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SPORTS: PAGE 6



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TODAY'S

NEWS-HERALD

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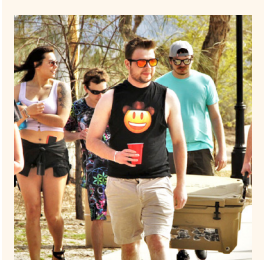
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80 TODAY'S
FORECAST:
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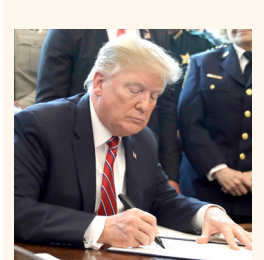
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INSIDE



HAVASU: College students
are slowly trickling into
town as spring break festi-
vities kick off this weekend in
Lake Havasu City.

SEE PAGE 2



NATION: Unbowed by
a congressional rebuke,
President Donald Trump
issued the first veto of his
presidency in a demonstra-
tion that he is not through
fighting for his signature
campaign promise

SEE PAGE 14



SPORTS: Lake Havasu
baseball is turning to its pair
of ace pitchers for its early
season success.

SEE PAGE 6

OBITUARIES

There are no listings in
today's edition.

See recent listings at
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obituaries

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Today's News-Herald

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WEEKDAY

Parks boss: ‘Full steam ahead’ for Havasu Riviera



From left, Lake Havasu City Mayor Cal Sheehy, Arizona State Parks & Trails Director Bob Broscheid and City Manager Jess Knudson, talk about the Lake Riviera State Park project Friday.

Scott Shindledecker/Today's News Herald

NEW STATE PARKS & TRAILS DIRECTOR TOURS SITE FOR HAVASU RIVIERA STATE PARK

By **SCOTT SHINDLEDECKER**
TODAY'S NEWS HERALD

The Havasu Riviera State Park project is full steam ahead as far as Arizona State Parks and Trails Director Bob Broscheid is concerned.

Broscheid made a visit to Lake Havasu City Friday to meet with city leaders about its state parks — those in existence and one in the works.

Certainly, the public-private Havasu Riviera project is the one with the most attention. The Riviera has been discussed for years as officials previously talked about efforts to get the Contact Point project off the ground since

the early 1990s.

“We believe it’s full steam ahead for the Riviera project,” Broscheid said. “We know there have been delays, a lot of starts and stops, but so far I’m impressed with the progress.”

Havasu Riviera is a collaboration between Lake Havasu City, Arizona State Parks and Trails and Komick Development. The project will comprise 550 acres, and is estimated to be completed over the next decade. It will include a six-lane boat launch ramp, a 250-acre master planned community, a 300-room hotel, a 200-slip marina, a waterfront restaurant and day-use areas.

According to Lake Havasu

City Mayor Cal Sheehy, the area’s development will have a \$1 billion economic impact in the Havasu region, and will be the first new Arizona state park in more than two decades.

Darla Cook, the Arizona State Parks & Trails Deputy Director, said the one-half mile section of road off Arizona 95 that leads into the Riviera should be paved by Monday.

Broscheid said a valid Arizona Parks pass would allow entry to the new complex, but that to launch a boat, another fee would be charged because that part of the project is under control of Komick Development.

“I believe there will be an extra charge to launch, but we don’t know yet what the fee will be,” Broscheid said.

See RIVIERA, Page 5

Rennnaissance Faire returns for 4th year

By **BRANDON MESSICK**
TODAY'S NEWS-HERALD

This Friday, Lake Havasu City residents donned their caps and feathers, lace and finery, peasant clothes and royal garb - and in some cases, suits of medieval armor - for a local event like none other.

The London Bridge Renaissance Faire returns for its fourth year this weekend with all the food, libations, jousting tournaments, knights, jesters, royalty and vendors that fans of the event might expect.

Departing from a previous partnership with the London Bridge Lions Club, the Faire is now being produced by Havashire Festivals Inc, a non-profit organization that will use proceeds from the event to fund scholarships for local students.

Robert Koral and Joan Koral, both of Havasu, have been members of the event’s “Royal Court” for the past four years. It’s not the biggest renaissance fair in the Southwest, but they believe that’s part of its charm.

“We love Renaissance Fairs,”



Garry Siler, of Phoenix, plays his guitar for friends Friday afternoon at the London Bridge Renaissance Faire.

Brandon Messick/Today's News-Herald

Robert Koral said. “But this one is smaller, more intimate. There are other, bigger, more expensive fairs in Las Vegas and other places, and they’re more expensive, too. This is just a gathering of people of like minds.”

According to Joan Koral, the renaissance fair is about more than entertainment. She and Robert are members of the

Havashire Festivals Inc. organization, themselves.

“We like to teach children about history, and raise money for scholarships,” Joan said.

Phoenix resident Garry Siler, who advertises himself through social media as a “Celtic minstrel,” joined other fair

See FAIRE, Page 5

Arizona marijuana firm buying another in \$850 million deal

By **HOWARD FISCHER**
CAPITOL MEDIA SERVICES

PHOENIX — An Arizona firm that already grows, processes and sells marijuana in multiple states is buying another company to create what will likely be the nation’s largest operation.

But the chief executive officer of the company that started with a single

retail outlet in Tempe six years ago said the unique nature of the business will keep it from realizing all the potential that such a merger would create in any other industry.

Harvest Health and Recreation Inc., which has a branch at 1691 Industrial Blvd. in Lake Havasu City, will be paying the equivalent of about \$850 million of Harvest stock for Illinois-

based Verano Holdings LLC.

The deal, once it goes through, should give Harvest more than 70 dispensaries across nine states with locations coming in three others. Some, like the eight sites currently open in Arizona -- it has a license for another -- sell only for those who have state-issued medical marijuana cards; others in other states

sell for adult recreational use or are planning to do so in states which permit that.

The new company also will have 13 cultivation sites and 13 manufacturing facilities.

That combination which currently needs regulatory approval also gives Harvest access to various brands of marijuana products like GoldLeaf, Menta, Sweet Sins and Avexia to add

to Harvest’s own Dream Steam vaping products.

CEO Steve White said making the company larger through acquisition makes sense, but not in the way it might for, say, companies that sell soda or any other retail product. And the reason, quite frankly, is that marijuana remains illegal under federal law.

See MARIJUANA, Page 5



Yeah, I come down I-10, I was going 120 almost,

Video footage from the La Paz County Sheriff's Department

Former State Rep. Paul Mosley, R-Lake Havasu City, speaks with a La Paz County Sheriff's Office deputy during a traffic stop in March.

Mosley alleges ‘selective prosecution’

FORMER HAVASU LAWMAKER SEEKS DISMISSAL OF SPEEDING CHARGE IN COURT APPEARANCE

By **JOHN GUTEKUNST**
TODAY'S NEWS-HERALD

—Calling his case an example of “selective prosecution,” attorneys for former state legislator Paul Mosley have filed a motion to dismiss the speeding charge against him.

In a hearing March 15 before Judge Tiffany Dyer in Parker Justice Court, Mosley’s attorneys, David H. Stringer and Michael Taylor, stated this was a case of selective prosecution as no other legislators who had traffic violations had ever been prosecuted for them. Stringer is also a legislator, representing District 1in the Arizona House. Stringer and Taylor argued that Mosley was covered by legislative immunity by the Arizona Constitution, and the state legislature had adequate means of disciplining their members.

The prosecutor, Cochise County Attorney Brian McEntire, replied that many people of all kinds of backgrounds get cited for speeding. He said legislative immunity only applies to when legislators are acting in their official capacities.

Mosley, a resident of Lake Havasu City, is charged with one count of excessive speed, a Class 3 misdemeanor. He faces up to 30 days in jail and a fine of \$500.

In late March 2018, Mosley was pulled over north of Parker on State Route 95 for allegedly traveling at 97 mph in a 55 mph speed zone. On video recorded from the body cam of La Paz County Sheriff’s Sgt. Steven Maya, Mosley boasts of driving at 120 to 140 mph on Interstate 10. He also said he could not be cited because of legislative immunity.

The video was made available to a local website, Parker Live, and soon went viral.

Stinger said the facts in the case are not in dispute. He said this was a case of selective prosecution as they could find no records of other legislators being charged with traffic offenses after first claiming immunity.

Taylor said immunity does not apply to cases involving treason, felonies, or breach of the peace. He said none of these exceptions applied in

See MOSLEY, Page 5

RIVIERA: WORK CONTINUES ON ROAD LEADING TO STATE PARK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Concrete for the launch ramp was poured in February 2018, and initially, there was anticipation the marina would open last summer. However, because construction for a new city road leading to the state park was put to a standstill due to financial challenges, it didn't happen.

City manager Jess Knudson previously said the work will be done in three phases. Once the road into the Havasu Riviera is finished, it will be up to Arizona State Parks and Trails and Komick Development to complete their portions of the project, Knudson said.

According to Knudson, the construction cost Lake Havasu City more than \$2 million, not including utilities and other related

costs. As of October 2018, Raging River Management Corporation, a company affiliated with developer Havasu Riviera LLC, has agreed to reimburse the city for upgrades made to the road as construction continues.

Work, which began in November 2016, has been delayed at times with the latest due to the former Parks and Trails Director Sue Black being replaced after she was accused of failing to notify tribal agencies during work that may have resulted in the destruction of ancient native artifacts throughout the Havasu region. Now State Parks officials are conducting an audit of those renovation contracts – including those at Lake Havasu State Park, Havasu Riviera State Park and Cattail Cove State Park – to see where they stand.

Broscheid said those audits are nearly complete.

While the Riviera is the headliner, three other state parks in the Havasu region are waiting on more work to be completed.

At Lake Havasu State Park, new cabin facilities were expected to be complete in May 2018, but Cook said the wait to finish the cabins is due to the fact that Parks and Trails are waiting on cultural clearances.

New restrooms will hopefully be done before the Memorial Day holiday, Cook said, but it looks more likely that it will be sometime this summer.

At Cattail Cove State Park, an estimated \$6.4 million in renovations at the former Sandpoint Marina & RV Park were just 10 percent complete as of the last update a few months ago.

Cattail Cove's reno-

vations are expected to include new campground roads, RV electrical and water facilities, new restrooms and showers, a marina, docks and boat launch, a restaurant, concession building and cabins facilities.

"We are going to start the road to the second entrance in the next few weeks," Cook said.

Renovations had also been planned, but not yet begun at Buckskin Mountain State Park. A master plan for the park's development, including possible new facilities and recreational resources, was 15 percent complete as of the agency's last update, July 24, 2017.

Scott Shindledecker can be reached at 928-453-4237 or sshindledecker@havasunews.com.

MOSLEY: EX-STATE REP ARGUES MEDIA ATTENTION CREATED ISSUE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mosley's case. He went on to say the legislature has its own ways of disciplining its members, and noted an ethics complaint was filed against Mosley.

Taylor said the only reason this case became an issue was the release of the body cam footage. He said this created a firestorm in the media, and led to Gov. Doug Ducey issuing an Executive Order limiting immunity in some traffic cases.

"The charges against Mosley are unique in Arizona history," Taylor said.

In response, McEntire said defense counsel appeared to be arguing that no member of the legislature should be held accountable while the legislature is in session. He added they wanted to greatly expand legislative immunity.

McEntire noted Mosley was stopped more than 200 miles from the state

capitol and the legislative session was over. He was not engaging in his official duties when he was pulled over.

To allow the legislature to be the only body that could discipline its members would place the legislative branch above the executive and judicial branches, McEntire said. He added the three branches are supposed to be equal.

The purpose of legislative immunity is to allow the legislature to do its job, McEntire said. He said it should not be a "gigantic shield" to let legislators get away with everything. He added Thomas Jefferson said legislators should be bound to the same laws they made for everyone else.

Attorneys for both sides said they did not want or expect a ruling March 15. They asked the court to take the motion and the response under advisement. Stringer said he also had a supplemental filing

he needed to make to go with his motion.

Dyer gave Stringer until April 15 to make his supplemental filing. She set a status hearing for 9:30 a.m. on May 10. She said she would rule on the motion at that time.

Mosley, a Republican, represented Mohave and La Paz Counties. He lost his bid for reelection in the 2018 Republican Primary.

STRINGER INVESTIGATION DISMISSED

Meanwhile, Mosley's lawyer got a reprieve of his own this week. David Stringer's Friday court appearance in Parker came a day after the Arizona State Bar dismissed a complaint against him. In January, the Bar opened an ethics investigation into Stringer's application to practice law in which he was required to disclose any convictions to an Arizona Supreme Court committee. Bar counsel Matthew McGregor sent a letter Thursday to Stringer

and his attorney, saying it doesn't appear to be any clear and convincing evidence to support the allegation that Stringer failed to make the required disclosures in seeking admission to the State Bar. The Phoenix New Times reported Stringer was charged with sex crimes in a 1983 case in Baltimore that was later expunged. Stringer was admitted to the bar in 2004.

NEW JOB FOR MOSLEY?

A report published in the Yellow Sheet Report, an Arizona-based political newsletter, said former legislator Paul Mosley has a new job: driving for Uber. The report cites a source who called for a ride and the driver turned out to be Mosley. The report mentioned Mosley's driving record, which includes more alleged offenses than the speeding charge in La Paz County. The report said Mosley did not return a phone call seeking comment.

FAIRE: EVENT FEATURES JOUSTING, FOOD AND CHILDREN'S AREA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

participants Friday afternoon.

"I've been coming here every year for the past four years," Siler said. "I love the people, and I have a great time coming out and playing for them."

This year the event will feature 15 artisan vendors offering merchandise including art and woodwork, hair-braiding, kilts, crafts and other goods – And because a renaissance fair can't exist without a few anachronisms, food at the event will include burgers, barbecue, hot dogs, snow cones and coffee available to guests.

Pirates' Cove, a children's activity area, will also be available at the event, and musical acts will perform live today from 10:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m., and Sunday from 11:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.

The event will take place at SARA Park Rodeo Grounds today from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. (with only guests 18 years or older allowed after 6 p.m.) and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Admission for the entire weekend will cost \$15 per person older than 13, and \$5 per child.



Brandon Messick/Today's News-Herald

Thirteen-time championship jouster Charlie Andrews, of Texas, participates in this year's London Bridge Renaissance Faire this weekend at SARA Park Rodeo Grounds. Andrews, who represents the "Knights of Mayhem" jousting organization, faced Mexican jousting champion Marcelo Benhuneas, of the "Knights of Valor" jousting organization, Friday afternoon in a tied competition.



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MARIJUANA: FINDING INVESTORS DIFFICULT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

That starts with the fact that each state's operation must remain separate and discrete, given that nothing can cross state lines.

He compared it to a company that produces suits.

"Our business is a lot like if you had to raise the sheep, take the wool from the sheep, process it, make that suit, you had to do it all in the same state," White said. And add to that the inability to take that suit across state lines.

"When you go from Arizona to California you've got to go buy some more sheep and start over," he said.

That's what's occurred here, White said, with Harvest retailers in each state having to depend solely on marijuana grown and processed solely within that state.

Compare that, he said, to any other agricultural product.

"It would normally be true you would have a couple of gynormous facilities and a couple of really big manufacturing houses and ship things everywhere," White said. "Instead, we have to set up the complete infrastructure, A to Z, in every state we operate."

That, he said, means a need to access cash to expand.

But finding investors, said White, is difficult, particularly as Harvest cannot legally be listed on the New York Stock Exchange. Instead, the stock sells on the Canadian Stock Exchange, though people can acquire shares in the U.S. through over-the-counter sales.

He said that means positioning Harvest to be able to get needed cash elsewhere for future expansion.

"There are a lot of conversations that you're hearing about large companies making investments into U.S. cannabis companies, or thinking about it or examining it," he said.

"When they do that

they're going to tend to gravitate toward the larger operators," White continued. "So we want to put ourselves in the position to be the first one that gets the call when a large alcohol company wants to invest in U.S. cannabis or a consumer package company wants to invest in U.S. cannabis."

But the goal, he said, is not to sell the company and retire but to fuel further expansion. And that goes to the fact that because of federal law, companies like his do not have access to traditional banks.

"We don't have the financing to grow like any other business," White said.

"I can't walk into Chase and go get a small business loan so that I can build some more stores," he explained. "So we need to actually attract outside investment in order for us to grow."

And White said a company like Anheuser-Busch would also bring with it distribution channels and personnel "to help a company like Harvest really excel across the U.S."

Of course, for the moment, White said the discussion is purely academic as companies that trade on U.S. stock exchanges can't legally get involved in marketing marijuana.

"You either have to come up with some really unique structure that nobody's thought of, or you prepare yourself for that eventuality," he said.

That, White said, will occur if and when Congress approves the STATES Act, short for Strengthening the Tenth Amendment Through Entrusting States. It would recognize legal marijuana in states where either voters have approved it, as has occurred in Arizona at least for medical use, or through legislative acts.

In the meantime, the fact that federal law still considers growing, selling and possessing marijuana to be a felony, creates its own problems.

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