRIDAY'S WINNING NUMBERS

Daily 3 Afternoon: 2, 0, 4

Daily 3 Evening: 0, 7, 0

Daily 4: 5, 6, 8, 1

Fantasy 5:
4, 6, 9, 15, 38

Daily Derby

1st: 1, Gold Rush

2nd: 2, Lucky Star

3rd: 4, Big Ben

Race Time: 1:40.50

SUPER LOTTO PLUS

Wednesday's drawing:
7, 21, 28, 42, 44

Mega Number: 22

Saturday's estimated jackpot: \$14 million

MEGA MILLIONS

Friday's drawing:
3, 25, 30, 54, 70

Mega Number: 9

Tuesday's estimated jackpot: \$116 million

POWERBALL

Wednesday's drawing:
39, 41, 53, 55, 68

Mega Number: 19

Saturday's estimated jackpot: \$321 million

Park

FROM PAGE 1

the cutting of the ribbon.

"This is kinda a full-circle moment right here. My family decided on a whim to go to the groundbreaking at Tatum's garden, and I ended up having a radical change to my life that day. It has been six years of a wonderful experience."

What she hopes is for others to be inspired and make a decision "to step and and to start" on feelings or ideas they have.

Acknowledging the many donors who made the project possible, Potts said they are not done yet, and have plans for inclusive programming and many more events for the park.

Back on the playground, Charlotte Hodges, 4, pushed her brother David



SANTA CRUZ SENTINEL — WILLIAM DUNCAN

Oliver Potts, 9, reads a thank you list from his mother's phone in front of an audience Saturday morning during the LEO's Haven Grand Opening at Chanticleer Park. The inclusive playground is named after Oliver and his two sisters, Evelyn and Lauren.

Hodges, 3, across the rubbery and resilient surface.

Under the watchful gaze of their mother, the three sis-

ters were able to play together in a way they previ-

Trump

FROM PAGE 1

who pushed unfounded corruption allegations against former Vice President Joe Biden.

The documents also raised more questions about the surveillance and security of former Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch. In them, an unidentified individual with a Belgian country code appears to describe Yovanovitch's movements.

The document release followed Thursday's announcement by the Government Accountability Office that the White House violated federal law by withholding congressionally approved security aid to Ukraine, which shares a border with a hostile Russia.

In response, the White House disagreed and said it does not have to follow decisions by the accountability office because it is an arm of Congress. White House officials also have noted that Trump eventually sent the \$400 million in aid to Ukraine.

But the GAO report and Parnas documents intensified the pressure senators have been under to call more witnesses for the trial, a major source of disagreement between Democrats and Republicans that has yet to be resolved. The White House has instructed officials to disregard subpoenas from Congress seeking for them to appear as witnesses or turn over documents or other information.

Trump on Friday named Ken Starr, the prosecutor whose investigation two decades ago led to the impeachment of President Bill Clinton, along with former Harvard Law professor Alan Dershowitz, to his defense team.

The additions bring experience in the politics of impeachment as well as constitutional law to Trump's made-for-TV legal team. Both Starr and Dershowitz have been fixtures on Fox

News Channel, Trump's preferred television network.

Dershowitz said he will deliver constitutional arguments defending Trump from allegations that he abused his power. Trump is also accused of obstructing Congress as it sought to investigate pressure he applied on Ukraine's president to announce an investigation into Trump's political rivals as the president withheld the security aid and a White House meeting as leverage.

Trump says he did nothing wrong and argues that Democrats have been out to get him since before he took office.

A legal brief from the White House laying out the contours of Trump's defense was due by noon Monday, and White House attorneys and Trump's outside legal team have been debating just how political the document should be.

Some in the administration have echoed warnings from Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., that the pleadings must be sensitive to the Senate's more staid traditions and leave some of the sharper rhetoric exhibited during the House proceedings to Twitter and cable news.

Dershowitz is a constitutional expert whose expansive views of presidential powers echo those of Trump. Starr is a veteran of Washington's partisan battles after leading the investigation into Clinton's affair with a White House intern. The House impeached Clinton, who then was acquitted at his Senate trial. Trump is expecting the same outcome from the Republican-led chamber.

Still, the lead roles for Trump's defense will be played by White House counsel Pat Cipollone and Trump personal lawyer Jay Sekulow, who also represented Trump during special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia investigation.

Dershowitz sought to play down his role in the

case in the hours after he was named to the team, saying he would be present for just about an hour to make the constitutional arguments.

"I'm not a full-fledged member of the defense team," he told "The Dan Abrams Show" on SiriusXM.

White House lawyers succeeded in keeping Trump from adding House Republican lawmakers to the defense team, but they also advised him against tapping Dershowitz, according to two people who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal discussions. They're concerned about the professor's association with Jeffrey Epstein, the financier who killed himself in a New York City jail cell last summer while awaiting trial on sex trafficking charges.

A Fox News host said on the air that Starr would be parting ways with the network as a result of his role on the legal team.

Other members of Trump's legal defense include Pam Bondi, the former Florida attorney general; Jane Raskin, who was part of the president's legal team during Mueller's investigation; Robert Ray, who was part of the Whitewater investigation of the Clintons; and Eric D. Herschmann of the Kasowitz Benson Torres legal firm, which has represented Trump in numerous cases over the last 15 years.

Giuliani, a former New York-based federal prosecutor, told The Associated Press the president had assembled a "top-notch" defense team and he was not disappointed at being excluded from it.

Giuliani, who many in the White House blame for leading Trump down the path to impeachment by fueling Ukraine conspiracies, had previously expressed interest in being on the legal team. But he said Friday his focus would be on being a potential witness.

Trump was impeached by the House in December.



LAUREN VICTORIA BURKE — THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Then Baylor University President Ken Starr testifies at the House Committee on Education and Workforce on college athletes forming unions. in Washington. President Donald Trump's legal team will include former Harvard University law professor Alan Dershowitz and Ken Starr, the former independent counsel who led the Whitewater investigation into President Bill Clinton, according to a person familiar with the matter. The team will also include Pam Bondi, the former Florida attorney general.

Senators were sworn in as jurors Thursday by Chief Justice John Roberts, who will preside over the trial.

Starr, besides his 1990s role as independent counsel, is a former U.S. solicitor general and federal circuit court judge.

More recently, he was removed as president of Baylor University and then resigned as chancellor of the

school in the wake of a review critical of the university's handling of sexual assault allegations against football players. Starr said his resignation was the result of the university's board of regents seeking to place the school under new leadership following the scandal, not because he was accused of hiding or failing to act on information.

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Protest

FROM PAGE 1

The first marches in 2017 drew hundreds of thousands of people to rallies in cities across the country on the day after President Donald Trump was inaugurated. That year's D.C. march drew close to 1 million people.

In Manhattan on Saturday, hundreds of peo-

ple gathered as part of a "Rise and Roar" rally at separate events in Foley Square and Columbus Circle.

"Today, we will be the change that is needed in this world! Today, we rise into our power!" activist Donna Hylton told a cheering crowd in Foley Square.

Snow began falling by the afternoon in Manhattan, apparently putting a damper on plans for the

two groups to converge in large numbers near Times Square.

In downtown Los Angeles, thousands of men, women and children filled several blocks as they made their way from a plaza to a park adjacent to City Hall, where a rally featured speeches by Jennifer Siebel Newsom, the wife of California Gov. Gavin Newsom, Mayor Eric Garcetti, Rep. Maxine Waters and others.



MANUEL BALCE CENETA — THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Participants of the Women's March hold banners near the White House, Saturday in Washington, three years after the first march in 2017, the day after President Donald Trump was sworn into office.