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Santa Monica Daily Press
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2013
Volume 12 Issue 51

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

ART IN BLOOM AT SAMOHI
SEE PAGE 3

THE DRAWING A CROWD ISSUE

A rundown on federal, state and local tax changes in 2013

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE On Dec. 31 as people across the country rang in the new year, tax professionals had one eye on the festivities and a nervous eye on Washington D.C. where lawmakers were scrambling to finalize changes to the federal tax code.

If they failed to come to some kind of deal, the United States would go over the much-trumpeted "fiscal cliff," a vicious mix of tax hikes and spending cuts that many economists feared would push the country back into recession.

Ed Mofrad wasn't worried.

"They always manage to reach a deal at the last minute," said Mofrad, owner and CPA of Mofrad Financial Solutions and member of the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. "It's like a soap opera, at the last minute, there's a save. It's part of American

SEE TAXES PAGE 8

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS ROUNDUP

Crossroads on three-game roll

BY DANIEL ARCHULETA
Managing Editor

XRDS A 65-51 win over Kilpatrick on Monday gives Crossroads a three-game winning streak since former coach Kevin Jackson stepped down in December.

The victory improves the Roadrunners to 6-5 overall and more importantly 1-0 in the Delphic League.

Next for Crossroads is a matchup with nearby Brentwood, the No. 2 ranked team on the CIF-Southern Section Division 4A poll. The game is part of the Crossroads Extravaganza. The Roadrunners are unranked.

SAMOHI GIRLS PREP FOR INGLEWOOD

Santa Monica's girls' basketball team limps into its Ocean League opener against Inglewood with a 1-12 record.

The Vikings are stuck in a 12-game losing streak as they attempt to right the ship and earn a spot in the playoffs.

The game is scheduled for Wednesday at Inglewood. It begins at 6 p.m. and is part of a double header with the boys' teams from both schools. That game begins at 7:30 p.m.

XRDS SOCCER TRAVELS TO PARACLETE

Crossroads' boys' soccer carries an impressive 8-1-1 record into its Alpha League matchup with Paraclete.

The Roadrunners are 2-0 in league and ranked No. 6 in the latest CIF-SS Division 5 poll. Crossroads is the defending champ in the division.

The game is the league opener for Paraclete, a team with a 3-6-1 record during the preseason.

The game is scheduled for Wednesday at Paraclete in Lancaster. It begins at 5:30 p.m.

daniela@smdp.com



SPEAKING OUT

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

Pico Youth & Family Center founder Oscar de la Torre speaks to news crews Tuesday amid a group of protesters asking the Santa Monica City Council to continue funding for the embattled center. The result of the vote was not available at presstime.

High court throws out storm water runoff ruling

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON The Supreme Court has unanimously sided with Los Angeles County in its fight against a lawsuit over pollution from urban storm water runoff that flows into the Los Angeles and San Gabriel rivers after heavy rains.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg wrote for the court in a narrow holding Tuesday that the federal appeals court in San Francisco wrongly ruled for environmentalists in their lawsuit against the Los Angeles Flood

SEE RULING PAGE 9

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2013

Mystery in those pages
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave., 7 p.m.
This week's mystery book group selection is Henning Mankell's "Faceless Killers," in which a horrible crime ignites anti-immigrant sentiments. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Staying the night
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Wear your PJs for a pajama story time, and then leave your stuffed friend for a night of fun at the library. Come back the next day to receive a memento of their sleepover adventures. Just one stuffed animal per child. Space is limited. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Thursday, Jan. 10, 2013

Telling stories
Santa Monica Playhouse
1211 Fourth St., call for times
"MAHMOUD" is a unique one-woman show about an aging Iranian engineer turned taxi driver, a fabulously gay Spaniard, and a young Iranian-Canadian girl, all trying to get by the day-to-day grind in a big metropolitan city. Iranian born playwright/performer Tara Grammy invites you to laugh, cry and laugh some more as these characters' stories intertwine over the course of an hour, exploring themes of displacement, immigration, home and culture. For more information, call (800) 504-4849.

Making a list
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
Travel journalist Patricia Schultz, author of the New York Times bestseller "1,000 Places To See Before You Die," presents her favorite worldwide locations to visit followed by a Q&A and book signing for the second edition of this travel classic. Cost: free. For more information, call (310) 458-8600.

Samohi gets artsy
Santa Monica High School
601 Pico Blvd., 3:30 p.m. —7:30 p.m.
Students, alumni, faculty and administration of Samohi will display their artwork at the annual Homegrown Show and Sale. The goal of the event is to raise money and awareness for the Samohi Art Department and the many students who have benefited from the program. A percentage of the proceeds will be donated to the department, with the rest going to the artists. There will also be live music and live drawing. Snacks and refreshments will be served.

Friday, Jan. 11, 2013

Freud and C.S. Lewis have a talk
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., visit website for times
Winner of the 2011 Off Broadway Alliance Award for Best Play, Mark St. Germain's "Freud's Last Session" depicts a meeting between the atheist Freud and the Christian author C.S. Lewis. Love, sex, death and the existence of God are among the topics they entertain throughout the play. Starring Judd Hirsch and Tom Cavanagh. Directed by Tyler Marchant. Tickets are $42 — $175. For more information, visit the Broad Stage website at the-broadstage.com/Freud.

Say 'no' to toy guns
1444 Third Street Promenade, 12 p.m.
A news conference merit award public giveaway will be held to bring to light possible negative effects that children can suffer from playing with toy guns. Among those speaking at the conference will be Michelle Phillips, founding member of popular 1960s vocal group The Mamas & The Papas, and Dr. Carole Lieberman, an internationally renowned "media psychiatrist." For more information, visit NoToyGuns.org or call (310) 399-1000.

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

PCH

Man tumbles down Palisades bluffs

Police said a man in his late 30s tumbled down a bluff and landed on Pacific Coast Highway Tuesday.

The man fell from the bluff around 11 a.m. and wound up in the 1200 block of PCH, said SMPD Sgt. Richard Lewis. The extent of the man's injuries were not immediately known.

Lewis said Santa Monica police are trying to determine what happened to the man. It could be that he was living in the bluffs and slipped. He could have been pushed or it may have been a suicide attempt.

– DAILY PRESS

COUNTYWIDE

Homeless people count

The county of Los Angeles and city of Santa Monica are in need of volunteers for the 2013 Los Angeles County and Santa Monica Homeless counts, taking place Jan. 29 – 31.

On Wednesday, Jan 30, registered volunteers will meet at the Santa Monica Civic Center East Auditorium at 10:30 p.m. and help until 2:30 a.m. Interested participants can RSVP online at www.smgov.net/homelessness or contact Joanna Rodriguez at (310) 458-8701.

In 2012, the city of Santa Monica found that the homeless population increased slightly compared to the time period between 2009 and 2011, according to the 2012 Santa Monica Homeless Count Findings report presented by the Human Services Division.

Every two years, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development mandates a count of the homeless population for "all communities that receive federal funds for homelessness programs," according to the city of Santa Monica's website. The city's volunteers use the count to track yearly changes and evaluate the success of local efforts to reduce homelessness in Santa Monica.

The Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count is the nation's largest count of homeless individuals and families, covering almost 4,000 square miles. To volunteer for the county's count, go to www.theycountwillyou.org, or for more information, call (213) 225-8411.

– ALEX VEJAR

CITYWIDE

Celebrating MLK

From Jan. 18-20, the city of Santa Monica will host three events to commemorate the life of Martin Luther King, Jr.

The first event is an interfaith prayer breakfast at Calvary Baptist Church at 1502 20th St. on Jan. 18, and will include gospel music along with an appearance by Dominque Washington. The suggested donation is $25 per person or $200 for a table of 10. The breakfast will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

On Martin Luther King Day, the largest event will be held, featuring keynote speaker Nat Trives, a former Santa Monica mayor and Santa Monica College alum. The celebration includes inspirational readings, music, dance, singing and the MLK Education Awards. The event will be held at 10 a.m. in the SGI Auditorium at 525 Wilshire Blvd. Following the MLK day festivities, there will be a community involvement fair from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the SGI Youth Center, located at 606 Wilshire Blvd. Both events are free.

On Jan. 20, the Santa Monica Symphony Orchestra will perform a free Martin Luther King memorial concert after President Obama is sworn in. The performance will also be held at the SGI Auditorium.

For more information about these three events, contact Ann Miks at (310) 260-8949 or e-mail mlkwestside2013@gmail.com

– AV



Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

STRAIGHT: **Recent Samohi grad Zoe Blue hangs her artwork at the school's Roberts Art Gallery on Monday.**

Art blossoms at Samohi

Homegrown Art Show and Sale to raise money for department

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

SAMOHI Santa Monica High School's sprawling campus was eerily quiet on Monday, the final day of winter break and still absent the student population set to trudge back in the next day after two weeks off.

It was not completely devoid of life, however.

Youth armed with hammers and nails were busy at the Roberts Art Gallery hanging artwork in myriad styles and forms in preparation for the school's third Homegrown Art Show and Sale, an event meant to raise funds and awareness for the school's art programs.

Caer Ferguson, a senior at Tufts University and a graduate of Samohi, supervised the set-up, which she likened to a pop-up art gallery for the speed at which the show came together.

This is her third year running the program, which she put together with the help of Zoe Blue, another alumni who was able to coordinate things in Santa Monica while Ferguson was on the East Coast.

"We put the show together in a day," she said.

The idea for the Homegrown Art Show and Sale was, as one might predict, also a local product.

Ferguson saw the student orchestra holding musical salons in private homes in order to accomplish many of the same goals — get the word out and bring some cash in.

"If you're in need of money for the art department and there's none to be found, you have to get creative," Ferguson said.

This year, the schedule was tight.

Ferguson has only been in town since Dec. 13, hardly enough time to gather, price and hang the artwork, much less get word out about the sale.

"We put out the call for artwork a month before winter break," Ferguson said.

Still, works from Samohi's advanced placement art classes poured in, as did pieces by teachers and even alumni-turned professional artists. The works include paintings, three dimensional works and even pieces made of woven thread.

The youngest participant is a freshman at Samohi, and the oldest are adults at the school.

Most of the art, however, was produced by people under the age of 25, Ferguson said.

It was the first time that she's ever had to turn down artwork, a sign of how deeply the DIY art show has resonated in the community in a relatively short time.

Ferguson, Blue, art teacher Amy Blouse and a handful of other volunteers were busily arranging the selected pieces on the blank walls of the Roberts Art Gallery Monday morning.

SEE **ART** PAGE 7

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Respect our rights

Editor:

Santa Monica condominium owners take notice; you have nothing to lose but your property rights.

The spirit of Karl Marx is alive and well in Santa Monica.

Bill Bauer's My Write ("Nanny government not needed", Jan. 7) regarding the Santa Monica smoking ordinance is right on, but the imposition is even more egregious as applied to those who own their residences. Not only is your right to privacy within your own home under attack, but your right to sell your property to a designated class of buyers (smokers) may be limited. Racial, ethnic-origin and religious restrictions attempting to limit those entitled to purchase property are taboo, but smokers are to be discriminated against by official Santa Monica policy.

Tobacco products are legally available for sale or purchase within Santa Monica, and City Hall no doubt derives monetary benefit from tobacco sales.

I do not smoke, but strongly oppose this attempt to infringe upon the privacy and property rights us Americans should demand be respected.

Beverly Reichel
Santa Monica

Do the math

Editor:

I increasingly have to dodge pedestrians on Santa Monica's sidewalks because they are distracted while phoning or texting while walking. What's even worse are the distracted pedestrians who are phoning or texting while crossing streets. It would take only a couple of seconds for a distracted motorist and a distracted pedestrian to have an accident. One distracted driver and one distracted walker equals one possible accident.

Since many of the distracted pedestrians are teenagers, I suggest that math classes in middle schools and high schools teach that equation: one distracted teenager and one distracted driver equals one potential accident. It could save someone from serious injury or death.

Wally Grayson
Santa Monica

Problem logic

Editor:

In "Nanny government not needed" (My Write, Jan. 7), Bill Bauer belittles Santa Monica's new non-smoking ordinance for multi-unit residences. I don't smoke, but I empathize with those who do and would probably be satisfied with a policy that gave landlords and home owners' associations the power to declare buildings smoking or non.

But Mr. Bauer irrationally attacks the ordinance on the grounds that Santa Monica has ignored potential complaints based on allergies to pets and peanut butter and antipathy to love-making sounds. It makes no sense to argue against remediation of a single problem on the grounds that other problems remain.

Mr. Bauer also attacks bans on the sale of massive cups of soda and chocolate milk (in schools I suppose), arguing that "Government must stop acting like our mothers or doctors." I would have much more sympathy with this argument if people weren't so willing to pass along the cost of their unhealthy lifestyles to that same government.

Paul Bergman
Santa Monica



That Rutherford Guy

John W. Whitehead — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

Ending our culture of violence

IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG FOR THE TRAGEDY of the Newtown, Conn. shootings to be co-opted by politicians and special interest groups alike, all eager to advance their ideas about how to prevent another deranged madman from taking innocent lives. President Obama is calling on Congress to issue gun control legislation that would limit access to assault weapons. The National Rifle Association (NRA) wants armed guards patrolling every school in America. Legislators in several states, including Florida, want to allow teachers to carry guns on school grounds. Others are clamoring for a lockdown of the schools, complete with metal detectors and guard dogs.

To our detriment, we have revisited this scenario in the wake of every school shooting since Columbine High School. Yet in the midst of widespread finger pointing (not even violent movies, crime dramas and violent video games have been spared) and calls for reform of the mental health system and gun control, not a word has been said about the greatest perpetrator of violence in American society and around the world — the U.S. government.

Violence has become our government's calling card, starting at the top and trickling down, from President Obama's "kill list," which relies on drones to target insurgents, to the more than 80,000 SWAT team raids carried out every year on unsuspecting Americans by heavily armed, black-garbed commandos and the increasingly rapid militarization of local police forces across the country. We even export violence worldwide, with one of this country's most profitable exports being weapons.

Thus, any serious discussion about minimizing the violence in our society needs to start with the government and its tendency to use violence as a means to an end, whether in matters of foreign policy or domestically, deploying heavily armed agents to enforce a myriad of arcane, bureaucratic regulations that impinge on Americans simply going about their business, such as those attempting to exercise their constitutional rights such as the Occupy protesters who were subjected to all manner of violence.

It is no coincidence that the assault weapons used by killer Adam Lanza were military-grade weapons. These weapons, commonly wielded in video games, action movies and by invading SWAT teams, go hand in hand with the steady diet of violence that permeates everything in our culture. What is more significant, however, is that these weapons are not just the stuff of celluloid fantasy. In the hands of government agents, whether they are members of the military, law enforcement or some other government agency, these weapons have become routine parts of America's day-to-day life, a byproduct of the rapid militarization of law enforcement over the past several decades.

This is what happens when you turn a nation into a police state: weapons become accepted instruments of tyranny, whether in the hands of government agents or in the hands of raging lunatics.

Much of this can be traced to the government's so-called "War on Drugs," which opened the door for police to be equipped with military weapons. In 1981, Congress passed the Military Cooperation with Law Enforcement Act, enabling the military to share equipment, training, and intelligence with local police. In 1997, Congress approved the 1033 Program, which allows the Secretary of Defense to transfer surplus military supplies and weapons to local police agencies without charge. Since 1997, more than 17,000 police agencies have taken advantage of the 1033 Program, acquiring $2.6 billion dollars worth of weapons and equipment, and demand is only getting higher. In fact, a record-setting $500 million worth of equipment was distributed in 2011, twice the amount given away in 2010.

This armory of weaponry designed for war is not limited to local law enforcement agencies. All levels of government, including regulatory agencies within the federal government, are in possession of high-powered weapons designed to wreak havoc on the battlefield. For example, in March 2012, defense contractor ATK agreed to produce 450 million hollow point rounds to be used by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and its Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) office. DHS placed another order for 750 million rounds of various ammunition in August 2012. In August 2012, the Social Security Administration (SSA) placed an order for 174,000 rounds of hollow point ammunition. The SSA plans to send the ammunition to 41 locations throughout the United States, including major cities such as Los Angeles, Detroit, and Philadelphia, among others.

No wonder many Americans are armed to the hilt. Many feel the need to protect themselves against their own government, whose arsenal only keeps growing and whose steady encroachments on civil liberties have resulted in a climate of surveillance wherein 1.7 billion communications between Americans are intercepted by the government daily, not to mention the impact of overcriminalization, which has rendered otherwise law-abiding individuals as lawbreakers for such mundane acts as holding Bible studies at home, making and sharing unpasteurized goat cheese with friends, and growing rare varieties of orchids.

Our culture's fundamental loss of morality doesn't help matters, either. Making the case that a government lacking in morality which fails to abide by its own laws is essentially inviting anarchy, acclaimed filmmaker Oliver Stone, co-author of "The Untold History of the United States," argues, "Can we kill Bin Laden without having to bring him to trial, can we just get it done? And that 'get it done' mentality justifies the ends and that is where countries go wrong, and people go wrong. All of our lives are moral equations. Does the end justify the means? No, it never did."

There are no easy answers. Clearly, if someone really wants to wreak havoc, they'll find a way to obtain a weapon. Placing armed guards in every school in the country, as the NRA suggests, would merely heighten the culture of violence and contribute to a school environment that is already in lockdown mode. Indeed, as the Washington Post recognizes, there is evidence that the presence of armed guards in schools actually increases the chances of violent incidences occurring.

However, if President Obama, Congress and the American people really want the country to reconsider their relationship with guns and violence, then it needs to start with a serious discussion about the role our government has played and continues to play in contributing to the culture of violence. If the American people are being called on to scale back on their weapons, then the government and its cohorts — the military, the defense industry, the special interest groups, etc. — need to do the same. We owe it to the victims of Sandy Hook and Columbine and the victims of every other senseless act of gun violence in this country to do more than score political points off each other. If we're serious about real change, it needs to start at the top.

Constitutional attorney and author **JOHN W. WHITEHEAD** is founder and president of The Rutherford Institute. He can be contacted at johnw@rutherford.org. Information about The Rutherford Institute is available at www.rutherford.org.

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The Taxman

Jon Coupal
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Wanted: A loyal opposition

AT THE CORE OF THIS ADVICE FROM THE "School of the Obvious" is that the GOP must get more votes. However, to accomplish this, they are told that they need to act more like Democrats. If all that counts is being elected — and getting the salary and the perks that go with it — then what the advice really boils down to is that everyone should just re-register as Democrats.

One doesn't have to be a rocket scientist to figure out that most of this free advice being given to Republican office holders is not coming from those who believe in the values of smaller, more efficient government, individual liberty, free markets and protection of property rights.

Now, the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association is non-partisan; one third of the membership is comprised of Democrats. If California Democrats were the party that valued fiscal responsibility and reasonable taxation, it is a good bet that that would be the political party most HJTA members would prefer. However, the current crop of Sacramento Democrats leans toward confiscatory taxation and profligate spending, and because they totally control the Legislature and every state constitutional office, in the coming months we will see the results of the implementation of this approach to governing.

So here is some slightly different advice to Republican officials and to centrist Democrats who do not share their leadership's more radical views. Consider the words of the Roman politician Seneca that remain valid after two millennia: Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity.

In a short time, Californians will see the results of taxing and spending on steroids. If the result is prosperity, jobs and an increase in the standard of living for all residents, there will be great joy all across the state. Republicans — and moderate Democrats who have warned against the excesses of single party rule — may have no more influence than they do now, but they will at least be respected if they have shown the courage of their convictions and joined the debate on the best way to move the state forward.

However, if the basic laws of economics, which tend to be as immutable as the law of gravity, prevail, it is more likely that California will decline or we will continue to lag behind the rest of the nation. Thus, in the 2014 elections, those who now advocate policies that would allow the private sector to prosper and provide jobs will likely be called upon to go to Sacramento and pick up the pieces.

So GOP lawmakers, who will soon be called upon to support taxes in order to be relevant, would do well, instead of going along to get along, to proudly take on the role of the loyal opposition. If Democrat leaders continue to push regulations and taxes that further damage the well-being of average Californians, the minority representatives have an obligation to speak up and provide alternatives -- and not be embarrassed to, on some occasions, just say, "no."

GOP LAWMAKERS, WHO WILL SOON BE CALLED UPON TO SUPPORT TAXES IN ORDER TO BE RELEVANT, WOULD DO WELL, INSTEAD OF GOING ALONG TO GET ALONG, TO PROUDLY TAKE ON THE ROLE OF THE LOYAL OPPOSITION.

Speaking up is the key. Those who sit on their haunches or wallow in self-pity over their minority status will be held just as accountable for negative outcomes as will the majority party. The message that government should work with, rather than against, average folks to provide opportunity and prosperity for all must be carried loud and clear to every voter throughout the state.

If the current regime proves to be unsuccessful in providing a better life for Californians, then the loyal opposition must be prepared to step forward and rescue us. If those in the minority work hard now, what success they achieve in the future will not be because they were lucky; it will be because they deserve it.

JON COUPAL is president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association – California's largest grass-roots taxpayer organization dedicated to the protection of Proposition 13 and the advancement of taxpayers' rights.

The Q Line

Food rules

Cities around the country continue to struggle with the obesity issue. New York City went as far as banning large soft drinks at restaurants to help people slim down.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
Do you think it's the role of government to regulate what we eat or is that too close to a nanny state for your liking?

Contact **qline@smdp.com** before **Friday at 5 p.m.** and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. You can also call **310-573-8354**.

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Gov. Brown challenges feds' inmate population cap

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. Gov. Jerry Brown is challenging a federal court order that California further reduce its inmate population to improve prison conditions, reigniting a legal battle that once reached the U.S. Supreme Court.

Complying with the court's June deadline for lowering the prison population would endanger public safety, Brown contends in court filings seeking to overturn the deadline and the court's population cap.

"The overcrowding and health care conditions cited by this court to support its population reduction order are now a distant memory," the administration argued in its filings overnight Monday. "California's vastly improved prison health care system now provides inmates with superior care that far exceeds the minimum requirements of the Constitution."

The cap was imposed in 2009 after federal judges blamed crowding for dismal conditions that violated inmates' constitutional rights and resulted in the death of an average of one inmate each week due to neglect or poor care.

The judges gave the state until June to reduce the population of California's 33 adult prisons by about 33,000 inmates, to a total of 110,000 inmates.

The decision was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2011, and so far the federal judges have said they will not consider raising the cap.

That didn't deter the state from making the attempt.

"Any further federally ordered reduction of the California prison population is unnecessary and a threat to public safety," Jeffrey Beard, the new secretary of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, said in a statement provided to The Associated Press.

Beard noted that the state has reduced its prison population by about 43,000 inmates since 2006 while improving its treatment of mentally and physically ill inmates. State officials say California's less serious offenders already are going to county jails under a 14-month old law that sends only serious, violent and sexual offenders to state prisons. That makes it more difficult to identify remaining criminals who could be safely released.

"Instead of ordering the early release of potentially thousands of serious and violent felons, it is hoped that the federal court will recognize that we are now providing a constitutional level of care, and therefore an arbitrary population cap is unwarranted," said Beard, who became secretary last month after previously heading Pennsylvania's prison system.

Brown planned news conferences in Sacramento and Los Angeles on Tuesday to publicly make the state's argument.

His reasoning drew swift criticism from reformers who said the state could do more to divert inmates from prison.

"Rather than implement the kinds of sentencing reforms that would significantly reduce the number of people needlessly behind bars in California, Gov. Brown has instead committed to business as usual," said Allen Hopper, director of criminal justice and drug policy for the American Civil Liberties Union of California. Spending more money on prisons means less money for other needs like public schools, he said in an email.

Attorneys representing inmates argued in their own court filing that the state is still failing to provide proper care and could release more prisoners without endangering the public. Though conditions have improved, inmates still are needlessly dying of neglect and mentally ill inmates go untreated, they contend.

Michael Bien, one of the lead attorneys for inmates, said it would be cheaper and more effective to funnel many criminals into drug or mental health treatment programs than into prison. Moreover, more inmates already behind bars could be safely released after completing drug, vocational, educational or other rehabilitation programs that would reduce their likelihood of committing new crimes, he said. The state also could release elderly and disabled inmates with no increase in danger.

The state said it could comply with the court's current population cap only if the federal court waives numerous state laws and "orders the outright early release of inmates serving prison terms for serious and violent felonies."

The plan includes granting early release credits to inmates, many of whom are incarcerated for serious or violent crime and include "second strike" inmates who have serious prior convictions, the state said. The state's sentencing laws would also have to be changed, and inmates who would normally serve nine months or less in state prison would have to spend their time in county jails instead.

More felonies that currently merit prison time would also have to be served in increasing crowded county lockups, the state said. The state also could lower the threshold for sending inmates to firefighting camps, expand work furlough, restitution centers and alternative custody programs, and keep more inmates in private prisons in other states.



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Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

ON THE WALL: **Works featured in Santa Monica High School's 2013 Homegrown Show and Sale.**

ART
FROM PAGE 3

It's not an exact science with so little time to devote to it, she said, but the idea is to arrange pieces that work together without drowning one another out so that the experience is relatively seamless for the viewer.

The works will be priced between $50 and $200, with proceeds to be split between the artist and the department in varying percentages.

Some pieces are outright donations, with all the money going to the department. Others, like a colorful depiction of birds by the late Samohi digital design teacher Richard McGee, are not for sale.

In past years, the show has been fairly successful, raising a few thousand dollars for the department.

That makes a big difference in classes where teachers scrimp by on as little as $10 a week for a class of 30 art students, Blouse said.

She supplements that as best she can by requesting donations and going out for grants, but it's difficult. The money and attention brought by the Homegrown Art Show and Sale really make a difference, she said.

"There is good stuff happening here, and people need to know it," Blouse said.

The doors to the show open at 3:30 p.m. this Thursday, Jan. 10, and continues until 7:30 p.m. In addition to the artwork, performers including Dilettante, Zoe Zelkind, Peaceful Antelopus, Wes Filer and Phoebe Bridgers will perform live music.

There will also be live drawing, as well as refreshments and snacks.

ashley@smdp.com

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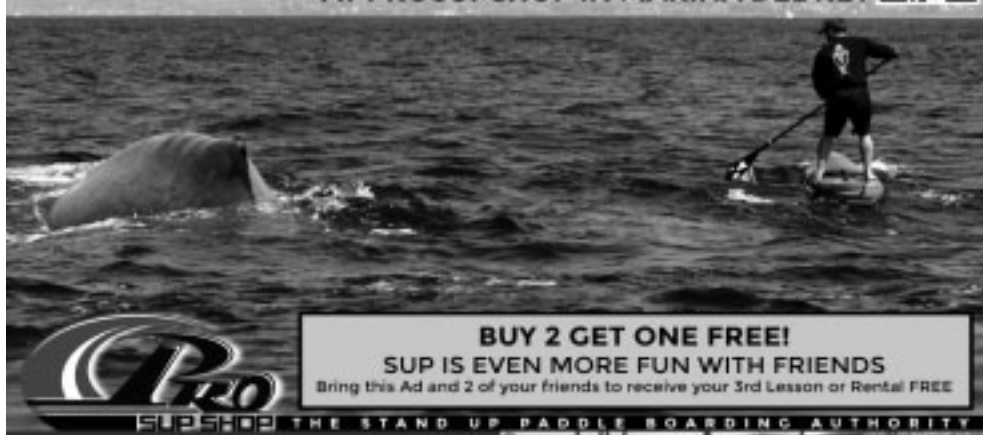
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TAXES
FROM PAGE 1

politics, and it happens every time."

At the end of the day, the vast majority of tax cuts brought in under the George W. Bush administration were made permanent, protecting middle class families from severe hikes in their federal income taxes.

In fact, unless you're one of the upper crust, almost nothing will change in terms of your federal income taxes, Mofrad said.

"Most people who make under $400,000 if it's a single filing or married filing joint making under $450,000 won't be affected," Mofrad said. "Income tax rates go up for people in those thresholds."

That doesn't just hold for income tax thresholds, which will go up from 35 percent to 39.6 percent for some of the most wealthy.

They will also be hit by an increase in the capital gains tax, a tax which came under much scrutiny during the 2012 presidential election when it was revealed that multi-millionaire Mitt Romney paid under 15 percent a year, largely because his income accrued from investments.

Those rates will go up from 15 percent to 20 percent for those same high-earners, Mofrad said.

People earning between $300,000 and $350,000 will see some changes in personal exemptions, what Mofrad describes as the amount deducted for "bread and butter" expenses like cost of living.

Families with children looking toward college can look forward to a break on their taxes, which would have gone up had certain aspects of the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, commonly called the stimulus bill, expired.

There's a five-year extension on certain tax breaks on college tuition costs and the child tax credit, which impacts Santa Monica families a lot, Mofrad said.

How much some of the changes on the very wealthy will filter through the community is less clear.

It's hard to know just how many Santa Monicans make $400,000, the cut off where many of the most expensive tax hikes take place.

According to census data, of the 47,181 households in Santa Monica, 11.5 percent make over $200,000 per year, but it doesn't get more specific.

Those charts show that a large concentration of Santa Monica households, 42.8 percent, fall within a range between $50,000 and $149,999, whereas 38.7 percent bring in below $50,000 per year.

What will hit home for many of those households is a 2 percent increase in Social Security taxes taken directly out of paychecks.

That will bump up from 4.2 percent to 6.2 percent, and will take a noticeable bite out of people's earnings, said Jim Medlock, director of education and training at the American Payroll Association.

"Everyone will see a decrease in their net pay because of the increase in Social Security," Medlock said.

To show the impact, Medlock shared examples he used in a recent training seminar.

A single person making $39,000 a year would see a $15 per week increase in the amount of social security taxes they pay, whereas a person in the same situation making $101,400 a year would see a net increase of $39 in taxes per week.

According to the Tax Policy Center, a nonpartisan thinktank, that equates to $442 per year from a person making between $30,000 and $40,000 per year and $813 per year for those between $50,000 and $75,000.

Employers will not see any change — while employees got the 2 percent break in 2011, their bosses continued to pay the full 6.2 percent.

Yvette George, who was visiting the Third Street Promenade from her native Texas, just got the news today from her company's human resources department. It will impact her, even though legislators had maintained that the tax hikes wouldn't hit the average American, she said.

"It's frustrating," George said. "I don't think Congress thought this through."

She's not the only one put out.

Many of these changes in tax policy are coming into play very quickly, faster, in fact, than many businesses can handle.

As of last week, Mofrad didn't have the forms he needed to get cracking on his clients' taxes just as the big tax season push begins.

"It's mind boggling," Mofrad said. "Laws were passed into the new year and in fact things happened so swiftly that our software company has not been able to keep up."

The changes in payroll taxes and federal tax withholding needed to be in place in time for January paychecks, even as the Internal Revenue Service, or IRS, was busy cranking out new numbers for businesses to use.

In some cases, businesses used old tables because newer, more accurate ones had not yet been released, Medlock said.

"I'm aware of some organizations that downloaded the first set of withholding tables, implemented them into withholding and processed payroll on Wednesday and discovered Thursday morning that the IRS put out a second set of tables with considerably lower federal tax withholding," Medlock said.

Santa Monica taxpayers will see another bite into their checkbooks from Proposition 30, a measure passed in Nov. 2012 to raise money for education in California.

That includes a one-quarter percent increase in the sales tax, but also hits the wealthiest Californians — in this case making over $250,000 and above — with an additional tax increase for seven years, Mofrad said.

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File photo

RUBBISH: **Heavy rains pushed trash and other urban debris onto the beach last year.**

RULING
FROM PAGE 1

Control District.

The lawsuit was filed in 2008 by the Natural Resources Defense Council in Santa Monica and the Los Angeles Waterkeeper (formerly Santa Monica Baykeeper). The environmental groups say levels of bacteria from animal feces and toxic metals frequently exceed water quality standards, a violation of the Clean Water Act.

Last year, the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled the county was liable for violating the Clean Water Act, saying that polluted water flowing from "concrete channels" into the natural part of the lower rivers should be classified as discharges and therefore subject to restrictions.

The Supreme Court said the Ninth Circuit's opinion was based on a false premise. The water flowing from one "concrete" section of the river to another section cannot be classified as a "discharge" of pollutants. Ginsburg said "no pollutants are 'added' to a water body when water is merely transferred between different portions of that body."

"Our work is not done," said Gail Farber, chief engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District. "The fight for clean water is ongoing and remains a collective priority for the district and our many water quality stakeholders within the region. The district remains committed to working with our partners in support of clean water, healthy rivers, lakes and beaches."

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors is backing a parcel tax to help fund projects to capture and treat storm water before it reaches the Santa Monica Bay. Residents have until Jan. 15 to file an objection. If a majority of property owners don't object, the board can approve a mail-in ballot to be sent to all property owners.

"We'll continue to seek to hold the Los Angeles County Flood Control District responsible for cleaning up its water pollution," said Steve Fleischli, senior attorney and director of NRDC's national water program. "Unless something changes, storm water pollution will continue to sicken up to 1 million people in Southern California every year, while local government turns a blind eye and avoids basic infrastructure solutions that will protect people, preserve water quality and increase water reserves."

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Editor-in-Chief **KEVIN HERRERA** contributed to this report.

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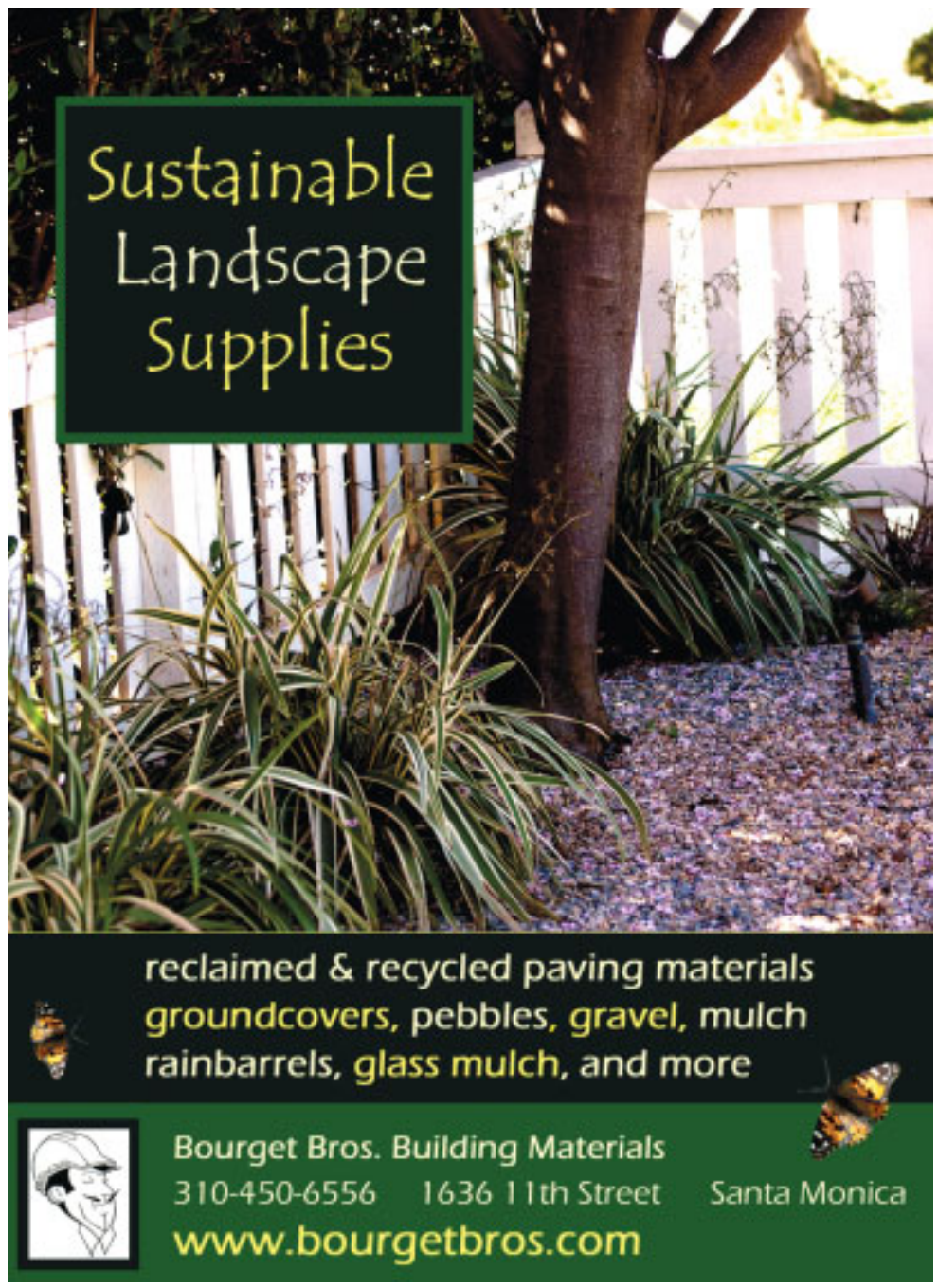
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Fueled by fanboy-ism, an empire swells at Nerdist

JAKE COYLE
AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK There's no media entity more pleased to be called an empire than Nerdist, the online factory of earnest pop culture enthusiasm.

This is largely because in the Nerdist universe, "Star Wars" is gospel; the kind of fandom those films have inspired is in many ways Nerdist's model of engagement. It would probably cheer Nerdist creator Chris Hardwick, a comedian and TV personality turned Internet entrepreneur, if this story began in words that drifted dramatically away into space.

The force, you might say, is strong with Nerdist.

"Nerdist stuff is really just the purest expression of fanboy-ism," says Hardwick. "And it's not engineered. We are that way."

The unabashed sincerity of Hardwick and Nerdist has proved infectious. Nerdist began as a little weekly comedy podcast hosted by Hardwick and launched in 2010. It has grown to encompass a network of 21 podcasts, 27 YouTube shows and a growing TV presence. The umbrella company, dubbed Nerdist Industries, was last year purchased by Legendary Entertainment, a big-time producer of the kind of films Nerdist swoons over, like "The Dark Knight" and "Inception."

Nerdist even boasts a kind of manifesto, a book by Hardwick called "The Nerdist Way" that comically outlines his ardent vision of an "artful nerd" — one whose fandom isn't merely critical and passive, but is passionately proactive. The best example of this was last year when Hardwick and Nerdist organized an Olympic-style torch relay, run with a lightsaber from George Lucas' Skywalker Ranch, along the California coast from Los Angeles to Comic-Con (the Nerdist Oz) in San Diego. In the event, dubbed "Course of the Force," Hardwick captained a replica Jabba the Hut pleasure barge down the highway.

Says Hardwick: "It made us go, 'Oh, well, if we can do that ...'"

Buoyed by such experiences and encouraged by rising clicks and downloads, Hardwick and Nerdist Industries CEO Peter Levin are increasing Nerdist's TV presence while also exploring low-budget film possibilities.

Last month, BBC America, which has partnered with Nerdist for a number of specials, picked up "The Nerdist," a variety talk show hosted by Hardwick, for 10 60-minute episodes to premiere in the spring. Hardwick has been a kind of cultural ambassador for BBC America in championing the series "Doctor Who" and hosts "Talking Dead" on AMC, which follows episodes of the zombie drama "The Walking Dead."

Hardwick is also producing a pilot for Comedy Central and developing a science series with National Geographic. He would like to make a science-fiction comedy film, too, along the lines of 1999's "Galaxy Quest," which Hardwick considers "a perfect movie."

In an entertainment world where comic books make blockbusters and TV shows spur cultish followings, the avenues are many for Nerdist. As Hardwick says, there's something of "a land grab with nerd culture right now." But adapting a hydra-headed digital empire into more traditional, mainstream media poses challenges, too, for the Nerdist realm.

Television is where Hardwick, the 41-year-old Kentucky-born son of pro bowler Billy Hardwick, first made his name. After a stint as a radio DJ in Los Angeles in the '90s, he started landing TV and film roles before becoming co-host of the MTV dating show "Singled Out" alongside Jenny McCarthy.

But it wasn't until a show Hardwick had high hopes for had the plug abruptly pulled that he remade himself through the Internet, starting the Nerdist website in 2008 while continuing his stand-up career.

"What I figured out five years ago, I realized you don't have to do just one job," says Hardwick, who seldom takes days off or is far from his next tweet. "There was that old idea from my parents' generation. I kind of decided: Why couldn't I make a career out of smaller freelance-y jobs, building this fortress of solitude made out of things that I like?"

"I found what my voice was by asking myself: Well, what do I like?"

The Nerdist podcast was an early success in a now flourishing world of comedy podcasts. Levin says the podcasts collectively draw 2.7 million downloads a month. The Nerdist audience, he says, is about 64 percent male, with most in their 20s.

The podcast has attracted big-name guests like Tina Fey and Mel Brooks. Tom Hanks, a typewriter enthusiast, was lured with a 1934 Smith Corona; he accepted in a typewritten response.

The YouTube channel, among those launched with funding from the Google Inc.-owned video site in a high-profile bid to develop original content, is a partnership with Jim Henson Co. and Lorne Michaels' Broadway Video. Its shows include "All-Star Celebrity Bowling," in which TV show casts bowl against the Nerdist clan (given his father, Hardwick has skills); "Face to Face" with Weird Al Yankovic, a parody celebrity interview show; and "Star Talk" with astrophysicist Neil deGrass Tyson.

Currently running in a seven-episode season is one of Nerdist's biggest hits: Neil Patrick Harris' "Puppet Dreams," in which Harris acts out scenes with Jim Henson puppets and adult innuendo. Just as Nerdist pulled in Hanks through a passion of his, Nerdist appealed to Harris' love of puppets. Harris, a longtime friend of Hardwick's, has been a fan of Nerdist since it launched: "I was mostly just envious of the title," he says.

"One of the things I love about Chris is he's a true finisher," says Harris. "He has expanded his empire radically and yet everything he sets his mind to accomplishing, he finishes. In this industry, you get a lot of people with great ideas but not a lot of follow-through."

Like the popular gaming online network Machinima (which has executive ties with Nerdist), the Nerdist approach is to proliferate across platforms. Levin, who co-founded the newsletter GeekChicDaily before merging it with Nerdist in 2010, is looking to put Nerdist on set-top boxes that connect to TVs. Legendary, he says, gives Nerdist more muscle.

"From the top down perspective, they are clearly the market leader," says Levin. "We look at ourselves as an important voice from the bottom up."

Staying true to that spirit, Hardwick says, will remain Nerdist's mission regardless of its big media partners. After growing up at a time when Dungeons & Dragons players (like himself) were outcasts, Hardwick's empire will take all comers — so long as they're passionate about what they like.

"Nerds can be out about the stuff that they love without as much as the stigma against it as when I was growing up," says Hardwick. "I just want people to feel OK about what they love. Unless that thing is murder and you're a Murder Nerd."

TV-over-Internet service expands despite lawsuits

ANICK JESDANUN
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK The Barry Diller-backed Internet company that challenged cable and satellite TV services by offering inexpensive live television online plans to expand beyond New York City this spring.

In the wake of a federal court ruling that tentatively endorsed its legality, Aereo will bring its $8-a-month service to Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, Washington and 18 other markets in the U.S., as well as to New York's suburbs. For the past year, the service had been limited to New York City residents as the company fine-tuned its technology and awaited guidance on whether its unlicensed use of free, over-the-air broadcasts amounted to a copyright violation.

A federal judge in New York ruled in July that the service doesn't appear to violate copyright law because individual subscribers are assigned their own, tiny antenna at Aereo's Brooklyn data center, making it analogous to the free signal a consumer would get with a regular antenna at home. Aereo spent the subsequent months selecting markets for expansion and renting space for new equipment in those cities.

"The court decision was the green light in our perspective," CEO and founder Chet Kanojia said in a recent interview at Aereo's sparse offices in a former engine factory in Queens. "This is an opportunity of a lifetime to build up something meaningful to change how people access TV."

Aereo is one of several startups created to deliver traditional media over the Internet without licensing agreements. Past efforts have typically been rejected by courts as copyright violations. In Aereo's case, the judge accepted the company's legal reasoning, but with reluctance.

If the ruling stands, Aereo could cause a great deal of upheaval in the broadcast industry. It could give people a reason to drop cable or satellite subscriptions as monthly bills rise. It also might hinder broadcasters' ability to sell ads because it's not yet clear how traditional audience measures will incorporate Aereo's viewership. In addition, it could reduce the licensing fees broadcasters collect from cable and satellite companies.

Broadcasters have appealed the July ruling. At a November hearing, appellate judges expressed skepticism about the legality of Aereo's operations. In addition, the original judge's ruling was preliminary, made as part of a decision to let Aereo continue operating while the lawsuits wind their way through court. Even if courts continue to side with Aereo on the legality of its setup, broadcasters still could nitpick on the details and try to argue that the antennas don't actually operate individually as claimed.

Despite Aereo's initial win, copyright attorney Kevin Goldberg with the firm Fletcher, Heald & Hildreth rated Aereo's chances "a toss-up. You really are trying to break new ground here."

Goldberg, who isn't representing either side in the case, noted that a federal judge in Los Angeles already has ruled against a copycat service called Aereokiller. Furthermore, he said, Congress can step in at any time to clarify the law.

Kanojia said he didn't want to wait for a final resolution, which could take years. He said all startups accept some risk when they try to shake up an industry.

With average monthly TV bills exceeding $75, Aereo is positioning itself as a cheaper alternative. For $8 a month, subscribers in New York get 29 over-the-air stations. They can watch shows live and record up to 20 hours using Aereo's Internet-based digital video recorder. Subscribers get 40 hours of DVR space for $12 a month and can reduce that to less than $7 by paying for a year in advance.

While cable and satellite services are geared toward watching television on TVs, Aereo streams feeds over the Internet to Windows and Mac computers, iPhones, iPads and boxes such as Roku and Apple TV for feeding Internet content to regular TVs. Android support is expected this year. Services such as Hulu and Apple's iTunes also offer television over the Internet, but not live.

The downside: Aereo doesn't offer cable channels such as CNN, HBO, ESPN and regional sports networks. The exception is Bloomberg TV financial news channel, which reached a deal in which Aereo is paying an unspecified fee. Cable lineups typically have hundreds of channels, compared with a few dozen for Aereo.

The 22 markets Aereo announced in Las Vegas on Tuesday for this spring's expansion are Atlanta, Austin, Baltimore, Birmingham, Ala., Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Kansas City, Madison, Wis., Miami, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Providence, R.I., Raleigh-Durham, N.C., Salt Lake City, Tampa, Fla., and Washington. With that, Aereo estimates that the service will reach nearly 100 million potential customers.

After that, Aereo plans to add more cities a few times each year.

One factor for the initial round was a market's proximity to Aereo's headquarters in New York, in case engineers need to board a train or a plane to resolve problems. Weather also was a factor, as much of the construction is taking place during winter months.

Another consideration was demographics. One key target will be people in their 20s who have never subscribed to cable or satellite TV, a group Aereo terms the "cord nevers." Research from Nielsen shows that younger Americans tend to watch more video over the Internet and less on traditional TV than older audiences.

Kanojia said Aereo is offering broadcasters a way to reach younger audiences where they spend their time.

The National Association of Broadcasters disagrees. NAB spokesman Dennis Wharton likened Aereo to someone who steals a six-pack of Coke, shares cans with friends and then claims to be helping the soda company promote its product.

"If you're selling the program for a fee and not compensating the rights holder for that product, that's fundamentally unfair and violates the copyright law," Wharton said.

Aereo, which wouldn't reveal how many subscribers it has, said it will keep prices the same in the new markets, though the available channels will vary.

Not all channels will be offered to everyone in a given market. For example, a Virginia subscriber might be blocked from a Maryland station even though both are in the Washington market. Aereo said it will use data from the Federal Communications Commission to calculate whether that subscriber would normally be able to pick up that station using a regular antenna.

Out-of-market stations won't be available, even if both markets are served by Aereo after the expansion. A New York subscriber who takes a trip to Chicago, for instance, would be able to watch only Chicago stations — and not New York channels — while in the Windy City.



SURF REPORT



RIPCURL LIVE THE SEARCH
1451 THIRD STREET PROMENADE • SANTA MONICA, CA • 310-656-2875

Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **55.8°**

WEDNESDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high occ. 3 ft
BIGGEST LATE; Smaller WNW swell leftovers through the morning; New WNW and SSW swells picking up with sets to chest/shoulder high for top exposures before dark

THURSDAY – **FAIR TO GOOD** – SURF: **4-5 ft** shoulder to head high occ. 6 ft
New WNW swell builds further and tops out during the day; Plus sets at standouts; SSW builds further; Light AM winds

FRIDAY – **FAIR TO GOOD** – SURF: **3-5 ft** waist to head high
WNW swell easing through the day; SSW swell holds; Light AM winds

SATURDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **2-3 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3 ft
WNW and SSW swells fade; plus sets at top combo spots

Tides

Are very manageable to start the week, becoming more of an issue as the tide swings are a bit more extreme towards the end of this week. Deep morning high tides of 5'+ just before sunrise will slow the more tide sensitive breaks down Thursday and into the weekend. Keep it in mind when planning a surf.

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 2, 2013**

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 -- 2
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
Number of wet days -- 18
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 22 / 17
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

The Beach Report Card is made possible by: simplehuman, LAcarGUY, SIMA, and Grousbeck Family Foundation

Heal the Bay reminds you not to swim or surf within 100 yards of any flowing storm drain or for 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.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechusa and Las Alloe creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A	A
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	C
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	A+	A
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	B
Solstice Canyon at Don Blocker County Beach.	F	B
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	B	D
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (beach location) - daily.	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	D	D
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	B	B
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19548 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	ns	A+
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	D	B
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	C	A
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	F	A
Will Rogers State Beach at 17308 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	D
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A	C
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	A+	F
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A	D
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A	F
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	F
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	D	D
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	F	C
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	C	B
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A	A+
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach - lifeguard tower.	C	B
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	F	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A+	B
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CSRW jetty).	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	B
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	F

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 non-profit environmental organization dedicated to making Santa Monica Bay and Southern California coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life.

Heal the Bay

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

Rose, Sugar bowls will host first semifinals in playoff

RALPH D. RUSSO
AP College Football Writer

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. The first semifinals in the new playoff system will be played in the Rose Bowl and the Sugar Bowl on Jan. 1, 2015.

The BCS conference commissioners announced the dates and rotation for all 12 years of the coming postseason format after a meeting in Key Biscayne.

The Rose Bowl and the Sugar Bowl will always be played on Jan. 1, or Jan. 2 in years in which New Year's Day falls on a Sunday.

In the second year of the playoff, the Orange Bowl will host a semifinal, along with one of three other sites that still have yet to be selected.

The site of the first championship is also still to come, though Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas, seems to be the front-runner.





City of Santa Monica

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

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

BID #4048 PROVIDE TRANSIT BUS DETAILING SERVICE AS REQUIRED BY THE BIG BLUE BUS.

The bid packet can be downloaded at:

- http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/QuickSearch.cfm
- A mandatory job walk will be held on January 31, 2013 at 11:00 AM Pacific Time. Vendors are to meet at the Big Blue Bus Maintenance Training Room located at 1620 6th Street, Santa Monica, CA. 90401. Parking is not provided, there are public parking structures or metered street parking.
- **Submission Deadline Is February 11, 2013 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.**

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/

MOVIE TIMES

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

Amour (PG-13) 2hrs 07min
7:30pm

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 Third Street Promenade
(888) 262-4386

Not Fade Away (R) 1hr 52min
1:30pm, 4:20pm, 7:20pm, 10:10pm

Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey in 3D (PG-13) 2hrs 46min
2:15pm, 6:15pm, 10:00pm

Les Miserables (PG-13) 2hrs 37min
1:00pm, 4:45pm, 8:30pm

Lincoln (PG-13) 2hrs 30min
12:30pm, 3:45pm, 7:00pm, 10:15pm

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

Life of Pi 3D (PG) 2hrs 06min
12:45pm, 3:55pm, 6:55pm, 10:10pm

Skyfall (PG-13) 2hrs 23min
3:45pm, 10:30pm

Django Unchained (R) 2hrs 45min
11:10am, 2:55pm, 6:45pm, 10:30pm

Zero Dark Thirty (R) 2hrs 37min
11:20am, 12:05pm, 2:45pm, 6:20pm, 7:05pm, 10:00pm

Jack Reacher (PG-13) 2hrs 10min
11:45am, 3:00pm

Parental Guidance (PG) 1hr 44min
11:30am, 2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

This Is 40 (R) 2hrs 13min
12:15pm, 3:30pm, 7:00pm, 10:20pm

Metropolitan Opera: Un Ballo in Maschera Encore (NR) 4hrs 00min
6:30pm

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

On the Road (R) 2hrs 20min
1:00pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 10:00pm

Argo (R) 2hrs 00min
1:30pm, 7:10pm, 9:55pm

Sessions (R) 1hr 38min
4:30pm, 10:10pm

West of Memphis (R) 2hrs 30min
1:10pm, 7:00pm

Impossible (PG-13) 1hr 47min
1:20pm, 4:10pm, 7:20pm, 10:10pm

Hitchcock (PG-13) 1hr 38min
4:20pm

AMC Criterion 6
1313 Third St.
(310) 395-1599

Guilt Trip (PG-13) 1hr 35min
5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:20pm

Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13) 2hrs 46min
11:30am, 3:15pm, 7:15pm

Texas Chainsaw 3D (R) 1hr 32min
11:55am, 2:30pm, 5:15pm, 8:00pm, 10:30pm

Les Miserables (PG-13) 2hrs 37min
11:15am, 2:40pm, 6:15pm, 10:00pm

Monsters, Inc. 3D (G) 1hr 32min
2:15pm

Silver Linings Playbook (R) 2hrs 00min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 4:50pm, 7:40pm, 10:30pm

Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away 3D (PG) 1hr 31min
11:30am

Promised Land (R) 1hr 46min
11:20am, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:25pm, 10:10pm

For more information, e-mail news@smdp.com

Let the festivities begin, Scorpio

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Your feelings drive you. You might be seeing a new situation evolve. Know that the less said the better. A superior might not express his or her appreciation and approval, but trust that it is there. Tonight: Try a new scene. You have little to lose, and you just might like what you find.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Deal with one person directly who means a lot not only to you but also to a key situation. This person might not always seem present, but it's most likely because his or her imagination has no limits and is working overtime. Tonight: Visit with friends over dinner and a movie.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You could be amazed by what develops between you and someone else. You might feel pushed or misunderstood by a boss. Remember, this person has the power. Know when to flex, and know full well what choices you have. Tonight: A long-overdue discussion.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You know exactly what to focus on. As determined as you are to walk a set path, you will be distracted by others. Realize that they simply don't have the same level of commitment you do. Break past rigid thinking. Tonight: To the wee hours.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Your creativity and ability to move past a personal matter might surprise some people. Clearly, you don't waste any time once you make a decision. Tonight: Let your worries vanish.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Deferring to someone else might be the only way to proceed. Your knowledge very well could take a discussion to a new level. You know what to do, and you know when to do it. Tonight: In the moment.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ As dicey as a situation might seem, you'll want to think through a decision with greater care and understanding. Acknowledge the fact that there is a cloud of uncertainty around the situation that you cannot eliminate. Tonight: In the limelight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ How you handle a matter and the choices you make could create more options for you to explore. Someone could have a strong reaction to this, yet you might not be able to grasp this person's reasoning. Respond with kindness and caring. Tonight: Let the festivities begin.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You smile, and someone reacts. Your ability to come to terms with a difficult issue marks a choice you've made. Having a greater understanding will help you eliminate any problem. Tonight: Pretend it is Friday night.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Pulling back seems to be the wise choice. You can't always draw the reaction you would like. Remember, everyone is different. Tonight: Opt to get a solid night of sleep rather than figure out an emotional puzzle.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Honor a friendship, yet be willing to say "no" to any financial involvement with this person; otherwise, you could hit a problem. Laughter might seem out of place, but it attracts an appropriate response. Tonight: Where your friends are.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You seem to understand what works best for you. Be forthright when making a decision, even though you might not be clear about its implications. It appears as if no one is really sure. Tonight: Hang out with your best friend.

Happy birthday

This year you often are inspired to live out your dreams. Verbalizing these desires will be the first step toward making them become a reality. Others give you their caring support. If you are single, nearly every person you date this year could feel as if he or she is the right one for you. Roll with the moment, and give this process time. If you are attached, you feel more in harmony with each other than you have in many years. Enjoy all the good vibes between you. SAGITTARIUS understands you perhaps too well.

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

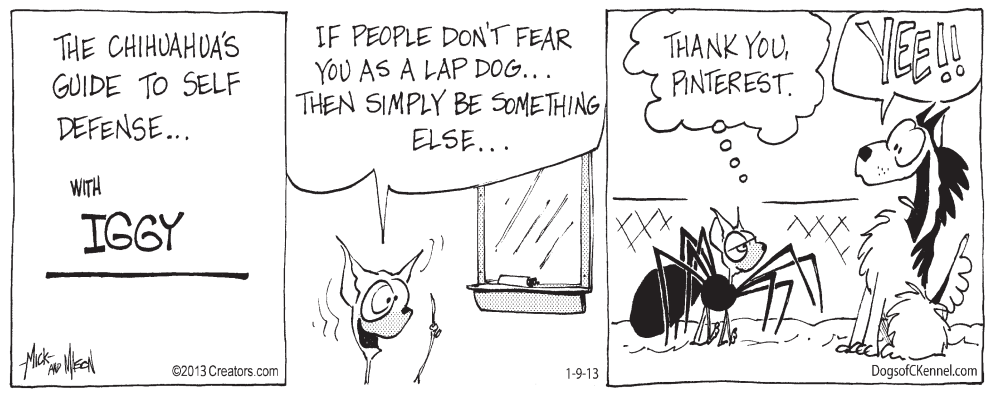
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



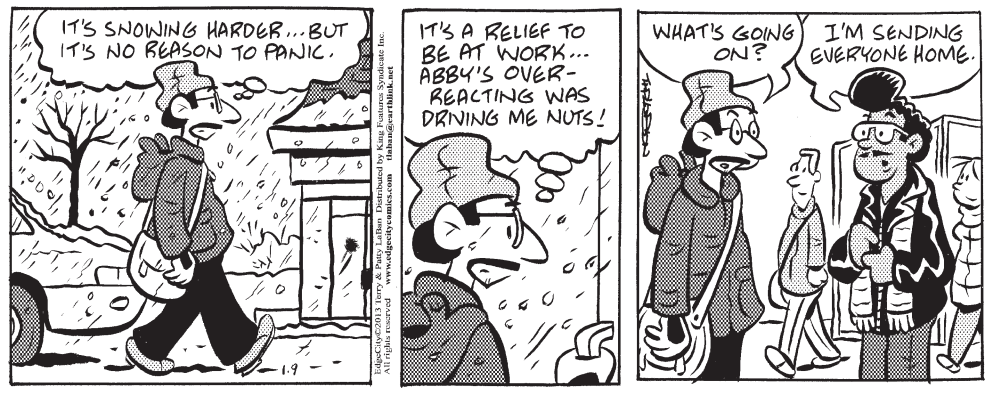
Strange Brew
By John Deering



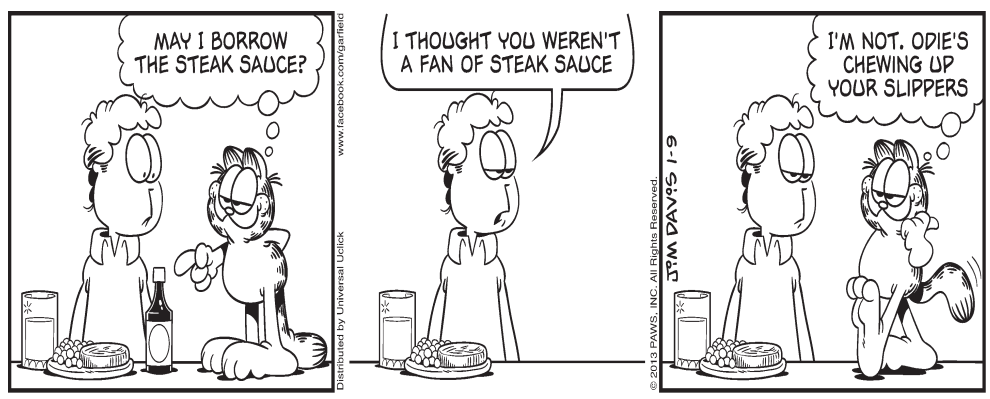
Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Edge City
By Terry & Patty LaBan



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 ★★★

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

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

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

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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 Let up
6 Polite address
10 Tennis star Monica
11 Bamboo muncher
12 Cardiff's land
13 Famed fur tycoon
14 School on the Thames
15 Summer top
16 De-pressed
17 Trig function, for short
18 Baseball great Ron
19 Moved clumsily
22 Eye drop
23 Make finer
26 Made a count of
29 Underlit
32 Put down
33 Memo-rable time
34 Frittata
36 Swiss capital
37 Opera's Callas
38 Spoil
39 Incite
40 Tea party guest
41 Spotted
42 Take the wheel

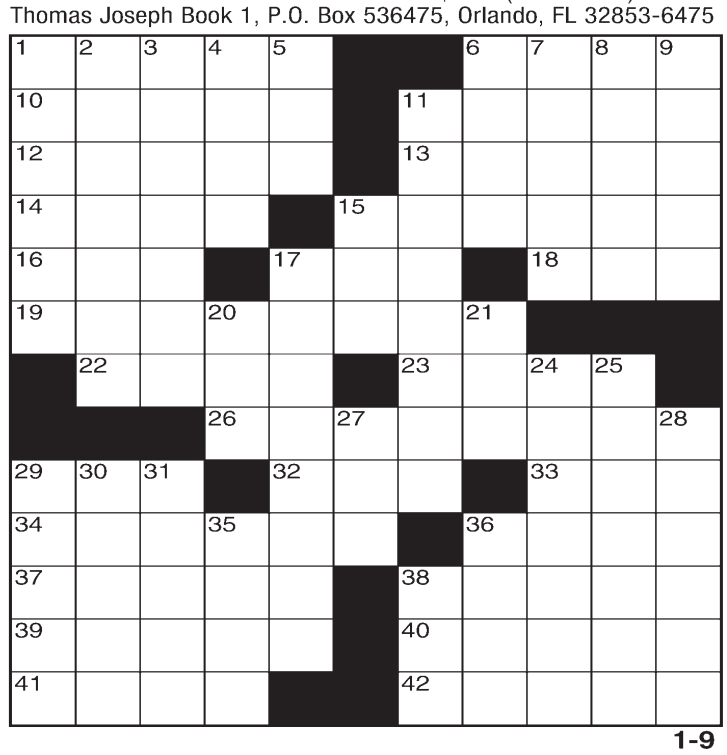
DOWN

1 In addition
2 Prevail over
3 Door opener's words
4 Fresh-man, usually
5 Snaky shape
6 Prepare potatoes
7 Prank
8 Find charming
9 Best Picture of 1955
11 Elapses
15 Craggy hill
17 Blue hue
20 Outlaw
21 Conk out
24 Comped thing
25 Patio's kin
27 Small rug
28 Anger, informally
29 Stadium tops
30 Mirror sight
31 Join together
35 Pride member
36 Cloth bundle
38 Methane or ethane

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

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send $4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 1, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475



1-9

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 1/4
1 2 23 25 55
Meganumber: 39
Jackpot: $47M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 1/5
2 14 15 37 43
Meganumber: 23
Jackpot: $11M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/7
2 21 22 24 35

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 1/7
MIDDAY: 7 5 3
EVENING: 5 7 7

SANTA ANITA PARK
Draw Date: 1/7
1st: 10 Solid Gold
2nd: 01 Gold Rush
3rd: 11 Money Bags
RACE TIME: 1:47.77

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

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ More than 200 school districts in California have covered current expenses with "capital appreciation bonds," which allow borrowers to forgo payments for years -- but at some point require enormous balloon payments. A Los Angeles Times investigation revealed that districts have borrowed about $3 billion and thus are on the hook for more than $16 billion. "It's the school district equivalent of a payday loan," said California State Treasurer Bill Lockyer, a former school board member who said he'd fire anyone who sought such loans. (Some defenders of the loans pointed to schools' occasional need for immediate money so they could qualify for federal matching grants -- which, to the districts, would be "free" money.)

■ In October, Austrian artist Alexander Riegler installed a one-way mirror in the ladies' room at a cafe in Vienna to allow men's room users to peer inside (in the name of "art," of course). Riegler said he wanted to start a "discussion of voyeurism and surveillance." Men could see only the faces of women standing at the lavatories, and he said then that in January, he would reverse the process and allow women to peer into the men's rooms. (The cafe had posted a sign advising restroom users that they would be part of an "art" project.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

1857 – The Fort Tejon earthquake of California occurs, registering an estimated magnitude of 7.9.

1858 – Anson Jones, the last President of the Republic of Texas, commits suicide.

1861 – American Civil War: The "Star of the West" incident occurs near Charleston, South Carolina. It is considered by some historians to be the "First Shots of the American Civil War".

WORD UP!

pseudology
\ soo-DOL-uh-jee \ , noun;
1.
Lying considered as an art.

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Employment

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Mondays, 6:00 p.m.
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Call Pat Akers
310-339-7463

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NUMBER: 2012232403 ORIGINAL FILING This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES on 11/20/2012 The following person(s) is (are) doing business as DIVERGENT LIGHTING DESIGN, DIVERGENT LIGHTING, DIVERGENT DESIGN, DIVERGENT ENTERTAINMENT DESIGN, DIVERGENT MEDIA ARTISTS. The full name of registrant(s) is/are: KYLE RUEBSAMEN 4196 MENTONE AVE. CULVER CITY CA 90232. This Business is being conducted by: an Individual. The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)10/22/2012. /s/: KYLE RUEBSAMEN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 11/20/2012. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 12/19/2012, 12/26/2012, 01/02/2013, 01/09/2013.





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* Great Location
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Santa Monica Canyon	=	$1,650,000
North of Montana	=	$4,869,286
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$2,425,800
South of Wilshire	=	$ 0
Sunset Park	=	$1,472,986
Ocean Park	=	$1,964,333
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