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# Council hopes to boost affordable housing production

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Santa Monica will try to increase the number of low-income housing units in the city by restricting the affordability levels offered to developers.

Current rules offer developers a sliding scale for affordable units. The number of below market-rate units is determined by the affordability level of those units and new projects have

SEE **HOUSING** PAGE 7

# New body cameras approved for SMPD

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

The Santa Monica Police Department is getting new body-worn cameras because the cameras officers are currently wearing have proved unreliable and faulty.

An unspecified amount of

SEE **CAMERAS** PAGE 7



## SCOUTS

Courtesy photo

**A local girl scout troop partnered with St. Monica's on several holiday related projects including a blanket drive and creating holiday cards for the homeless. See page 3 for more information.**

# Judge expands ruling to require seven council districts




File image

**MAP: The new map shows proposed borders for seven City Council districts.**

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Future City Council elections in the City of Santa Monica will be determined by a seven-district map after the judge in the voting rights lawsuit altered her earlier ruling.

In December, Judge Yvette Palazuelos issued an amended tentative ruling, siding with Plaintiffs Maria Loya and the Pico Neighborhood Association (PNA) that the City's at-large voting system violates the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA). At that time she ordered the city to discontinue at-large elections and adopt a district based system but she only mandated the borders for a Pico neighborhood district.

In a hearing on Jan. 02, Palazuelos changed her initial ruling altering the borders of the initial Pico district slightly and adding borders for six other districts. The now seven-district map is identical to one presented by the Plaintiffs during the trial.

"We are deeply concerned by the change in the court's tentative ruling this morning," said City Attorney Lane Dilg in a statement. "Latino-preferred candidates have been elected the vast majority of the time under the City's at-large election system, and no court has ever ordered a City with similar demographics to move to a district-based system. Moreover, evidence at trial

SEE **DISTRICTS** PAGE 5


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# What's Up Westside
## OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

## Thursday, Jan. 3

### Library Board Meeting
Library Board Meeting in Administration Conference Room, 2nd Floor near computer commons. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 7 – 9 p.m.

### Movie: Crazy Rich Asians
In this box office smash, based on Kevin Kwan's best-selling novel, a young Chinese-American woman (Constance Wu) experiences cultural whiplash when she heads to Singapore with her boyfriend (Henry Golding) to meet his extremely wealthy family for the first time. (120 min.) Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

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

## Friday, Jan. 4

### Gallery open
Gallery hours 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Annenberg Community Beach House

## Saturday, Jan. 5

### Meet Me At Reed
Come by to play, meet neighbors, and connect. Supervised games and activities led by Santa Monica Community Recreation, kid-friendly entertainment by special guests and community partners, and a selection of food trucks will rotate weekly. Rain may affect programming. Call (310) 458 – 8300 to find out about rain delays or cancellations. 2 – 4 p.m. Reed Park, 1133 7th St.

### Training for Tech Teen Volunteer and Leadership Program
Become eligible to volunteer at library tech events by attending this mandatory two-part training. High school students only. Must commit to both sessions. January 5, 1 – 5 p.m. – Introduction to library technologies including 3D printing and coding toys. January 6, 1 – 5 p.m. – Strategies for working with the public and facilitating creative projects. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

### Saturday Story Time
Kick start the weekend with some fun stories and songs! Ages 2-5 and families. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 11 – 11:30 a.m.

### Ocean Park Book Group
A Monthly Meeting of the Ocean Park Book Group. Meets the 1st Saturday of the Month. Open to All. No Registration Required. 'Manhattan Beach' by Jennifer Egan. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St, 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

## Sunday, Jan. 6

### Poetry & the Imagination 2.0
In this workshop, you will read a wide variety of poems by outstanding modern and contemporary poets, generate new work in response to prompts, and workshop edited poems. A continuation of the work created in the previous series with a fresh supply of fun and inspiring prompts. The workshop will culminate with a public reading on Saturday March 16. Sundays, 1/6, - 3/17. 2 – 4 p.m. Cost: $90. 1450 Ocean. https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/69930

## Monday, Jan. 7

### Virginia Avenue Park Advisory Meeting
Virginia Avenue Park Advisory Board meeting occurs the first Monday of every month. Virginia Avenue Park, 2200 Virginia Ave, 7 p.m.

### Architectural Review Board Meeting
The Santa Monica Architectural Review Board normally meets on the first and third Monday of every month in the City Council Chamber. City Hall, 1685 Main St. 7 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. The Commission recommends ways to maximize participation of people with disabilities in all facets of City life and increase awareness of the abilities, rights and issues of people with disabilities throughout the community. Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th St. 6:30 p.m.

### Just for Seniors: 'Appy Hour' Workshop
Bring your smartphone or tablet and receive small group help to get you started with using your device. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. 4 – 5 p.m.

### Mosaic Art
Make a unique mosaic masterpiece using found materials. Presented by the reDiscover Center. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

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

# Frigid temperatures chill southern Arizona, much of West

Associated Press

Snow was falling on cacti in southern Arizona, while Anchorage saw balmy weather — at least by Alaska standards.

The weather was flipped Wednesday throughout much of the West.

The Southwest is seeing unusually cold weather, including suburban Tucson, which saw as much as six inches of snow.

In Phoenix, the overnight low was 30 degrees for the first time in five years and more cold temperatures were expected Thursday.

Albuquerque saw heavy snowfall and icy roads that caused many government agencies and schools to close.

And the National Weather Service issued a freeze warning in the Nevada county where Las Vegas is located. Snow fell and stuck Tuesday on a desert highway over a mountain just 20 minutes outside of Sin City.

The cold weather and snow is "quite uncommon" for the area, National Weather Service meteorologist Glenn Lader said. In Arizona, he said, Nogales, a city on the Mexico border, had about six inches of snow.

Even Southern California got a bit of the action with rain expected as part of already cold, windy weather.

Meanwhile, some parts of Alaska rang in the new year with relatively balmy weather for the region that helped melt snow in Anchorage.

A change in the jet stream brought warmer air from the south, taking temperature to 44 degrees on New Year's Day.

It was a nice respite from a winter mix that left 32.6 inches of snow on the ground in Anchorage in December, with most of it falling during the last half of the month.

Colder weather is in the forecast, with high temperatures dropping to the teens or even single digits.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

**Citywide**

### Resolve to give blood with the Red Cross

The American Red Cross encourages people to help meet the urgent need for blood and platelets by resolving to give blood this January – National Blood Donor Month.

Donating blood or platelets is a way to make a lifesaving impact in the new year for patients like Judy Janssen, who was diagnosed with end-stage autoimmune liver disease in 2016. Janssen received frequent blood transfusions – sometimes multiple times a week – until she underwent a liver transplant last January.

"Blood donors make a really big difference with very little effort," said Janssen, who received dozens of transfusions before and during her transplant surgery. "I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for blood donations."

The critical role of blood and platelet donors has been celebrated each January for nearly 50 years during National Blood Donor Month, which coincides with one of the most difficult times to maintain a sufficient blood supply for patients. Busy holiday schedules, extreme winter weather and seasonal illnesses often impact donor turnout this time of year.

The Red Cross encourages eligible donors to resolve to give blood or platelets regularly, beginning in January. To encourage donations immediately, all those who come to donate by Jan. 6 will get a long-sleeved Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last.

Make an appointment to donate blood or platelets by downloading the free American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Another way to help keep the blood supply strong in the new year is to host a Red Cross blood drive. To learn more about hosting a blood drive and to sign up, visit RedCrossBlood.org/HostADrive.

**HOW TO DONATE BLOOD**

Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to make an appointment or for more information. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Another way to support the lifesaving mission of the American Red Cross is to become a volunteer transportation specialist and deliver lifesaving blood products to local area hospitals. Volunteer transportation specialists play a very important role in ensuring an ample blood supply for patients in need by transporting blood and blood products. For more information and to apply for a volunteer transportation specialist position, visit rdcrss.org/driver.

For more information, please visit RedCross.org or CruzRojaAmericana.org, or visit us on Twitter at @RedCross.

**UPCOMING BLOOD DONATION OPPORTUNITIES JAN. 2-31**

**Santa Monica**

1/3/2019: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., Viceroy, 1819 Ocean Ave
1/4/2019: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Community Center, 2500 Broadway
1/7/2019: 1 p.m. - 7 p.m., American Red Cross Santa Monica Chapter, 1450 11th St
1/14/2019: 1 p.m. - 7 p.m., American Red Cross Santa Monica Chapter, 1450 11th St
1/20/2019: 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., St. Monica Catholic Church, 701 California Ave
1/21/2019: 1 p.m. - 7 p.m., American Red Cross Santa Monica Chapter, 1450 11th St
1/28/2019: 1 p.m. - 7 p.m., American Red Cross Santa Monica Chapter, 1450 11th St
1/31/2019: 1 p.m. - 7 p.m., American Red Cross Santa Monica Chapter, 1450 11th St

SUBMITTED BY CHRISTINE WELCH,

**Citywide**

### Girl Scout Troop teams up with St. Monica Youth for Service

"The cold weather is here and we know that people in shelters need more blankets to stay warm" notes Sarah T. of Girl Scout Troop #28935. The girls in the troop taught and led youth from St. Monica Catholic Community's Youth Faith Formation program to hold a blanket-making bonanza on Sunday, Dec 1st.

"It's really simple to line up the fleece, and then cut tabs along the edges and tie them. The blanket is warm and lightweight, and that's important for shelter families that had to move a lot," said a youth in the program.

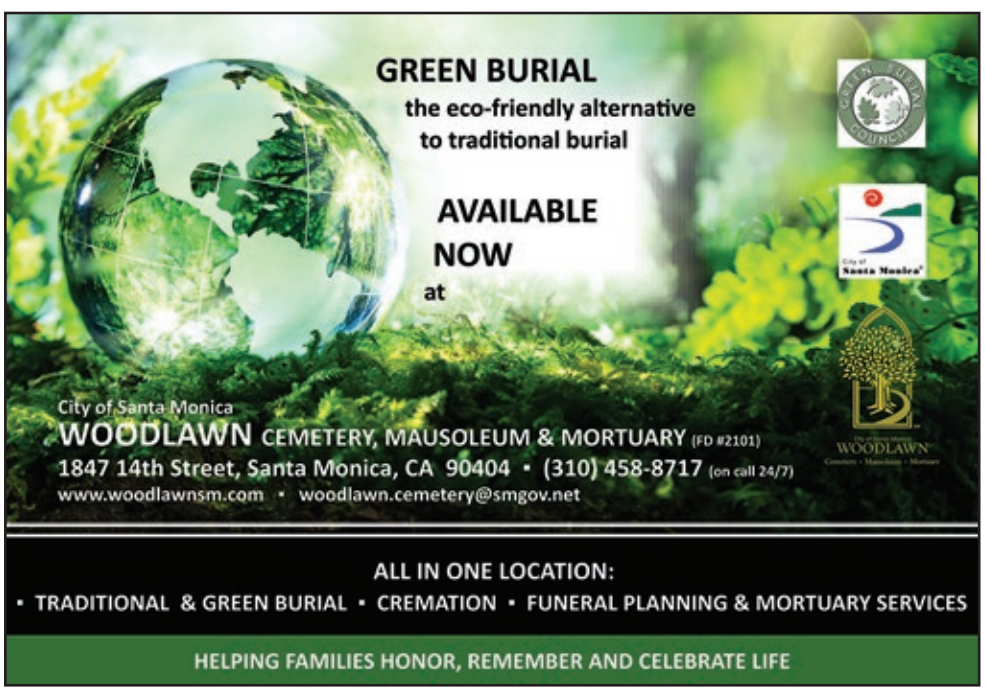
The Girl Scouts and youth were interested in sending hopeful and encouraging messages for the holiday season. They combined the blanket project with an added activity to make cards for youth in prison or detention. "A simple note of affirmation, letting someone know they are being thought about, that can go a long way," one of the Girl Scouts added.

The blankets, colorful and sturdy, will be taken by the girls to local shelters, non-profits that serve homeless families. Each blanket arrives with a hand-decorated card. The many cards with positive messages will go to Los Angeles juvenile detention center

For more information about this and similar events, email BonPon1912@gmail.com. To join or volunteer for Girl Scouts, visit girlscoutsla.org.

Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, serves more than 40,000 girls in partnership with more than 24,000 volunteers from the diverse communities of Los Angeles County and parts of Kern, San Bernardino, and Ventura counties. Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles is the largest girl-serving nonprofit agency in Los Angeles. Through programs in entrepreneurship, life skills, outdoors, and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math), Girl Scouts prepares girls to practice a lifetime of leadership. To join, volunteer, reconnect, or support, visit www.girlscoutsLA.org or call 213-213-0123.

SUBMITTED BY FRANCESCA TAYLOR, TROOP LEADER #28935




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## Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# Go Classical, Dammit

**COMING ATTRACTIONS!**

I like spontaneity. Many's the time I've left the house at 10 to hit some show I just decided I should or had to catch. Get home at 1 or 2 a.m., a bit difficult for you 9-5 working folks, I know, but c'mon -- don't get old at 30, you can sleep when you're dead.

But normal folks plan in advance. They buy their tickets, mark their calendar, it's an event, they decide when to leave and even what to wear, dinner maybe, and anticipate. Anticipation is juicy, an important part of any event you expect to be memorable.

And, of course, sometimes that ship sinks, that show stinks. But then, that anticipation is all the more worthwhile -- you enjoyed what it could have been for days or weeks, and only one night of disappointment.

**THESE NOTEWORTHY COLUMNS**

Have been my attempt to alert you to shows in the coming week that I think might appeal to you, and to give you clues as to why they might. Sketchy, I admit, because I don't keep up with it all the way music journalists who are full-time paid to do so do. But I've seen a lot of live shows, I still go out pretty often, and I have a mid-20s daughter who is very tuned in and makes often exasperating attempts to keep dad a bit informed.

So... that means I probably know more than you do, and that makes me a good source for you who have not calcified by your 30th birthday and still make the effort to go out to hear live music sometimes because you understand that it is one of life's greatest joys and privileges, to stand or sit in front of musicians creating in the moment and delivering to your ears and eyes, something unique, and perhaps for the ages. Sometimes, often enough, it is exquisite, something you may remember for a lifetime.

**HERE'S AN EXERCISE**

You might find fun and rewarding. Think back and write down the Top 10 concerts you ever enjoyed in your life. Or Top 5. Could be last week, could be 50 years ago. Remember. Savor. I promise you — you will go there, like it was yesterday.

I would love it if you would send me those remembrances. Maybe I will share it in an upcoming NOTEWORTHY column. But if you do that, you will understand how important such experiences are. Photographers, writers, painters, filmmakers, sculptors, other artists create in a vacuum, a solitary space, for later judgment. But musicians in live concert throw it out there, moment by moment, for the audience and the world to judge. Mediocre? Banal? Genius? They create, you receive, you judge, all in an instant. But when transcendence hits you, you know it. And you remember, for a lifetime.

So for those of you who are less spontaneous than I and pick and choose your upcoming concerts so you don't get left with bad seats or no tickets at all, I am now going to include COMING ATTRACTIONS, at the end of the week's picks. Get your tickets, mark your calendars, don't miss out. Anticipate.

**THIS WEEK? L.A PHIL, BABY**

Hey it's usually like this around the holidays, takes a while for musicians to get over those world class hangovers and lethargy and get out there again, so not much shakin' this week -- except you can always count on the discipline and reliability of classical players. Dudamel does not diddle. And lucky you, in Santa Monica, just drop into Harvelle's any night and odds are really good you will walk out with a smile.

**HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:**

TONIGHT! & Fri, plus Sat-Sun, Tues, and next Thurs-Fri, Sun: LA PHILHARMONIC - ZUBIN MEHTA conducts Brahms Symphony No. 3 featuring PINCHAS ZUCKERMAN (Zube? Zuck? Bowie? Glass? the Phil is rockin' through mid-January, starting with two by Brahms, who's on my Top Ten classical composers list, the 3rd tonight and tomorrow with legendary violinist Zuckerman, you'll all recognize the third movement but listen for the darkness, then the immense 4th on the weekend, followed by another cool dude in my Top Ten, Dvořák, two chamber pieces, then next Thurs, three nights with Renaissance man John Adams conducting the world premier of his buddy Philip Glass's Symphony No. 12, Lodger, from the music of David Bowie and Brian Eno, featuring Angelique Kidjo, vocalist plus two sopranos and a mezzo, preceded by Adams' over-the-top Grand Pianola Music, whew!), Thurs-Fri, 8 p.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, downtown LA, $66-$209

**RECOMMENDED:**

MARY WILSON ("of the Supremes!" is how they bill her, so you'll know it's not just any Mary Wilson, worth a listen no doubt, and you'll surely get to hear her Diana Ross dis "Time to Move On," oh girl you did NOT just say that about Diva Diana!), Fri-Sat 8:30 p.m., Catalina Bar and Grill, Hollywood, $35-$45.

NOEL PAUL STOOKEY, PETER YARROW (Noel? this is not really a recommended but you know this is what's left of Peter, Paul and Mary, right, we lost Mary a decade ago and these two guys are 80 so if you love you some PP&M this is as close as you're going to get so hike on out to Cerritos 'cause the only other thing much going on this week is classical, not that that's bad), Sun 7 p.m., Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts, $45-$85.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: another LIBRARY GIRL, hooray! at the Ruskin at the airport, Sun Jan. 13; two extremely talented DAVIDs, BROMBERG and HIDALGO, together at the Regent Theater, Thurs Jan. 17; the great jazz bass master STANLEY CLARKE will be at the Broad Sat Jan. 19; THE FLESH EATERS (their best line-up: 3xBlasters, 2xX, Chris D) new album release plus Seattle grunge legends MUDHONEY, Echoplex, Sat Jan. 19; the incomparable DEREK SMALLS (Spinal Tap) will bring his exquisite music to a venue that fits it, the gorgeous Palace Theater downtown LA, Wed Jan. 23; I love love love this event, WHISKY X LA, last year was great this year will be even better because the band is ST. PAUL AND THE BROKEN BONES, food and 60 whiskies to taste and again at Barker Hangar, I can walk home and probably should, Fri Jan. 25; and yeah yeah yeah the

SEE **MUSIC** PAGE 5

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# Tourism Talks

Misti Kerns
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# Santa MoniCARES Kicks Off 2019

The start of a new year is a popular time to reflect on goals for the next twelve months. While many of our New Year's resolutions may focus on developing new habits or enacting a healthier lifestyle, it's important to remember the importance of giving back. There are many ways, both big and small, that we can all contribute to improving the world around us.

As we welcome in 2019, there's a new opportunity to give back with Santa MoniCARES, a coalition of Santa Monica Travel & Tourism (SMTT) representatives and community partners seeking to harness the hospitable nature and generosity of Santa Monica's tourism industry to provide support to the city's local nonprofit agencies.

Residents and visitors to our beachside city are invited to give back to the community two exciting events. First, we're holding a clothing drive now through January 18th collecting coats, blankets and new socks for families living on our streets. Donated items will be distributed during Santa Monica's homeless count on January 23, 2019.

Donations can be dropped off at SMTT's Main Street Visitor Information Center, located at 2427 Main Street. Curbside pick-up is available when you text ahead. Simply send a text message to (424) 443-8830 15-minutes ahead of your arrival and a friendly SMTT representative will meet you at 2427 Main Street curbside to collect your donations.

Our second event is already gathering a lot of local buzz! Santa MoniCARES is hosting an 80's Prom Fundraiser on Saturday, April 13th at the Santa Monica Bay Women's Club at 7pm. Pull out your old cumber buns and aqua net, this event will be one to remember with a DJ spinning the hits from the 80's, prom photos, a king and queen of the prom and so much more to come. Tickets will go on sale in early February. If you're interested in learning more about either event, please contact cares@santamonica.com

**ABOUT SANTAMONICARES**

Santa MoniCARES is a coalition of representatives from Santa Monica Travel & Tourism and community partners. The mission of Santa MoniCARES is to harness the hospitable nature and generosity of Santa Monica's tourism industry to provide support to our local nonprofit agencies. Santa MoniCARES will engage employees of hotels, restaurants, attractions, retailers and more to provide volunteer hours, funding and InKind support to the incredible organizations that are tackling homeless issues, environmental protection, hunger, workforce development, cultural programming, at-risk youth and elderly assistance, etc.

To learn more about SMTT and how you can be a tourist in your own back yard, visit www.santamonica.com

## MUSIC

FROM PAGE 4

Rolling Stones will be at the Rose Bowl May 11, I'm going to wait until Mick turns 80 before I go again.

**BAND NAMES OF THE WEEK:**

Dancing Tongues, Neverland Ranch Davidians, Tartar Control, Slut Island, Dangerously Sleazy, Very Be Careful, Genetic Nobodies, Jly, Lasers Lasers Birmingham, Still Not Dead, Whole Damn Mess, Girl Failure, Ickybaby, Retox, VerBS, Super Lunch, Tokyo Lucky Hole, Illuminati Hotties, Atomic Sherpas, Blame Candy, Modular Sound Bath, Boinkasaurus, Jack Sh*t, Zander Schloss, Body Fluid, Warthog, Exploding Pintos.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 2,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 32 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

## DISTRICTS

FROM PAGE 1

showed that the plaintiffs' proposed seven-district map was drawn behind closed doors by a hired expert for the plaintiffs with input from only a small number of residents and would likely diminish rather than enhance Latino/a voting power in Santa Monica."

Dilg said the California Elections Code mandates a public participation process for establishing districts and adopting the districts proposed by the Plaintiffs would deprive residents of that input.

Palazuelos also said a special election should be held with the new districts but she did not provide a timeline.

Attorneys for the City have sent a lengthy list of questions to the judge regarding her ruling and Palazuelos has ordered attorneys for the Plaintiffs to draft a statement of decision justifying her decision. That document is now due on Jan. 3. Once issued, the City has 15 days to file objections and the judge can issue her final ruling anytime thereafter.

City officials have maintained they plan to appeal if the final ruling sides with the Plaintiffs, however, they say no decision on an appeal can be made until a final ruling has been issued.

The Plaintiffs have long objected to the idea of an appeal, saying the cost is an unfair burden to taxpayers.

"The gross mismanagement of public dollars on this case should be a major concern for our residents and considering that no City has ever been successful in defending itself from a CVRA claim makes this case the biggest deliberate waste of tax dollars in our City's history," said PNA Spokesperson and plaintiff Oscar de la Torre.

He said the City should have received better legal advice when deciding whether to fight the case.

"This will require that our City Attorney be elected by the residents instead of being controlled by an establishment more concerned with maintaining their privilege and position at any cost," he said.

editor@smdp.com

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# Culture Watch

By Sarah A. Spitz

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# Cultural riches abound

**OUTSIDERS, 3-D AND MORE AT LACMA**

After losing most of the fall season of plays and art openings due to a lengthy hospitalization, I was privileged to visit Los Angeles County Museum of Art, which has a multitude of unique exhibitions on view right now. Though I couldn't see all of them in one day (now THAT says a lot about our cultural wealth!), the modern and the ancient commingle in the Resnick Pavilion; Rauschenberg reigns on the third floor (a quarter of a mile's worth of art panels) of the Broad Contemporary Art Museum (BCAM on the LACMA campus); while Outliers and American Vanguard Art takes over the second floor. And there's 3-D: Double Vision exhibition.

**MARK BRADFORD**

I couldn't make it through the Resnick Pavilion show, The Jeweled Isle: Art from Sri Lanka, though I did pop my head in to see a monumental wall-sized painting by LA-based artist, Mark Bradford, called 150 Portrait Tone.

This potent piece looks, upon first viewing, to be a bunch of random, sometimes hard to read letters, but read the wall label. This is a representation of the live-streamed Facebook video killing of African-American Philando Castile, an elementary school nutrition supervisor, in July 2016 by a St. Paul, Minnesota policeman, with Castile's girlfriend Diamond Reynolds, sat in the passenger seat (she did the live-streaming) begging police not to do what they did, and with his child in the backseat,.

The text repeats excerpts of Reynolds's dialogue from the video. Bradford notes that he was moved by the multiple subjects Reynolds simultaneously addressed and the different spaces they occupied: her boyfriend, Castile, next to her ("stay with me"); the officer outside the car ("please, officer, don't tell me that you just did this"); God ("Lord, please, Jesus, don't tell me that he's gone"); as well as the unknown receiver on the other side of her livestream ("please don't tell me he just went like that").

Remember "flesh" colored crayons? Well the color was renamed "peach" in 1962. The color code of the pink acrylic used in the painting is called 150 Portrait Tone and carries assumptions about who is being depicted, about power and representation.

The dark form in the background evokes Castile's twisted arm and the dark-red bloodstain spread across his white shirt, both visible in the livestream feed.

It is worth sitting on the bench across from the painting to contemplate the many provocative and sad implications of this horrific event.

**IT'S A 3-D WORLD**

If, like me, when you were a kid you had the Viewmaster 3-D slide viewer, you'll be fascinated by how 3-dimensional photos, films and paintings came into being. There's a great historical overview, and some early holograms, a whole bunch of those lovely Viewmaster/Stereoscope viewing stations and devices, and you get to walk around with three different kinds of 3-D glasses!

I sat in the film viewing room for some incredible examples of older and new 3-D technology in movies from the industry's earliest times to today. It's a trippy and fun exhibition and you might even learn a thing or two. This is worth the 20 or so minutes of film clips, especially when hands, butterflies or baseballs appear to pop right out of the screen at you. People actually ducked the baseball!

**OUTLIERS AND AMERICAN VANGUARD ART**

This is a really insightful show, organized by the National Gallery of Art, that looks at folk art, works by untrained artists as well as now-recognized artists, who when they first created it, stood outside the standard of acceptable, capital A "Art."

And as we approach the present, there are contemporary examples by such renowned locals as Betye Saar, whose sculptural collages pull together many cultural threads as in her "Sambo's Banjo." And there's the remarkable Cara Walker, whose silhouetted works offer new depth and perspective on African-American history.

During the Great Depression, "outsiders" were brought "inside" as modernism, surrealism and primitivism began breaking down barriers between categories of classic and folk art. Horace Pippin, Janet Sobol, Marsden Hartley and Jacob Lawrence, a towering figure in African American art, came to be considered in some ways more avant-garde than outlier.

Some of the better known "folk" artists are featured including Howard Finster, a preacher who turned to really dense paintings with text to share his religious fervor. And, a little bit on the creepy side, Henry Darger specialized in large scale paintings of lots of little girls, many of whom remind me of the classic "Morton Salt" image of a little girl holding an umbrella. And do not miss Rosie Lee Tompkins amazing quilts.

I was really taken by this exhibition. I hope you'll find some time to see it before it closes March 17. You can take days to see everything at LACMA, we're very lucky to have such an eclectic range of art and artifacts all in one place.

Visit www.lacma.org for more info.

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Sarah A. Spitz is an award-winning public radio producer, now retired from KCRW, where she also produced arts stories for NPR. She writes features and reviews for various print and online publications.



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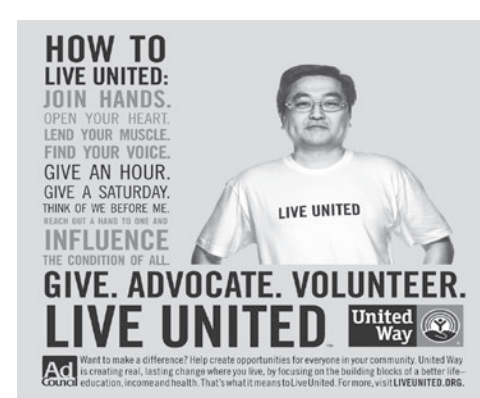
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## HOUSING

FROM PAGE 1

capitalized on the system in a way that has undermined citywide affordability goals.

Santa Monica voters passed Measure R in 1990 to ensure that 30 percent of all new multi-family housing include some units affordable to renters who make less than the city's median income. However, the Affordable Housing Production Program (AHPP) the City of Santa Monica enacted to carry out Measure R gave developers the option to build fewer units for extremely low-income tenants instead of constructing more units for other low-income tenants.

Under those rules, the City is projected to fall short of the Measure R requirement during the 2013-2021 Housing Element cycle by 5 percent and 25 percent of all units built within city limits will be affordable.

At their Dec. 18 meeting, Council approved a motion by Kevin McKeown and Sue Himmelrich to direct staff to remove the extremely low-income option. Meanwhile, the City will conduct a feasibility study to extend the Downtown Community Plan (DCP) formula, which requires a mix of units at appropriate sizes and affordability levels, to the rest of the city.

Extending the DCP rules could prevent developers from constructing buildings with mostly market-rate units and only a few affordable units.

McKeown described one example where a 105-unit project at 216-234 Pico Boulevard, the current location of Bowlmor Lanes, would only include eight affordable units marked for very low-income tenants. He said this put the burden on the City to produce 34 affordable units elsewhere to meet Measure R's mandate.

"To avoid digging a deeper hole in affordable housing production, we're simply suspending this incentive and hoping this will increase the pressure on us to complete the feasibility study and create something much more finely tuned like we did downtown," McKeown said.

At the meeting, some questioned whether mandating that developers reserve more units for lower-income tenants could discourage them from building more housing of any kind.

Mayor Gleam Davis said no developers have applied to build housing downtown since the City adopted the DCP and questioned whether suspending the option would depress the production of new housing overall.

Paula Larmore, who has served on the Chamber of Commerce's Land Use and Circulation Element Subcommittee, said forcing developers to set aside a higher proportion of affordable units could render projects financially unviable. She said the City risks losing any potential housing by trying to make more of it affordable.

Larmore also said in a memo to Council that as of 2014, 79 percent of people on the City's affordable housing wait list qualify as extremely low-income.

McKeown said the City is only suspending the option temporarily and may allow developers to build extremely low-income housing in the future.

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## CAMERAS

FROM PAGE 1

data recorded by the body-worn and in-car cameras, some of which do not work, has been lost according to a report given to the City Council. The City of Santa Monica purchased the cameras in mid-2017 for about $235,000 from WatchGuard and will receive a $200,000 refund.

"The system originally purchased by SMPD has been plagued with faulty equipment and technical failures," City staff said.

Despite the system's malfunctions, a 2017 survey showed both SMPD officers and the public strongly support the use of body-worn cameras because they improve trust between police and civilians and provide an accurate account of interactions between the two. The department will continue using WatchGuard's system until it finalizes the purchase of the new cameras, said public information officer Saul Rodriguez.

The City will spend about $2 million on 325 body-worn cameras, 75 in-car cameras and a data storage system over the next five years, a little more than $400,000 per year. That figure includes a 10 percent contingency for the purchase of more cameras as needed.

The cameras will come from Axon Enterprises, which contracts with more than half the police departments in the United States. The company formerly known as Taser International invented the Taser and renamed itself Axon in mid-2017 as its law enforcement camera business boomed among greater demands for police accountability.

"We feel (Axon) has better software … and the actual device will be more durable," Rodriguez said. "It also seems to be more user-friendly."

Every Los Angeles Police Department officer wears an Axon camera that automatically uploads the footage it collects to Evidence.com, Axon's cloud storage platform. LAPD purchased the system in June 2016 and the Los Angeles Police Commission decided almost two years later to direct the department to release within 45 days any videos of officer-involved shootings or force that results in a suspect going to the hospital.

While Santa Monica has no such policy, SMPD released stills from body-worn and in-car camera footage of an officer-involved shooting in August 2017. In that incident, an officer shot a homicide suspect who had fired multiple times at him and his partner.

City staff said footage has so far been used in criminal investigations, internal investigations of alleged misconduct and has helped SMPD prove and enforce traffic violations. Officers have also interacted with footage while in the field.

Dan Simon, a USC law professor who studies body-worn cameras, said technological malfunctions are to be expected with new technology.

"The general impression is that body cameras are serving a great function for policing, police units and the public," he said. "As you can expect, with such technological innovation, that's not always going to happen smoothly or immediately."

Simon said he commends SMPD for addressing the issues the WatchGuard system created and moving forward with new cameras.

"Since police departments are left to their own devices, some are going to land on better or worse systems," he said. "I don't see that as a long-term problem – just growing pains."

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## SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 60.3°

THURSDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft waist to stomach high
New SW/SSW swell continues to slowly fill in. Minor NW swell.

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
Modest SW/SSW swell continues. Small WNW swell.

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## DAILY POLICE LOG

**The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To Calls For Service.**
HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

Fight 2900blk Main 12:03 am
Person with a gun 1600blk Lincoln 12:14 am
Traffic collision - no injuries 4th / Olympic 12:24 am
Person down 100blk Wilshire 1:01 am
Fight 600blk Wilshire 1:04 am
Petty theft now 2100blk Delaware 1:17 am
Public intoxication 200blk California 1:24 am
Drunk driving Lincoln / Colorado 1:26 am
Bike theft 200blk Santa Monica Pier 1:30 am
Battery 2000blk Ocean 1:43 am
Battery 600blk Wilshire 1:54 am
Petty theft 1000blk 6th 2:10 am
Shots fired 1100blk Cedar 2:15 am
Battery 1800blk Ocean 2:54 am
72 hour psychiatric hold 500blk Bay 3:33 am
Burglary 1400blk 7th 3:45 am
Overdose 900blk 3rd 5:23 am
Fight 1200blk 2nd 5:38 am
Battery 2900blk Main 6:35 am
Death investigation 800blk 20th 8:54 am
Vehicle parked in alley 1900blk 19th 9:02 am
Bike theft 2900blk Exposition 9:35 am
Fight 1100blk Lincoln 10:11 am
Encampment 200blk Santa Monica Pier 10:21 am
Prowler 1500blk Berkeley 10:31 am
Lewd activity 400blk Bay 10:48 am
Encampment 700blk California 10:51 am
Vehicle blocking driveway 1900blk 19th 11:35 am
Burglary 2900blk Neilson 12:36 pm
Vehicle parked in alley 1200blk 14th 12:46 pm
Auto burglary 1500blk 6th 12:47 pm
Construction noise 1400blk 4th 1:11 pm
Encampment 7th / California 1:35 pm
Critical missing person 900blk Pico 1:46 pm
Battery 1900blk Cloverfield 1:47 pm
Traffic collision with injuries 600blk Ocean 2:03 pm
Petty theft 200blk Santa Monica Pier 3:07 pm
Encampment 1000blk 7th 3:11 pm
Burglary 1400blk Princeton 3:36 pm
Critical missing person 1500blk Ocean Front Walk 4:55 pm
Fight 2900blk Main 6:40 pm
Auto burglary 1500blk 6th 6:42 pm
Arson 900blk Idaho 6:56 pm
Bike theft 200blk Broadway 7:08 pm
Traffic collision 18th / Montana 7:34 pm
Grand theft 4th / Colorado 7:39 pm
Battery 2900blk Main 8:26 pm
Traffic collision 200blk Ashland 8:56 pm
72 hour psychiatric hold 300blk Santa Monica Pier 8:56 pm
Missing person 800blk Pico 9:35 pm

## DAILY FIRE LOG

**The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To Calls For Service.**
HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

EMS 400blk Wilshire 12:16 am
EMS 100blk Wilshire 1:01 am
EMS 100blk Wilshire 1:02 am
EMS 1300blk Ocean 1:23 am
EMS 2000blk Ocean 1:45 am
EMS 600blk Alta 1:55 am
EMS 2600blk 6th 2:21 am
Hydrant shear Marine / 17th 2:27 am
EMS 1100blk 22nd 3:13 am
EMS 20th / Arizona 3:50 am
EMS 900blk 3rd 5:23 am
Request fire 500blk San Vicente 5:25 am
EMS 1300blk 15th 6:19 am
EMS 1500blk Harvard 6:23 am
EMS 600blk 22nd 7:26 am
EMS 800blk 20th 8:52 am
Wires down 800blk 11th 10:30 am
Arcing wires 900blk 11th 10:32 am
EMS 2100blk Ocean 10:38 am
Elevator rescue 500blk Montana 10:40 am
Wires down 800blk 12th 10:43 am
EMS 2000blk Hill 11:04 am
Elevator rescue 400blk San Vicente 12:13 pm
EMS 700blk Pico 12:32 pm
Automatic alarm 800blk Woodacres 12:44 pm
EMS 2200blk Pico 12:45 pm
EMS 400blk Santa Monica Pier 1:08 pm
EMS 2200blk Pico 1:16 pm
EMS 1800blk Pico 1:41 pm
EMS 800blk Broadway 2:07 pm
Public assist 1400blk Lincoln 2:54 pm
EMS 2200blk Virginia 4:03 pm
Bluff rescue Moomat Ahiko / Ocean 5:36 pm
EMS 300blk Santa Monica Pl 5:46 pm
EMS 1100blk Princeton 5:49 pm
EMS 1300blk 15th 6:04 pm
Elevator rescue 1100blk 2nd 6:23 pm
Trash/dumpster fire 600blk 10th 6:33 pm
Trash/dumpster fire 900blk Idaho 6:54 pm
Trash/dumpster fire 200blk Montana 6:57 pm
Trash/dumpster fire 300blk Montana 6:58 pm
Trash/dumpster fire 1300blk 11th 7:08 pm
Trash/dumpster fire 1300blk 12th 7:14 pm
Miscellaneous outside fire 1000blk Pearl 7:20 pm
Traffic collision with injury 18th / Montana 7:34 pm
EMS 1900blk 18th 7:35 pm
EMS 900blk 21st 7:45 pm
Public assist 1300blk 4th 7:53 pm
Automatic alarm 400blk Marine 8:06 pm
EMS 1000blk Yale 8:55 pm
EMS 800blk 2nd 10:28 pm
EMS 1400blk 16th 11:31 pm



## DAILY LOTTERY

**POWERBALL**
Draw Date: 12/29
12 42 51 53 62
Power#: 25
Jackpot: 53M

**MEGA MILLIONS**
Draw Date: 1/1
34 44 57 62 70
Mega#: 14
Jackpot: 40M

**SUPER LOTTO PLUS**
Draw Date: 12/29
4 6 17 35 42
Mega#: 6
Jackpot: 36M

**Fantasy 5**
Draw Date: 1/1
11 14 16 34 38

**DAILY 3**
Draw Date: 1/2
MIDDAY: 6 1 0
Draw Date: 1/1
EVENING: 9 8 3

**DAILY DERBY**
Draw Date: 1/1
1st: 10 Solid Gold
2nd: 01 Gold Rush
3rd: 06 Whirl Win
RACE TIME: 1:48.63

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## WORD UP!

**neoteric**
1. modern; new; recent.
2. a new or modern writer, thinker, etc.

## WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

### Best Medicine

■ First guy: "My girlfriend left me because she couldn't handle my OCD."
■ Second guy: "What happened?"
■ First guy: "I told her to close the door five times on her way out."

### Med School

■ Q: What percentage of American children ages 2 to 5 are officially considered obese?
■ A: 13.9 percent. The CDC defines obesity as a body mass index at or above the 95th percentile for age, height and weight.

### Phobia of the Week

■ Allodoxaphobia: Fear of opinions

## MYSTERY PHOTO

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**The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize. Send answers to editor@smdp.com.**

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| K | I | L | T | | B | R | U | N | T | | A | S | K | S |
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| N | E | W | S | P | A | P | E | R | I | S | S | U | E | S |
| A | T | S | T | A | K | E | | O | A | K | T | R | E | E |
| | | | | T | E | N | T | | L | I | E | | | |
| P | O | S | E | R | | S | O | B | | | L | A | M | A |
| A | M | E | L | I | A | | Y | O | D | A | | T | I | S |
| R | A | D | I | O | B | R | O | A | D | C | A | S | T | S |
| S | H | E | | T | A | U | T | | S | T | P | E | T | E |
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| | | | A | D | S | | S | O | L | O | | | | |
| S | T | A | M | I | N | A | | C | A | N | A | S | T | A |
| T | E | L | E | V | I | S | I | O | N | S | H | O | W | S |
| E | R | A | S | | T | H | O | S | E | | A | S | A | P |
| M | I | N | T | | S | E | C | T | S | | B | O | S | 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

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

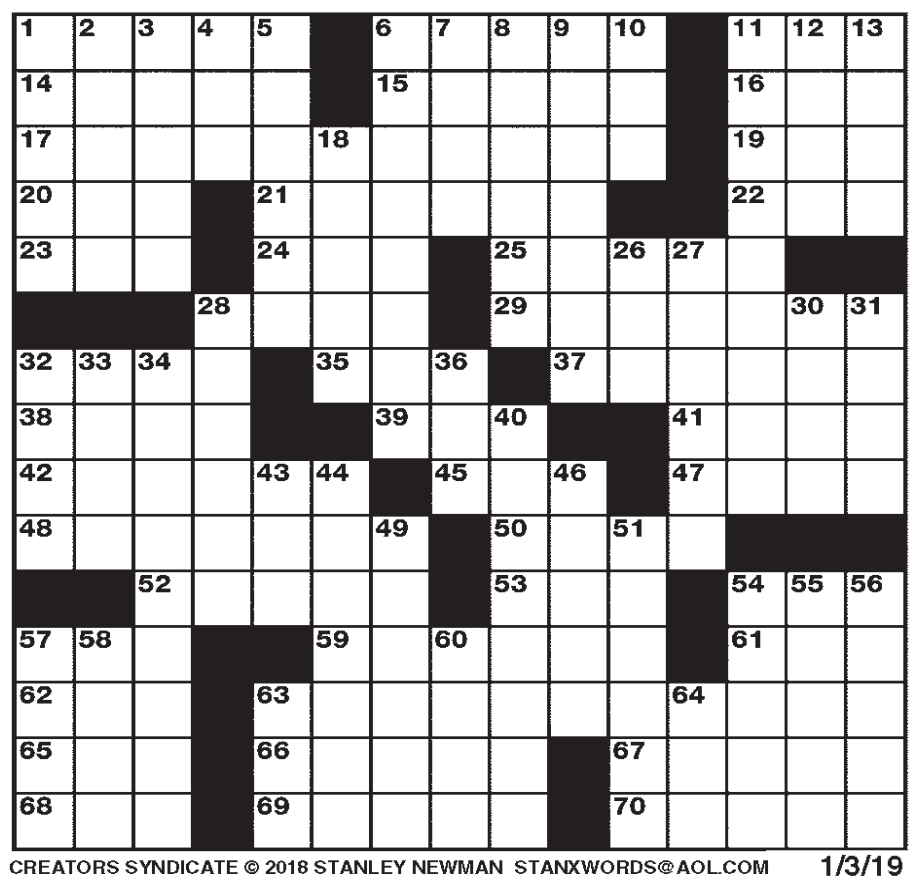
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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 6 | | 1 | | | | | |
| 9 | | 5 | 3 | 2 | | 8 | 6 | |
| | | | | | | 9 | | 3 |
| | | 7 | | 9 | | 1 | 5 | |
| 1 | 2 | | | 5 | | | 8 | 9 |
| | 9 | 4 | | 8 | | 2 | | |
| 4 | | 8 | | | | | | |
| | 3 | 2 | | 1 |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

## Newsday Crossword

**POLE SIGHTINGS** by Carolyn Stewart
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

**ACROSS**
1 Certain Scandinavians
6 Fallen angel
11 Any liner
14 Supremely perfect
15 Ahead of time
16 Crucial
17 Place to see a pole
19 Wrath
20 Trike rider
21 Bite-sized appetizers
22 Cabbage color
23 *Pinafore* designation
24 GPS reading
25 Dissect grammatically
28 Fiber source
29 Goes by
32 Prefix for virus
35 NL Central team
37 Become a participant
38 What to call Knight Commanders
39 Comprehend
41 Vocal recital piece
42 Auto identifiers
45 Env. insert
47 Short news story
48 Untold stories
50 Exclamation of frustration
52 Holy book
53 Miner matter
54 Before today
57 Houston, for example
59 Plaid fabric
61 Air conditioner setting
62 Falsification
63 Place to see a pole
65 Many a Wordsworth work
66 Shin support
67 Type of copier contract
68 Favorite
69 Howled like a hound
70 Let up

**DOWN**
1 President Monroe's position
2 Figure of speech
3 Hornets' homes
4 Casual denial
5 Small burger
6 Talk show components
7 Sounds satisfied
8 Traveling entertainers
9 Supreme Court, until 1981
10 Netflix science show host
11 Place to see poles
12 "Take this"
13 Examined
18 Spanish girls
26 Scrammed
27 66 Across ailment
28 Informal eatery
30 Writer Wiesel
31 Poetry contest
32 Certain cobras
33 Locale for 32 Down
34 Place to see poles
36 Poe's "Annabel __"
40 Spoke in favor of
43 Occupational ending
44 Endurance
46 Sapphire measure
49 Snide
51 Secondhand transaction
54 Assumed name
55 Aesopian source of gold
56 Finished paying off
57 Pig's meal
58 Right-hand person
60 Editor's order
63 Smashing, in the '60s
64 "Green" or "black" beverage



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## TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 3)

The beauty of this new chapter is in its breeziness. A burden drops within five week's time, leaving you physically buoyant, mentally unfettered and emotionally exuberant. After that, a bout of financial luck creates further ease. Keep it small, save up and don't complicate things with too many partners or contracts. Gemini and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 10, 31, 4, 47 and 37.

### ARIES (March 21-April 19)
You can be angry with someone and love that person at the same time. You can be disappointed in an action and still stand behind the general plan. Complexities will come into play, and you'll manage them beautifully.

### TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Get centered and do your best without looking around to see how anyone else is doing. The only thing you should be comparing yourself with is your own past performance, and even that might be a bad idea.

### GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
It's easy to get excited about your own idea, but when someone else's idea has you excited and willing to work, you know it must be a good one. Be generous, but also clear about the arrangement going forward.

### CANCER (June 22-July 22)
Experience always grows you. So when the choice is between what you know and what you don't know, you'll choose what you don't know... as long as it's not terribly inconvenient or expensive.

### LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Relationships improve because you put thought into resolving your issues with another person. And the other person doesn't even have to know about it! Your change is enough to change the whole dynamic.

### VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
The basics of good communication aren't universally distributed at birth. Eye contact, listening, affirming through verbal or nonverbal cues... this must be learned. And not everyone you'll deal with today has learned it yet.

### LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Oscar Wilde summed up today's predicament very well when he said, "Anybody can sympathise with the sufferings of a friend, but it requires a very fine nature to sympathise with a friend's successes."

### SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
As an intuitive person, you know that inner guidance can be illogical and sometimes doesn't quite culminate into something you can make sense of. But it does often enough, which is why you'll keep paying attention.

### SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
When you really comb back over what you've been taught, you'll find that you disagree with more of it than you care to bring up over the dinner table. Some battles are best shrugged off. Vive la difference.

### CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You'll take notice of who you are around different people -- what each brings out in you -- so you can surround yourself with people who bring out your best and brightest, and/or a lighthearted, surprising side of you.

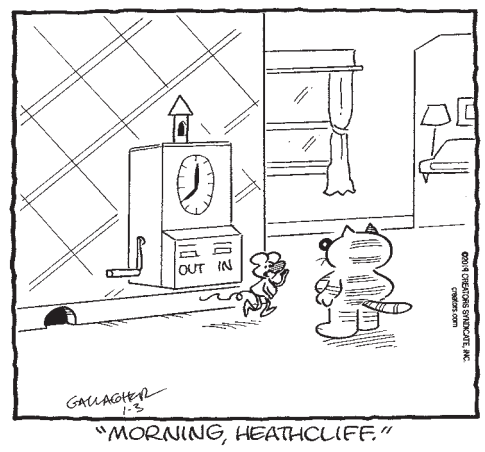
### AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Oddly enough, your work will be best noticed when you do not do it. So, pull back on the efforts. Let them feel the void. And then pull back a little more so they can understand the exact nature of your typical contributions.

### PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Basic niceties are well within normal expectations, but the problem is that not everyone was brought up with the same manners and customs. You may have to gently educate others about what you need.

### Mercurial Message
A message from Mercury and Uranus: If you set out to make someone's day, you'll have the added benefit of needing to learn how to do this. It requires witnessing the world from another person's point of view, figuring out what that person needs and deciding what might elicit a smile. If you set out to make someone's day, you might just end up making your own.

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## Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



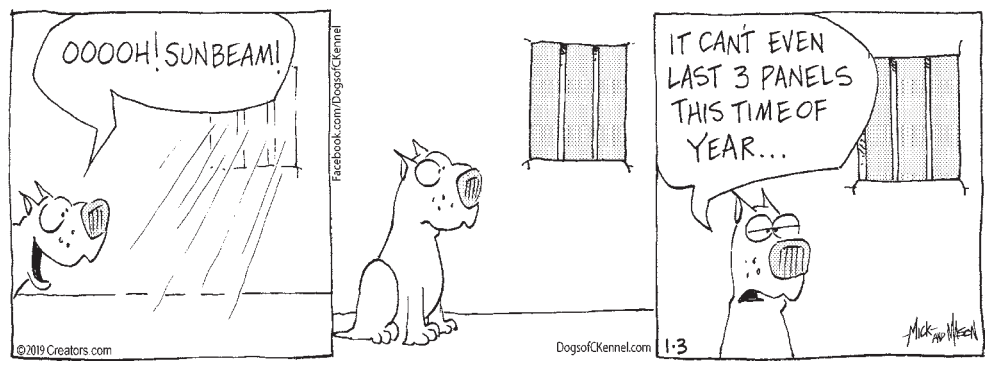

## Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING




## Agnes
By TONY COCHRAN




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




## Zack Hill
By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE




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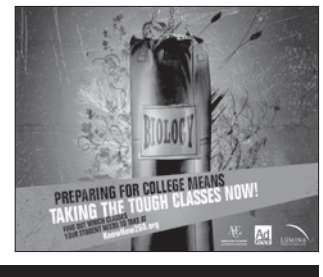
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# Netflix's 'Bird Box' success gets Hollywood clucking

**MICHAEL LIEDTKE**
AP Technology Writer

Netflix said 45 million subscriber accounts worldwide watched the Sandra Bullock thriller "Bird Box" during its first seven days on the service, the biggest first-week success of any movie made for the company's nearly 12-year-old streaming service.

Netflix, which typically refuses to provide viewership numbers, made the rare disclosure in a recent tweet as movie producers, writers, actors and investors continue to size up a company that has already reshaped the way the world watches video.

The first-week audience means nearly one-third of Netflix's 137 million subscribers watched the movie from Dec. 21 through Dec. 27 — a holiday-season stretch when many people aren't working and have more free time. Had 45 million people actually gone to a theater in the U.S. to watch "Bird Box," it would have translated to about $400 million in box-office revenue, based on average ticket prices.

But people were watching the movie on a service for which they already had paid and had the luxury of doing so without leaving their homes. That makes watching "Bird Box" more comparable to watching a television program, Wedbush Securities analyst Michael Pachter said.

By that yardstick, the viewership for "Bird Box" is less impressive. For instance, the Super Bowl typically attracts 100 million to 110 million viewers in the U.S. alone. The annual telecast of the Academy Awards has drawn a U.S. audience of 26 million to 40 million in recent years. And those totals are for a single day, not a week.

Television viewership and theatrical box-office numbers are typically calculated by third-party firms, unlike the "Bird Box" figure released by Netflix. The Los Gatos, California, company has steadfastly refused to divulge its viewership because it regards the data as a competitive advantage in deciding what programs will attract subscribers. All Netflix will say about its "Bird Box" number is that it counted only accounts that watched at least 70 percent of the movie. Multiple viewers sharing a single account are counted once.

Netflix so far has made its biggest splash with highly acclaimed TV series such as "House of Cards," ''Stranger Things," and "The Crown." ''Bird Box" is the latest example of the company's resolve to become a bigger player in movies, too.

To pull it off, Netflix is borrowing billions of dollars to pay for original movies and TV series. But beyond money, Netflix needs to appease directors and actors who want their work to also be seen in movie theaters, both for their larger screens and for award consideration. That's why Netflix has been arranging for films like "Bird Box," ''Roma," and "The Ballad of Buster Scruggs" to have limited runs in theaters first.

That's a strategy that Amazon had already been following, enabling its "Manchester By The Sea" to win Academy Awards for best actor and original screenplay in 2017. An ESPN documentary, "O.J.: Made In America," also won an Oscar in 2017 after appearing in theaters before its debut on the TV network.

By breaking tradition and disclosing viewership numbers for "Bird Box," Netflix cleverly created even more buzz, Pachter said. "They are masters at getting attention and they knew revealing the numbers would get the media to write about it," he said.

That, in turn, gets the attention of movie producers and directors, as well as luring back investors who had sold off Netflix in recent weeks as part of a broader sell-off of tech stocks. The company's stock closed Wednesday unchanged at $267.66, but has dropped 37 percent from its peak in June — a slump that has wiped out nearly $70 billion in shareholder wealth.

Netflix quickly found itself grappling with another problem Wednesday as it acknowledged censoring an episode from its "Patriot Act" series in Saudi Arabia to comply with laws in that country.

# LA police make arrest in burglaries of Hollywood Hills homes

Associated Press

A man who allegedly burglarized millions of dollars worth of property from Hollywood Hills homes of celebrities and others has been arrested, Los Angeles police said Wednesday.

Investigators found more than 2,000 suspected stolen items when search warrants were served on the home of Benjamin Eitan Ackerman, 32, and a storage unit, Detective Jared Timmons said.

Entertainers such as Usher, Adam Lambert and Jason Derulo were among 13 victims identified so far, Timmons said.

Police posted photos of items on a website in hope of identifying other victims and returning property to them. Timmons said the estimated combined value of the items was at several million dollars.

The items stolen in 2017 and 2018 include artwork, jewelry, fine wines, purses and clothing, said Capt. Cory Palka, commander of the LAPD's Hollywood Division.

Authorities alleged Ackerman cased homes while pretending to be a potential buyer or real estate agent at open houses. Police said he also sometimes falsely claimed to work for an investment firm.

"When he showed up he was dressed to the nines. He acted the part. He was very slick," Timmons said.

No one challenged him or sought to verify who he was, the detective said.

Timmons said detectives were still trying to determine how the burglaries were carried out, including who else may have been involved.

He said it was sophisticated and included tampering with surveillance cameras.

"Sometimes they were just ripped out and other times the cameras would simply go black until several hours after the burglary occurred," Timmons said.

The district attorney had not yet filed charges and no court date was set yet for Ackerman, Timmons said. It was not immediately known if Ackerman had retained a lawyer.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### City Survey

**Editor:**

Recently, I received an invitation to do an on-line City Survey called "Samosays". We are asked to list, in order, our highest priorities for the City based on choices provided by the survey. The priorities are one to three words in length. Click on the issue and you receive a little more information. Though the survey is managed by a third party, the choices listed doubtless come from the City Council. This survey shows the futility of public input in Santa Monica.

One choice in the Survey is "Reduce Homelessness".

People are tired of having the parks and streets overrun by the homeless. The homeless defecate and urinate in the parks, have sex in the toilets and in plain sight, menace passers-by, panhandle with threats, mug victims, steal from stores and cars, invade private houses etc. It is a health and safety issue as well as a police issue. I want the City and the police to keep Santa Monicans safe and secure, free from intimidation and threat. We cannot enjoy our own parks and streets and are made to feel uncaring if we complain.

However, in the Survey as designed, I cannot give that input; I am forced by the design of the Survey to answer in a way that suggests that I agree with the way the choice is presented. Nowhere can I say that I don't agree with the available choices.

If the Survey results show that residents see "Reduce Homelessness" as a high priority (because the residents cannot be more specific), the Council will be able to say that residents agree with whatever the Council meant when they listed the issue that way.

Remember Humpty Dumpty in Lewis Carroll's Through the Looking Glass:

"When I use a word, it means just what I choose it to mean–neither more nor less."

"The question is," said Alice, "whether you can make words mean so many different things."

"The question is," said Humpty Dumpty, "which is to be master–that's all."

If you have done the Survey, did you happen to find in the list of issues "Reduce Development"? "Reduce Traffic"? "Reduce Building Density/Height"? "Retain Airport"? "Control Scooter Usage"? "Ticket Drivers on Cellphones"?

Of course not; the City Council designed the survey to make sure that they, like Humpty Dumpty, would be master of what the survey means. We only have vague choices that mean exactly what the Council wants them to mean. The priorities were framed to get the result they want. It's public input for form, not for substance.

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