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JANUARY 4-5, 2014
Volume 13 Issue 44



CHEERI-GMO
SEE PAGE 8

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

THE HAPPY BIRTHDAY MOM! ISSUE

City Hall: No projects built on Santa Monica Fault

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

WILSHIRE BLVD You don't need to fear being swallowed up by the Earth next time you're choosing between various organic sauerkrauts.

Officials say that they recently got their hands on proof that the Whole Foods Market on Wilshire Boulevard was not built on a fault line.

Last week, a Los Angeles Times article identified four Santa Monica properties, including the Whole Foods, that the newspaper believed to be built on a fault line.

The other three buildings — the addresses of which are not mentioned in the article — underwent soil and geological testing before they were built, Building Officer Ron Takiguchi said. Independent geologists, hired by developers, looked at the testing and determined that they were not on top of faults, Takiguchi said. City engineers and building inspectors also looked at the results and agreed, he said.

When geologists studied the Whole

SEE FAULT PAGE 10



WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?

Paul Alvarez Jr. *editor@smdp.com*

There wasn't much for these people to see Friday as the Santa Monica Pier was shrouded in a heavy fog. Over the last week Santa Monicans have been treated to some unseasonably warm weather.

Will surge of older workers take jobs from the young?

BY MATT SEDENSKY
Associated Press

CHICAGO It's an assertion that has been accepted as fact by droves of the unemployed: Older people remaining on the job later in life are stealing jobs from young people.

One problem, many economists say: It isn't supported by a wisp of fact.

"We all cannot believe that we have been fighting this theory for more than 150 years," said April Yanyuan Wu, a research economist at the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College, who co-authored a paper last year on the subject.

The commonly accepted vision of a surge of workers looks like this: A young post-doctoral student dreams of a full-time teaching job at their university, but there are no openings. An 80-something professor who has remained on the job long past what's considered "normal" retirement is blamed,

The problem with that vision is that there are probably full-time teaching positions available elsewhere, or the person blocking the young grad student from the job is only 40 years old, economists say. Further, the veteran professor's decision to stay employed and productive may stir other job growth. He may bring research grants to his university allowing for other hiring, may take on assistants, and may be able to dine out and shop and fuel the economy more than if he weren't on the job.

None of that would have happened had he retired.

The theory Wu and other economists are fighting is known as "lump of labor," and it

SEE JOBS PAGE 11

Consultant: New Malibu High results safe

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

MALIBU School's out but it's been a busy week at Malibu High School.

Preliminary air testing took place two weeks ago and raw results were released Friday. The Environmental Protection Agency is currently reviewing those results.

Dr. Paul Rosenfeld, an environmental consultant hired by a group of Malibu parents, reviewed the results and said that the highest PCB level was not above EPA standards. PCB is a cancer causing contaminant.

Concerns about PCBs and other contaminants arose back in October when three

SEE RESULTS PAGE 10


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, Jan. 4, 2014

Market mania
Downtown & Virginia Avenue Park
Times and locations vary
Santa Monica's famous Farmers' Markets will be going full tilt this weekend. Visit either the Downtown market at Arizona Avenue and Second Street or the Pico market at Virginia Avenue Park (2200 Virginia Ave.). It's a fresh thing. For more information, call (310) 458-8712.

Take a walk
1436 Second St., 10 a.m.
Presented by the Santa Monica Conservancy, in approximately two hours and six blocks, the walk traverses more than 130 years of Santa Monica history, from its Wild West frontier beginnings to the sophisticated metropolis of today. RSVP at (310) 496-3146.

Tour time
Annenberg Community Beach House
415 PCH, 11 a.m., 12 p.m., 1 p.m.
Learn about the rich history of the Beach House from a Santa Monica Conservancy docent. Tours are free, last approximately 30 minutes, and no reservations are required. For more information, call (310) 458-4904.

Let down your hair
Miles Memorial Playhouse
1130 Lincoln Blvd., 1 p.m.
Creating Arts Co. presents a new adaptation of the classic Grimm fairy-tale of the girl with magical golden locks, Rapunzel. Cheer for the prince and boo for the mean witch Gothel who has locked the beautiful Rapunzel high atop a tower. Will Rapunzel escape the tower and learn she's a princess and find her way back to her rightful mother and father, King and Queen Windsor? For more information, visit www.creatingarts.org.

Sunday, Jan. 5, 2014

He is real
Miles Memorial Playhouse
1130 Lincoln Blvd., 3 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Creating Arts Co. presents a holiday classic that is sure to put a smile on even the Scrooges of the season. Based on actual events, "Yes, Virginia" follows 8-year-old Virginia O'Hanlon on a journey to discover if Santa Claus is real. She decides to write a letter to the editor of the Chicago Sun to find out the truth. For more information, call (310) 804-0223.

Get your grub on
Various locations, times
The Santa Monica Convention & Visitors Bureau wants to help you stick to your New Year's resolution to lose some weight by creating Eat Well Week. Santa Monica restaurants have delicious, low-cal meals and prix fixe menus to help you keep the weight off and feel good. Eat Well Week kicks off this Sunday. For more information call (310) 319-6263 or visit www.santamonica.com

Monday, Jan. 6, 2014

See the signs
City Hall
1685 Main St., 7 p.m.
The Architectural Review Board will meet and discuss signs for mixed-use projects as well as some landscaping for a creative office and the design and color scheme for housing projects. For more information call (310) 458-8341 or visit smgov.net

To create your own listing, log on to smdp.com/submitevent

For help, contact Daniel Archuleta at **310-458-7737** or submit to editor@smdp.com

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to **smdp.com/communitylistings**

Dry winter leads to precautions in California

BY DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. The first Sierra snow survey of the winter on Friday confirmed the fears of state water managers, who are warning of drought conditions in the coming year unless the state receives significantly more rain and snow.

Surveyors found mostly bare ground when they tried to measure the snowpack near South Lake Tahoe. Manual and electronic readings showed the water content in the statewide snowpack at just 20 percent of average for this time of year. This year's reading and the one in January 2012 are the lowest on record.

"While we hope conditions improve, we are fully mobilized to streamline water transfers and take every action possible to ease the effects of dry weather on farms, homes and businesses as we face a possible third consecutive dry year," Department of Water Resources Director Mark Cowin said in a statement.

The winter snowpack in the northern and central Sierra provides about a third of the state's water supply.

At this rate, the state estimates it will be able to deliver just 5 percent of the water requested by 29 public agencies this year. Those agencies supply more than 25 million Californians and nearly a million acres of irrigated farmland.

The calendar year that just ended was one of the driest on record in California, leaving reservoirs at historic lows and leading some cities to implement water restrictions. Farmers also are taking steps to prepare for a severe reduction in water during the summer growing season, conditions that could force them to fallow crops and sell off livestock.

Gayle Holman, spokeswoman for the Fresno-based Westlands Water District, the nation's largest federal irrigation district, said growers in the San Joaquin Valley would likely fallow hundreds of thousands of acres. They would opt against planting row crops while they save water for permanent crops such as fruits and nuts.

Some already are pulling up orchards they can't afford to irrigate.

"What that means then is less of a food supply that we pretty much take for granted," Holman said.

As if to underscore how dry California's winter has been so far, firefighters were monitoring a 200-acre blaze that started Thursday in the Lassen National Forest in far Northern California, an area that usually is covered with snow this time of year.

The immediate culprit is a stubborn ridge of high atmospheric pressure that is pushing storms north of California, said Michelle Mead, a forecast meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Sacramento. The ridge is expected to weaken next week, bringing some rain and snow to Northern California, before it builds once again by mid-January.

The rest of the winter is projected to bring below normal precipitation to Southern California, while she said it is too soon to tell whether late winter in Northern California will be wet, dry or average.

Also Friday, an interagency task force held an organizational meeting to begin planning for a possible drought but plans to wait until late February to see how the winter plays out.

Randall Osterhuber, a researcher at UC Berkeley's Central Sierra Snow Lab near the Sierra summit, said the snowpack there is about 35 percent of its historic average, although he's not panicking.

"We have the bulk of the winter in front of us," he said. "It's really these big storms that carry the year, so this all could change in just a matter of days."

Just three years ago, the Sierra snowpack was so heavy it was crushing the roofs on mountain cabins.

Folsom Lake, east of Sacramento, is particularly hard hit and is having the largest effect so far on both the surrounding communities and the fish that depend on releases from its dam. The lake is less than 20 percent of its capacity.

Last month, the neighboring city of Folsom took the most drastic action in the region by requiring residents to trim their water use by 20 percent and restricting lawn watering to twice a week. Unlike nearby cities, Folsom gets all its water from the lake.

Mayor Kerri Howell said the city might ban all outdoor landscape watering, end construction permits for swimming pools and consider building an above-ground pipeline to a neighboring water district.

Earlier this week, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation reduced flows from Folsom Lake into the lower American River despite fears that it could leave salmon eggs high and dry. More cutbacks are likely in the coming days as the bureau balances the needs of wildlife against those of farmers and cities.

"Nobody wants to see a bad salmon season," Howell said. "But at some point, you have to make a decision which is more important: the salmon run or people having water in their kitchens."



File photo

LAST TIME: **Shoppers braved the rain on Black Friday last year. The calendar year that just ended was one of the driest on record in California.**



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

It does happen

Editor:

Will Theisen's letter ("Bah humbug, Bill," Letter to the Editor, Dec. 28-29) is certainly a good example of the old saying that people are entitled to their own opinions, no matter how wrong.

I seriously doubt that he'd use the term "non-issue" to refer to "cyclists running over pedestrians" if he (or any of his friends and acquaintances) ever had the misfortune of being a pedestrian on the receiving end of a bike-pedestrian collision.

I have. Somebody pedaling away at excessive speed, not paying any attention to her surroundings, crashed into me (I saw her too late to jump out of the way), sending us both sprawling on the ground, and leaving me with injuries severe enough that the pain didn't totally go away for three or four weeks.

It's too bad that some readers take an "I'm not aware of XYZ, so XYZ must not be a problem" attitude. Personally, I'd love to see the police go after all the scofflaws (automobile drivers, and cyclists, and yes, even pedestrians) who violate laws which exist for very good reasons.

It would help make the city safer and more pleasant, and the fines levied against those offenders would help reduce the city's deficit.

Mark Bartelt
Santa Monica

What side are you on?

Editor:

Santa Monica Daily Press columnist Jack Neworth once reproached me for being on the wrong side of history. When I countered that truth has no history, he maligned this precept with a reference to the white segregationists, who misused that principle to defend institutional prejudice.

One has to wonder if Neworth would consider Martin Luther King, Jr. a racist because he asserted that "might makes right," a similar statement supporting the notion that the truth is not subject to circumstances and changing opinions.

Frankly, such hollow attacks are par for the course from modern liberals, who engage in empty slanders and half-truths, pushing an agenda fading with the Obama administration's diminished credibility and respect on the world stage and domestically, as well.

From the failed rollout of the federal healthcare exchanges, to the growing prominence of Russian President Vladimir Putin over the American president, one has to wonder why liberals wake up in the morning. The advanced progressive agenda of expanding the government into every facet of our lives, from the massive National Security Agency data collection to the roaring controversies of federalized educational standards, has exposed the hollow folly of Big Government as Big Panacea.

For the record, I join many conservatives in having no qualms about being on the wrong side of history. Was it not well-respected and world-renowned theologian C.S. Lewis who wrote: "That which is not eternal is eternally out date?"

On the wrong side of history, I am glad to be on the right side of eternity.

Arthur Christopher Schaper
Torrance, Calif.

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Modern Times

Lloyd Garver

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No longer in the driver's seat

LATELY, THE NEWS HAS BEEN FULL OF stories about "automatic cars." Supposedly, these are the cars of the not so distant future. Basically, they will be able to drive themselves, freeing us humans to do other things. On the way to work, car owners will be able to make phone calls, go over the presentations that they are going to give that afternoon, send e-mails, or even take a nap. Actually, it doesn't sound all that different from the way some people drive today.

To me, the most amazing thing about these cars is that the predicted release date for them is not that far away. Forbes predicts that these cars will go on sale by the end of this decade. In other words, if you order one of these cars now, it will probably show up at your house before the cable guy whom you called this morning.

Do we really need more technology and less human involvement? Apparently, car manufactures would say, "Yes." The way these vehicles work is that you program the computer in the car to go where you want it to go and when. If you go shopping at a busy time, you could have your car drop you off at the store's front door and then go find a parking space by itself. When you're finished shopping, the car will pick you up in front of the store.

The automatic or "autonomous" car will also have some of the other new gadgets and technologies that are due soon. Volvo says that it wants to have a fleet of cars by 2020 that are impossible to crash. Some cars already beep or stop when there is an obstacle in the way. The autonomous car of the future with "anti-crash technology" will not just react to emergency situations, it will predict them.

Automatic or "driverless" technology will get rid of road rage — unless the cars will be programmed to flip off other cars. (Memo to car manufacturers: the cars flipping each other off was my idea). Soon after they are on the road, it can't be that far off when cars will make up their own "minds" about things. I know a little bit about artificial intelligence. I actually stayed awake during parts of the movie, "Her." So I won't be surprised if someday soon an automatic car decides to play pranks on its owner, like switching garages with another car. On a hot, romantic summer night, one of these cars is bound to sneak off with another car down to the charging station to get a few extra jolts of electricity. They'll probably stay out till all hours of the night, and won't even call their owners to tell them that they're all right.

IF THE CAR CAN DRIVE JUST AS SAFELY REGARDLESS OF WHO IS IN IT, WHY COULDN'T KIDS 'DRIVE' THEM, TOO?

There will be no reason to have minimum ages for drivers. If the car can drive just as safely regardless of who is in it, why couldn't kids "drive" them, too? Preschoolers wouldn't need parents to drive the car pools. They could do it themselves. Think of how much time that would free up for parents. What a great idea, right? Well, I know it would probably be just as safe, but there's something weird about people being allowed to drive a car before they can spell "car."

Those who are excited about these vehicles point out how much safer the driving experience would be. After all, they will have eliminated the "human factor." They will be guided by computers who don't get tired, angry, or drunk. These new vehicles will be commanded by algorithms rather than emotional beings. What could possibly go wrong? It's a computer.

LLOYD GARVER has written for many television shows, ranging from "Sesame Street" to "Family Ties" to "Home Improvement" to "Frasier." He has also read many books, some of them in hardcover. He can be reached at lloydgarver@gmail.com. Check out his website at lloydgarver.com and his podcasts on iTunes.



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The Q Line

Welcome to the new year

With the new year comes new opportunities to go in a different direction.

This past week, Q-line asked:
What do you think should be Santa Monica's resolutions for 2014 and why?

Here are your responses:

"THE NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION FOR all of the citizens of Santa Monica should be to throw every last one of the pro-development City Council members out on their collective butts. Time is of the essence. Vote them out, and if they are not up for reelection, recall them. Every one of us needs to participate. This means you renters too. The air you breathe; the traffic you suffer with; the gas you are forced to waste; and the lack of safety you experience while driving, riding a bike and walking, were all created and made worse daily by pro-development government. It is way past time to end this insanity."

"TO STOP THE LAND GRAB BY GREEDY developers and council members. Take the 2010 LUCE that hasn't worked out well for residential neighborhoods off the table. Get rid of city officials who encourage greater height and density to our already congested city. Thank Robert Redford for his honesty. Residents annoyed as the city's destroyed? You bet we are."

"ONE RESOLUTION SHOULD BE TO GET THE main post office back to Fifth Street, especially now during the main construction of the Metro line. People are going to get hurt and maybe killed. I think lawsuits that will ensue from these cases will be more expensive than the cost of putting the post office back, at least temporarily."

"SANTA MONICA'S RESOLUTION SHOULD be to tell the police department to start citing bicyclists for riding on sidewalks, for going the wrong way on one-way streets, for going through the red light, etc., etc., etc. I think this should be the number one resolution to make."

"FOR CONGESTION FROM A COLD YOU TAKE medication and rest. You don't try to spread the virus. For a city under attack from congestion, a change at City Hall is imminent and forthcoming. Residents are looking for a breath of fresh air. Hopefully this will be a year of change. Maybe the LUCE that laid a rotten egg needs to take a break."

"LET'S RESOLVE TO HELP THE POOR and the homeless to obtain sound sleep safely by donating generously folding, portable canvas picnic chairs. Secondly, we should resolve to also teach the poor and the homeless how to cook semolina pasta by putting steaming hot water from a sink faucet by putting it into a plastic container with a lid or even a large coffee cup with a plastic lid and a stopper in the steam hole."

"SANTA MONICANS WORKING TOGETHER to elect new City Council members who will seriously question the city's headlong rush into development and not just be a rubber stamp for every project developers want, that the residents overwhelmingly oppose, like the massive Hines project or the 20-plus story buildings Downtown."

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"THE GOOD CITIZENS OF SANTA MONICA should resolve to remove each and every City Council member. Their goal should be to start anew in the direction of restoring our once lovely city to a more peaceful and charming beach town as it was meant to be."

"SANTA MONICA SHOULD VOW TO publicly investigate salaries and other run-away expenses in the budget."

"THE NORTH OF WILSHIRE MEMBERS OF the City Council and the Planning Commission have been using the Pico Neighborhood as the dumping ground for every controversial social service project they don't want in their own neighborhood. Currently, to perpetuate the city's historically segregated housing patterns, they are pushing the developer of the Paper Mate site to build the low-income housing units on site. My hope for the new year is that these NIMBYs change and negotiate a development agreement that requires the low-income housing units to be built in their own neighborhood."

"SANTA MONICA SHOULD RESOLVE TO send all the drunken, smelly bums to Santa Monica Airport, fly them out of town, then close the airport permanently. Get rid of two problems at once."

"RESOLUTIONS SHOULD BE: 1) BRING back every left turn lane pocket that has been obliterated. The lack of the pockets is causing congestion all over town. 2) The council has to stop allowing NMS and other developers to build all over the city. The buildings are not attractive, bring traffic congestion and add nothing good to the city. 3) The resolution for the citizens is to be vigilant in not voting the return of any present City Council member to office. They are all ruining the city with the decisions they have made."

"STOP SPENDING MONEY AND mortgaging the city's future. Cut police and fire salaries and benefits. Make better use of city assets in generating income. Reduce the cost of living for current owner residents."

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Judge says college can remain accredited

A San Francisco judge has ruled that a private commission can't revoke the accreditation of one of the nation's largest community colleges until a trial can be held to determine if the action is lawful.

San Francisco Superior Court Judge Curtis Karnow said Thursday that closing City College of San Francisco, which has around 80,000 students, would be catastrophic. The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges moved to strip certification from the college that would take effect in July, citing a failure to improve financial and governance problems.

San Francisco's city attorney filed a civil suit in August, claiming the commission allowed political bias and conflicts of interest to influence its decision to revoke the college's accreditation.

A trial date is expected to be set this month.

–ASSOCIATED PRESS

MURIETTA, Calif.

Dog owner arrested after alleged attack on child

A Southern California man has been arrested after his 3-year-old Akita allegedly attacked a toddler at a home improvement store.

Authorities say 62-year-old Robert Kahn was booked Thursday for investigation of criminal negligence after they found prior incidents of the dog showing aggression toward small children. He's been released on $5,000 bail and scheduled to return to court Feb. 27.

Police say a 3-year-old boy was bitten on the face and neck by the leashed dog on Saturday. The boy needed about 50 stitches to fix his wounds.

Investigators found the dog had injured two other children, ages 3 and 5, in separate incidents in October and November. The injuries didn't require hospitalization and were never reported to authorities.

The dog remains quarantined.

– AP

SAN JOSE, Calif.

2nd winner of $636M lottery jackpot comes forward

California Lottery officials say the second of two winners of the $636 million Mega Millions jackpot has come forward to claim the prize.

Steve Tran of Northern California came forward Thursday afternoon, 16 days after officials revealed there were two winning jackpot tickets.

The other winner, Ira Curry, is from Georgia and came forward to claim her prize Dec. 18. Lottery officials there say she opted to take the lump sum payment of about $120 million after taxes.

The winning ticket in California was purchased at a gift shop in San Jose. The gift shop owner will receive $1 million.

The jackpot is the second-largest lottery prize in U.S. history. It started its ascent Oct. 4. Lotto officials say 22 draws came and went without winners.

Some $336 million in tickets were sold for the Dec. 17 drawing.

Curry, of Stone Mountain, lives in a neighborhood of brick and stucco houses with manicured lawns about 10 miles east of Atlanta. She lives in a two-story home with a two-car garage and a basketball goal in the driveway. She purchased the ticket at the Gateway Newsstand in the Alliance Center building in Buckhead, a financial center in Atlanta.

The California ticket was sold by store owner Thuy Nguyen of Jennifer's Gift Shop in San Jose. He will get $1 million, lottery officials in California said.

"When people hear jackpot winner was sold here, everybody want to come here," Nguyen said in December after the drawing.

Nguyen sells a variety of items, including Buddha statues, Vietnamese DVDs, clocks and flip flops. The former hairstylist, who emigrated from Vietnam in the early 1990s, took over the shop four months ago.

– AP

OAKLAND, Calif.

Jahi McMath's mom clear to take her from hospital

A judge says the mother of a 13-year-old girl who was declared brain dead after having tonsil surgery can remove the child from a Northern California hospital as long as she assumes full responsibility for the move.

Jahi McMath has been on a ventilator for nearly a month, and her family has been fighting with medical officials to have her transferred out of Children's Hospital Oakland.

Alameda County Superior Court Judge Evelio Grillo said Friday that Nailah Winkfield can move her daughter under a deal with the hospital that holds the mother accountable for consequences that could include Jahi going into cardiac arrest.

Also, Grillo denied the family's motion to force the hospital to insert breathing and feeding tubes, which the girl would need for long-term care at another facility.

– AP

DANA POINT, Calif.

High number of gray whales counted off coast

A December record has been set for the number of gray whales spotted along the California coast during the annual southern migration.

The Orange County Register reports Friday that the Gray Whale Census and Behavior Project counted 368 gray whales last month — breaking the December 2012 record of 182.

Most of the whales were swimming from the Bering Sea to Baja California in Mexico.

Every year more than 20,000 gray whales swim to Baja to mate and give birth. Observers say the whales seem to be having more calves in recent years.

Gray whales were hunted to near-extinction by the early 1900s but rebounded after they were declared endangered in 1973. They did so well that they were de-listed in 1994.

– AP

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Texas library offers glimpse of future without books

BY PAUL J. WEBER
Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO Texas has seen the future of the public library, and it looks a lot like an Apple Store: Rows of glossy iMacs beckon. iPads mounted on a tangerine-colored bar invite readers. And hundreds of other tablets stand ready for checkout to anyone with a borrowing card.

Even the librarians imitate Apple's dress code, wearing matching shirts and that standard-bearer of geek-chic, the hoodie. But this $2.3 million library might be most notable for what it does not have — any actual books.

That makes Bexar County's BibiloTech the nation's only bookless public library, a distinction that has attracted scores of digital bookworms, plus emissaries from as far away as Hong Kong who want to learn about the idea and possibly take it home.

"I told our people that you need to take a look at this. This is the future," said Mary Graham, vice president of South Carolina's Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce. "If you're going to be building new library facilities, this is what you need to be doing."

All-digital libraries have been on college campuses for years. But the county, which runs no other libraries, made history when it decided to open BiblioTech. It is the first bookless public library system in the country, according to information gathered by the American Library Association.

Similar proposals in other communities have been met with doubts. In California, the city of Newport Beach floated the concept of a bookless branch in 2011 until a backlash put stacks back in the plan. Nearly a decade earlier in Arizona, the Tucson-Pima library system opened an all-digital branch, but residents who said they wanted books ultimately got their way.

Graham toured BiblioTech in the fall and is pushing Charleston leaders for a bond measure in 2014 to fund a similar concept, right down to the same hip aesthetic reminiscent of Apple.

Except Apple Stores aren't usually found in parts of town like this. BiblioTech is on the city's economically depressed South Side and shares an old strip mall with a Bexar County government building. On a recent afternoon, one confused couple walked into the library looking for the justice of the peace.

San Antonio is the nation's seventh-largest city but ranks 60th in literacy, according to census figures. Back in the early 2000s, community leaders in Bibliotech's neighborhood of low-income apartments and thrift stores railed about not even having a nearby bookstore, said Laura Cole, BiblioTech's project coordinator. A decade later, Cole said, most families in the area still don't have wi-fi.

"How do you advance literacy with so few resources available?" she said.

Residents are taking advantage now. The library is on pace to surpass 100,000 visitors in its first year. Finding an open iMac among the four dozen at BiblioTech is often difficult after the nearby high school lets out, and about half of the facility's e-readers are checked out at any given time, each loaded with up to five books. One of BiblioTech's regulars is a man teaching himself Mandarin.

Head librarian Ashley Elkholf came from a traditional Wisconsin high school library and recalled the scourges of her old job: misshelved items hopelessly lost in the stacks, pages thoughtlessly ripped out of books and items that went unreturned by patrons who were unfazed by measly fines and lax enforcement.

But in the nearly four months since BiblioTech opened, Elkholf has yet to lend out one of her pricey tablets and never see it again. The space is also more economical than traditional libraries despite the technology: BiblioTech purchases its 10,000-title digital collection for the same price as physical copies, but the county saved millions on architecture because the building's design didn't need to accommodate printed books.

"If you have bookshelves, you have to structure the building so it can hold all of that weight," Elkholf said. "Books are heavy, if you've ever had one fall on your foot."

Up the road in Austin, for example, the city is building a downtown library to open in 2016 at a cost of $120 million. Even a smaller traditional public library that recently opened in nearby suburban Kyle cost that city about $1 million more than BiblioTech.

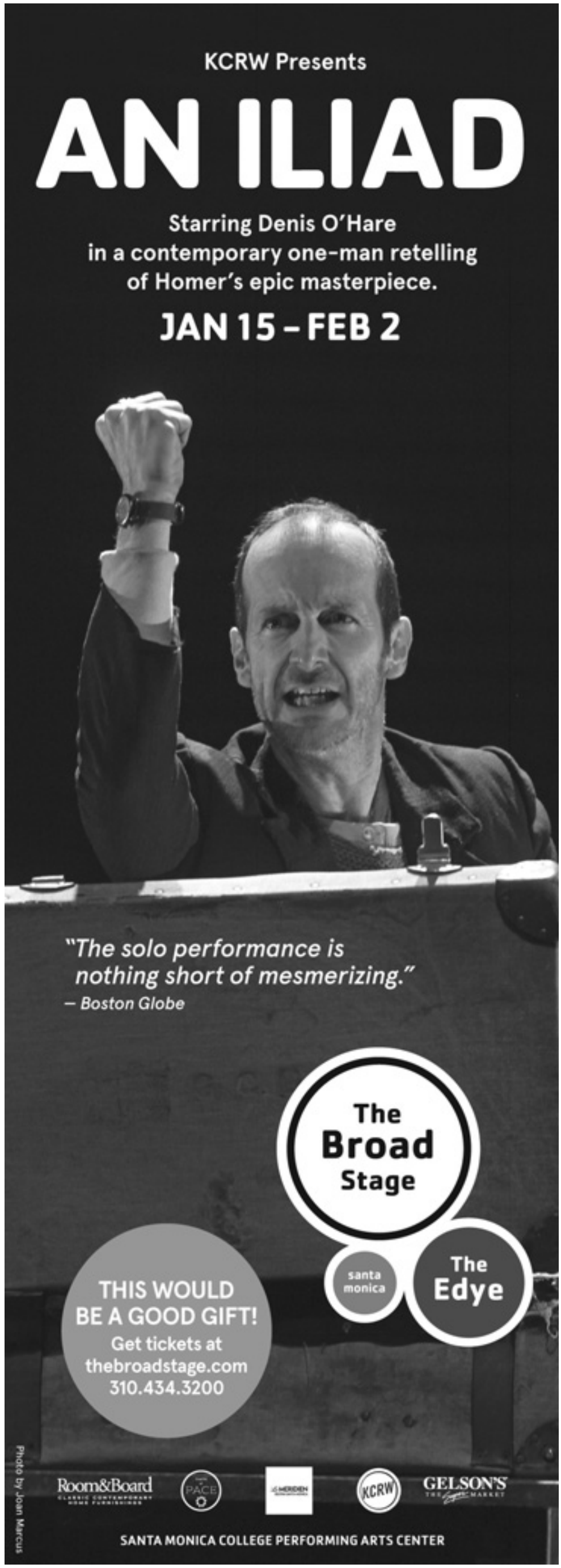
On her first visit, 19-year-old Abigail Reyes was only looking for a quiet space to study for an algebra exam. But she got a quick tutorial from a librarian on how to search for digital books and check out tablets before plopping down on a row of sleek couches.

"I kind of miss the books," Reyes said. "I don't like being on the tablets and stuff like that. It hurts my eyes."

Across the room, Rosemary Caballeo tried shopping for health insurance on a set of computers reserved for enrollment in the Affordable Care Act. Her restless 2-year-old ran around and pawed at a row of keyboards. The little girl shrieked loudly, shattering the main room's quiet. She was soon whisked outside by her father.

After all, it's still a library.





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Photo courtesy Google Images

SAY NO TO GMO: General Mills says some Cheerios made without genetically modified ingredients will start appearing on shelves soon.

Original Cheerios to go GMO-free

BY CANDICE CHOI
AP Food Industry Writer

NEW YORK (AP) General Mills says some Cheerios made without genetically modified ingredients will start appearing on shelves soon.

The Minneapolis-based company said Thursday that it has been manufacturing its original-flavor Cheerios without GMOs for the past several weeks in response to consumer demand. It did not specify exactly when those boxes would be on sale.

Original Cheerios will now be labeled as "Not Made With Genetically Modified Ingredients," although that it is not an official certification. The labels will also note that trace amounts of GMO ingredients could be present due to the manufacturing process, said Mike Siemienas, a company spokesman.

The change does not apply to any other Cheerios flavors, such as Apple Cinnamon Cheerios or Multi Grain Cheerios.

"We were able to do this with original Cheerios because the main ingredients are oats," said Siemienas, noting that there are no genetically modified oats. The company is primarily switching the cornstarch and sugar to make the original Cheerios free of GMOs, he said.

The change comes after the group Green America started a campaign called GMO Inside asking General Mills to make Cheerios GMO-free. The group noted in a statement that its campaign prompted fans to flood the Cheerios page on Facebook with comments on the topic.

Todd Larsen, Green America's corporate responsibility director, said in a statement that the move is "an important victory in getting GMOs out of our food supply and an important first step for General Mills."

As for other varieties of Cheerios, Siemienas said they are harder to make GMO-free because they are made with ingredients such as corn.

There has been little scientific evidence showing that foods grown from engineered ingredients are less safe than their conventional counterparts. But consumers have expressed concerns about the long-term impact they could have.

Healthy haddock that doesn't taste healthy

BY J.M. HIRSCH
AP Food Editor

We all know that baked white fish is a fast and healthy way to get dinner on the table, particular during this annual time of dietary vow renewal.

What isn't always quite so clear is how to prepare that white fish without adding tons of fat and calories or rendering it a tasteless hunk of protein. But it's actually not all that hard.

It's all in how you dress it. For me, that means a flavorful, fresh salsa. For this recipe, I created a pineapple-mint salsa that gets tons of flavor from not only its namesake ingredients, but also cilantro, jalapeno, onion and garlic. But if pineapple and mint don't work for you, this versatile recipe works great with plenty of alternatives.

Substitute an equal amount of just about any fresh fruit — diced apples, mangos, orange segments, plums, even grapes would be delicious. And if you don't have time to make fresh salsa? Most jarred salsas are a fast and healthy choice (just read the labels and watch for added sugar).

J.M. HIRSCH is the food editor for The Associated Press. He blogs at www.LunchBoxBlues.com and tweets at http://twitter.com/JM_Hirsch . E-mail him at jhirsch@ap.org

Baked haddock with pineapple-mint salsa

Start to finish: 30 minutes
Servings: 4

1 1/4 pounds haddock fillets
Olive oil
Kosher salt and ground black pepper
1 pound fresh pineapple flesh, cut into chunks
1 jalapeno pepper, seeded and chopped
1 medium red onion, quartered
1/4 cup fresh mint
1/4 cup fresh cilantro
Juice of 1 lime
Hot sauce, to taste

Heat the oven to 400 degrees. Line a rimmed baking sheet with foil, then coat it with cooking spray.

Arrange the haddock fillets on the baking sheet, then brush them with a bit of olive oil. Season with salt and pepper, then bake for 12 minutes, or until the fish flakes easily.

Meanwhile, in a food processor, combine the pineapple, jalapeno, onion, mint, cilantro and lime juice. Pulse until roughly chopped. Transfer to a bowl, then season with salt and pepper. Adjust heat by adding hot sauce, if desired. Serve the salsa over the haddock.

Nutrition information per serving: 230 calories; 40 calories from fat (17 percent of total calories); 4.5 g fat (0.5 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 80 mg cholesterol; 19 g carbohydrate; 3 g fiber; 13 g sugar; 28 g protein; 340 mg sodium.



Tour De Feast

Michael 'Snacks' Ryan

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

D.K.'s unveils new ube root donut

BEFORE YOU SWIFTLY DISMISS THE IDEA of donuts in the new year (especially after weeks of holiday excess) just hear me out.

Heading east of Santa Monica's iconic beaches, world famous Santa Monica Pier and touristy Third Street Promenade, down Santa Monica Boulevard, will bring you to the Mid-City neighborhood and to perhaps the greatest donut shop in the world — D.K.'s Donuts.

Walk in and you will witness customers with mouths agape and eyes glazed over, entranced as they marvel over D.K.'s fluorescent glowing display case, a treasure chest of sugar coated, chocolate frosted, rainbow sprinkled chaos as apple fritters and sticky buns jostle for position, beckoning greedy eyes. It's hard to say no.

Locals have been saying yes for years now. It's only been recently that D.K.'s has elevated from neighborhood donut shop to foodie hot spot.

D.K.'s gained serious media attention in 2013 by tapping into the nation's cronut craze and (for trademark purposes) creating their rendition, the Double Decker O'nut. D.K.'s signature spin on the donut-croissant hybrid (as well as everything else that they make) is to astonish and overwhelm you with variety. Double Decker O'nuts became all the rage, and D.K.'s found themselves featured on popular food websites and local news outlets throughout the year. (Their cronuts were so good that they were threatened with a lawsuit by the New York bakery that invented them.) Santa Monica's favorite donut shop had dates to Hollywood's hottest award ceremonies with ridiculously large orders for their Double Decker O'nuts.

Now with a new year, D.K.'s is focusing on their donut roots with the ube root.

"D.K.'s is kicking off 2014 with purple yam donuts, which is perfect for Pantone's Color of the Year," CO-owner, and from what I gather the undisputed Donut Princess of Santa Monica, Mayly Tao cheerfully explained while holding an oversized rectangular tray of the bright purple donuts made with Buttermilk, Inc.'s new Purple Yam baking mix.

Pantone is a company best know for implementing standardized color matching systems and annually decrees a Color of the Year. This year's featured color, Radiant Orchid — aka, purple.

Never shy of riding trends, Mayly and her family set sights on the ube root, a bright lavender yam, as the featured ingredient for their latest and greatest creation.

"We always want to expand our products and find new ways to treat the customers. We hope that this ube product will attract foodies to D.K.'s," she said.

The result, a crumb cake donut with subtle hints of the naturally sweet root. Unlike D.K.'s red velvet donut or orange-tinged pumpkin donut, the colors of the ube do not shine through. However, encrusting sweet bits of ube atop the donut give it the signature purple pop it rightfully deserves.

The greatest challenge for the new ube donut is simply standing out in a display case of 100-plus varieties. With its exotic name (unless you're Filipino) and bright purple studded coating, the ube donut has a fighting chance amongst a sea of buttermilk bars, bear claws, and maple bacon logs.

Ube is a major crop and food source in the Philippines. It is many times compared, as well as confused with the taro root. Ube is used in a variety of desserts, as well as a flavor for ice cream, rolls, tarts, cookies, cakes and other pastries. That being said, mixing ube into donuts seems prudent in the year of the Radiant Orchid! Along with its naturally sweet flavors and color, ube has some health benefits by being high in potassium, vitamin C, fiber, and antioxidants. Never mind the fact that in this instance it is deep fried and bathed in a sugary glaze.

As Mayly laid down the details of all things ube, her mother (chief of D.K.'s development team) interrupted with two new concepts, a chicken salad O'nut sandwich and a tuna salad O'nut sandwich. I came into D.K.'s to discuss one new product and two more products were born. That's how D.K.'s is, family run with endless possibilities.

"We have all these ideas and we know it's just going to mean more work for us," Mayly explained, half rolling her eyes. "But we do it anyways."

Mayly's New Year's resolution — meditate.

MICHAEL can be seen riding around town on his bike burning calories so he can eat more food. He can be reached at michael@smdp.com. Follow him on Twitter at https://twitter.com/greaseweek

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Michael 'Snacks' Ryan *michael@smdp.com*

ROOT CAUSE: Mayly Tao poses with her latest creation, a donut made with the ube root, a bright lavender yam from the Philippines.

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FAULT
FROM PAGE 1

Foods plot, they required digging to be performed to determine if the faults were in fact located on site. This process, called trenching, did occur, Takiguchi said.

It took some time for city officials to track down the proof but they found it, he said. GeoConcepts Inc. a Los Angeles-based engineering firm told city officials that they trenched the property before it was built in 2003 and found that the fault was not located on the site, Takiguchi said.

GeoConcepts could not be reached by press time but Takiguchi said the company is in the process of providing written proof that the site was deemed safe more than a decade ago.

Both Takiguchi and Planning Director David Martin said that they are confident — based on the soil testing and the trenching that occurred on the Whole Foods property — that none of the four buildings are located on top of a fault line. They are built about 200 to 500 feet from the fault line, city officials said.

The Santa Monica fault, specifically, has not yet been mapped by the California Geological Survey (CGS). A statewide map identifies fault lines but is too broad to be used for regulatory purposes. This year, CGS geologists plan to draw a detailed map of the Santa Monica fault, creating a zone in which greater regulation will be required by the state.

Developers hoping to build anywhere within the fault zones will be required by the state to hire independent contractors to study the land and determine if a fault line exists there. Developers will not be allowed to build on top of a fault line.

Since 1995, despite the absence of the CGS map, City Hall has required all of the tests that the state will require when the map is complete, Takiguchi said.

"Although the official map from the state today doesn't treat the Santa Monica fault as active, we take the higher road and we treat it as active," he said.

Fault lines came up during the Planning Commission's discussion of the Hines project, slated for the corner of 26th Street and Olympic Boulevard.

Some residents and commissioners expressed concern that the massive proposed project would be built on top of an active fault.

If the 737,000-square-foot project is approved by City Council, Hines will have to perform soils testing, planning officials said. And if the testing shows that plot of land sits on top of a fault line, the project can't be built.

dave@smdp.com



Photo courtesy Red Cross of Santa Monica

BAD TIMES: The Northridge earthquake caused considerable damage in Santa Monica, despite being located roughly 13 miles away from the epicenter. Here a structure caught fire and was destroyed. Building loss was estimated at $250 million citywide.



RESULTS
FROM PAGE 1

teachers announced, in a letter to the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, that they had been diagnosed with thyroid cancer. More than a dozen other teachers complained of negative health symptoms.

Several rooms were shuttered immediately and the district tested for various harmful chemicals. Air samples came back safe, but tests of caulk and dust were above EPA standards.

Last month the district announced they would test, then clean, then perform more tests of about a dozen rooms on campus over winter break. The cleaning has been going on all week and the post-cleaning tests will be performed this weekend.

Rosenfeld said that the highest level from the recent sampling, 96.7 nanograms of PCB per cubic meter, is significant if the testing occurred with the windows open.

Some of the rooms were tested with the windows open, Superintendent Sandra Lyon said.

"It's not unusual for teachers to have windows open in their classrooms, especially when they are full of students and we were advised that you would want to capture some air samples that replicate actual in-use conditions of the classrooms," she said in an e-mail.

It's unclear if the rooms with the highest PCB values were tested with the windows open or closed.

The post-cleaning tests will be performed with the windows closed and EPA oversight. Initial post-cleaning testing plans, presented by the district's consultant, Mark Katchen, were to be done with the windows open, but EPA officials approved the plans only under the condition that they be closed.

Earlier this week, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER), a Washington D.C.-based advocacy group, called for the district to fire Katchen, complaining of a lack of transparency surrounding health concerns. Testing with the windows open, PEER said in a release, renders the results useless.

PEER also claims that the PCB testing is a red herring, drawing attention away from what they say is the larger issue of soil testing.

"Confining testing to PCBs found inside classroom caulk and fixtures, a wholly new concern that, while warranted because some samples exceeded federal standards, did not at all address the array of toxic chemicals found in soil across the campuses," the PEER release said.

In 2011, the district performed a soil remediation project during which a number of hazardous chemicals were identified in the soil.

Last month, officials from the California Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) said that the soil testing had not required state oversight but that preliminary review of the documents looked safe. The DTSC does plan to perform further soil testing.

The district has been closed and Lyon has been out of the office, but she did respond to a Daily Press e-mail on Friday saying that cleaning has gone "very well" thus far.

"We did clean all of the rooms over the break with (best management practices) so that teachers and students can return to their original classrooms with confidence," she said.

Results from this weekend's post-cleaning testing will be available around Jan. 14, Lyon said before winter break.

Students and teachers will return to classrooms on Monday.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

DOWNTOWN

Minor earthquake shakes Santa Monica

A shallow, minor earthquake shook western areas of Los Angeles and neighboring communities Friday morning shortly before noon, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the magnitude-3.0 tremor occurred at 11:48 a.m.

The quake was centered 1 mile northwest of Marina del Rey at a depth of 7 miles.

Residents reporting on the USGS community response Internet page characterize the intensity as weak to light.

–ASSOCIATED PRESS

JOBS
FROM PAGE 1

has maintained traction in the U.S., particularly in a climate of high unemployment. The theory dates to 1851 and says if a group enters the labor market — or in this case, remains in it beyond their normal retirement date — others will be unable to gain employment or will have their hours cut.

It's a line of thinking that has been used in the U.S. immigration debate and in Europe to validate early retirement programs, and it relies on a simple premise: That there are a fixed number of jobs available. In fact, most economists dispute this. When women entered the workforce, there weren't fewer jobs for men. The economy simply expanded.

The same is true with older workers, they argue.

"There's no evidence to support that increased employment by older people is going to hurt younger people in any way," said Alicia Munnell, director of the Center for Retirement Research and the co-author with Wu of "Are Aging Baby Boomers Squeezing Young Workers Out of Jobs?"

" It's not going to reduce their wages, it's not going to reduce their hours, it's not going to do anything bad to them," Munnell said.

Still, many remain unconvinced.

James Galbraith, a professor of government at the University of Texas at Austin, has advocated for a temporary lowering of the age to qualify for Social Security and Medicare to allow older workers who don't want to remain on the job a way to exit and to spur openings for younger workers.

He doesn't buy the comparison of older workers to women entering the workforce and says others' arguments on older workers expanding the economy don't make sense when there are so many unemployed people. If there was a surplus of jobs, he said, there would be no problem with people working longer. But there isn't.

"I can't imagine how you could refute that. The older worker retires, the employer looks around and hires another worker," he said. "It's like refuting elementary arithmetic."

The perception has persisted, from prominent stories in The New York Times, Newsweek and other media outlets, to a pointed question to Rep. Nancy Pelosi last year by the NBC reporter Luke Russert, who asked whether her refusal to step out of the House leadership (and the similar decisions of other older lawmakers) was denying younger politicians a chance. A chorus of lawmakers around Pelosi muttered and shouted "discrimination," until the Democratic leader chimed in herself.

"Let's for a moment honor it as a legitimate question, although it's quite offensive," she said. "But you don't realize that, I guess."

The heart of Russert's question makes sense to many: If Pelosi doesn't give up her position, a younger person doesn't have a chance to take it. That viewpoint is repeated in countless workplaces around the country, where a younger person awaits a senior employee's departure for their chance to ascend.

In the microeconomic view of things, Pelosi remaining in her job at the age of 73 does deny others her district's seat in Congress or a chance to ascend to the leadership. But economists say the larger macroeconomic view gives a clearer picture: Having older people active and productive actually benefits all age groups, they say, and spurs the creation of more jobs.

Munnell and Wu analyzed Current Population Survey data to test for any changes in employment among those under 55 when those 55 and older worked in greater numbers. They found no evidence younger workers were losing work and in fact found the opposite: Greater employment, reduced unemployment and yielded higher wages.

Munnell said, outside of economists, the findings can be hard for people to understand when they think only of their own workplace.

"They just could not get in their heads this dynamism that is involved," she said. "You can't extrapolate from the experience of a single company to the economy as a whole."

Melissa Quercia, 35, a controller for a small information technology company in Phoenix, said she sees signs of the generational job battle all around her: jobs once taken by high schoolers now filled by seniors, college graduates who can't find work anywhere, the resulting dearth of experience of younger applicants. She doesn't see economists' arguments playing out. Older people staying on the job aren't spurring new jobs, because companies aren't investing in creating new positions, she said.

"It's really hard to retire right now, I understand that," she said. "But if the younger generation doesn't have a chance to get their foot in the door, then what?"

Jonathan Gruber, an economist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who edited a book on the subject for the National Bureau of Economic Research, said it's a frustrating reality of his profession: That those things he knows as facts are disputed by the populace.

"If you polled the average American they probably would think the opposite," he said. "There's a lot of things economists say that people don't get and this is just one of them."

Editor's note: Aging America is a joint AP-APME project examining the aging of the baby boomers and the impact that this so-called silver tsunami has had on society.

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

BID #4124 PROVIDE CUMMINS OEM PARTS AS REQUIRED BY THE BIG BLUE BUS.

- **Submission Deadline Is January 28, 2014 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

The bid packets can be downloaded at:

- ***http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm***

Request for bid forms and specifications may be obtained from the City of Santa Monica, 1717 4th St., Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, or by e-mailing your request to Kellee.macdonald@smgov.net. Bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica.

Vendors interested in doing business with the City of Santa Monica are encouraged to register online at http://www.smgov.net/finance/purchasing/

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SURF REPORT



O'NEILL

O'NEILL CARRIES APPAREL, FOOTWEAR, ACCESSORIES,
WETSUITS AND ROBERT'S SURFBOARDS.

131 BROADWAY SANTA MONICA, CA 90401 | (657) 859-3721
FACEBOOK.COM/ONEILLSANTAMONICA

Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **59.2°**

SATURDAY – **FLAT** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Minimal WNW and SSW swells

SUNDAY – **FLAT** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Minimal WNW and SSW swells

MONDAY – **FLAT** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Minimal WNW and SSW swells

TUESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3ft
Small WNW swell, strongest for winter spots out west/north

WEDNESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3ft
Small WNW swell, strongest for winter spots out west/north

BEACH REPORT CARD

NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous 30 days up to the ending date of: **January 1, 2014**

HEAL THE BAY - 1444 9th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 - beachreportcard.org - brc@healthebay.org - 800 HEAL BAY

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)

- Number of sewage spills -- 0
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 4
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 30 / 31
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 9 / 11

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SIMA and Swain Barker Foundation

Heal the Bay reminds you not to swim or surf within 100 yards of any flowing storm drain or for at least 3 days after a rainstorm. After a rain, indicator bacteria counts at beaches throughout California usually far exceed health criteria in the state's Beach Closure and Health Warning Protocol.

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	B	A+
Nicholas Beach at Son Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Los Alisos creeks.		
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A+	B
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	C	B
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	F	C
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	F
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	D	C
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A+	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	C	A+
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (breach location)- daily.	B	A+
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	A+
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs.	F	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	A+	ns
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	A	A+
Centerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	ns	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	D	ns
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	D	C
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	B	F
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	A+
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	B	C
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	A+
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	B	A+
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A	F
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	B	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	F
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	C
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	B	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	A+
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of ONW jetty).	A+	A
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	A

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A - F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone
WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days
ns -- no sample taken

Heal the Bay is a nonprofit environmental organization making Southern California's coastal waters and watersheds, including Santa Monica Bay, safe, healthy and clean. We use science, education, community action and advocacy to pursue our mission.

Heal the Bay

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Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card™ is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A-F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.

The Beach Report Card is an indication of past water quality and is not a warranty of the current safety of those areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

NCAA FOOTBALL

2013 produces big numbers, but not much defense

BY EDDIE PELLS
AP National Writer

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. With apologies to Florida State, the question must be asked: Can anyone out there play defense?

The Seminoles come into the BCS title game ranked first in the country in points allowed.

Auburn and the rest of them? Pretty much every one-liner about busy scoreboard operators and video-game line scores applies.

Including Tuesday night's Chik-fil-A bowl, there have been nine games this season involving teams from BCS automatic-qualifier conferences that produced 100 or more points, according to STATS. Included among those: Auburn's 59-42 win over Missouri in the Southeastern Conference title game.

As for anything resembling the "Game of the Century" the 1946 classic between No. 1 Army and No. 2 Notre Dame that ended in a 0-0 deadlock:

"That's an impossibility. That won't happen," Oklahoma defensive coordinator Mike Stoops said. "It's trickling down now to where all the Southeastern Conference teams have parts or variations of spread offenses. They're very difficult to defend because of the space on the field, and then the quarterbacks running with the ball makes it even more challenging."

The over-under for Monday night's title game, despite Florida State's nation-leading 11.1 points-per-game allowed, is 67Ω.

The average over-under for this season's bowl games: 58. Through the first 30 games of bowl season, winners averaged 34.6 points.

"Back in the day, games were decided 10-3 and that was great stuff and hopefully we can get back to that," said Central Florida linebacker Terrance Plummer, a few days before the Knights topped Baylor 52-42 in the Fiesta Bowl. It was the third bowl game this season to produce more than 90 points.

But Plummer's vision probably won't materialize anytime soon, at least not with the way the numbers are trending.

Thanks to the influx of spread offenses that don't huddle, along with a rapid-fire substitution patterns and more athletic quarterbacks, defenses have been taking an increasingly steady drubbing over the past decade or so.

Teams in automatic-qualifier conferences averaged 30.8 points per game this season, according to STATS, continuing an upward trend from that dates to 2006, when the big schools averaged 25.4 points per game.

And by "big schools," that includes some of the most hallowed programs in football.

Remember tough-nosed Big Ten football? This year, the conference's marquee matchup produced this score: Ohio State 42, Michigan 41. So much for three yards and a cloud of dust. Another Michigan final from this season: Wolverines 63, Indiana Hoosiers 47 in football, not hoops.

"With the way the rules have changed and the evolution of the spread offense and all those things, not too much shocks me," Georgia Tech defensive coordinator Ted Roof said. "I pretty much can roll with it. As long as we win, I'm good."

The Auburn-Alabama game, another bastion of old-time, grind-it-out football, was a 34-28 blockbuster this season, capped by arguably the most memorable play in the sport's history — Chris Davis' 109-yard return of a missed field goal with no time left in regulation.

That was once-in-a-lifetime.

Some of these other 2013 final scores are simply routine:

- Duke 58, Pittsburgh 55
- Arizona State 62, USC 41
- SMU 55, Rutgers 52

The list goes on. It cuts across virtually all the big conferences, led by the Pac-12, where teams averaged 33.5 points a game this season — 6.5 more than they did only five years ago. That's an increase of 24 percent.

"It's kind of like fast-break basketball when you're playing football and get the ball in the playmaker's hands," said Charlie Strong, coach of a Louisville team that ranks fourth in the country in points allowed. "They're looking for mismatches and it's what you do on offense. Now it's a mismatched game, so get the ball to your best player's hand and let him see if he can go make a guy miss just defensively."

Over the 30 bowl games played through Thursday night's Sugar Bowl (Final: Oklahoma 45, Alabama 31), Louisville was one of only four teams to hold its opponent to single digits.

Auburn will come into the title game ranked a mediocre 38th in points allowed (24 per game) and a downright bad 88th in yards allowed (423.5).

"We have got terrible-looking overall statistics and some of them are not misleading," Auburn defensive coordinator Ellis Johnson said. "But we make critical stops at critical times and we're good on third and fourth down percentage and good in the red zone and good in the fourth quarter."

Though offense has been slowly, steadily taking over the game for decades, some suggest the most recent uptick originates with Chip Kelly, whose offense at Oregon, at its peak in 2010, averaged 49 points a game. Kelly got snapped up by the Philadelphia Eagles before this season and, in a turnaround from decades past, many an NFL coach is now looking to the college game to find new wrinkles in offense.

The Broncos and Peyton Manning set an NFL record with 606 points this season in part because of a rapid-moving offense that warbles between fast and warp speed.

"I think guys are willing to experiment and then I also think with technology you're also able to get and watch college games," Broncos offensive coordinator Adam Gase said. "If you see something you like, you can go pull it up with the click of a button. That's, to me, a big difference. There's more crossover, not just people, but ideas."

Auburn comes into the title game averaging 40 per game, while Florida State puts up 53. Despite FSU's stout defense, those gaudy numbers are the reason oddsmakers are predicting a game with a final score at around 38-30.

But those who love a good defensive standoff can take heart. The last time the over-under in the title game was in this neighborhood was in 2011 when Auburn played Oregon. The number was 74, though Steve Spurrier said he expected something around a 60-55 final, given that Kelly was matching wits with Gus Malzahn, the now-Auburn coach who was then offensive coordinator.

Final score: Auburn 22, Oregon 19.

Since then, Alabama won back-to-back title games by allowing zero and 14 points, respectively.

Leading to at least a glimmer of hope for all those linebackers and defensive backs out there, to say nothing of those at Auburn and Florida State who have been given more than a month to prepare.

"If a game was 9-3, it wouldn't bother me at all," Strong said. "If it was 15-12, it wouldn't bother me at all. I just know at the end of the day, if you're going to win, you're going to win with great defense."

MOVIE TIMES

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
(310) 260-1528

Saturday, Jan. 4

Philomena (PG-13) 1hr 38min
4:00pm
American Cinematheque members-only screening.

How Strange to be named Federico (NR) 1hr 30min
8 1/2 (NR) 2hrs 24minn
7:30pm

Sunday, Jan. 5

The Queen (PG-13) 1hr 37min
The Grifters (R) 1hr 50min
2:00pm
This screening is open to American Cinematheque Members only.

Totem Stories (NR) 48min
7:30pm
Introduction by "Totem" company manager Jeff Lund and Cirque du Soleil cast member Pippo Crotti. All ticket buyers will be eligible to win passes to Cirque du Soleil's "Totem" at the Santa Monica Pier from Jan. 17 to March 16.

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(310) 458-3924

47 Ronin (PG-13) 2hrs 07min
11:00am, 5:00pm, 10:50pm

Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) 2hrs 26min
10:45am, 12:45pm, 4:05pm, 7:30pm, 10:45pm

Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones ()
10:30am, 2:15pm, 4:45pm, 7:15pm, 9:45pm

Grudge Match (PG-13) 1hr 53min
10:30am, 1:20pm, 4:15pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

47 Ronin 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 07min
2:00pm, 8:00pm

AMC 7 Santa Monica
1310 Third St.
(310) 451-9440

Frozen (PG) 1hr 25min
9:45am, 12:45pm, 5:30pm, 8:15pm, 10:55pm

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (NR) 1hr 59min
10:45am, 1:50pm, 4:50pm, 8:00pm, 11:35pm

Secret Life of Walter Mitty (PG) 2hrs 05min
10:10am, 1:05pm, 4:05pm, 8:45pm, 11:40pm

Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) 2hrs 41min
9:30am, 4:45pm, 11:00pm

Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug in 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 41min
1:00pm, 7:10pm

Saving Mr. Banks (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
10:00am, 1:05pm, 5:00pm, 8:30pm, 11:00pm

Wolf of Wall Street (R) 2hrs 45min
9:30am, 1:30pm, 3:45pm, 7:50pm, 11:00pm

American Hustle (R) 2hrs 09min
10:15am, 1:40pm, 4:15pm, 7:35pm, 11:45pm

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 Second St.
(310) 478-3836

Act of Killing (NR) 1hr 55min
10:30am

Inside Llewyn Davis (R) 1hr 45min
10:50am, 1:30pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:45pm

Nebraska (R) 1hr 50min
1:20pm, 7:20pm

Great Beauty (La Grande Bellezza) (NR) 2hrs 30min
11:00am

Philomena (R) 1hr 34min
1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 9:55pm

Her (R)
10:45am, 1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

12 Years a Slave (R) 2hrs 13min
4:10pm, 10:00pm

For more information, e-mail **editor@smdp.com**

DINNER OUT TONIGHT, AQUARIUS

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ You could have the intention of accomplishing certain errands only to toss that idea to the wayside. You might resist the urge to take the day off, but even at work you still might be found daydreaming. Head out early, if you can. Tonight: A quiet night at home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ See beyond the obvious. In a discussion, others will share what they really would like to do. Listen well. Encourage a friend to take a risk and go for what he or she wants. This person will appreciate your feedback. Tonight: Off with friends and loved ones.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Take time to share your plans and get feedback from an important friend or loved one. Schedule some time with a special person in order to get to know him and her better. Both of you will be happier for the experience. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Understand what is going on with someone you don't see regularly. You might decide to take the time to go visit this person. Don't forget the importance of maintaining eye contact. You will understand much more when you are together. Tonight: Use your imagination.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Reach out to a dear friend or loved one. This person seems to have a twinkle in his or her eye and a general sense of what to do. You naturally lead, but can you naturally follow? That ability could be the path to enjoying a friendship even more. Tonight: Continue the theme.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Keep your cellphone handy. It will seem as if nearly everyone you know is calling you, and perhaps even some people you don't know. Screen your calls and cut the texting. Tonight: Say "yes" to an invitation.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Know that you do need to keep working to get through a lot of errands and paperwork. You might want to take off; however, it seems as though you can't afford to do this just yet. Tonight: Use your imagination when making plans.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ When you feel spontaneous, you reveal more of the mischievous child within yourself. A loved one delights in your company when you are this expressive. Whatever the two of you plan to do, it will be enjoyable and fun for both of you. Tonight: Add spice to the moment.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You'll finally land at home, and you might decide to enjoy a very quiet day. Consider going for a walk or getting some exercise. Schedule the day for you and your well-being. Tonight: Order out.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You might want to reach out to someone you care about, as this person makes a difference to you. Make plans to catch a movie together. You have been entertaining everyone else, and now it is time for you to have some fun. Tonight: Share some dinner with this person.

AQUARIUS (Jan.20 -Feb. 18)
★★★★ Allow yourself to make that purchase you really wanted for Christmas but did not get. Make sure your budget can sustain the cost, though. In fact, you might discover something else that seems more appealing. Consider what bells and whistles you need. Tonight: Dinner out.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ If you feel as if you are top dog today, you are right-on. Ask for what you want, and do what you want. Some of you will enjoy reading or watching a movie at home, while others will opt to socialize with friends. Tonight: Only what makes you happy.

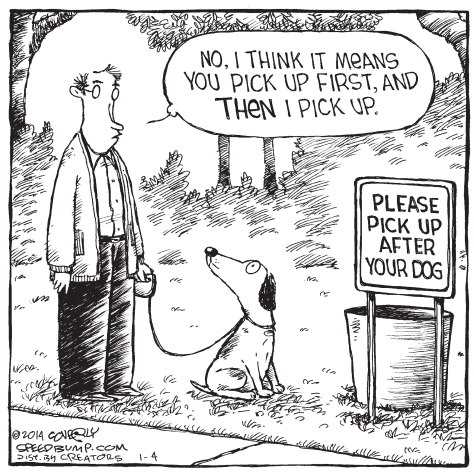
Weekend Edition, January 4-5, 2014

This year you have an unusual capacity to visualize your goals. You also might develop your sixth sense to the extent that you know who is calling even without looking at the caller ID. You seem to be more in tune with your environment than in the past. If you are single, you will know when you meet the right person. Have the courage to remain unattached until that point. If you are attached, your intuition allows you to read your sweetie in a new way. PISCES encourages you to break past conventional thinking.

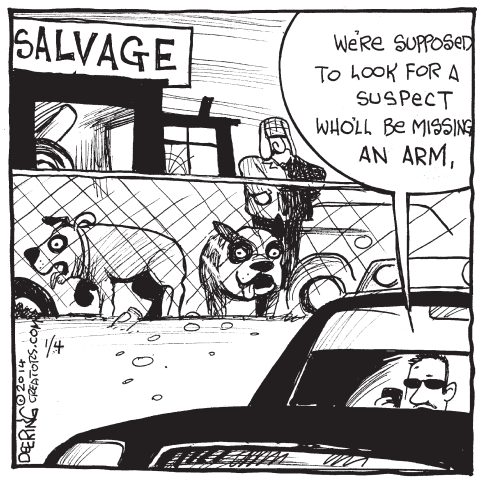
JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★Dynamic ★★ So-So
★★★★ Positive ★ Difficult
★★★ Average

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
Check out the HOROSCOPES above!
smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office (310) 458-7737

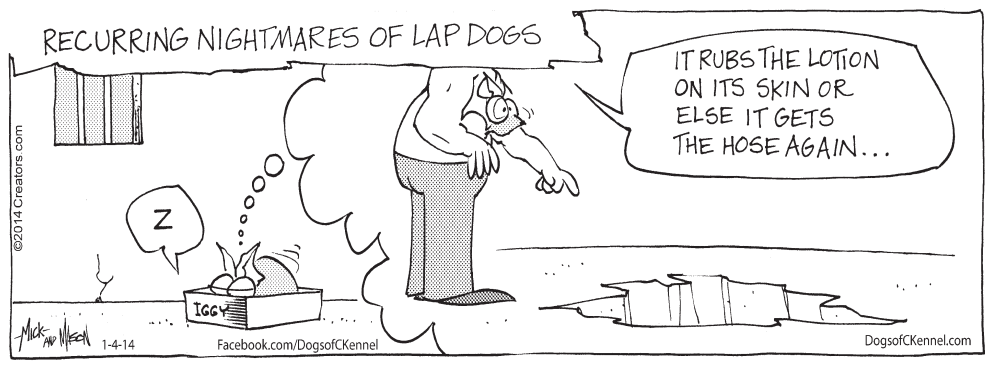
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



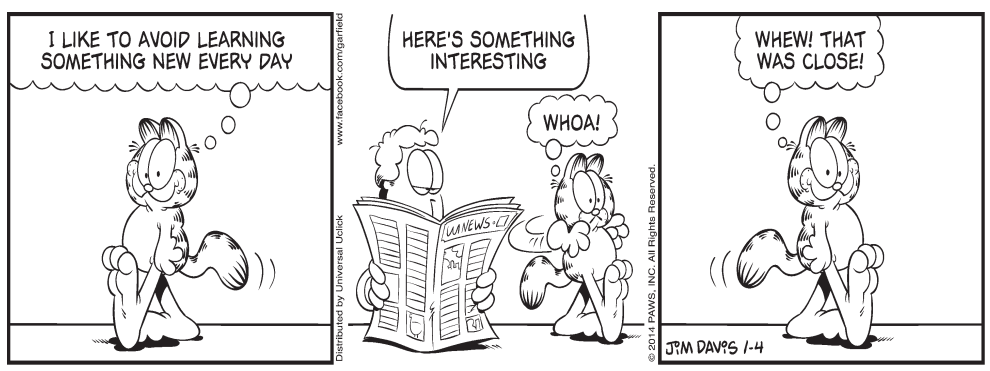
Strange Brew
By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



The Meaning of Lila
By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



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. The difficulty level ranges from ★ (easiest) to ★★★★★ (hardest).

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

King Features Syndicate

GETTING STARTED

There are many strategies to solving Sudoku. One way to begin is to examine each 3x3 grid and figure out which numbers are missing. Then, based on the other numbers in the row and column of each blank cell, find which of the missing numbers will work. Eliminating numbers will eventually lead you to the answer.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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MYSTERY PHOTO

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize from the Santa Monica Daily Press. Send answers to *editor@smdp.com*. Send your mystery photos to *editor@smdp.com* to be used in future issues.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Bath-day cake
5 Clip
9 Tadpole, e.g.
10 Let in or let on
12 Profit
13 Lasso user
14 Emit
16 Big galoot
17 Harbor boat
18 She loved Hamlet
20 Orates
22 Let off steam
23 Coffee bar order
25 Racket
28 Quiver contents
32 Gift for a prom date
34 Contrived
35 Gardner of "Mogambo"
36 Like a gala
38 Bank subtraction
40 Doctrine
41 Disparaging
42 Lewd looks
43 Wound reminder
44 Cuts off

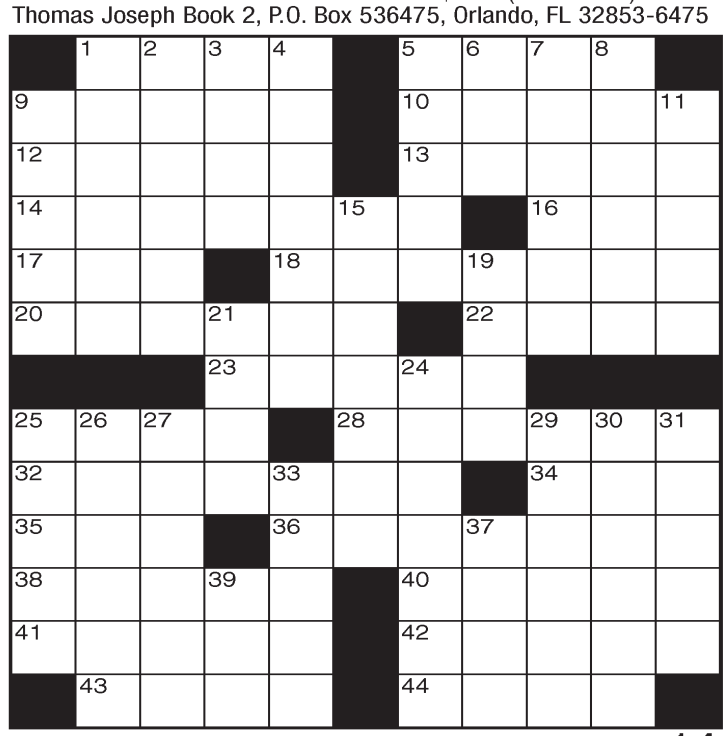
DOWN

1 Be frugal
2 Carrot color
3 Gung-ho
4 Bad boxer
5 Singer Brooks
6 Brouhaha
7 Stab
8 Cufflinks' kin
9 Survives
11 Pay for everyone
15 Draw attention away from
19 Continually
21 Some charity
24 Bridge support
25 A bunch
26 Witch groups
27 Middle East language
29 Voiced a view
30 Vacillates
31 Undoes a dele
33 Following
37 Prom attendee
39 Cider girl of song

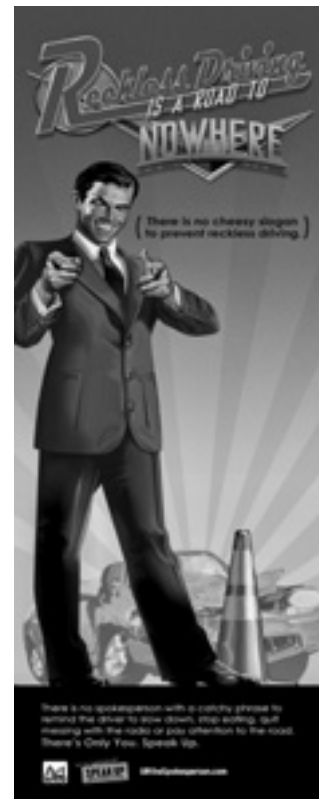
M	A	T	T	■	■	B	A	S	E	■
A	C	H	E	S	■	I	R	O	N	S
S	T	E	A	K	■	T	I	N	G	E
T	O	T	■	I	T	S	A	S	I	N
S	U	R	G	E	R	Y	■	A	N	S
■	T	E	A	R	Y	■	K	N	E	E
■	■	S	I	S	■	C	A	D	■	■
R	A	P	T	■	P	E	E	L	S	■
U	M	A	■	S	E	L	L	O	U	T
B	U	S	L	A	N	E	■	V	I	E
E	S	S	A	Y	■	B	E	E	T	S
S	E	E	I	N	■	S	T	R	U	T
■	D	R	N	O	■	■	E	S	P	Y

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



1-4



NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Took It Too Far: Coughlan elementary school in Langley, British Columbia, announced to parents in November that henceforth it would not just prohibit abusive or unwanted physical contact among its kindergarteners, but all contact. Officials said they were responding to parents who objected to "rough play," but, said another parent, incredulous, "No tag, no hugging, no touching at all. ... I am not going to tell my daughter she can't touch her friends at school. I am going to teach her boundaries."

■ Tone Deaf: In South Africa, with one of the highest incidences of rape in the world, one question on its recent nationwide high school standardized drama test asked students to direct (as if staging a play) the rape of a baby, given only certain props. South Africa's Education Department defended the question as assessing pupils' concept of "using metaphor" as a theatrical technique. The question was based on an award-winning play by anti-rape activist Lara Foot Newton (who, of course, wrote primarily for adults).

TODAY IN HISTORY

1966 - A military coup takes place in Upper Volta (later Burkina Faso), dissolving the National Parliament and leading to a new national constitution.

1970 - A magnitude 7.7 earthquake strikes Tonghai County, China, killing at least 15,000 people.

1972 - Rose Heilbron becomes the first female judge to sit at the Old Bailey in London, England.

1974 - United States President Richard Nixon refuses to hand over materials subpoenaed by the Senate Watergate Committee.

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1.
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Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$	2,675,516
South of Wilshire	=	$	949,000
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Ocean Park	=	$	2,581,000
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