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CALIFORNIA:

Hardly any snow but not in drought again, yet

Associated Press

The grassy brown Sierra meadow where California's water managers gave the results of the winter's first manual snowpack measurements Wednesday told the story — the drought-prone state is off to another unusually dry start in its vital winter rain and snow season.

"We would like to have had more snow," Grant Davis, the head of California's Department of Water Resources, told news crews gathered in this mountain field, bare of all but a few crusty dots of old snow.

SEE **DROUGHT** PAGE 7

Revised suit faults Google for asking hires about prior pay

BY RYAN NAKASHIMA
AP Technology Writer

A revised gender-pay lawsuit seeking class-action status against Google faults the search giant for asking new hires about their prior salary, a practice now banned in California.

The suit, filed Wednesday, also adds a fourth complainant, a preschool teacher with a master's degree. The four women allege they were underpaid by Google compared with their male counterparts.

SEE **GOOGLE** PAGE 6

Santa Monica hosts NY Library film

KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

On Tuesday, visitors can walk through the doors at the Main Library in Santa Monica only to be transported to another library system across the country, at a screening of Ex Libris: The New York Public Library, a documentary by Frederick Wiseman.

Wiseman's latest observational film focuses on the people, the scenes, and the sounds of the New York Public Library system as it shifts into the digital age. The New York Times called the three hour film "magnificent."

Scene by scene, the film takes the audience through about a dozen branches in the massive public institution, introducing us to patrons, teachers, and academics of every skin color, background and status – from poor to prestige.

"Andy Warhol stole lots of stuff from us," explains one librarian in the film, noting the library's impact on pop culture. In another scene, administrators grapple with how to respond to the number of homeless patrons frequenting the book stacks.

The 88-year-old documentarian has been exploring the role of institutions, and the people they involve, since his 1967 directorial debut Titicut Follies, about patient-inmates at the Bridgewater State Hospital. Ex Libris, which means "from books," is the former lawyer's 41st documentary.

The screening takes place Tuesday, Jan. 9, at 5 p.m. and is free. Space, however, is limited and on a first-arrival basis. For more information, visit smpl.org or contact the Santa Monica Public Library at (310) 458-8600.

kate@smdp.com



LEAGUE TITLE

Courtesy photo

FC England, a local soccer organization, said their newest addition won the Bronze West Division in their inaugural season. Pictured are: Back row (l-r): Mason Lopata, Cooper Hindshaw (captain), Ronin Dourado, Paul Spacey (Coach), Kyle Kolhoff, Joe Mirner, Finn Evans. Front row (l-r): Marco Reis, Ryan Kazerani, Liam Atwood, Daniel Castro, Kai Del Bello, Magnus Evans, Sam Snyder.

Olivia Munn to helm Critics' Choice Awards after T.J. Miller

Associated Press

Organizers said Wednesday that Olivia Munn will host the 2018 Critics' Choice Awards to be broadcast Jan. 11 on the CW from the Barker Hangar in Santa Monica.

Munn follows T.J. Miller who hosted last year. Miller has since been accused of sexually assaulting a woman when he was in college. Munn is among Brett Ratner's sexual harassment accusers and has been fighting for reforms in Hollywood.

Joey Berlin, president of the Broadcast Film Critics Association, said in a statement that Munn's work as an actress along with her activism give her a powerful voice, making her the perfect candidate to lead the night.

"We are absolutely thrilled to have Olivia hosting this year's ceremony, and know that she will deliver an entertaining and sharp-witted evening to everyone in the room, and the viewers at home," said Berlin. "Beyond her skills as an actress, Olivia's work as an activist

SEE **AWARDS** PAGE 7


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, January 4

LEGOS and Games
Get creative with LEGOs, try our fun tabletop games, or some coloring! Ages 4-10. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 2 – 4 p.m.

Current Events Discussion 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.

Baby Time
Storytime, songs and rhymes for babies ages 0-18 months. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St, 10 – 10:20 a.m.

Friday, January 5

Guest House Open
Free tours begin at 11 a.m., 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. No reservations needed. Marion Davies Guest House, 415 PCH.

Saturday, January 6

Cultivating the Expressive Body with Jeremy Hahn
Basic arc of the practice: welcome circle – introduction to the workshop - Tune in meditation - Somatic warm up, visualizations and centering practices - Improvisational movement explorations as an individual, with a partner or group - Gratitude circle - Closing reflections and group share. Cost: $10. 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/62857
or call (310) 458-2239.

Ocean Park Branch Book Group: Our Souls at Night by Kent Haruf
A Monthly Meeting of the Ocean Park Book Group. Meets the 1st Saturday of the Month. Open to All. No Registration Required. Ocean Park Branch Library, 2601 Main St., 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Fun-A-Day Hangout with Amy Bauer of Dreameco
The premise is simple: pick a project, work on it every day in January, then show your work the following month in a big group show! Join folks around the country who are making January their Fun-A-Day month: here led by Amy Bauer of Dreameco Crafts. 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Free. Register at www.eventbrite.com/e/fun-a-day-group-show-with-amy-bauer-of-dreameco-tickets-40911050052 or call (310) 458-2239.

Preschool Explorers: Weather
Explore a new science topic each month with stories and hands-on activities. This month: Weather. Best for ages 3-6. 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd.

"The Sixties: The Rolling Stones"
"The Sixties: The Rolling Stones" with Rock Historian Vincent Bruno at the Kaufman Brentwood Branch Library, 11820 San Vincente Boulevard at 2 p.m. Bruno's entertaining, interactive and informative lecture features the story of of rock's original "bad boys" during their formative years, early shows, personal and professional issues, with highlights from their post 60's work. Admission is free. (310) 575-8273.

Sunday, January 7

A Watercolor Journey with Timothy Kitz
Join watercolorist and urban sketcher Timothy Kitz in a 6-week immersive watercolor course, open to all levels. Timothy will share tips about both medium and technique while going through weekly demo exercises to hone your compositional vision, principles of color values, color mixing and brush work. 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Cost: $140. Drop-in participation is available for $35, cash only. (please bring exact change!) Call (310) 458-2239 to confirm drop-in availability if you are not bringing your own rig. Please note that this series requires a $20 cash material fee to be paid to the instructor. https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/62872

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Pico Blvd.

Committee for Racial Justice presents: Gentrification II: Drilling Down on Housing Issues

CRJ's workshop on Jan.7 will feature a panel including Michael Soloff from the Housing Commission in Santa Monica, Robbie Jones (a local Black historian & activist) and Maria Loya from the Pico Neighborhood Assoc. to discuss what has been happening to housing availability & affordability in communities of color and what remedies might stabilize diverse neighborhoods. Black and Latino communities are especially threatened.

Information will be available to guide you in doing what you can to support a bill in the state assembly that can lead to strengthening rent control efforts.

This is part of an ongoing monthly workshop series sponsored by the Committee For Racial Justice. Co-sponsored by Virginia Ave. Park; the African American Parent, Staff, Student Support Group; and the Church in Ocean Park.

Sunday, January 7, 6 - 8:30 p.m. (singing group meets at 5:30 p.m. in Thelma Terry Bldg). Potluck supper at 6 & program at 6:30 p.m. Virginia Avenue Park Thelma Terry Bldg. 2200 Virginia Ave. Free Workshop.

SUBMITTED BY JOANNE BERLIN

Citywide

Bike-Pedestrian Safety Enforcement

The Santa Monica Police Department will be conducting Bike and Pedestrian Safety Enforcement Operations with focused enforcement efforts on primary collision factors involving motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.

The Police Department periodically identifies locations where bike and pedestrian collisions are prevalent, along with the violations that led to those collisions. In an effort to lower deaths and injuries, officers will be on duty patrolling areas where bike and pedestrian traffic collisions occur.

Field enforcement operations are scheduled for Friday January 5, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Monday January 8, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Officers will be on the lookout for violations by drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians that can potentially lead to life altering injuries. Special enforcement efforts will be directed towards drivers speeding, making illegal turns, failing to stop for signs and signals, failing to yield to pedestrians in cross walks and similar dangerous violations. Additionally, enforcement will occur for observed violations when pedestrians cross the street illegally or fail to yield to drivers who have the right of way. Bicyclists will be issued citations when they fail to follow similar traffic laws that also apply to motorists.

Bicyclists are encouraged to always wear a helmet; those under 18 years of age must wear helmets by law. Pedestrians should cross the street only in marked crosswalks or at corners.

Funding for this program is provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

SUBMITTED BY LIEUTENANT SAUL RODRIGUEZ

SAN FRANCISCO

Appeals court limits California credit card surcharge law

A federal appeals court says California can't prevent five businesses from charging additional fees to customers who use credit cards.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said Wednesday a 1985 state law that banned credit card surcharges violated the businesses' free speech rights.

The case dealt with swipe fees that merchants must pay credit-card issuers each time a customer charges a purchase. The state attorney general's office says surcharges at the cash register mislead customers about a product's true cost.

The 9th Circuit disagreed, noting that the law allowed the businesses to charge cash customers less. The court said the businesses only wanted to communicate the difference as a surcharge for credit card users rather than a discount for cash users.

The California attorney general's office said it was evaluating its options.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

CARSON

English defender Ashley Cole staying with LA Galaxy

Defender Ashley Cole has agreed to return for another season with the LA Galaxy.

The MLS club announced a one-year contract with the veteran English star on Wednesday.

The 37-year-old Cole had one goal and two assists in 29 games as the Galaxy's left back last year. The former Arsenal and Chelsea stalwart has been with the Galaxy for the past two seasons, making 55 appearances as one of MLS' most effective left backs.

Cole has provided steadiness and leadership to the Galaxy despite their slump to the bottom of the MLS standings last season.

Cole fills the club's last available foreign-allocation roster spot. The Galaxy also signed Norwegian defender Jorgen Skjelvik on a free transfer last month.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO

California cites Trump tweet in immigration policy fight

The California attorney general says a tweet by President Donald Trump shows the true motivation behind his decision to end a program protecting some young immigrants from deportation.

The Dec. 29 tweet says there can be no Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program without a wall on the Mexico border and other immigration changes.

In a court filing Tuesday with U.S. District Judge William Alsup, California Attorney General Xavier Becerra said the tweet is additional evidence that the president wanted to make DACA recipients a bargaining chip.

U.S. Department of Justice spokesman Devin O'Malley declined comment. The agency previously said the administration ended the program amid the possibility of a lawsuit against it.

Alsup is considering five lawsuits that seek to reinstate DACA.

The program was enacted by President Barack Obama and has protected about 800,000 people who were brought to the U.S. illegally as children or came with families who overstayed visas.

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Culture Watch

By Sarah A. Spitz

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Giving Voice To Local History (Part 2)

AT LUNCH WITH HIS WIFE KATHERINE (Kat), our mutual friend Ted Bonnitt, who brought us together, and me, Noel Blanc was doing what he does best, sharing personal reminiscences of our area as he experienced it. (This column is a continuation from Dec. 21).

There once was a time when Ocean Park was an entity unto itself, Noel says, and he'd know. He's one of the area's longest-time residents, whose exceedingly fit, 78-year-old life is interwoven with our Bay City.

"Pier and Marine Avenues were the original entrance to the Ocean Park Pier, before it became Pacific Ocean Park (POP) in 1958, and there was a long-running battle between Ocean Park, Santa Monica and Los Angeles about where one began and the other ended. When they finally decided to tear down Ocean Park Pier to build POP, the entry was in Santa Monica, and the exit was in L.A."

He attended the opening night of POP. "It was great. My dad (Mel Blanc, the "man of 1000 voices") came down with Jack Benny and me, everyone in a suit and tie, such a cosmopolitan atmosphere. For the first year, POP beat Disneyland's attendance but when the chilly winter weather hit, people stayed away, it lost tremendous numbers, and went downhill."

VIVA LAS VEGAS

During his very successful commercial producing career, Noel created radio campaigns for such giants as Coca Cola ("Things Go Better with Coke") along with Chrysler, Ford, Pontiac and Plymouth, and he also handled the opening of Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas. "The Teamsters were the mortgage holders, and they were controlled by the Mafia. So they put Doris Day on title as a 25% owner, because she was squeaky clean."

He worried about the consequences after one of his ideas for the opening backfired; he suggested the hotel offer free R&R to members of the military before its official opening, earning the hotel good press in the bargain. But when they trashed the place, Noel thought he'd get the blame. Fortunately, he didn't.

For a time, Mel Blanc (renowned for Bugs Bunny, Porky Pig, and dozens of Looney Tunes cartoon voices) moved the family to Beverly Hills. That's when a youngster named Eric Douglas stopped by for Halloween. Soon Noel was invited to watch a movie in his Dad's — movie star Kirk Douglas — projection room, a few blocks away.

"I was maybe 30, and Kirk 52, and we became the best of friends. We'd bike together, have lunch, travel together, rent helicopters to tour Tasmania or Canada, or take in the rapids in Jasper National Park; we even walked through the Pentagon together." The day after our lunch, Noel and Kat were planning to attend Kirk's 101st birthday.

FLYING HIGH

Noel loves flying helicopters (see the Dec. 21 column) and just one word explains why he bought one: "Traffic!"

He was once called upon to use his helicopter to chase an enormous goose, who'd situated itself dead center of the runway at Santa Monica Airport so planes could neither take off nor land. "I got it as far as Lincoln Boulevard, thinking that was enough. But as I was flying up the Malibu coast, I got another call, the goose came back. I turned the helicopter back to the airport, chased it farther out, and this time it stayed away."

In 1948, his father's national radio show, The Mel Blanc Show, was set in the fictitious "Mel Blanc's Fix-It Shop." Mel's retired parents were looking for something to do, so Mel opened an actual hardware store, "Mel Blanc's Fix-It Shop" at 48 Market Street in Venice, which they ran. With people stopping in just asking for Mel, the shop only lasted about 3 years, "till my grandfather said, enough already."

Noel worked with Mel as a director on comedy recordings, radio and TV for 30 years. And Katherine Blanc, Noel's wife, wrote for Mel's shows. She's also the author of 13 books, the latest an illustrated children's book "Melvin the Mouth" (Penguin-Random House), about the young Mel Blanc, before he became the Man of 1,000 voices.

Noel says, "The book is all about how in grammar school, Mel always made funny sounds in class, copying people's voices, getting lousy marks, getting kicked out, coming back and showing off with his voice." It will soon be produced as an audio book: no doubt with lots of vocal effects.

Mel told Noel one day, "I'd better teach you the voices, I'm not always going to be here." And Noel does do those voices but "Only a few lines at a time, not long form. Mel created those characters; he could sing and even harmonize as those characters. He had a one-of-a-kind, impossible 8-octave range and he never got hoarse, even for extended periods as (the gritty-voiced) Yosemite Sam. In fact, his vocal cords were studied by a doctor, who concluded that they were as thick, if not thicker, than (legendary opera singer) Caruso's."

Noel Blanc tells an amazing story about being invited to Neverland to meet, and later fly with, the late superstar, Michael Jackson. But you'll have to ask him about that yourself. You might find him at the Sunday Main Street Farmers Market. Just ask around for "The Table." Soon he'll turn his memories into a podcast, so stay tuned!

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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Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

I've Got Something Fun For You!

I HOPE YOU'LL PLAY

I've been thinking about it for a long time. It's something I first did back in college, in the UNM Daily Lobo, and it can be fun to participate in, and the results can be fascinating. I didn't invent it, of course, but every audience you aim it at gives different, telling results.

What small selection of music would you choose to listen to, for the rest of your life, if, say, you were marooned on a desert island? (With electricity, or maybe a solar source.) Five discs. (Yes, this is old school. Albums, not downloads.) You can fudge by including The Complete Sibelius Symphonies by Esa-Pekka Salonen, or Woodstock Every Note, but what I'm looking for are single albums that have become part of your very soul. "Meddle"? Chris Stapleton's "Traveller"? "Lady Sings the Blues"? "Kind of Blue"? "Blue"?

Send entries to my email at the bottom. Tell me where you live, and your age. (C'mon — I won't tell, promise.) Gender might be interesting, but not necessary. I can't wait.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

■ BARBARA MORRISON (incredible jazz-blues vocalist), Tues 1/9, PIPS, LA, 7 PM, free.

RECOMMENDED:

■ TONIGHT! Great talent, long drive, pricey ticket. KRIS KRISTOFFERSON (damn, he's 81! — you better go!), The Canyon, Santa Clarita, 9 PM, $58-88

■ TONIGHT! COCO MONTOYA (not quite in the Pantheon of blues guitarists but pretty close), Saint Rocke, Hermosa Beach, 8 PM, $15. Also Fri 1/5, The Coach House, San Juan Capistrano, 8 PM, $15, and Sat 1/6, Arcadia Blues Club, 7 PM, $20.

■ ADRIAN GALYSH (pretty hot guitar slinger, jazzy), Fri 1 /5, 94th Aero Squadron (very cool location, in the restaurant next to the Van Nuys airport, small planes, some vintage), 6 PM, free.

■ WILD WING (wild cowpunkish rockers, always a very energetic show) and five (or more?) other bands, The Smell's 20th-Anniversary Celebration, Fri 1/5, The Smell, downtown LA, 7 PM, $20. The Smell is a vital resource for our young'ns, an all-ages, alcohol and drug-free, punk rock/noise/experimental venue, which is losing their lease and their home and trying hard to find a new one. Notable for its DIY ethic, The Smell is home to many of the area's avant-garde performers and artists. They usually charge five bucks for bands all night, but this is a fundraiser. If you can't go, or, not your cup o' tea, just send them the money. Also Sunday.

■ EAST OF LINCOLN (never heard them but love the name!), Fri 1/5, The Trip, east side of Lincoln Blvd., SM, 9 PM, $10.

■ PATO BANTON (veteran Jamaican star, spiritual reggae), Fri 1/5, Whisky A Go-Go, 10 PM, $20.

■ FARTBARF (see what I told you about them last week) plus three other bands, Sat 1/6, The Hi Hat, LA, 8 PM, $10.

■ ESPRESSO, LOS BOLOS and others. The Smell's 20th-Anniversary Celebration, Sun 1/7, 7 PM, $20. See above, Fri,Wild Wing.

■ JOHNNY VANA'S BIG BAND ALUMNI, Tues 1/9, Las Hadas (where else can you hear a swingin' big band in the morning and outstanding authentic mariachi that same evening, free, at a good Mexican restaurant in a Northridge shopping mall? — I Love LA), 10:30 AM (note: AM!) and MARIACHI TENOCHTITLAN, 7:30 PM.

BIRTHDAYS! 1/4, Eugene Chadbourne (out-there jazz guitarist and music critic), 1964, Michael Stipe (REM), 1960, John McLaughlin (spiritual jazz fusion guitar wizard),1942; 1/5, Marilyn Manson (well, you know…), 1969); 1/6, Syd Barrett (founder guitarist of Pink Floyd, gone mad, sadly), 1946, Sandy Denny (olde English-style folkie vocalist), 1947; 1/7, Paul Revere (and the Raiders), 1937, Jean-Pierre Rampal (classical flautist), 1922; 1/8, Elvis! (1935), Bowie! (1947); 1/9, Joan Baez (1941), Jimmy Page (need I say Led Zep?), 1944; 1/10, Max Roach (monster jazz drummer legend), 1924, Jim Croce (bad bad big moustache), 1943.

You can find this info lots of places, of course, but I love my Amoeba Music calendar so much that I drove across town to Hollyweird on a Friday afternoon just before Christmas to make sure I could snag a couple. They go very quickly. Also features photos from live in-store concerts from that year, and discount coupons good each month.

LYRIC OF THE WEEK: "When I woke up this morning, things were lookin' bad, seems like total silence was the only friend I had, bowl of oatmeal tried to stare me down... and won, and it was 12 o'clock before I realized that I was havin'... no fun. But fortunately I have the key to escape reality. And you may see me tonight with an illegal smile, it don't cost very much, but it lasts a long while" — John Prine (chosen in honor of California's no-longer illegal smiles).

Prine is an extraordinarily gifted and influential songwriter, whose first, eponymously titled album (1971) is chock full of memorable, evocative songs with compact, brilliantly-crafted lyrics ("Hello In There," "Sam Stone," "Paradise," "Angel from Montgomery," "Pretty Good," "Donald and Lydia," "Your Flag Decal Won't Get You into Heaven Anymore"). Dylan once commented, "Prine's stuff is pure Proustian existentialism. Midwestern mind trips to the nth degree." Pink Floyd tunesmith Roger Waters said, "John Prine [moves me]. His is just extraordinarily eloquent music—and he lives on that plane with Neil Young and Lennon." He missed only two shows four years ago for successful surgery for lung cancer, and survived squamous cell cancer on the right side of his neck 20 years ago. That required major surgery, followed by six weeks of radiation, which altered his vocals, adding a gravelly tone to his voice. He's on tour right now and will do three dates in California in May.

My daughter had recommended Frank Zappa's "Heavenly Bank Account" (from "You Are What You Is," 1981) — how does she find this stuff? — a song that was too true then but oh so tRumpian today. I would have to repost the entire lyrics, too long, but you should check it out. Frank was so out there, so far ahead, so right on. And never drank or drugged. I loved an early lyric, from "What's the Ugliest Part of Your Body?" — "some say your nose, some say your toes, but I think it's your MIND."

CHARLES ANDREWS 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

NOTICE OF PREPARATION/NOTICE OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING FOR A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR THE WELLNESS CENTER PROJECT AT 1242 20TH STREET

DATE: January 3, 2018

TO: State Clearinghouse, Responsible Agencies, Trustee Agencies, Organizations and Interested Parties

LEAD AGENCY: City of Santa Monica
City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Room 212
Santa Monica, California 90407
Contact: Rachel Kwok, Environmental Planner
Phone: (310) 458-8341

The City of Santa Monica (City) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Wellness Center Project at 1242 20th Street (the proposed project) at the corner of 20th Street and Arizona. In accordance with Section 15082 of the State CEQA Guidelines, the City has prepared this Notice of Preparation to provide the public, Responsible Agencies, and other interested parties with information describing the proposed project and its potential environmental effects. The EIR will address the proposed project's potentially significant effects in the following environmental issue areas:

- Aesthetics and Shade/Shadows
- Air Quality
- Construction Effects
- Cultural Resources
- Geology/Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Transportation/Circulation
- Utilities
- Mandatory Findings of Significance

PROJECT APPLICANT: City of Santa Monica

PROJECT LOCATION AND EXISTING ONSITE USES: The approximately 45,009 square-foot (1.03 acre) project site is addressed as 1925 Arizona Avenue, 1234 20th Street, and 1242 20th Street, in the Health Care Mixed Use District of the City. The project site is comprised of two parcels, Assessor Parcel Numbers (APN) 4276-013-033 and 4276-013-032. The site is bordered by 20th Street on the northeast, Arizona Ave to the southeast, 19th Court alley to the southwest, and a daycare to the northwest. The project site consists of an approximately 45,009 square foot (sf) lot that is currently improved with a two-story funeral home facility, a one-story chapel structure, two two-story residential structures, and a surface parking lot.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed Wellness Center Project ("project") would involve the adaptive reuse of approximately 7,965 sf of the existing funeral home and chapel building along with the construction of a new addition building for use as a Wellness Center. As part of the project, approximately 1,313 sf of the ancillary portion of the existing funeral home/chapel building, composing mainly of the rear alley facing garage section of the building, and both of the vacant residential structures would be demolished. The project would include the construction of a new 3-story, 45 foot tall addition building on-site, comprising approximately 59,548 sf. With the adaptive reuse of existing floor area and new construction, the project would be approximately 67,513 sff comprising of 53,091 sf of research & development uses, 17,702 sf of clinic/office uses, and 8,239 sf of ancillary meeting/conference room space.

The Wellness Center is envisioned to accommodate a range of traditional to cutting edge medical research activities, providing spaces for laboratory modules, specialized equipment, medical archives, and both private and collaborative office spaces for staff. Medical clinic and office functions such as outpatient care are also anticipated, and would require flexible spaces for patient treatment and administration. To accommodate on-site hosting of educational programming on topics of healthcare and wellness, there will be flexible meeting and conference space.

REVIEW PERIOD: As specified by the State CEQA Guidelines, this Notice of Preparation will be circulated for a minimum 30-day review period. Please go to the City's webpage https://www.smgov.net/Departments/PCD/Environmental-Reports/1242-20th-Street-Wellness-Center-Project for the NOP and associated project info (including project location map, site plan, rendering). The City welcomes agency and public input during this period regarding the scope and content of environmental information that must be included in the Draft EIR. **Comments may be submitted, in writing, by 5:30 p.m. on February 3, 2018** and addressed to:

Rachel Kwok, Environmental Planner
City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Room 212
Santa Monica, California 90407
Telephone: (310) 458-8341
E-mail: rachel.kwok@smgov.net

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING: A public scoping meeting in an open house format will be held to describe the proposed project, the environmental review process, and to receive public comments on the scope of the EIR. The meeting will be held at the following date and location:

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Thursday January 18, 2018
Auditorium, McKinley Elementary School
2401 Santa Monica Boulevard
Santa Monica, CA 90404

The City will consider all comments, written and oral, in determining the final scope of the evaluation to be included in the EIR.

ESPAÑOL: Este es un aviso de que la Ciudad está preparando un informe que describe los posibles efectos ambientales de la construcción propuesta de un centro de salud, que puede ser de su interés. Para más información, llame a Carmen Gutiérrez al 310 458 8341.

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CRIME WATCH
BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

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

ON DECEMBER 25, AT ABOUT 1;12 A.M.

While conducting a periodic check of the Santa Monica Pier, officers were flagged down by a City Beach Maintenance employee regarding a smashed window at the Pier Carousel Gift Shop. Officers saw a smashed window to the gift shop and could hear noises coming from inside the gift shop. Officer ordered anyone in the shop to exit. A male suspect made himself known, laid on the floor but refused to come out. Officers entered the store and took him in to custody. The shop appeared to be ransacked. The subject was in possession of burglary tools - wrenches, flashlight, pliers and narcotics paraphernalia. Geovany Rivas, 44, homeless, was arrested for burglary, possession of burglary tools, probation violation, and possession of narcotics paraphernalia. He was denied bail.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SACRAMENTO

California looks for ways around federal tax changes

Democratic California lawmakers are exploring ways to blunt the impact of the new federal tax law on the state's taxpayers.

Federal law has long allowed people to deduct their state and local taxes from their federal tax bill, but the tax overhaul signed last month by President Donald Trump caps that deduction at $10,000.

That change will be especially notable in high-tax states like California, where more than a third of taxpayers claimed the deduction for an average of $18,438 in 2015 — the third highest after New York and Connecticut.

Senate President Pro Tem Kevin de Leon plans to introduce legislation allowing people to make a donation to the state in lieu of income taxes. That would allow them to claim the federal charitable deduction, at least partially getting around the change.

De Leon, of Los Angeles, is running for U.S. Senate. His legislation could be introduced as soon as Wednesday, when lawmakers return to Sacramento after a three-month break.

"Our hard-earned tax dollars should not be subject to double-taxation, especially not to line the pockets of the Trump family, hedge fund managers and private jet owners," de Leon said in a statement last week.

De Leon said he is working with law professors from University of California, Los Angeles; UC Davis and the University of Chicago on his plan.

Jon Coupal, president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association that lobbies for lower taxes, said he is skeptical that the proposal is legal and suspects it would be quickly overturned by Congress.

"I think it's clever but I'm not sure it's going to fly," Coupal said.

If De Leon's bill passes, taxpayers affected by the $10,000 cap would be allowed to make a charitable contribution to the state.

In return, they would get a dollar-for-dollar discount on their state taxes. In theory, their overall contribution to the state would remain the same but because it's classified as charity rather than taxes, they'd be allowed to deduct the entire amount from their federal taxes.

It's not clear how the measure would affect property taxes, which are paid to local governments.

JONATHAN J. COOPER, ASSOCIATED PRESS

DROUGHT

FROM PAGE 1

The suit, which is led by lawyer James Finberg of San Francisco-based Altshuler Berzon, argues that Google's use of prior compensation to set starting pay for employees results in men receiving higher starting salaries and better career tracks. Because the company also sets job classification levels relative to prior pay, newly hired women will consistently make less than men over time, the suit says.

"Google's under-levelling of women not only resulted in Google paying them lower base salaries than if they had been properly levelled, but also resulted in Google paying them smaller bonuses and fewer stock units and options than if Google had placed them in the proper level," the lawsuit says.

The suit was refiled after being dismissed last month for defining the class of affected workers too broadly. It now aims to represent women who hold the positions of engineer, manager, sales or early childhood education.

The amendment came shortly after a new law took effect in California prohibiting employers from asking job applicants about prior salaries, a measure designed to narrow the pay gap between men and women. If an applicant volunteers prior pay information, the law bans employers from using it to set salaries.

The lawsuit comes on the heels of a three-year federal Labor Department investigation into pay practices at Google. The department sued in last January to bar Google from doing business with the federal government until it released thousands of documents related to an audit that preliminarily found widespread pay gaps between men and women.

Google has disputed those findings and says its own analysis shows no gender pay gap. In a statement Wednesday, Google says it disagrees with the lawsuit's allegations.

"Job levels and promotions are determined through rigorous hiring and promotion committees, and must pass multiple levels of review, including checks to make sure there is no bias in these decisions," Google spokeswoman Gina Scigliano said.

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AWARDS

FROM PAGE 1

within the industry gives her a powerful voice, making her the perfect candidate to lead this night honoring the best and brightest in film and television."

The awards are organized by Berlin's group and the Broadcast Television Journalists Association.

The Association of National Advertisers (ANA) and The CW Network will partner at the 23rd Annual Critics' Choice Awards to honor "Wonder Woman" star Gal Gadot with the #SeeHer Award, which will be presented by director Patty Jenkins.

Organizers said the #SeeHer Award recognizes a woman who embodies the values set forth by the #SeeHer movement — to push boundaries on changing stereotypes and recognize the importance of accurately portraying women across the entertainment landscape. In a statement, BFCA/BTJA said Gadot broke through this year as a powerful voice advocating for women, not only on screen as the iconic Wonder Woman, but in life as well, using her platform to encourage those in the entertainment industry and beyond to strive for fairness and parity across genders. Viola Davis received last year's inaugural #SeeHer Award.

Munn's next film will be the action thriller "Hummingbird." She will star in Shane Black's "The Predator" opposite Keegan-Michael Key and Sterling K. Brown.

DROUGHT

FROM PAGE 1

"It's early" in the snow season, said Frank Gehrke, head of the state's snow survey team. He stuck a metal pole into snow lying as little as just over an inch (2.5 centimeters) deep in spots to carry out the measurements, which recorded snowpack at as little as 3 percent of normal in spots. "We're obviously hopeful there will be more snow the next time we come out here."

Climate change increasingly is changing the mountain snowfall equation, but historically up to 60 percent of Californians' water supply each year starts out as snowfall in the Sierras. That makes the state's manual and electronic snowpack measurements in these mountains crucial gauges of how much water cities and farms will get in the year ahead.

This winter, one month into the state's peak storm season, snowpack across the Sierras stood Wednesday at 24 percent of normal.

The dry spell is even more acute in Southern California, including Los Angeles, which the National Weather Service said this week was marking its driest 10-month period on record. Residents there last saw significant rainfall in February.

The dry start to the rain and snow season is raising worries the state could be plunging right back into drought. The scene Wednesday was reminiscent of 2015, when Gov. Jerry Brown stood in a brown, dry Sierra meadow equally bare of snow to declare a drought emergency, including mandatory water cutbacks by cities and towns.

Near-record rainfall last winter snapped the historic drought, filling reservoirs and sending many rivers over their banks. Reservoirs remain at 110 percent of normal storage thanks to the last wet winter, water officials said.

As Californians, "we live in the most variable climate in the country," Davis said Wednesday, surrounded by forecasters and water officials in parkas for their mountain-meadow news conference. "That variability is what we have to manage."

He called for more improvements in long-range forecasting, to help the state's reservoir managers better operate dams for both water supplies and flood control. As the climate changes, much of the state's water is coming in the form of rain during storms known as "atmospheric rivers," Davis noted.

"It's very clear to us that we need to have more information" about how atmospheric rivers behave overall, Davis said.

This winter, in contrast to the previous rain-sodden one, meteorologists point to a strengthening La Nina weather pattern in the Pacific, which typically brings drier weather.

A stubborn ridge of high pressure in the Pacific — the same bad guy during the state's drought — has been blocking storms from reaching Southern California in particular.

In December, dry winds and parched vegetation combined for the state's biggest wildfires on record in the Los Angeles area, after deadlier wildfires in Northern California in October.

Even as the water officials spoke Wednesday, a welcome new storm carried some of the first rain in weeks into Northern California, which also had marked one of its driest Decembers on record.

Parts of Northern California will see rain — but not massive amounts of it — through the first half of January, with 1 or 2 inches (2.5 or 5 centimeters) of snow expected in the Sierras, the weather service said.









SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **60.1°**

THURSDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** thigh to waist high
SW/S swell mix for exposures. Small windswell.

FRIDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to chest high
WNW swell continues. Watching winds/weather.



DAILY POLICE LOG

The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 318 Calls For Service On Jan. 2.

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

Auto burglary 1300 block 2nd 12:01 a.m.
Encampment 900 block 7th 12:22 a.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block 4th 12:45 a.m.
Indecent exposure 2300 block Pico 2:39 a.m.
Encampment 1600 block 5th 6:20 a.m.
Petty theft 800 block Ocean 6:23 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1700 block 21st 7:14 a.m.
Vandalism 1400 block 5th 7:21 a.m.
Vandalism 1800 block 14th 7:42 a.m.
Person down 1700 block Oak 7:52 a.m.
Traffic hazard 1300 block Lincoln 8:11 a.m.
Burglary 2900 block airport 8:12 a.m.
Theft of recyclables 500 block Broadway 8:41 a.m.
Burglary 1900 block 18th 9:01 a.m.
Encampment 2000 block Ocean 9:06 a.m.
Encampment 3100 block 2nd 9:18 a.m.
Indecent exposure 9th / Santa Monica 9:20 a.m.
Petty theft 2000 block Lincoln 9:28 a.m.
Burglary 1800 block Ocean Park 9:36 a.m.
Burglary 800 block 2nd 9:45 a.m.
Burglary 1900 block 18th 9:57 a.m.
Fight 200 block Broadway 10:07 a.m.
Grand theft 5th / Idaho 10:08 a.m.
Burglary 1900 block 18th 10:15 a.m.
Identity theft 300 block Olympic 10:40 a.m.
Battery 400 block Broadway 10:44 a.m.
Encampment 2000 block the beach 10:57 a.m.
Petty theft 1700 block Ocean 10:57 a.m.
Vehicle with excessive tickets 2100 block Delaware 11:20 a.m.
Indecent exposure 1900 block 18th 11:20 a.m.
Person down 1100 block California 11:59 a.m.
Burglary 800 block 2nd 12 p.m.
Traffic hazard 1100 block 4th 12:53 p.m.
Stolen vehicle 1700 block Bryn Mawr 12:59 p.m.
Fraud 1800 block Lincoln 1:01 p.m.
Hit and run 21st / Montana 1:43 p.m.
Failure to pay parking fee 1600 block Appian 1:44 p.m.
Burglary 1800 block Ocean Park 2:19 p.m.
Person down Dorchester / Virginia 2:20 p.m.
Hit and run 21st / Montana 2:22 p.m.
Traffic collision 2600 block Lincoln 2:45 p.m.
Encampment Lincoln / Hill 2:47 p.m.
Petty theft 800 block Pacific Coast Hwy 3:01 p.m.
Petty theft 1800 block Lincoln 3:15 p.m.
Burglary 800 block 2nd 3:19 p.m.
Burglary 800 block 11th 3:47 p.m.
Burglary 400 block California 4:04 p.m.
Death investigation 600 block San Vicente 4:35 p.m.
Battery Yale / Wilshire 4:42 p.m.
Petty theft 2300 block Georgina 4:47 p.m.
Auto burglary 1200 block 4th 4:55 p.m.
Auto burglary 1200 block 2nd 5:44 p.m.
Traffic collision 17th / Santa Monica 5:50 p.m.
Burglary 900 block 15th 5:50 p.m.
Speeding 800 block Montana 6:02 p.m.
Identity theft 2600 block 24th 6:14 p.m.
Auto burglary 800 block 7th 6:29 p.m.
Petty theft 300 block Wilshire 6:38 p.m.
Petty theft 300 block Santa Monica Pier 6:49 p.m.
Traffic collision Cloverfield / Olympic 6:58 p.m.
Stalking 200 block Pacific 7:01 p.m.
Auto burglary 1400 block 2nd 7:06 p.m.
Shots fired 2900 block Barnard 7:16 p.m.
Burglary 1000 block Yale 7:28 p.m.
Burglary 1200 block 4th 7:31 p.m.
Hit and run 1600 block Cloverfield 7:58 p.m.
Defrauding innkeeper 400 block Colorado 8:21 p.m.
Auto burglary 1200 block 4th 8:27 p.m.
Auto burglary 1200 block 4th 8:40 p.m.
Auto burglary 1200 block 2nd 9:01 p.m.
Grand theft 800 block Harvard 9:24 p.m.
Extortion 2400 block 3rd 9:27 p.m.
Traffic collision Cloverfield / Olympic 9:37 p.m.
Traffic collision 0 block Arcadia Ter 9:45 p.m.
Defrauding innkeeper 1400 block 2nd 9:58 p.m.
Vandalism 4th / Colorado 10:00 p.m.
Encampment 600 block Idaho 10:15 p.m.
Petty theft 1200 block 25th 10:57 p.m.
Auto burglary 1200 block 2nd 11:06 p.m.
Petty theft 1600 block 11th 11:11 p.m.
Illegal weapon 17th / Colorado 11:14 p.m.
Auto burglary 1200 block 2nd 11:19 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 30 Calls For Service On Jan. 2.

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

Emergency Medical Service 1300 block 5th 12:25 a.m.
EMS 4th / Santa Monica 12:39 a.m.
EMS 900 block 12th 2:10 a.m.
EMS 600 block Wilshire 3:47 a.m.
EMS 1800 block 16th 5:16 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1600 block 7th 6:22 a.m.
EMS 2200 block Colorado 7 a.m.
EMS 1400 block Ocean 7:30 a.m.
EMS 2000 block Oak 7:33 a.m.
EMS 2800 block Kansas 7:39 a.m.
EMS 1700 block Oak 7:53 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2400 block Virginia 9:40 a.m.
EMS 900 block 2nd 10:32 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1700 block Ocean 10:38 a.m.
EMS 500 block Pier 10:58 a.m.
EMS 400 block Wilshire 11:14 a.m.
EMS 1100 block California 12 p.m.
EMS 1200 block Yale 12:20 p.m.
EMS 2100 block Ocean 12:20 p.m.
EMS 24th / Arizona 12:38 p.m.
EMS Dorchester / Virginia 2:21 p.m.
EMS 1200 block 24th 3:39 p.m.
EMS 1400 block 17th 4:25 p.m.
EMS 1300 block 20th 4:48 p.m.
EMS 500 block Colorado 5:04 p.m.
EMS 2000 block Santa Monica 5:38 p.m.
EMS 1000 block 3rd 5:54 p.m.
EMS 2700 block Neilson 5:57 p.m.
Traffic collision with physical rescue Cloverfield / Olympic 6:59 p.m.
EMS 700 block Pico 7:19 p.m.

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DAILY LOTTERY

Powerball
Draw Date: 12/30
28 36 41 51 58
Power#: 24
Jackpot: 460M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 1/2
1 42 47 64 70
Mega#: 22
Jackpot: 418M

Super Lotto
Draw Date: 12/30
25 27 30 32 37
Mega#: 3
Jackpot: 11M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/2
7 9 11 12 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 1/2
MIDDAY: 1 9 7
Draw Date: 1/2
EVENING: 4 3 6

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 1/2
1st: 01 Gold Rush
2nd: 08 Gorgeous George
3rd: 06 Whirl Win
RACE TIME: 1:43.66

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at **http://www.calottery.com**

WORD UP!

patrician
1. a person of noble or high rank; aristocrat.
2. a person of very good background, education, and refinement.
3. a member of the original senatorial aristocracy in ancient Rome.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Stories for the Waiting Room

■ Not that you should worry, but STAT News recently reported that in 2014, the National Institutes of Health found a decades-old vial of smallpox in an FDA lab storage room. In 2015, it was announced that a federal lab accidentally shipped live anthrax to nearly 200 labs over 12 years. And in 2016, security officials discovered that a private lab accidentally sent out a toxic form of ricin multiple times since 2011.

■ This year, says STAT, federal officials say they're going to review the program that's supposed to make sure these things don't happen.

Phobia of the Week

■ Ombrophobia: Fear of rain

MYSTERY REVEALED

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Benjamin Steers correctly identify where this image was captured. The image is part of a utility box located at the intersection of Lincoln and Ocean Park Blvd.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

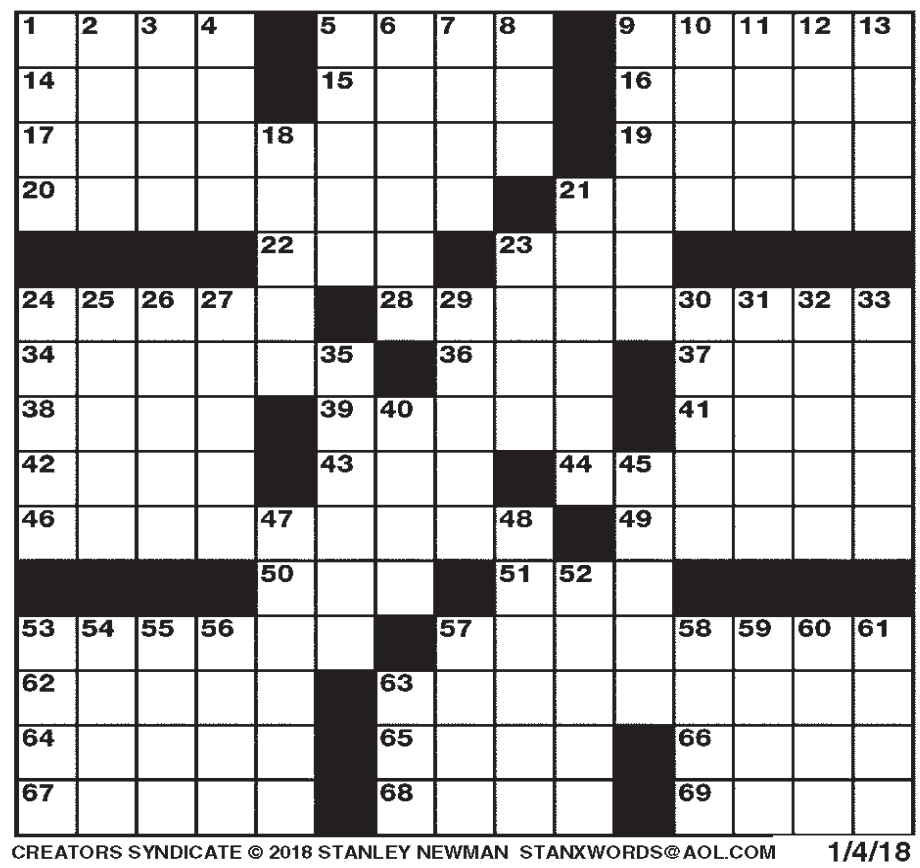
3	4		6	5			9	
9	7	2				5		
		6			4			8
	3		5			4	2	
4				3				6
	2	5			9		7	
7			3			6		
		4				9	8	3
	1			8	6		4	5

Newsday Crossword

ENDING UP ALL RIGHT by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Charitable gift
5 Generic poodle name
9 Latter-day "Toodle-oo!"
14 Unrattled
15 Nation on the Arabian Sea
16 In reserve
17 Rather late lunch time
19 Watch a TV series all day
20 Crucial tennis situation
21 Did an airport screener's job
22 Luau fare
23 Org. for entrepreneurs
24 Fumble in the dark
28 Burrito seller on wheels
34 Rio Grande city
36 Overly easygoing
37 Big Apple's Arthur __ Stadium
38 Commando weapons
39 Certain saline solution
41 One-on-one contest
42 Tugboat sound
43 Movie-popcorn holder
44 Shaped like fusilli pasta
46 Cube inventor
49 Prone to backtalk
50 Pack animal
51 Tabloid transport
53 Hose attachment
57 Stir-fry fare
62 Uptrending shopping
63 Toy for jumping
64 Young fella
65 Inflatable vessel
66 *Toy Story* kid
67 Things at hand
68 Numbered musical work
69 Cabinet dept. head

DOWN
1 Reaches a decision
2 Actor Rob
3 No longer worth discussing
4 Spill (over)
5 Four-page sheet
6 "Leave that to me"
7 Something proven
8 Prepare, as a press
9 On-the-move maze solver
10 Where water buffalo roam
11 Barely visible
12 Head start
13 Swamp grass
18 Handled a hassle
21 PlayStation alternatives
23 Do an airport screener's job
24 Muscle strengthened by squats
25 Household blade
26 Belted constellation
27 Sauce with pine nuts
29 Courtroom defense
30 Rim-to-hub lines
31 Take over by force
32 A steal
33 Pop singer Clarkson
35 Thickheaded
40 Rib-joint applications
45 Agricultural equipment
47 Public-road race
48 Action-movie art
52 Picks up, as a bill
53 Cozy spot
54 "Then again . . ." in texts
55 Grey of westerns
56 California wines, for short
57 Hotel freebie
58 Bake-sale orgs.
59 German article
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Los Angeles suspect in 911 hoax faces felony in Kansas death

BY BRIAN MELLEY & ROXANA HEGEMAN
Associated Press

A Los Angeles man suspected of making a hoax emergency call that led to the fatal police shooting of a Kansas man told a judge Wednesday he would not fight efforts to send him to Wichita to face charges.

Tyler Barriss, 25, was held without bail after waiving his right to an extradition hearing in Los Angeles Superior Court.

He stood behind a glass wall dressed in black with his hands cuffed in front of him and provided brief answers to a judge's questions, acknowledging he was the wanted man and voluntarily signed the waiver.

Police have said Andrew Finch, 28, was shot after a prankster called 911 last week with a fake story about a shooting and kidnapping at Finch's Wichita home.

A fugitive complaint filed in Los Angeles court said Barriss was charged in Kansas with making a false alarm, which covers calling police or a fire department and knowingly giving false information. It's a low-level felony in Kansas that carries a maximum of 34 months in prison, though other charges could be filed after Wichita prosecutors review the results of a police investigation.

A more serious potential state charge would be a second-degree murder for unintentionally causing a death by reckless actions, said Elizabeth Cateforis, a law professor at the University of Kansas. That can carry a sentence of up to about 20 years.

Another option may be an involuntary manslaughter charge in which a death is caused by a person acting recklessly or in the commission of another felony. That carries a maximum sentence of a little over 10 years.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Deborah Brazil said Kansas authorities have to pick up Barriss by Feb. 2.

In Kansas, the head of the Wichita police force said the department has no policy on such "swatting" calls.

The Wichita Eagle reported that Wichita Police Chief Gordon Ramsay vowed Tuesday for a "thorough review" of Finch's death.

The goal of such hoax calls is to get a SWAT team to respond, although Ramsay said none of the officers at the scene were SWAT officers.

Ramsay said officers who responded reported that Finch's hands went up and down around his waistband before he was shot.

Ramsay called Finch's death a "terrible tragedy."

Hegeman reported from Wichita, Kansas.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 4)

Your moral fiber gets stronger even as it gets more flexible. Your philosophy will shift — a sign of maturity and a function of the adjustments you employ to make your life work better. New relationships blossom. April brings a big deal. Improved finances will have to do with this shift of mind and lifestyle. Scorpio and Virgo adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 2, 44, 47, 12 and 6.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Someone who is out of touch with his or her own business will be overly involved with yours. This is beneficial to no one. Life will work better when the everyone takes responsibility for what is rightly theirs, nothing more, nothing less.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Honor the unsung helpers in your life. Anyone who makes you look good deserves your lavish praise and maybe a treat, too. Bonus: Your self-esteem gets a turbo charge.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
Though you happen to be in a driven mood, you'll stay the course even if you know you will never achieve the glorious goal. The true reward is in who you become for having dared to dream. The prize is but a bonus.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
You love to be around creative people like you, and ones who aren't like you, too. Sometimes very creative people say and do the wrong thing, but you offer a measure of leeway for this because they give you so much.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
It's not that you want people to go out of their way to serve you, but a little well-deserved special care would be nice. The human touch is a kindness you appreciate in whatever form it comes, metaphorically or physically.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
There's something you could do better if you had formal instruction in it. The training will not be as difficult, time-consuming or costly as you think it will be. Look into it!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Because you're so alive to the possibilities of life, staying on course will be a challenge. Your interactions may feel unfocused, yet there's a whimsy in your mood that will add an interesting creative element to your work.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
Different places grow different plants. Environments matter. Try to see the entire context of the issue. Maybe the people involved in a problem are not the ones who are to blame for it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Chances are, "I've tried everything," really means, "I've tried a few things." Failing is hard, but it gets easier as you keep going. If nothing has worked, that doesn't mean nothing will. Keep trying new things.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Everyone has holes in their education. These missed lessons are like potholes that can cause an accidental trip-up, but at least that will help you to identify where you need to fill in the blanks.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
To remember well is a gift. To forget well is also a gift. If neither is within your grasp today, then it's only because your brain is busy with a third talent — to project well. You'll recognize potential and imagine the best of what's possible.

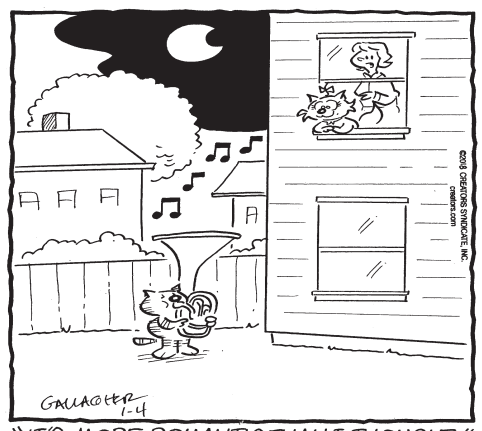
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
Ralph Waldo Emerson said that common sense is genius dressed in its working clothes. You'll have such an outfit of genius on today as you solve complex problems with practical finesse.

Uranus Says, 'Suit up for the Game'

In these first days of the Uranus change, it will help to remember that ideal circumstances don't exist in this polarized world. Light casts shadow, deliciousness creates appetite, pain creates need, and need creates bonds of unity. Instead of fantasizing about another place, settle into this game of contrast and symbiosis.

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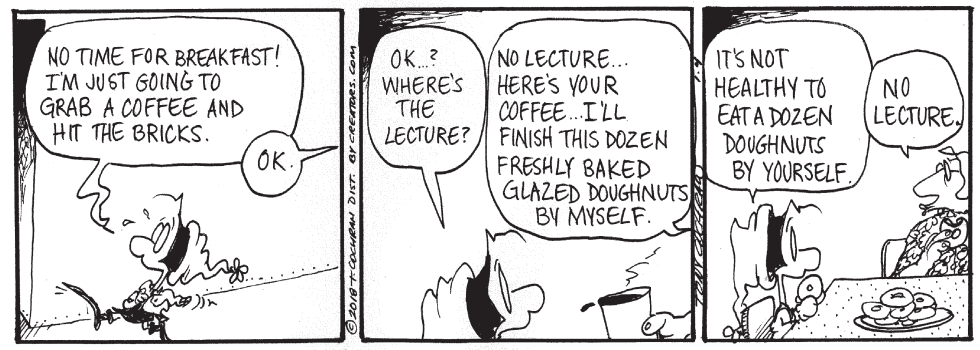
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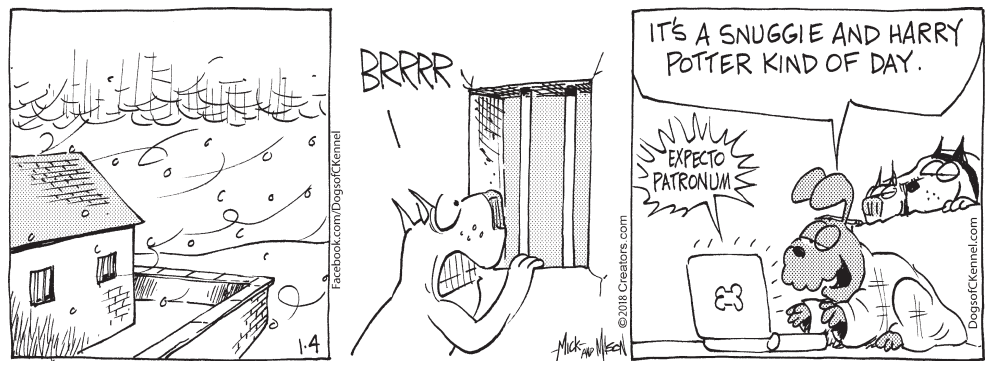
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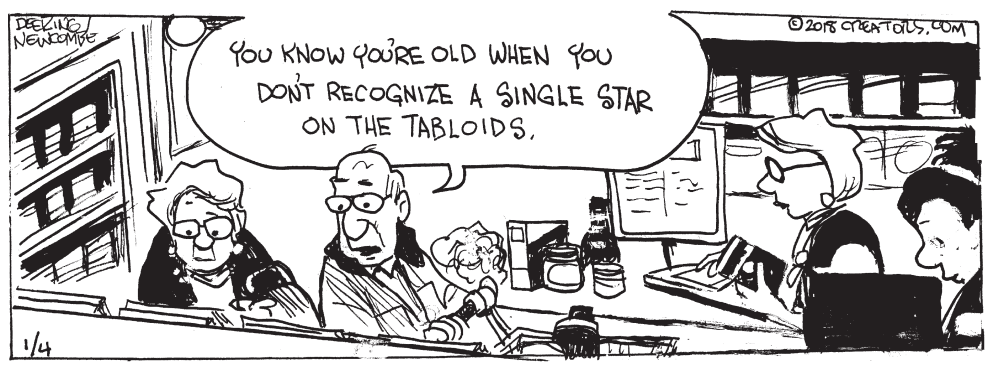
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