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@smdailypress @smdailypress Santa Monica Daily Press smdp.com

76 applicants for vacant council seat

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

City Council will decide between 76 applicants Tuesday to fill the seat vacated by Tony Vazquez.

Council hopefuls had until noon Thursday to apply for the seat and a variety of people have decided they want a greater say in local politics, including members of several city boards and commissions, the co-chair of the Pico Neighborhood Association and even Vazquez's wife, Maria Leon-Vazquez.

Leon-Vazquez is a member of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District board and came under fire in late 2017 after the Los Angeles Times reported that she voted to award at least nine contracts to consulting firms that Vazquez worked for. A SMMUSD probe confirmed the Times report but didn't conclude she had violated state conflict of interest laws.

Vazquez departure comes during a California Voting Rights Act (CVRA) lawsuit that claims Latinos are underrepresented on Council because of Santa Monica's at-large election system. In her application, Leon-Vazquez positions herself as an advocate for Santa Monica's Latino community, particularly on housing issues.

"The council has to be representative of all of its diverse constituents," she wrote. "My presence as a member of the council would guarantee a voice to protect any further gentrification of our affordable units in the city, especially in the Pico neighborhood."

Leon-Vazquez isn't the only member of Santa Monica's Latino community to apply for the seat. Oscar de la Torre, co-chair of the Pico Neighborhood Association and the husband of the plaintiff in the CVRA case, has also thrown his hat in the ring.

De la Torre is a vocal critic of City Hall, but his application barely mentions his opposition

SEE **COUNCIL** PAGE 3

Strongman competition to flex its might at the Pier

ANGEL CARRERAS
Daily Press Staff Writer

The Santa Monica Pier, a place of smiles and sunshine will soon be overcome with bulging biceps, thunderous thighs, and men lifting things no sane human being should attempt. And it's all for a good cause.

The Arnold Strongman USA Competition will take place at the Pier this Friday January 19, marking the competition's first time in Los Angeles. The competition, hosted by Arnold Schwarzenegger, will feature ten of the strongest men in the world, all competing for a spot in the Strongman World Championships. All proceeds from ticket and merchandise sales will be donated to the Ventura County, Santa Monica, and CalFire Benevolent funds.

"The Muscle Beach experience of the 1930's is widely considered

SEE **STRONGMAN** PAGE 3

Rainbow Garden sprouts on Montana Ave.



Courtesy image

APPROVED: The Planning Commission approved plans to convert apartments to a garden project.

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

City Hall is supporting a plan to open an educational garden on Montana Avenue and 4th Street.

The Planning Commission voted Wednesday to allow a pair of local philanthropists to turn a vacant apartment building into a garden that will teach children from local elementary schools and preschools how to grow and prepare produce – free of charge. Most of the corner lot will be filled with vegetable planters and fruit trees, with a low black building set far back from Montana Avenue housing a classroom and kitchen.

Thao and Sherman Ma moved to Santa Monica more than 10 years ago and are raising five children in the city. The couple said they visited the Edible Schoolyard in Berkeley several years ago and questioned why Santa Monica did not have an educational garden and kitchen of its own. Inspired by the philosophy of Alice Waters, the celebrity chef behind the Edible Schoolyard, they decided to buy the corner property five years ago with the intention of starting a similar program there.

"Food education is life education," Thao Ma told the Planning Commission Wednesday. "What my mother taught me about food when I was young I use every day with my own family. We want to create a community of compassionate children who grow up to be aware of where food comes from."

Thao Ma used the Ellis Act to evict the tenants of the two-story apartment building currently sitting on the lot and the project, dubbed the

SEE **GARDEN** PAGE 7

Isabel A. Ash Esq.
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Friday, Jan. 18

Yoga 9-10am
All levels. Drop in for $15/class or sign up for series. Annenberg Community Beach House Sand & Sea Room 9:00am-10:00 am.

Guest House Open
Visit anytime between 11am-2pm for a self-guided or docent tour. No reservations needed. Annenberg Community Beach House 11:00am-2:00 pm.

Saturday, Jan. 19

Discover The Real Santa Monica
Walk along with a Santa Monica Conservancy docent and explore the fascinating history of Santa Monica. Learn about the visionaries who founded a small community by the Bay. The two hour tours are every Saturday at 10 a.m. departing from Hostelling International at 1436 Second Street. For reservations: dwt@smconservancy.org or by phone at 310-496-3146. $10 per person. $5 for Santa Monica or L.A. Conservancy members.

LEGO Club
Kids can have fun with LEGOS and build something amazing. Board games also available. Ages 4 & up. Montana Avenue Branch Library. 3 - 4:30 p.m.

CoderDojo Workshop
Teens can practice computer science and coding skills with volunteer mentors from the LA CoderDojo. Use laptops provided by the library or bring your own. Ages 11-17. Register at the Main Library. 3 - 5 p.m.

Manifesto Writing with Max King Cap
Manifestos feature concentrated writing that exists to challenge, draw attention, and provoke. Choose a position, a mantra, an oath–then spell it out on a single sheet of paper. 1450 Ocean, 1 - 3 p.m. Free. Register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/70751 or call (310) 458-2239.

Pico Teen Advisory Council Kick-Off
Teens can learn how to volunteer and help plan teen services at Pico Branch with the Teen Advisory Council. Enjoy music, snacks, and activities, and meet the new Teen Librarian. No registration necessary. Pico Branch Library. 12 - 1 p.m.

Kitchenware Percussion Group with DaEun Jung
Join Studio Resident and choreographer DaEun Jung and assemble a percussion set out of kitchenware. Explore variation of rhythm in a small group and learn basic percussion skills and patterns. Free. 1450 Ocean. 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/70352 or call (310) 458-2239.

Sunday, Jan. 20

A Watercolor Journey with Timothy Kitz
Join watercolorist and urban sketcher Timothy Kitz in a 6-week immersive watercolor course, open to all levels and drop-ins welcome. 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. The gorgeous views framed by the Art Lab's picture windows overlooking the ocean will provide ongoing inspiration. All basic materials will be provided, but students are encouraged to bring their own brushes, palettes and non-toxic colors. Palisades Park 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Happy Birthday Marion!
11 a.m. - 2 p.m. festivities, 2-4 p.m. film screening! Celebrate Marion Davies' birthday with the SM Conservancy docents. Annenberg Community Beach House.

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

California storm moving out after battering state for 3 days

PAUL ELIAS AND JOHN ANTCZAK
Associated Press

The storm that pummeled much of California for three days began moving east Thursday after causing at least six deaths, forcing wildfire victims threatened by floods to flee their homes and plunging nearly 300,000 utility customers into darkness at its peak.

The National Weather Service says the winter storm is forecast to drop its heavy rain, snow and wind in Colorado next and move across much of country in coming days.

"It will be slamming the East Coast by Sunday," NWS forecaster Steve Anderson said. "From Maine to Florida."

Anderson said most of California should be dry and sunny by Friday.

The three-day drenching did put a dent in California's drought.

Government and university researchers who maintain the U.S. Drought Monitor map downgraded most of the state's drought classification from abnormally dry to some level of drought, mostly of moderate intensity.

Californians endured canceled flights, falling trees, downed power lines and threats of localized flooding.

"Our tree crews have been working around the clock to clear downed trees and large branches during the heavy rains and high winds," San Francisco's Department of Public Works said. Fallen trees blocked the city's iconic cable car tracks for hours Thursday and similarly delayed other commuter trains in region.

The California Highway Patrol says a falling tree killed a 42-year-old homeless man in Oakland on Wednesday.

The CHP said the victim may have been trying to shelter under some trees near an Oakland freeway when he was crushed by a 30-foot-long (9-meter) branch.

The man may have been "just trying to stay dry," CHP officer Herman Baza said.

A few hours later, a pedestrian looking at a downed power line who went into the street to avoid a falling tree was struck and killed by a van in Mill Valley about 15 miles (24 kilometers) north of San Francisco.

CHP reported that four people were killed in two separate Northern California auto accidents caused by rain-slickened roads this week, including a family of three killed Tuesday in the Sierra Nevada foothill town of Placerville.

A 200-year-old oak tree towering 100 feet over James Holmes' suburban San Francisco home toppled over in the wind Wednesday night.

"My family lived under it in our house, for 70 years," he said.

Southern California authorities concerned with rising streams and excessive runoff ordered evacuations in parts of Malibu and other areas scarred by wildfires. Malibu schools canceled classes. Santa Anita racetrack canceled its slate of horse races Thursday.

Northern California authorities warned of imminent floods and debris flows in the wildfire-ravished city of Paradise and the surrounding region denuded of protective trees and vegetation, telling residents to prepare to flee on a moment's notice.

Meanwhile, blizzard conditions blanketed the higher elevations of the Sierra Nevada and the region's ski resorts with as much as four feet of snow just in time for the three-day Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend.



Peter Steen Olsen

TREE DOWN: Local damage included a tree that fell on a car on San Vicente.

So much snow accumulated on the tail of an executive jet parked at the Tahoe Truckee Airport that it propped its nose in the air Wednesday morning.

Pacific Gas & Electric said 280,000 customers lost power at some point since Wednesday. PG&E spokeswoman Mayra Tostado said 26,432 customers remained without power Thursday afternoon.

Rain and winds forced the cancellation of dozens of flights at San Francisco International Airport.

In areas recently scarred by wildfires, authorities feared small rivers and creeks would flood their banks and cause massive mudslides, further damaging communities struggling to recover from a historically bad fire season.

The blazes stripped hillsides of trees and other vegetation that stabilize soil and prevent mudslides, putting at risk thousands of people living in foothill and canyon areas devastated by wildfires.

The hillsides were holding but people in burn areas were urged to remain alert.

In the Southern California hillside community of Oak Park, where residents used pumps and sandbags to hold off rushing storm water, longtime resident Diane Starzak said her neighborhood "kind of dodged the bullet" as the worst of three days of storms began to taper off.

Antczak reported from Los Angeles. Associated Press writers Janie Har in San Francisco and John Rogers in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

COUNCIL

FROM PAGE 1

work. He avoids criticizing the City and instead proposes working with residents to address development and creating new affordable housing and economic development programs.

"I have more than 20 years experience in governance and public policy development, leadership development and coalition building," he wrote. "I have expertise in developing innovative and effective programs and policies to address inequities and institutionalized racism."

Rent Control Board member Caroline Torosis also pledged in her application to promote affordable housing. She identified her other priorities as sustainable transportation, addressing homelessness and public education.

"I am committed to promoting an inclusive and diverse community," Torosis wrote. "We need to ensure that those who have made Santa Monica their home are able to age in place, and that we continue to make Santa Monica accessible and affordable for those who live and work in the community."

Evan Meyer, a software and non-profit entrepreneur who recently finished a term as president of the Ocean Park Association, wrote in his application that he would focus on reducing traffic, homelessness and housing, and making City technology more efficient.

Meyer is the founder and CEO of RideAmigos, a software platform that helps government agencies understand commuter habits and reduce traffic. He said he plans to use his expertise to help the city meet its transportation goals.

Other applicants include Planning Commissioners Jason Parry and Richard McKinnon, former Santa Monica College trustee Barry Snell and Mary Marlow, chair of the Santa Monica Transparency Project.

If at least four councilmembers do not agree on which applicant to appoint, the City will re-open the application and Council will vote again on Jan. 29. If it doesn't decide by Feb. 7, 30 days after Vazquez resigned, voters will choose a new councilmember in a Nov. 5 special election to serve through November 2020.

madeleine@smdp.com

STRONGMAN

FROM PAGE 1

to be the birthplace of the physical fitness movement, which of course is still very relevant today," Jim Harris, Deputy Director of the Santa Monica Pier said. "It is fantastic to have a contemporary event here which seamlessly recalls the area's history."

The event will feature such tests of strength such as a log press, last man standing deadlift (beginning at 700 pounds), and 400 pound stone shoulder carries.

One pro in attendance who will be seeking to gain back a record and the title of World's Strongest Man is Jerry Pritchett from Arizona. Pritchett is a metal fabricator in his spare time in his home state, and often builds the things he lifts.

Pritchett was 2017's America's Strongest Man in the World, setting a deadlifting record of 1,041 pounds. Due to injury last year, he lost his title and record to Hafthor Bjornnson, better known as The Mountain from Game of Thrones. (Not a bad person to lose to.)

While Pritchett routinely travels the country to do Strongman competitions, Pritchett's glad to be competing somewhere close to his residence and the birthplace of fitness.

"It's going to be really cool, man," Pritchett said. "I've done a lot of meets here and there but to have an Arnold Strongman Series by Muscle Beach on the Pier and being part of the first one is going to be neat. Should be a good show from guys from all around the world."

Pritchett says he's feeling confident about regaining his title and record, noting his training is going well and his body is 100%. The event he looks forward to the most? The antique fire truck pull.

"That's one of the fun ones," he says with a laugh. "You train for it and people get a kick out of it."

The Arnold Schwarzenegger Arnold Strongman USA Competition takes place Friday, January 19 from noon to 5 p.m. For more information, visit arnoldstrongmanusa.com

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Treason in Plain Sight

As Trump's shutdown continues to cause suffering for 800,000 innocent federal employees and others, I'm still shocked by his cavalier comment concerning those impacted. "They'll adjust, they always do." Spoken like a true trust fund baby born with a silver foot in his mouth.

Of course Trump has no end of self-inflicted problems. Saturday night, Fox TV host "Shouting" Jeanine Pirro asked Trump, "Are you now or have you ever worked for Russia?" Curiously, nowhere in Trump's 354 word rant did he say, "No!" (Or even "nyet.")

Two days later, Trump denied he worked for Russia, imploring"It's a big, fat hoax!" (Which actually also describes Trump.) I was reminded that Nixon infamously denied he was a crook and Clinton denied he had a sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky.

Russia came up in the 2016 debate when Trump angrily pointed his finger at Clinton, saying, "Putin has no respect for this person." Hillary calmly responded, "That's because he'd rather have a puppet as President." Like a school yard bully, Trump interrupted childishly, "No puppet. You're the puppet."

Saint Augustine once said, "A lie disturbs the universe." In his presidency, Trump has told over 7,000 lies. Lying hasn't become his second nature, it's his first. So, if you're feeling a little "disturbed," it's no wonder. Actually, if you're not, you're not paying attention.

I first had my concerns about Trump and Russia in December 2015 when primary candidate Trump phoned into the "Morning Joe" show on MSNBC. As excited as a school girl before the prom, he bragged that Vladimir Putin had just called him "a genius." (Actually, according to one translation, Putin had said that, like a shiny object, Trump draws attention to himself.)

Joe cautioned Donald, "You do know that Putin kills dissidents and journalists, don't you?" After a long silence, like a child whose candy has been taken away, Trump responded, "Yeah, well we kill a lot of people, too."

The next Trump "red flag" (pun intended) came when he hired, for free, Paul "Collusion" Manafort, now a convicted felon, to run his campaign. Manafort had worked for Russian billionaire Oleg Deripaska who has close ties to Putin and for pro-Putin governments in former Soviet republics.

The Manafort hire seemed suspicious, but no one thought Trump would win the nomination. Marco Rubio said, "We can't ever let a con artist be the leader of our country." And in May, 2016, Lindsay Graham tweeted, "If we nominate Trump, we will get destroyed.....and we will deserve it." (Now Graham calls Trump "sir.")

Then, after Don the Con secured the nomination, a plank in the GOP platform mysteriously disappeared. And curiously it was an anti-Putin plank providing defensive weapons to Ukraine to protect itself against Russian aggression. What a coincidence!

When asked about the missing plank, Trump pleaded ignorance.(Something he does very well.) Then at least a dozen pro-



TRUMP

Russia Ukrainian nationals attended the Inaugural, though no one can remember such an occurrence for any past president.

It's shocking the number of things Trump has said and done that do Putin's bidding. The list includes 5 secret conversations with Putin. Once, Trump even demanded the translator give him the notes and ordered her never to speak to anyone about it.

The seemingly endless list includes the Trump tower meeting and the oval office meeting with Russians during which an ebullient Trump told them he fired "that nut job Comey" and that "the pressure is off." Even though it was in our White House, Putin insisted and Trump acquiesced that no American journalists be in the room. Trump inadvertently (?) revealed a classified military secret throwing the Israelis, who provided us the intelligence, under the proverbial bus.

Recently Trump has defended Russia's invasion of Afghanistan, lifted sanctions against companies controlled by Deripaska, and has talked about withdrawing from NATO. Vlad hasn't been this happy since he assassinated his first journalist.

Even the government shutdown that Trump said he was proud to have caused, has to warm Putin's heart, assuming he has one. America in disarray is Putin's dream and Trump has delivered, wittingly or unwittingly. (Meaning either Trump is a traitor or incredibly stupid, or some combination.)

And yet, I'm more optimistic than I've been in over 2 years. Nancy Pelosi has informed Trump that, unless the shutdown ends, he can't give his State of the Union in Congress. (Maybe he'll tweet the SOTU?)

And Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez who, at 29, is the youngest female Congress member in history, went to the Senate today looking for missing Mitch McConnell to bring the bill to end the shutdown to the floor. She started the brilliant hash tag, "Where's Mitch?" which is blowing up Twitter.

As for Trump becoming Putin's puppet, the former KGB officer must be asking himself, "Where's the challenge?" Easy for him to say.

For more, Google "Where's Mitch?" and "Trump Clinton puppet debate." Jack is at facebook.com/jackneworth, twitter.com/jackneworth and jackdailypress@aol.com

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Dispute over rules riles California's legal pot market

MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press

California has finalized its rules governing the nation's largest legal marijuana market, a milestone coming more than a year after the state broadly legalized cannabis sales for adults.

But a dispute over home deliveries into communities that ban pot sales could end up in court. And the hundreds of pages of dense regulations are unlikely to resolve other disputes, including how purity and potency tests are conducted for infused cookies and other products.

Even if imperfect, the rules were welcomed by many in the industry who have been contending with shifting temporary regulations since California kicked off broad legal sales last year.

"Love it or hate it, California has regulations for commercial cannabis. There are no asterisks," said Hezekiah Allen, chair of cannabis growing cooperative Emerald Grown and former executive director of the California Growers Association, an industry group.

Meanwhile, the regulations that deal with the minutia of running a legal pot business do not address other broad challenges in the industry, from a lack of banking access for pot companies that will likely need to be resolved in Washington to what to do about a thriving illicit market that is undercutting legal sales.

"Do these solve every problem that exists in the cannabis business regulatory regime? Absolutely not," said Assemblyman Ron Bonta, a Democrat from Oakland who said the rules nonetheless create a strong foundation for a market that has gotten off to a shaky start.

By far the biggest dispute focused on deliveries. The rules released Wednesday will allow home marijuana deliveries statewide, even into communities that have banned commercial pot sales.

The regulation by the state Bureau of Cannabis Control was opposed by police chiefs and other critics who predict it will create an unruly market of largely hidden pot transactions, while undercutting control by cities and counties.

The League of California Cities said the rule conflicts with Proposition 64, the law approved by voters in 2016 that opened the way for broad legal sales, which says local governments have the authority to ban nonmedical pot businesses.

"This decision puts the public safety needs of communities across the state at risk," league executive director Carolyn Coleman said in a statement.

Many cannabis companies and consumers had pushed for the change, since vast stretches of the state have communities that banned commercial pot activity or not set up rules to allow legal sales. That means residents in those areas were effectively cut off from legal marijuana purchases.

"The public spoke loud and clear in favor of statewide delivery," cannabis bureau spokesman Alex Traverso said in a statement.

Bonta said he supports statewide deliveries for medical patients, regardless of local bans, but not recreational users. He suggested legislation may be needed to deal with the dispute.

Kenny Morrison, president of the California Cannabis Manufacturers Association, said the state failed to examine the experience in other states, which in turn has created costly problems for California companies with labeling and testing.

Industry officials have complained that the state rules force growers and manufacturers to hit too tiny a target when gauging levels of THC in products, the psychoactive chemical that causes marijuana's high.

Rules require the THC concentration come within 10 percent of what is advertised on a product label. Company executives say some products are being rejected after landing outside the margin by tiny amounts, and that hitting that required range is even more difficult with low-dose products.

Colorado allows a more sensible 15-percent range, Morrison said. He said the state also should be mirroring rules set by the federal government, which could eventually oversee the national pot market. Marijuana remains illegal at the federal level.

"Nobody cares more about the quality of the product than the manufacturer," he said.

Ruben Honig, executive director of the United Cannabis Business Association in Los Angeles, said the state's biggest challenges remain cutting hefty tax rates that can approach 50 percent in some communities and cracking down on widespread illegal sales.

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

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SMO – Reuse of Excess Airfield Pavement
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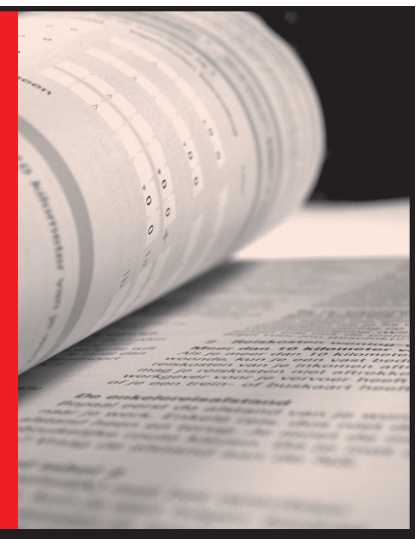
Bids shall be delivered to the City of Santa Monica, Office of the City Clerk, Room 102, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California, 90401, not later than 3:00 p.m. on January 25, 2019, to be publicly opened and read aloud after 3:00 p.m. on said date in the City Hall Room 212. Each Bid shall be in accordance with the Request for Bids.

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Bidding Documents may be obtained by logging onto the City's bidding website at: http://www.smgov.net/planetbids/. The Contractor is required to have an **A** license at the time of bid submission. Contractors wishing to be considered must submit Bids containing all information required pursuant to the City's Request for Bids.

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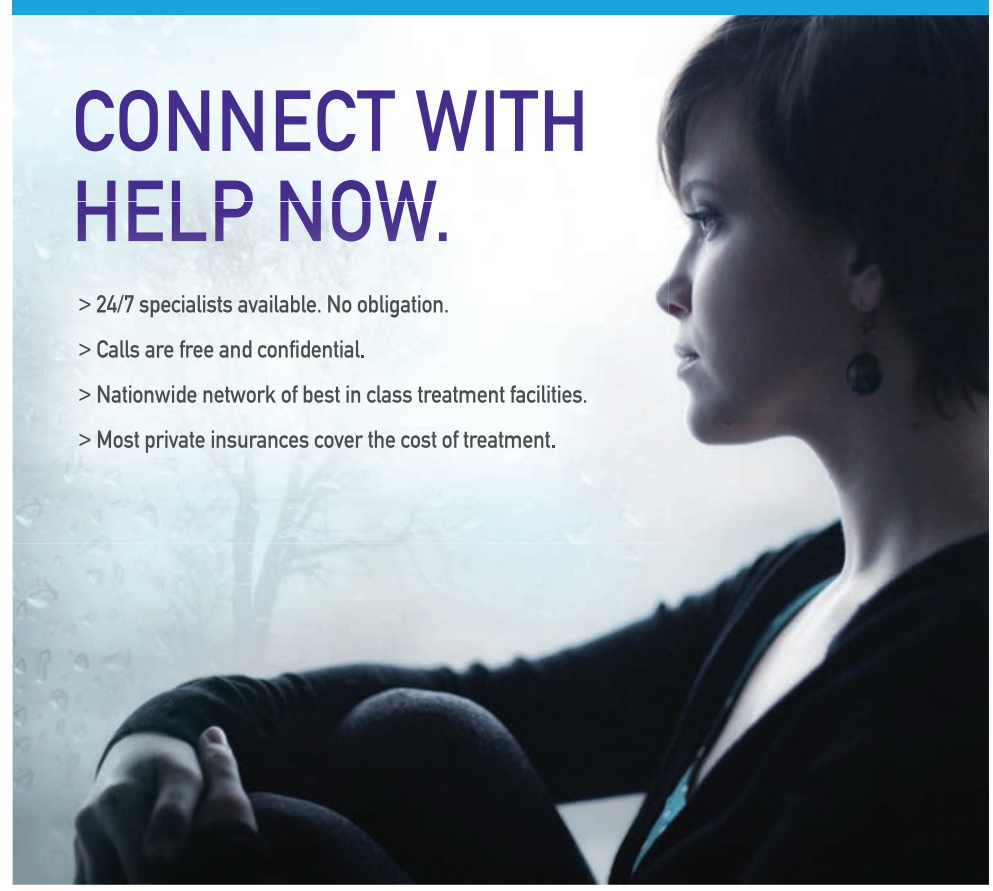
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THE CLEAN SOBER NETWORK

Netflix's solid 4Q eclipsed by projected slowing US growth

BY MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Technology Writer

Netflix's video streaming service added more subscribers than ever during the crucial holiday season, but the company signaled its growth is slowing in the U.S. as it begins to roll out double-digit price increases in its biggest market.

The slightly disappointing forecast issued Thursday for the opening three months of the new year overshadowed a solid earnings report covering the final quarter of last year — a key period for Netflix because subscriptions to its service are a popular holiday gift.

Netflix ended December with 139.3 million paid subscribers, slightly better than analysts had anticipated, according to FactSet. Of that total, 58.5 million were in the U.S., in line with what Netflix had projected.

Management predicted the company will gain another 8.9 million subscribers from January to March, but only 1.6 million are expected in the U.S. That is down substantially from an increase of 2.3 million paid U.S. subscribers at the same time last year.

That downturn in the U.S. raised alarms because Netflix is starting to raise its prices in the country by 13 to 18 percent this quarter, a move that the company is making to help pay for its rising programming costs as it competes for exclusive series and films against Amazon, Hulu, AT&T and Apple.

By charging more, Netflix can continue "a virtuous cycle where you've got the more investment you're putting in, the more people are finding content that they love and the more they have value in the service," said Ted Sarandos, the company's chief content officer, during a Thursday webcast.

But the higher U.S. prices also threaten to cause some existing subscribers to cancel the service and discourage potential new customers from joining. That phenomenon could undercut the subscriber growth that propels Netflix's stock price more than any other factor.

Netflix's shares fell nearly 4 percent to $340 in Thursday's extended trading after the earnings report and forecast came out. Even so, the stock remains above its levels before the company announced the U.S. price increase earlier this week, a sign that more investors believe management is doing the right thing for the company's long-term financial health as it continues to burn through more cash than it is bringing in.

"The fact that investors reacted negatively to what amounted to a strong performance indicates the extent to which Netflix has set a high bar," said eMarketer analyst Paul Verna.

Netflix had a negative cash flow of $1.3 billion in fourth quarter, bringing its total for all of 2018 to a negative $3 billion.

The Los Gatos, California, company expects burn through another $3 billion this year as it continues to spend heavily for the rights to popular programming, such as the film "Bird Box," which the company said has been watched by 80 million households since its Dec. 21 debut on the streaming service.

Netflix also released other insights into how many people are watching its service. That's a departure for a service that has fiercely guarded the data it regards it as a competitive advantage that helps guide its decision on the types of entertainment likely to resonate with its audience. The change could be an attempt to reassure investors that its free-spending ways are paying off.

The company estimated it accounts for about 10 percent of the time spent watching television in the U.S. Besides "Bird Box," Netflix also released projected viewership numbers on two other pieces of programming, "You" and "Sex Education," both of which it expects to be watched by 40 million households during their first month on the service.

Even as its burns through cash, Netflix remains profitable under accounting rules. It earned $133.9 million, or 30 cents per share, for the fourth quarter, a 28 percent decrease from $185.5 million, or 41 cents per share, at the same time in the prior year. The earnings per share exceeded the average estimate of 24 cents among analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research.

Revenue for the past quarter climbed 27 percent from the previous year to $4.2 billion, in line with analysts' estimates.

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Talks resume in effort to end strike by LA teachers

CHRISTOPHER WEBER
Associated Press

A new round of contract negotiations started Thursday between Los Angeles school district officials and a teachers union as thousands of educators picketed in the rain.

The announcement that the two sides would sit down for the first time in nearly a week didn't indicate whether any new contract offers would be on the table.

Union officials tempered expectations.

"After 21 months of negotiations I think it would be an unrealistic expectation to say that this is going to be over after today because there are hard issues to work through," said Alex Caputo-Pearl, president of United Teachers Los Angeles.

Talks broke off Friday, sending tens of thousands of teachers onto the street. Thursday was the fourth day of the walkout.

Mayor Eric Garcetti had urged both sides to resume talks on Thursday at City Hall. The mayor does not have authority over the Los Angeles Unified School District but he has sought to help both sides reach an agreement.

Clashes over pay, class sizes and support-staff levels in the district with 640,000 students led to its first strike in 30 years and prompted the staffing of classrooms with substitute teachers and administrators.

Parents and children have joined the protests despite heavy rain that has drenched the city. Overall attendance fell to 132,000 students on Wednesday.

With state funding dependent on attendance, student absences cost the district about $69 million over three days, the district said. At the same time, it doesn't have to spend about $10 million a day on teacher pay.

All 1,240 K-12 schools in the district were open — a departure from successful strikes in other states that emboldened the LA union to act.

The union rejected the district's latest offer to hire nearly 1,200 teachers, counselors, nurses and librarians and to reduce class sizes by two students. It also included a previously proposed 6 percent raise over the first two years of a three-year contract. The union wants a 6.5 percent hike at the start of a two-year contract.

District officials have said teacher demands could bankrupt the school system. Superintendent Austin Beutner has urged the teachers to join him in pushing for more funding from the state, which provides 90 percent of the district's money.

AP reporter John Antczak contributed to this report.

GARDEN

FROM PAGE 1

Rainbow Garden, has been in the works ever since. Nearby residents, however, said the Mas only made them aware of the project within the last month and some have raised concerns about the traffic and noise the learning center may generate.

The conditional use permit (CUP) the Planning Commission approved allows a maximum of 40 children on the site at any time, and the Mas said the center will host about two classes per day. They plan to encourage local schools to walk or use public transportation to get to the Rainbow Garden. Carpooling is another option: the idea is for field trip chaperones to park vans in the seven on-site parking spaces, Thao Ma said.

Commissioner Shawn Landres said the project needs to plan around school buses as well, because the Rainbow Garden may eventually host schools that can't walk, carpool or use city buses.

Chair Mario Fonda-Bonardi suggested that city staff include arrangements for school buses to share a nearby Big Blue Bus stop or set aside a loading zone on Montana Avenue in the circulation plan for the site.

That didn't satisfy some neighbors, who said they want to see the Rainbow Garden succeed but are concerned that it will make the neighborhood congested. Some also said they want it to close on the weekends for noise reasons.

However, most residents who spoke at the meeting supported the project and the Planning Commission ended up granting the Mas' request to hold events with up to 20 people once a week and events larger than that once a month. Staff originally proposed allowing one small event each month and two large events each year.

Thao Ma said the smaller events would be community gardening or cooking classes and the large events would be fundraisers for the center. Any event would have to end by 10 p.m. on weeknights and 11 p.m. on weekend nights.

Every commissioner praised the project as a generous gift to the community before voting to grant it a CUP. Only Landres abstained from the final vote, noting the loss of 13 rent-controlled units on the property.

"We have a housing crisis in Santa Monica and … for me to sleep at night I need to recognize that loss," he said.

The Planning Commission will evaluate the Rainbow Garden's impact on the neighborhood two years from now.

madeleine@smdp.com





SURF FORECASTS

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 4-6 ft shoulder high to 1 ft overhead occ. 7 ft
Healthy dose of WNW swell to peak overnight and ease through the day.
Conditions are cleanest for south facing breaks with decent size wrapping in.

SATURDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 3-4 ft waist to shoulder high occ. 5 ft
Easing WNW swell. Return of ENE offshore winds for the AM.

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Don S.

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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 JANUARY 11, AT ABOUT 5:32 A.M.

Officers responded to a radio call for service of a disturbance in front of the Starbucks at 1705 Ocean Avenue. A male subject was reportedly yelling loudly and bothering patrons of the Starbucks as they entered the coffee shop. Officers located the subject and asked him to quiet down and not yell at people. The subject continued to yell loudly and refused to provide the officers with any identifiable information. As officers were talking to the subject, a security guard to the nearby apartment complex indicated he had received numerous noise complaints from tenants and was willing to have the subject arrested for the violation. The subject was taken into custody. Joseph Jean Gilbert, 29, homeless was arrested for willfully disturbing the peace and resisting/delaying an officer. Bail was set at $10,000.

DAILY POLICE LOG

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

Prowler 2000blk California Ave 12:56 a.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 1500blk Ocean Ave 1:19 a.m.
Traffic collision with injuries Centinela Ave / Santa Monica Blvd 3:40 a.m.
Construction noise 1100blk 12th St 4:24 a.m.
Battery 2nd St / Santa Monica Blvd 4:40 a.m.
Trespassing 1300blk 4th St 4:47 a.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries city prop involved 21100blk PCH 5:52 a.m.
Arson 1200blk Ocean Front Walk 7:14 a.m.
Construction noise 2500blk Kansas Ave 7:19 a.m.
Encampment 2200blk the beach 7:27 a.m.
Petty theft 2800blk Neilson Way 8:04 a.m.
Threats 800blk 10th St 8:28 a.m.
Exhibition of speed 23rd St / Santa Monica Blvd 9:00 a.m.
Exhibition of speed 23rd St / Santa Monica Blvd 9:01 a.m.
Oversize vehicle violation 1800blk Main St 9:07 a.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 300blk Olympic Dr 9:12 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 700blk 7th St 9:40 a.m.
Auto burglary 1500blk Pacific Coast Hwy 10:23 a.m.
Battery Lincoln Blvd / Wilshire Blvd 11:03 a.m.
Petty theft 3000blk Main St 11:04 a.m.
Burglary 900blk 4th St 11:08 a.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 2300blk 4th St 11:19 a.m.
Violation of temporary no parking signs 1400blk Palisades Beach Rd 11:26 a.m.
Fraud 700blk Montana Ave 11:29 a.m.
Traffic collision with injuries 11th St / Wilshire Blvd 11:58 a.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 1200blk 17th St 12:20 p.m.
Burglary 1800blk Ocean Park Blvd 12:26 p.m.
Burglary 1500blk 16th St 12:35 p.m.
Trespassing 1500blk 6th St 1:47 p.m.
Lojack hit 14th St / Arizona Ave 1:53 p.m.
Hit and run felony 11th St / Wilshire Blvd 1:58 p.m.
Vandalism 1200blk 5th St 2:24 p.m.
Bike theft 2500blk Cloverfield Blvd 2:24 p.m.
Lojack hit 1500blk Alta Ave 2:30 p.m.
Petty theft 2900blk Main St 2:31 p.m.
Petty theft 700blk California Ave 2:43 p.m.
Grand theft 1500blk 6th St 2:52 p.m.
Grand theft 300blk Olympic Dr 3:10 p.m.
Death 2600blk 31st St 3:11 p.m.
Periodic check 1300blk 14th St 3:15 p.m.
Hit and run misdemeanor 500blk Bay St 3:19 p.m.
Vehicle parked in alley 2500blk Lincoln Blvd 3:27 p.m.
Person with a gun 500blk Olympic Blvd W 3:33 p.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 400blk Wilshire Blvd 3:34 p.m.
Malicious mischief 1100blk 6th St 3:36 p.m.
Petty theft 1900blk Lincoln Blvd 3:44 p.m.
Attempt strongarm robbery Main St / Pacific St 4:29 p.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 1700blk Cloverfield Blvd 5:04 p.m.
Traffic collision with injuries 1700blk Ocean Park Blvd 5:27 p.m.
72 hour psychiatric hold 1700blk Cloverfield Blvd 5:54 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

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

Emergency Medical Service 2200blk Colorado Ave 1:14 a.m.
EMS 1500blk Ocean Ave 1:24 a.m.
EMS 300blk Montana Ave 3:20 a.m.
EMS 2nd St / Santa Monica Blvd 4:40 a.m.
EMS 100blk San Vicente Blvd 5:12 a.m.
EMS 300blk Santa Monica Pier 5:47 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2100blk Santa Monica Blvd 6:57 a.m.
EMS 300blk Santa Monica Pl 7:14 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1500blk Ocean Ave 8:12 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1400blk 2nd St 9:32 a.m.
EMS 1200blk Ocean Ave 9:49 a.m.
EMS 900blk 25th St 11:27 a.m.
EMS 1000blk Lincoln Blvd 11:41 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1400blk Harvard St 11:46 a.m.
Traffic collision with injury 11th St / Wilshire Blvd 11:58 a.m.
EMS 1900blk Main St 1:00 p.m.
EMS 1400blk Franklin St 1:10 p.m.
Elevator rescue 500blk Wilshire Blvd 1:31 p.m.
EMS 500blk Colorado Ave 1:47 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 10th St 2:00 p.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 2:40 p.m.
EMS 2600blk 31st St 2:59 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 16th St 4:53 p.m.
EMS 1700blk Ocean Park Blvd 5:27 p.m.
Traffic collision with injury 20th St / Washington Ave 5:59 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1500blk 12th St 6:10 p.m.
Automatic alarm 600blk Pico Blvd 6:27 p.m.
EMS 400blk Santa Monica Blvd 7:53 p.m.
Traffic collision with injury 23rd St / Arizona Ave 8:06 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1300blk 2nd St 9:13 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 2nd St 9:35 p.m.
Automatic alarm 800blk Ocean Ave 9:56 p.m.
EMS 100blk Wilshire Blvd 10:09 p.m.

DAILY LOTTERY

Powerball
Draw Date: 1/16
14 29 31 56 61
Power#: 1
Jackpot: 129M

Mega Millions
Draw Date: 1/15
29 52 58 60 62
Mega#: 7
Jackpot: 68M

Super Lotto Plus
Draw Date: 1/16
1 22 34 37 44
Mega#: 27
Jackpot: 11M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/16
3 7 9 32 35

Daily 3
Draw Date: 1/17
MIDDAY:
Draw Date: 1/16
EVENING: 6 0 3

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 1/16
1st: 11 Money Bags
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 12 Lucky Charms
RACE TIME: 1:49.43

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!

gadabout

1. a person who moves about restlessly or aimlessly, especially from one social activity to another.
2. a person who travels often or to many different places, especially for pleasure.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Never Say "Diet"

■ The Major League Eating record for bacon is 182 pieces in five minutes, held by Matt Stonie, outstripping his competition.

Observation

■ "Isn't it a bit unnerving that doctors call what they do 'practice'?" – Comedian George Carlin (1937-2008)

Hypochondriac's Guide

■ Hemiasomatognosia: A neurological condition in which a person, typically after suffering a stroke or other brain injury, loses sense of about half of their body, leading to neglect of it. In this subset of anosognosia, people with certain disabilities seem unaware of their disability's existence.

MYSTERY REVEALED

SPONSORED BY Ice at The Plaza at Santa Monica



Lise Hill was the first person to identify the photo as Marine Market. She wins a prize from the Daily Press.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

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

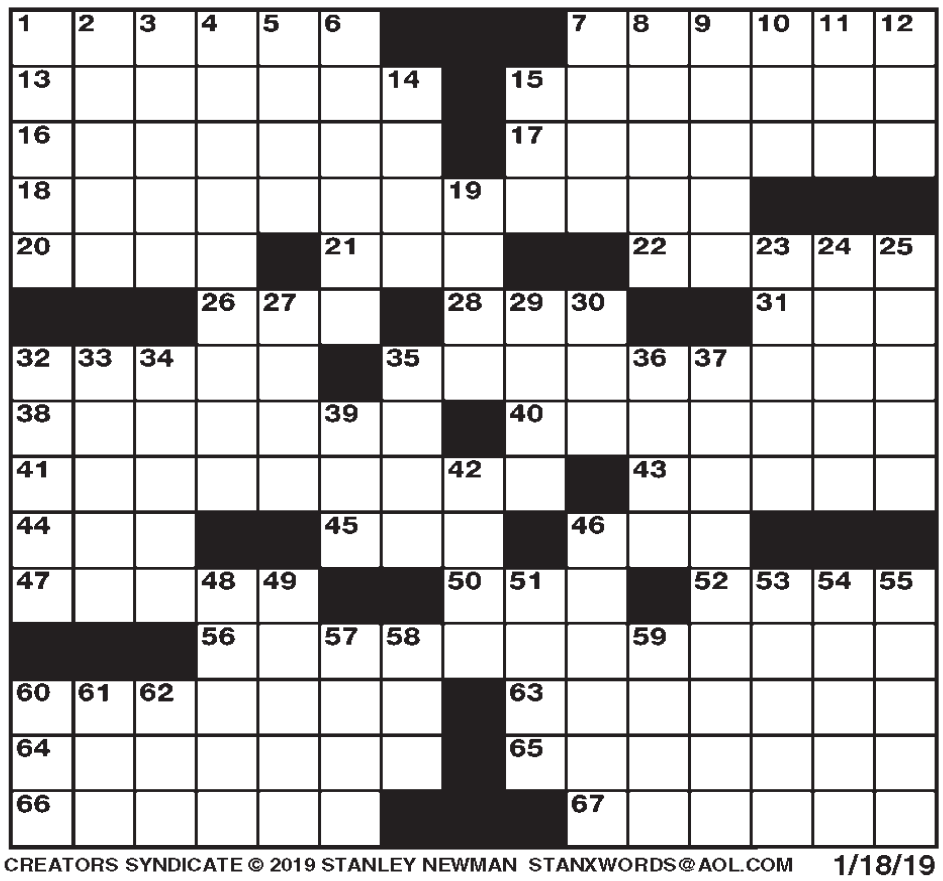
7		6	8	9		3		2
	4	5		2	3			8
3						1		
	8		6	4	9		7	
		7						9
6			9	1		2	4	
2		4		5	6	8		7

Newsday Crossword

SCIENCE GUYS by Greg Johnson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Paltry
7 Johns of art
13 Refers indirectly
15 Common chicken breed
16 Forbidden by statute
17 Superfans
18 Sub propeller [named for Rudolf]
20 Already gone
21 Matinee hour
22 Conversation filler
26 Mention
28 Pause that refreshes
31 Typical questionnaire question
32 Thickens, as cream
35 Digital communication [named for Samuel]
38 Ocean before Clooney
40 Bounced, on some tables
41 Culture developer [named for Julius]
43 Financial victories
44 Back in the past
45 Taking time, in brand names
46 Dial-up pioneer
47 Landlocked high land
50 Unaffiliated, for short
52 Lauderdale neighbor
56 Speed-reading aid [named for Christian]
60 Buffet serving shells
63 Keys' key industry
64 Dilettante's comment
65 Serenades
66 Toon tar
67 Nearly fall

DOWN
1 Some hotel staff
2 Kimmy on . . . *Kimmy Schmidt*
3 Gates' former partner
4 Frequent sitcom billing
5 Fringe
6 Homes and lots
7 *Star Wars* protagonist
8 Great distress
9 Movie ogre
10 Master of the macabre
11 Stumble
12 ICU VIPs
14 Throng
15 Be behind
19 Finger wagger's chiding
23 Mom of Wynonna
24 Utah city
25 Dandelions, to many
27 Town near Turin
29 Keystone support
30 TV ad for a cause
32 DC-based channel
33 Loyal subject
34 Above all others
35 Flexible 55 Down
36 "Consequently . . ."
37 Transport on the Allegheny
39 GPS display
42 Agronomist's study
46 Skillful
48 Photoshop maker
49 Hotel area
51 Pair in a hockey game
53 Celebrator in verse
54 Societal stratum
55 Protective plating
57 Not at all vivid
58 What may come before K
59 Tolkien symbol
60 Something helpful
61 Fussing
62 Much of a mushroom



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2019 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 1/18/19

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 18)

Soul nourishment is coming to you, and you will become spiritually healthier than ever this year. It's right to be a little commitment-phobic in the early part of the year because you need to be free to investigate and experiment. Your options are exciting! By May, you'll be ready to sign a stellar deal that will hold for years to come. Aries and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 30, 27, 1 and 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
When your truest desire is to assist, the first step is to get to know the person and understand what needs, wants, fears and beliefs are in play. Only then can you figure out the best way to serve and support.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
You're in no mood to be told what to do, however well-meaning the other person may be. Even if they are just trying to protect you, show you love or share a skill, they'd better have total respect and manners or it won't go well.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
Your pet project is like a friend. You love to spend time with it, speak up for it, go through the ups and downs with it, and do what it takes to loyally see it through. It's not just business or recreation. It's a representation of you.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
You have no problem delivering on your promises to others. When it comes to fulfilling your own orders, you're not as vigilant. Make your wishes for yourself a top priority. Let your actions reflect this.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
You've had enough experience with certain types of social situations to know what you're likely to enjoy. You need a little enjoyment now so you may as well steer clear of anything that's not that.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Subtle, discomforting forces at play make you feel as though you're sitting too close to the air conditioning vent – a cool wind, and too direct. You'll feel better after you pick up and move somewhere warmer and quieter.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
When you feel the sandwich needs a dill pickle, a sweet pickle won't do. Sure, they are both pickles, but the flavor profile is entirely different. Bottom line: You want what you want. Apply it across the board.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
The fact that humankind needs entertainment and beauty in order to thrive is nothing new. Even the cave dwellers painted pictures and played instruments. Let yourself relax and have fun. It's part of what makes you human.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
There's a certain urgency to matters, as you're starting to realize that if the job is done right and quickly you just might pull off the feat you've been working on for weeks.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
The feeling behind a deal matters. People spend money emotionally. They react to the situation, go with what feels easy given the circumstance, taking on a "when in Rome" sort of attitude.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
In police work, resisting arrest is a serious crime. There's an authoritative voice in your head that's a little like an officer upholding your own personal laws. It doesn't like to be resisted either.

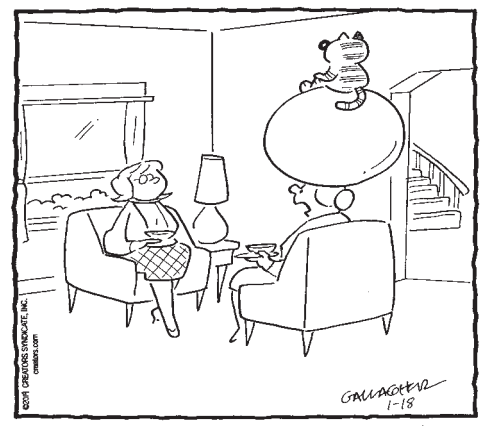
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
As your signmate Henry Wadsworth Longfellow said, "All things must change, to something new, to something strange." You agree and look forward to the new day, though it may feel like it's not coming quite quickly enough.

Auspicious Alignment of Mars and Venus

There are people you see for who they are who can't seem to reciprocate this level of understanding. They love you; they just don't get you. And that's OK. Relationships don't have to be completely mutual to be valuable. Even so, this very auspicious Mars and Venus trine urges us to widen the friendship circle. We all deserve to be seen.

YOUR OPINION MATTERS! SEND YOUR LETTERS TO
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Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



"THE BALL WORKS HIS CORE."

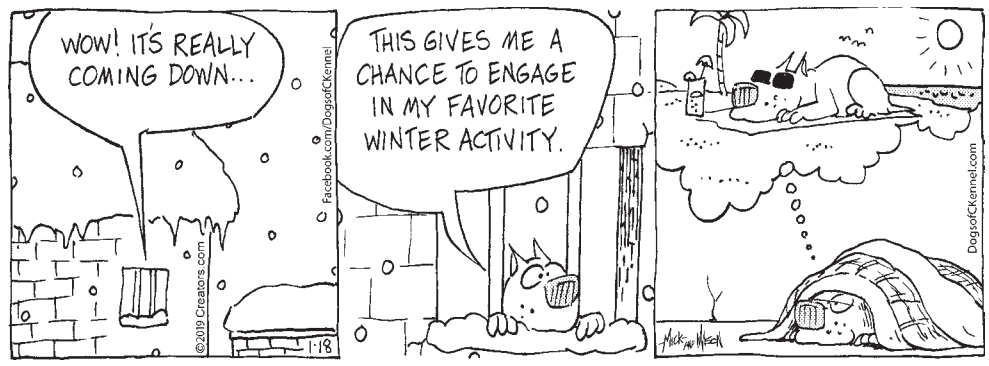
Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



Agnes
By TONY COCHRAN



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



Zack Hill
By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



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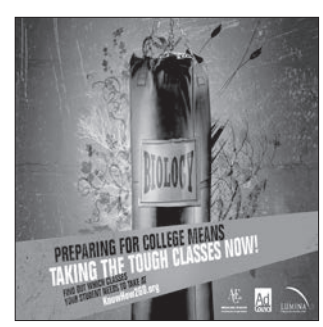
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