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TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2014
Volume 13 Issue 57

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered

SOCHI'S OTHER SIDE
SEE PAGE 12

THE LIVE THE DREAM ISSUE

Olympic High students sleep in

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

OLYMPIC HIGH Students at Olympic High School are getting some good use out of their snooze buttons.

From Jan. 13 through Feb. 7 classes start at 9:15 a.m., about an hour later than usual, as a part of a pilot program that takes seriously the notion that teens need more sleep.

"We're testing this schedule in order to find out if the later start time will help our students to improve their attendance and allow them to catch up on their credits more quickly," said student Amanda Huffman, who represents Olympic High at the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education meetings.

Adolescents need more sleep and tend to go to sleep later than adults, research from the National Sleep Foundation shows. Teens

SEE OLYMPIC PAGE 9

Legislative deadline nears for hundreds of bills in California

DON THOMPSON
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. Hundreds of bills that failed to pass the Legislature last year face an end-of-the-month deadline to gain initial support, including measures affecting gun

SEE BILLS PAGE 10



Paul Alvarez Jr. *editor@smdp.com*

IN THE MOMENT: Gerald C. Rivers gives his best Martin Luther King Jr. impersonation while reciting one of MLK's speeches Monday morning at the Soka Gakkai International Auditorium. City officials, celebrities and residents celebrated the legacy of the civil rights giant.

Memory of MLK refreshed in Santa Monica

BY DAVID MARK SIMPSON
Daily Press Staff Writer

WILSHIRE BLVD The voice of Martin Luther King was present, both literally and figuratively, in the SGI Auditorium Monday.

City officials, celebrities, and hundreds of residents came to celebrate the legacy of the civil rights giant just over 50 years after he gave his famous "I Have a Dream" speech.

The obvious highlight of the program was Gerald C. Rivers, a voice actor who performs as King. Rivers has 20 King speeches committed to memory but there's one that he usually stays away from.

"I often avoid the 'I Have a Dream' speech because it tends to make people nostalgic," he said. "They start smiling and they remember. Kids will start quoting it and saying the speech with me if you say it too long. What I realized is that most of us have never really listened to the words of that speech."

But Rivers acquiesced, pausing for a moment to let Martin Luther King wash over him and booming out his most famous words.

Rivers received multiple standing ovations and accolades from audience members who heard King give the speech on Aug. 28, 1963.

"Never in a million would I have thought I'd be standing on a stage right after Martin Luther King," said actor Tim Robbins, who accepted the Community Light Award on behalf of his Actors' Gang program directly following Rivers.

"It brought me back there," said Wheeler H. Taylor, III, who listened to the speech when it was first given. "He was very good."

Taylor said he wished that the youth were more engaged with King's legacy. Most schools were closed on Monday in honor of King, but the auditorium was largely filled with older adults, not students.

"I think if people listened to his message, a lot of this neighborhood violence would end," Taylor said. "Hopefully, the word will spread and some of the streets will be safer."

Lori Williams, a Santa Monica resident, had a similar sentiment. She was energized by Rivers' performance but she wished more kids were there to see it.

"Each generation loses a little bit," she said. "Just like this generation has lost the ability to talk. There's a social disconnect and as we go further and further away people will lose the inner part, the heart, the

SEE MLK PAGE 8

STOP CRIME
Very important meeting on neighborhood safety.
Santa Monica Against Crime
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Date: January 22nd
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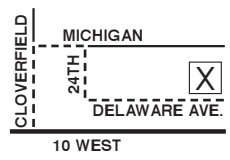
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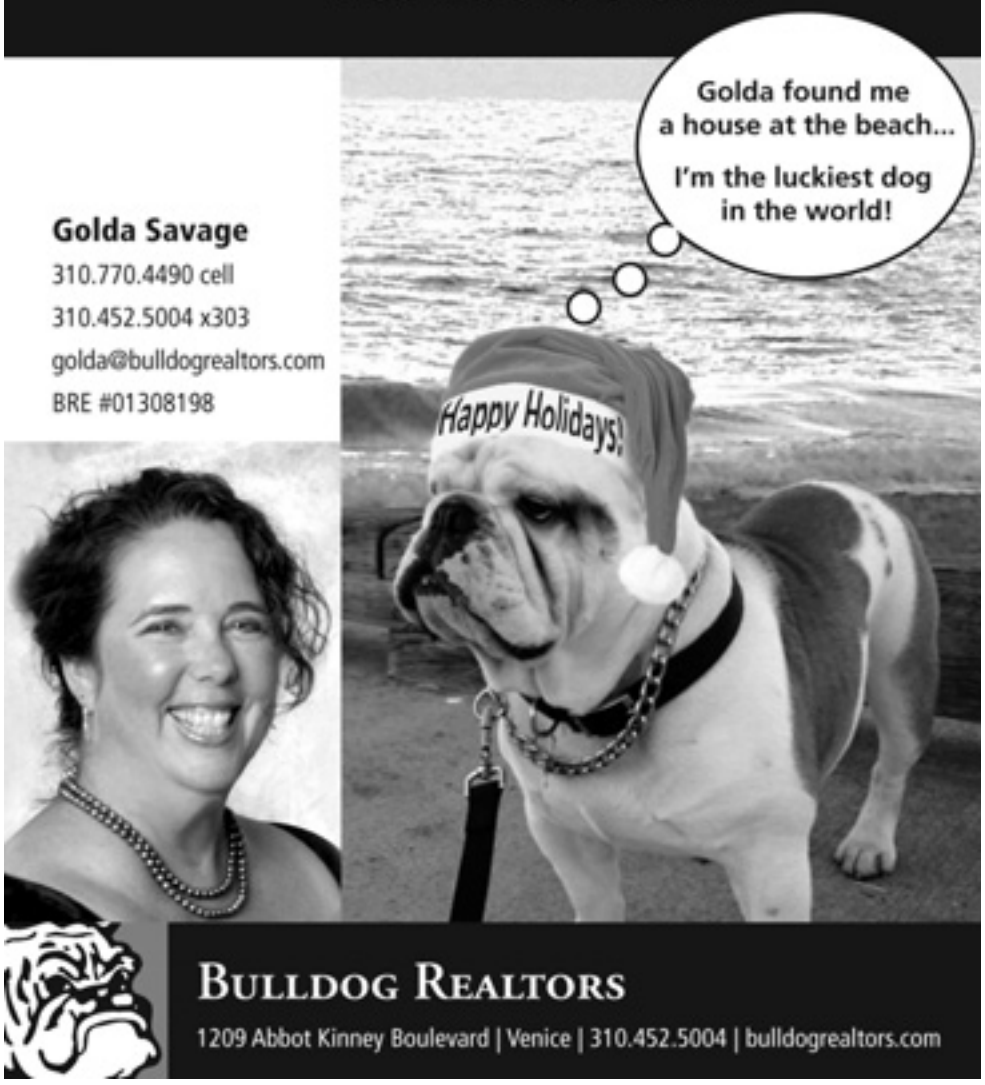
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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2014

Story time
Fairview Library
2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 11 a.m. — 11:20 a.m.
Story series for babies ages 0-17 months accompanied by an adult. Call (310) 458-8681 for more information.

Word up
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 6 p.m.
Continue working with Microsoft Word 2010 to create documents such as flyers and brochures, learn about Office online templates, and more. Advanced level. Seating is first come, first served. For more information, visit the reference desk or call (310) 434-2608.

Get moving
1450 Ocean
1450 Ocean Ave., 6:30 p.m.
Find out what the Zumba craze is all about during this class led by Diana Flores. Zumba is a Latin-inspired, calorie-burning, dance-fitness experience.

Wednesday, Nov. 22, 2014

Ewww, but cool
Montana Library
1704 Montana Ave., 3:45 p.m.
Learn how to create your own slime. Ages 6-10. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Planning Commission meets
City Hall
1685 Main St., 6 p.m.
Santa Monica's Planning Commission will hold a special meeting to discuss the Draft Zoning Ordinance, which will help guide development in the city by the sea. For more information, visit smgov.net.

Strum away
Main Library
601 Santa Monica Blvd., 7 p.m.
The Artisan Guitar Ensemble will be performing works by John Dowland, J.S. Bach, Edvard Grieg, Isaac Albeniz, Paulo Bellinatti and Joaquin Turina. Cost: Free. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Under the big top
Santa Monica Pier
Times vary
Cirque du Soleil returns to Santa Monica. This time around, the world famous troupe presents "Totem," an artistic look at mankind's evolution. For more information, visit cirquedusoleil.com.

New take on Homer's classic
The Broad Stage
1310 11th St., 8 p.m.
Homer's epic poem comes back to life in a contemporary new telling. Obie Award-winner Lisa Peterson directs Tony Award-winner Denis O'Hare in this show that captures the battle for Troy. "An Iliad" races through time and continues to be relevant to this day. For more information, visit thebroadstage.com.

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

SMMUSD HDQTRS

Educating the next generation

At the end of this month, or early next month, elementary schools throughout the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District will be welcoming parents of incoming kindergartners.

Kindergarten Round-Up, as the yearly event is called, is an opportunity for Santa Monica and Malibu parents to meet the principal of their neighborhood school, visit classrooms and enroll their children for either kindergarten or transitional kindergarten.

To be eligible for kindergarten, students must turn 5 before Sept. 1. Transitional kindergarten is for students who turn 5 on Sept. 2 through Dec. 2, district officials said.

Parents will need to bring with them their child's birth certificate, health records, and proof of residency in Santa Monica or Malibu. That could include a gas, water or electric bill.

The Round-Up starts Feb. 26 or 27 for most schools. Most site visits take place at either 8 a.m. or 8:30 a.m. For a list, visit www.smmusd.org or call (310) 450-8338.

– DAILY PRESS

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY

Fire fighters lend a hand

Santa Monica fire fighters helped during the Colby Fire in Glendora last week by protecting homes, a water facility and some avocado orchards, officials said.

Two engine companies were dispatched on Jan. 16 as a strike team with others from Beverly Hills and Culver City. It took about two hours for them to travel to the southwest portion of the fire. The SMFD strike team spent approximately 27 hours on the fire line and returned to Santa Monica Jan. 17 around 2 p.m., officials said.

There was no interruption in emergency services to the Santa Monica community while the strike team was deployed as backfill crews were immediately called in to cover, said Fire Chief Scott Ferguson.

The Colby Fire burned 1,900 acres as of Monday morning. The fire was at least 78 percent contained by Sunday night as the last mandatory evacuation orders were lifted over the weekend, according to reports.

The fire, which broke out Jan. 16, has destroyed at least five homes and 11 other structures. Authorities believe the fire was sparked by an illegal campfire. Three men are in custody for starting the fire and could face federal charges.

Gusty Santa Ana winds helped fan the flames. The Santa Anas typically begin in the fall and last through winter into spring. A wet winter reduces fire risk, but the whole state is experiencing historically dry conditions.

– KEVIN HERRERA





WALK THIS WAY

Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

Nonprofit Cherished Feet held a shoe giveaway in Palisades Park on Monday. The group distributed roughly 30 shoes to the homeless. The organization has handed out thousands of shoes since it was created three years ago.

Unions angered by Postal Service's Staples outlets

SAM HANANEL
Associated Press

WASHINGTON The opening of Postal Service retail centers in dozens of Staples stores around the country is being met with threats of protests and boycotts by the agency's unions.

The new outlets are staffed by Staples employees, not postal workers, and labor officials say that move replaces well-paying union jobs with low-wage, nonunion workers.

"It's a direct assault on our jobs and on public postal services," said Mark Dimondstein, president of the 200,000-member American Postal Workers Union.

The dispute comes as the financially struggling Postal Service continues to form partnerships with private companies, and looks to cut costs and boost revenues. The deal with Staples began as a pilot program in November at 84 stores in California, Georgia, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania as a way make it easier for customers to buy stamps, send packages or use Priority and certified mail.

Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe said the program has nothing to do with privatization and everything to do with customer service and driving up demand for the agency's products.

"The privatization discussion is a ruse," Donahoe said in an interview. "We have no interest in privatizing the Postal Service. We are looking to grow our business to provide customer convenience to postal products."

Staples spokeswoman Carrie McElwee referred questions about union concerns to the Postal Service. She said the company "continually tests new products and services to better meet the needs of our customers."

Union leaders fear that if the Staples program is successful, the Postal Service will want to expand it to more than 1,500 of the company's other stores. That could siphon work and customers away from nearby brick-and-mortar post offices, taking jobs from postal workers and even leading traditional post offices to close.

Union leaders have been visiting Staples stores to meet with managers, asking them to share the union's displeasure with upper management.

Dimondstein asked to meet with the Staples CEO Ronald Sargent, who has declined.

The union plans to hold "sustained" protests this month at Staples stores in the San Francisco and San Jose, Calif., area that would be expanded elsewhere. Union officials also are considering how they can exert pressure on Staples shareholders.

"If Staples insists on continuing to refuse to staff those stores with postal workers, we're going to urge people to take their business elsewhere," Dimondstein said.

SEE **UNIONS** PAGE 8



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Pat on Bill's back

Editor:

I would like to commend Bill Bauer for his good work explaining for the general reader the essence of what is happening in the zoning ordinance update process, now midway through its completion ("Are we being duped with zoning code updates?" My Write, Jan. 12). As a resident who has been concerned about the low attendance at Planning Commission meetings devoted to this process and a general lack of involvement by the residents in the zoning update, I wanted to let you know that the meeting this week at the Jan. 15 Planning Commission was standing room only.

I credit Bill Bauer's last two My Write columns for the enthusiastic turnout. This citizen engagement is very important because the zoning will define much of what can be built in Santa Monica for many years to come

Thanks!

Tricia Crane
Santa Monica

Look both ways

Editor:

Mr. Willis is guilty of excessive hyperbole in his distorted attack lumping most cyclists as scofflaws while completely ignoring the vast numbers of pedestrians and motor vehicle operators who routinely ignore the law ("Sick of cyclists," Letter to the Editor, Jan. 18-19).

Inconsiderate jaywalking pedestrians could care less when they stop traffic as they blithely usurp the right of way. By law, cyclists and motorists alike have to yield to pedestrians. One woman was jaywalking on a busy street causing her 4-year-old son to be killed by an impaired motorist. Both parties were in the wrong, but the woman would have had to walk a third of a mile each way to reach a crosswalk every time she got off the bus near her apartment.

The problem is curmudgeons like Willis lack intelligence, insight and empathy, so they are incapable of seeing any point of view but their own. The same kind of narrow and sanctimonious thinking can be attributed to cyclists, motorists and pedestrians, alike!

I suspect that Willis is the kind of angry motorist who honks his horn and curses at anyone who gets in his way, but refuses to use his turn signal, or look for cyclists when opening his car door after parking!

Jon Mann
Santa Monica



Your column here



Scott Klinger — Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Stark choice in the new year

AT THIS MOMENT, FOUR OUT OF EVERY 10 unemployed workers in the U.S. have been looking for a job for more than six months, the highest level of long-term joblessness since the Great Depression. While more people are buying goods and services now than four years ago, businesses are only beginning to hire back laid-off workers, and there are still three workers lined up for every open job.

In depressed towns and cities, the holidays have been tough for the long-term unemployed. And their situation is about to get much worse.

About 1.3 million Americans received their last extended unemployment check before New Year's Eve. Later this year, another 3.6 million long-term unemployed workers will lose support unless Congress renews this lifeline.

The unemployed who receive assistance get about $300 a week, on average. That's hardly enough to cover rent or a mortgage and pay for heat, electricity and a phone, so they can continue to search for work instead of worrying about where the family will be sleeping that night.

The unemployed were left in the cold by the recent budget deal. Congress left town without figuring out how to pay for extended unemployment benefits, leaving the long-term jobless to wonder how they'll make their mortgage payments in 2014.

But some Americans are much more fortunate. In 2012, the top hedge fund manager in the U.S., David Tepper of Appaloosa Management, took home $2.6 billion in compensation. That's $50 million a week, or $824 every second of the year. We can only wonder how the holidays were celebrated in his home.

Tepper is not alone in his largesse. The 25 top hedge fund managers together took home $14.4 billion in earnings in 2012; this equals the amount of money provided to support 906,280 unemployed Americans for an entire year.

Unlike most upper-income professionals — like doctors, lawyers, accountants and dentists — who pay up to 39.6 percent of their earnings in income taxes, Tepper and his pals paid just the 20 percent capital gains tax on their fortunes, thanks to the "carried interest loophole." This hedge fund loophole saved Mr. Tepper alone more than $400 million on his 2012 tax bill.

If this loophole were eliminated and hedge fund, private equity and real estate investment managers were taxed at the same rate as lawyers, dentists, doctors and the rest of us salaried employees, we would have another $13 billion a year in revenue. That would be enough to cover the cost of extended emergency unemployment benefits through the end of 2015.

Earlier this month, President Obama said reducing inequality was "the defining challenge of our time." In fact, it is the challenge of the moment. For 1.3 million Americans, the challenge is immediate.

ALLOWING FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE TO EXPIRE SUCKS MONEY OUT OF LOCAL ECONOMIES ALREADY SUFFERING FROM SLUGGISH JOB GROWTH, RESULTING IN MORE LOCAL JOB LOSS AND DEEPER POCKETS OF DEPRESSION.

Providing assistance to the unemployed helps people get back on their feet after losing a job, and it allows them contribute to neighborhood businesses and the local economy while it's trying to recover. Unemployment benefits keep millions of the neighbors of the unemployed working — in grocery stores, gas stations, utility companies and banks. Allowing federal unemployment assistance to expire sucks money out of local economies already suffering from sluggish job growth, resulting in more local job loss and deeper pockets of depression.

But reducing inequality isn't just about helping those struggling at the lower ends of the income distribution; it also requires reining in excessive compensation at the top. Changing the tax code to ask a few thousand of our wealthiest citizens to pay taxes like the rest of us is just ensuring everyone plays by the same rules.

Congress has a choice to make: will we help 5 million families soldier through tough economic times, or will we continue to allow those who have prospered the most to live by a different set of rules, apart from the rest of us?

SCOTT KLINGER is the director of revenue and spending policies at the Center for Effective Government.





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Silicon Valley sees shortage of EV charging stations

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PALO ALTO, Calif. An increasing number of electric-vehicle driving employees at Silicon Valley companies are finding it hard to access car-charging stations at work, creating incidents of "charge rage" among drivers.

Installation of electric vehicle charging ports at some companies has not kept pace with soaring demand, creating thorny etiquette issues in the workplace, the San Jose Mercury News reported.

Peter Graf, chief sustainability officer for German software company SAP, says the company's 16 charging stations are now not nearly enough for the 61 employees who drive electric vehicles.

Graf says cars are getting unplugged while charging, creating animosity between employees. A charge can take as little as 30 minutes.

"Cars are getting unplugged while they are actively charging, and that's a problem," Graf told the newspaper. "Employees are calling and messaging each other, saying, 'I see you're fully charged, can you please move your car?'"

The company is drafting guidelines for EV-driving employees.

ChargePoint, which operates a large EV-charging network, says companies should provide one charging port for every two of their employees' electric vehicles.

Companies everywhere will probably begin facing similar problems.

Pacific Gas & Electric Co. expects 800,000 electric vehicles to be on state roads by 2020 — there are only 20,000 now — creating a high demand for charging stations. Currently, there are about 5,000 public and workplace charging stations in California and 20,000 nationwide.

"Having two chargers and 20 electric cars is worse than having no chargers and 20 electric cars. If you are going to do this, you have to be willing to continue to scale it," said Pat Romano, CEO of ChargePoint.

Adding chargers can be expensive, especially at sites where companies are leasing space and don't want to invest in permanent charging infrastructure.

Some Valley companies have already taken steps toward alleviating charge rage in the workplace.

About 10 percent of Infoblox's 260 employees have electric vehicles, with only six charging stations.

So, the company set up an EV user distribution list and a shared calendar for booking time at the charging stations.

"You can only book for a two-hour window. But Rule No. 1 is: No one touches anyone else's car without permission," said David Gee, the company's executive vice president of marketing.

Mayor leads L.A.'s Kingdom Day Parade

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti led a procession of marching bands, local dignitaries and celebrities to celebrate the legacy of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

The mayor was grand marshal of Monday's 29th annual Kingdom Day Parade, which included appearances by Police Chief Charlie Beck and congress members Karen Bass, Janice Hahn and Maxine Waters.

Former Dodgers "Sweet" Lou Johnson, Dennis Powell and Derrel Thomas rode aboard the Dodger fire truck.

Thousands of people lined the streets of South L.A. for the event, which featured dancers, singers and honor guards.

It one of many celebrations, marches, parades and community service projects held across the nation to honor the slain civil rights leader. It was 50 years ago that King won the Nobel Peace Prize.

The Q Line

Looking back

The 20th anniversary of the Northridge earthquake brought back vivid memories for Santa Monicans who experienced it.

So, this week's Q-Line question asks:
What do you remember most about the quake and why?

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**.



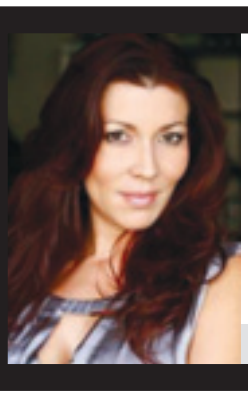


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Vietnam's 'cyber troops' take fight to U.S., France

CHRIS BRUMMITT
Associated Press

HANOI, Vietnam Working on her blog in California one day, Vietnamese democracy activist Ngoc Thu sensed something was wrong. It took a moment for a keystroke to register. Cut-and-paste wasn't working. She had "a feeling that somebody was there" inside her computer. Her hunch turned out to be right.

A few days later, her personal e-mails and photos were displayed on the blog, along with defamatory messages. She couldn't delete them; she was blocked out of her own site for several days as her attackers kept posting private details.

"They hurt me and my family. They humiliated us, so that we don't do the blog anymore," said Thu, who is a U.S citizen. She has resumed blogging, but now the Vietnamese government is blocking her posts.

Activists and analysts strongly suspect Hanoi was involved in that attack and scores of others like it.

They say a shadowy, pro-government cyber army is blocking, hacking and spying on Vietnamese activists around the world to hamper the country's pro-democracy movement.

IT experts who investigated last year's attack on Thu said the hackers secretly took control of her system after she clicked on a malicious link sent to her in an email. By installing key-logging software, the hackers were able to harvest passwords, gaining access to her private accounts.

Subsequent investigation also found that an upgraded version of the malicious software, sent by the same group, was emailed to at least three other people: a British reporter for the Associated Press reporter based in Hanoi; a France-based Vietnamese math professor and democracy activist; and an American member of the Electronic Frontier Foundation, an online activist group, living in the United States. None of the three clicked the link.

It appears to be the first documented case of non-Vietnamese being attacked by a pro-government hacking squad that had already conducted attacks well beyond the borders of this Southeast Asian nation. Its actions would appear to violate the law in the United States at least.

"You see campaigns being waged against Vietnamese voices of dissent in geographically disparate regions. Now we have seen an escalation against people who report on those voices," said Morgan Marquis-Boire, a University of Toronto researcher and online privacy activist who dissected the malware and published the findings with the EFF. "It's unlikely that this is the work of an opportunist individual."

Suspicion of state involvement is based in part on the fact that attackers have spent tens of thousands of dollars hiring servers around the world from which to launch attacks, often changing them after a few days. This is because the attackers know activists will ask service providers to take them down, said Dieu Hoang, an Australian computer engineer who, along with several other activists, works to help defend the Vietnamese activists online.

Attempts to monitor and harass dissidents online mirror the government's efforts to suppress them on the ground, where activists report persistent and occasionally violent harassment by state agents. The state convicted at least 63 bloggers and other non-violent democracy activists in 2013 of criminal offenses, according to Human Rights Watch.

Vietnam is by no means unique in seeking to spy on electronic communications, as recent revelations about the actions of the National Security Agency in the United States demonstrate. But its activities are of special concern because of its human rights record in general.

Asked to comment on suspicions of state involvement in targeted surveillance, as well as the attack on the AP reporter, the Vietnamese government gave this brief statement: "Vietnam shares the attention of other countries in ensuring Internet security and is willing to cooperate with other countries in fighting high-tech crimes in general and Internet crimes in particular."

Suppressing online dissent in Vietnam is becoming more difficult because of soaring Internet usage. Close to 40 percent of the country's 90 million people have Internet access, and because Vietnam has been less effective than China in restricting that access, many people are viewing uncensored news. Dissidents can network and publicize their activities — and acts of state repression — with comparative ease.

Security researchers have found hints of how Hanoi may be dealing with the challenge.

In 2010, Google and McAfee alleged that that malicious software had been used to spy on tens of thousands of Vietnamese web users. McAfee said the perpetrators of the attacks "may have some allegiance" to the country's government. Last year, researchers led by Marquis-Boire, who also works for Google as a security engineer, uncovered evidence suggesting a spyware suite called FinFisher was being used to track activists' mobile communications inside Vietnam.

The government, through state media, has admitted to blocking thousands of "bad, poisonous web sites and blogs," and its sites have come under attack, presumably from dissident sympathizers. Ho Quang Loi, propaganda chief of Hanoi's Communist Party, said last year it employed 900 people to counter online criticism.

The attack on Thu's blog showed how hacking and blocking can work as a one-two punch to knock out criticism.

The blog, named "Ba Sam," is one of the best-known dissident publications. It carries news, views, videos and photos from and about Vietnam of the kind that state media would never touch. After the blog was hacked, it took Thu a week to regain control, move it to a new address and put it back online.

Within weeks, authorities in Vietnam began blocking it to web users inside the country. To view it now, people inside Vietnam have to use a proxy server, a relatively common technique for censorship evasion but one that requires some knowhow. This means fewer people are seeing it.

Thu said her page views are down significantly, and that she shut down her popular comments sections because of an organized campaign of abuse and spamming.

"It became too much trouble," she said. "They sent me threatening messages saying, 'I'm going to visit you in California.'"

Hacking a site and blocking it later is a known tactic, said Hoang, the Australian.

"Defacing and defaming is done by a hidden force unofficially," he said. "Blocking is done by the official force."

Lambert was 'last resort' for 'Same Love' track

MESFIN FEKADU
AP Music Writer

NEW YORK In just six hours, Mary Lambert's life changed drastically.

Macklemore & Ryan Lewis had written and produced a song called "Same Love," but they needed a special hook to finalize the emotional track. Like the rap duo, Lambert is from Seattle, though she had never met them before.

"I was sort of a last resort," said Lambert. "It was a match made in heaven."

Lambert was given "about two or three hours" to write the song's chorus and then record it the same night in front of the breakthrough newcomers, who were instantly impressed by the soft singer.

"They loved it. It was like this beautiful minute of silence after I sung the chorus," she recalled.

Others love it, too — including members of the Recording Academy. "Same Love" is nominated for the coveted song of the year at Sunday's Grammy Awards, pitting the rap song supporting gay love and acceptance against No. 1 smashes from Katy Perry, Bruno Mars, Lorde and Pink.

"Same Love" didn't top the charts — it peaked at No. 11 on the Hot 100 — but it sold 2 million copies and helped propel Macklemore & Ryan Lewis to even greater heights. The duo is nominated for seven awards, including best new artist and album of the year for "The Heist."

"We'd probably all agree that the nomination for song of the year for 'Same Love' in particular is quite meaningful for us, in what the song has turned out to be and (what it) means to people," said Zach Quillen, manager for Macklemore & Ryan Lewis.

"We regard it as our highest accomplishment," he said.

The Grammys also will celebrate another song about gay pride Sunday with Sara Bareilles' "Brave," which she wrote to encourage her friend to come out of the closet. It's nominated for best pop solo performance and appears on her third album, "The Blessed Unrest," which is up for album of the year.

Keith Caulfield, Billboard's associate director of charts, said "Brave" could be getting a boost because of its Grammy nominations.

"It does seem like something happened since the Grammy nominations came out in early December. You can probably tie the two together," he said of "Brave," which reached its peak at No. 26 last week.

Lambert, who is openly gay, said having her first mainstream song be about a topic that's close to home and nominated for a top Grammy at the same time is a blessing.

She said it also has encouraged her to be honest in her own music. She released an EP, "Welcome to the Age of My Body," in December and it features a spinoff of "Same Love" called "She Keeps Me Warm" — a refrain from the original track.

Lambert signed to Capitol Records and will release a full-length album this year. She plans to sing about topics from female empowerment, fat shaming and domestic violence.

"I think people are figuring out there's no formula anymore. The things that used to work for record companies don't necessarily work," she said.

The Grammys will air live on CBS from the Staples Center in Los Angeles.

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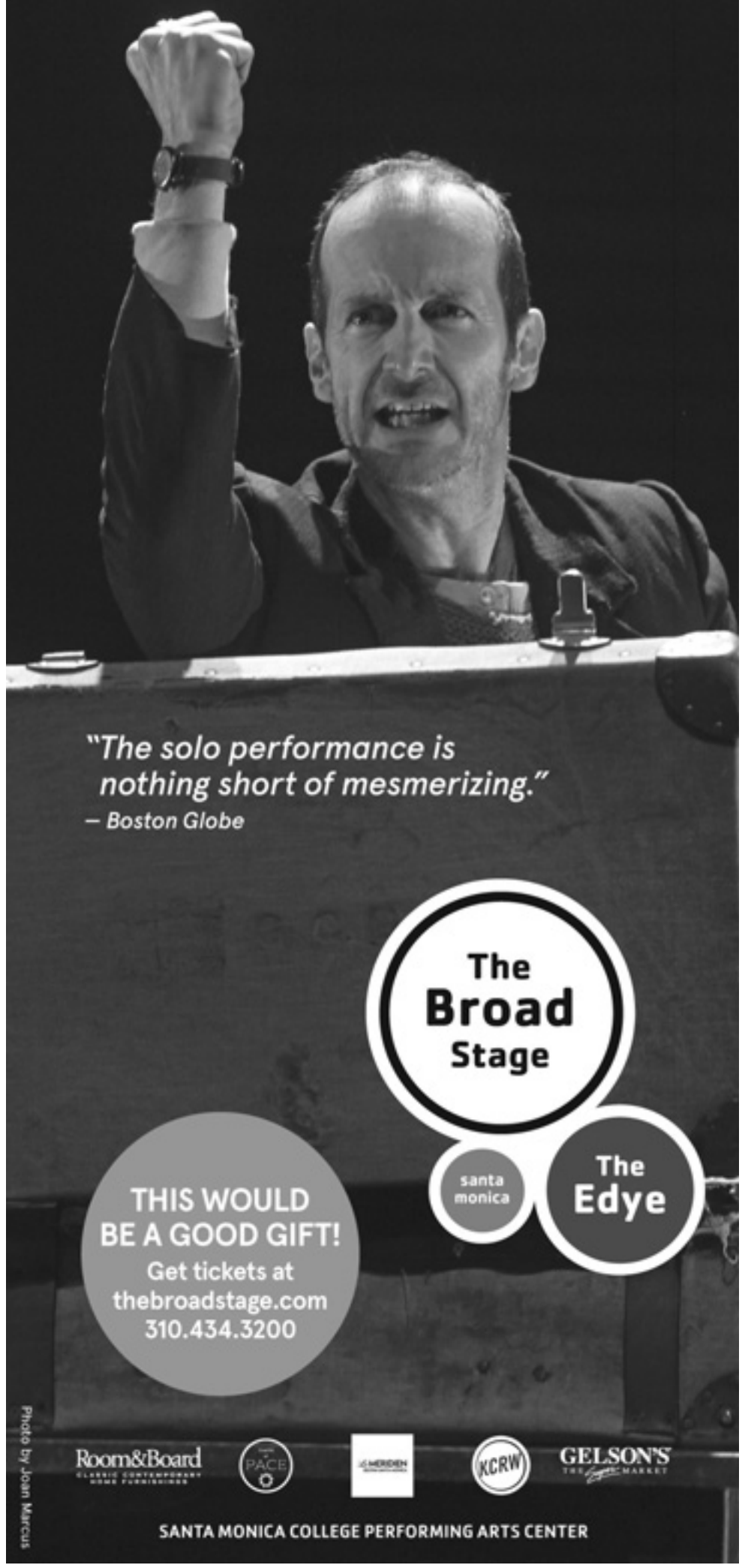
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MLK
FROM PAGE 1

ability to talk, the ability to feel other people."

This lack of communication combined with the aging population of folks from King's era could fade the collective memory, she said.

"That's what they need to get back to: the feeling," she said. "What if you don't have grandmothers who sit there, teaching and telling the story? My mom is from Baltimore and my father is from the South. After my son, who is going to tell those stories? It takes something like this to bring the experience back."

Half a dozen students from area schools got awards and scholarships for their social involvement.

Former Santa Monica Mayor Nat "Mr. Santa Monica" Trives handed out an award to a Culver City High School student in honor of his mother, Lillie Bell Blakley.

It was the 29th annual celebration of King's legacy hosted by The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Westside Coalition.

dave@smdp.com



UNIONS
FROM PAGE 3

The union says it's not asking to shut down the program. It wants the counters to be run by postal employees, not workers hired by Staples. The average postal clerk earns about $25 an hour, according to the union, plus a generous package of health and retirement benefits. The Staples post office counters are run by nonunion workers often making little more than the minimum wage.

The Postal Service increasingly has looked to work with the private sector to help increase business. In November, it announced a lucrative deal with Amazon to begin package delivery on Sunday.

The agency has struggled for years with declining mail volume, but the lion's share of its financial plight stems from a 2006 congressional requirement that it make annual $5.6 billion payments to cover expected health care costs for future retirees. It has defaulted on three of those payments. The Postal Service lost $5 billion over the past year, though operating revenue rose 1.2 percent.

So far, the Postal Service has rebuffed the union's demands.

As far as who will staff the counters, "that's Staples' business. They make their own business decisions and it has nothing to do with us," Donahoe said.

Donahoe said he'd like to see post office counters in every Staples store "as soon as possible." But he doesn't see them as replacing any of the 33,000 traditional post offices. He said he sees the program as an opportunity "to grow the business."

James O'Rourke, a professor of management at the University of Notre Dame, said the Postal Service is simply following the trend of other businesses such as banks and medical clinics opening in grocery and drug stores to get more customers and save overhead costs.

"You can't blame the union for looking suspiciously at this move, but from the perspective of postal management and postal customers, this is all good," O'Rourke said.

Donahoe acknowledged that it could save money in employee costs, but insisted that is not the agency's motivating force. Since 2008, the Postal Service has reduced its employees by more than 200,000, mainly through attrition.

"Keeping our expenses down is no different than what any other business would do," he said.

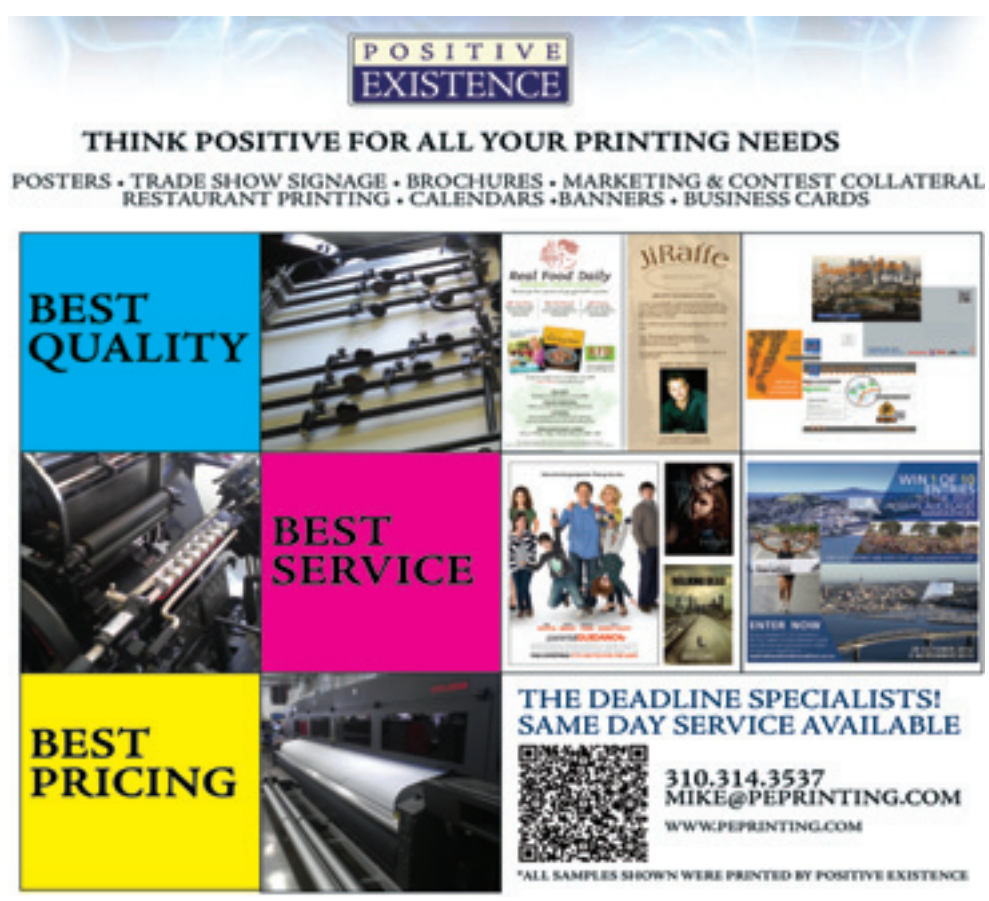
Back in 1988, the Postal Service tried a similar plan to put retail units in Sears stores in Chicago and Madison, Wis. APWU members picketed Sears headquarters in Chicago, mailed thousands of letters of protest to then Sears Chairman Ed Brennan and even cut up their Sears credit cards.

The pressure worked and a year later the program ended, with Sears saying it did not want to be at the center of a dispute between the Postal Service and the union. But the APWU's membership now is almost half of what it was 25 years ago, and unions don't carry the same clout they once did.

Dimondstein, who took the helm of his union in November and pledges a more activist approach, insists his members will bring considerable pressure on Staples.

"I think we have a lot of clout," he said. "We're in every hamlet, town, city and state in the country."







Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

ACTIVE LEARNING: Olympic High students take part in a drama class.

OLYMPIC
FROM PAGE 1

need more than nine hours of sleep a night. Their biological sleep patterns shift toward later times and they often struggle to fall asleep until after 11 p.m.

This limits a teen's ability to listen and learn, the Sleep Foundation found. It also leads to more pimples.

A 2004 study, referenced by the National Sleep Foundation, showed that students attending schools that opened earlier than others were arriving late four times as much as those who were going to class later. The same study showed that grades were worse among students whose schools started earlier.

Olympic High officials decided to try shifting the class schedules with this research in mind.

Olympic High is a continuation high school that offers programs for students who have struggled to stay in school. One hundred students are enrolled at Olympic High this year.

Despite the late opening, teachers and staff are on campus during regularly contracted hours in case students want to show up at the usual start time. Class now lets out at 2:49 p.m.

"I think this time experiment is very interesting," Boardmember Ben Allen said. "It's something I've been thinking about for quite a while: Why it is that we make teenagers wake up several hours earlier than adults even though they're more biologically predisposed to sleep in?"

Boardmember Oscar de la Torre suggested that the changes could also allow for staggered class schedules leading to decreased class sizes.

"That might be something worth studying, not just at Olympic but also at Santa Monica High School," he said.

de la Torre is optimistic about the flexible schedule and stressed that it's important for students to have these kinds of options.

It's too early to tell if the schedule is working, Huffman said.

"Now it's kind of weird because it's the first week and people are still getting used to it," she said. "A lot of people still come in early because they get dropped off at an early time by their parents."

Students who come in early either relax in the hallway or work with teachers before school starts, she said.

"Lunch is starting later though so people are getting really hungry," she said, laughing. "They're used to eating before. Other than that it's not bad."

dave@smdp.com



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BILLS
FROM PAGE 1

owners, the oil industry and farm laborers.

It's the first significant bill deadline of 2014, the second half of the Legislature's two-year session. The bills are dead if they don't pass the house where they originated by Jan. 31, and dozens of the holdover bills already have died in committees.

Some of the bills left over from last year have been stripped of their original language and entirely rewritten, a practice known as a gut-and-amend.

One such bill, SB477 by Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, D-Sacramento, began life last year as a measure to require grassroots financial support for ballot initiatives. But it was gutted and amended to require contractors who recruit farm laborers in other nations to register with California's labor commissioner and meet certain standards.

The reincarnation came after Gov. Jerry Brown vetoed Steinberg's original farm labor bill last year. If the revised legislation clears the Senate, it will head to the Assembly.

Sen. Noreen Evans' SB241 would impose a tax on companies that extract oil in California, a concept that is supported by Steinberg but has not been embraced by the governor.

Evans' bill is stalled in committee, but the Democrat from Santa Rosa plans to propose new legislation that would put the oil tax before voters on the 2016 ballot, an avenue that does not require Brown's approval.

Evans also is teaming with Sen. Kevin de Leon, D-Los Angeles, to pass SB199 out of the Senate by month's end. The Imitation Firearm Safety Act would require that toy guns, BB guns, pellet guns, airsoft guns and the like be made to look clearly different from guns that fire bullets. The legislation follows the fatal shooting in October of 13-year-old Andy Lopez in Santa Rosa, when a sheriff's deputy mistook the boy's airsoft rifle for a real AK-47.

"Toys should not get a child killed," Evans said in introducing the bill.

De Leon also faces a month-end deadline to advance his SB808, which would require anyone who assembles a homemade firearm to undergo a background check and register the weapon. The bill is intended to extend existing regulations to undetectable guns that can be made using 3-D printers and to anyone who buys parts that can be assembled into a gun.

De Leon, who is in line to succeed Steinberg as Senate leader, also has two weeks to move SB812, which would address problems at the state Department of Toxic Substances Control. The bill would set deadlines for issuing final permits to companies that produce hazardous waste, after the Los Angeles Times reported that companies have been allowed to operate for years, sometimes decades, on interim permits.

Republican lawmakers complained that most of their two-year bills have been killed by committees controlled by majority Democrats. But many Democratic bills have survived and face the Jan. 31 house-of-origin deadline. Among them:

— California would set standards for short-term day care centers at fitness centers, shopping malls, grocery stores and other businesses under SB766 by Sen. Leland Yee, D-San Francisco. His bill would set age limits and require background checks for workers at drop-in day care centers. The measure was prompted by a toddler who was left with a permanent scar on his forehead after he fell in the child care area of a fitness center in Sacramento.

— It would be illegal to steal and then analyze a person's DNA without written permission under SB222, by Sen. Alex Padilla, D-Los Angeles. He says the unauthorized analysis of a person's genetic material makes it possible to discover private health information and potentially use it in a harmful way. Neither state nor federal law blocks such secret collections and analysis, although Padilla says genetic analyses can be beneficial with proper safeguards.

— Padilla also could seek to revive SB405, which would have phased out the use of single-use plastic checkout bags in grocery, drug and convenience stores. The bill failed on an initial vote in the Senate last May. More than 70 local governments already prohibit such bags, covering nearly 20 percent of Californians, and advocates said a statewide law would eliminate the current patchwork of policies.

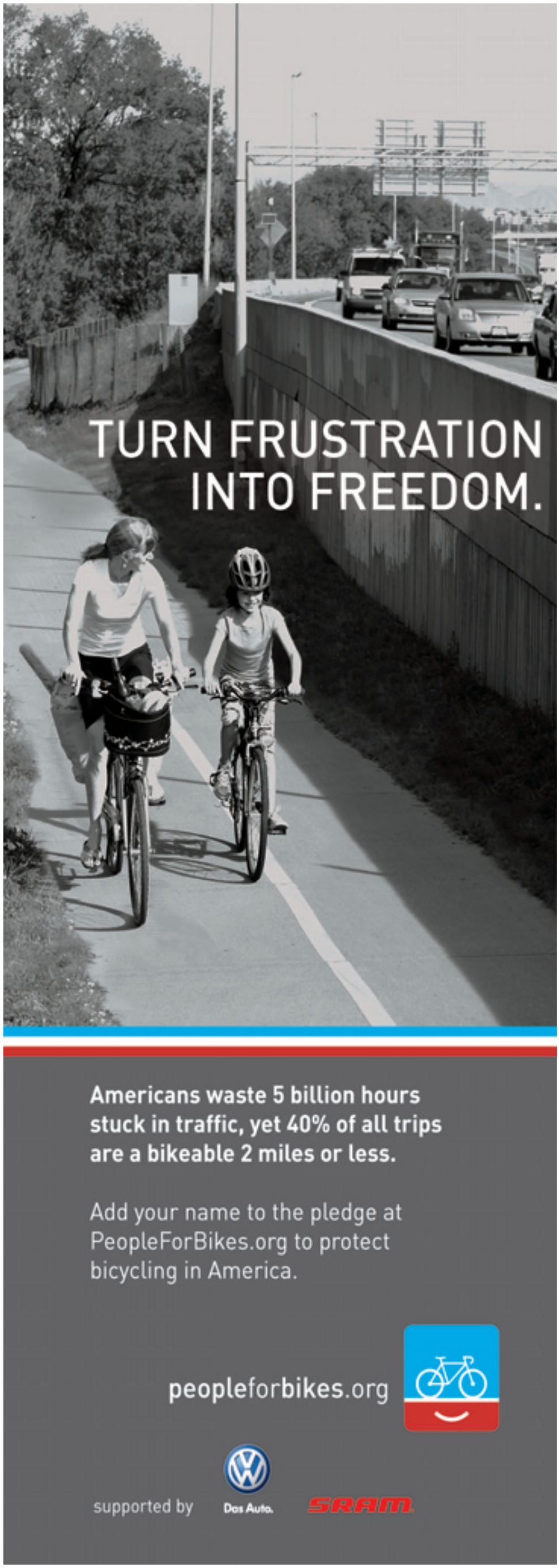
Several bills are expected to die that would have altered what is now an $11.1 billion bond scheduled to go before voters in November. But other bills have been introduced that could be used to lower the cost or postpone voters' consideration of the measure, which already has been delayed twice. Lawmakers say they prefer a vote on an amended measure this year, given the drought.

Competing Senate bills aimed at permitting Internet gambling also will miss the end-of-month deadline. Yet aides say Sen. Lou Correa, D-Anaheim, and Sen. Roderick Wright, D-Inglewood, plan to keep trying to authorize an industry that could bring the state budget hundreds of millions of dollars a year in revenue.

A bipartisan bill would preserve Southern California's tradition of allowing beach bonfires and prevent the regional air quality agency from enforcing restrictions. Assemblyman Travis Allen, R-Huntington Beach, and Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva, D-Fullerton, teamed up to support AB1102 after Newport Beach proposed removing 60 fire pits from city beaches.

The state would further restrict the activities of paparazzi under AB1356, by Assemblyman Richard Bloom, D-Santa Monica. The bill would amend the civil prohibition on stalking to prohibit surveillance techniques, including staying outside a person's home, school or workplace with no legitimate purpose. Brown last year signed a bill supported by actresses Halle Berry and Jennifer Garner that increases penalties for photographers and others who harass the children of public figures.

A bill by Assemblyman Ian Calderon, D-Whittier, would attack the state's childhood obesity problem by prohibiting public schools, along with state-owned buildings, from serving chicken or turkey that has been "plumped" by injecting saltwater, chicken stock, seaweed extract or other substances. AB682 notes that "plumping" can increase the sodium content of fowl by 500 percent.



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Legislation proposed in W.Va. to regulate chemical storage

JONATHAN MATTISE
Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. West Virginia Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin and U.S. Sen. Joe Manchin on Monday proposed tighter regulations for chemical storage facilities after a spill contaminated the water supply for 300,000 people.

Tomblin, the Democratic governor, urged passage of a chemical storage regulatory program. The bill aims to address shortcomings that allowed 7,500 gallons of coal-cleaning chemicals to seep into the Elk River on Jan. 9. Freedom Industries, which owned the plant that leaked the chemicals, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy Friday.

Freedom Industries' safety flaws, including a last-resort containment wall filled with cracks, went largely undetected, because as a facility that neither manufactured chemicals, produced emissions, or stored chemicals underground, it was not subject to environmental regulations, state Department of Environmental Protection officials have said. The chemical that spilled also wasn't deemed hazardous enough for additional regulation.

The material flowed 1.5 miles downstream and made it into West Virginia American Water Company's water supply.

Below-ground tanks storing chemicals face environmental regulations, but ones above the surface fall into a regulatory loophole, officials have said. The department made several routine visits to the Charleston site between 2002 and 2012, but found no violations.

The governor's bill, which hasn't been filed yet, would mandate annual inspections of above-ground chemical tanks, and would require water systems serving the public to draft emergency plans in case of spills.

Storage facilities would self-report locations, construction and maintenance of tanks, and file annual reports. They would need to detail their spill-prevention mechanisms, and would be subject to penalties from the Department of Environmental Protection if they don't comply.

"This proposed legislation will ensure that all above-ground storage facilities are built and maintained consistent with required safety standards," Tomblin said.

Manchin, D-W.Va., wants the federal government to set standards for state-run regulatory efforts. His proposal would require states to inspect chemical facilities that could threaten a public water system every three years. Others would be inspected every five years. States could recoup costs from responding to emergencies. The bill is also supported by U.S. Sens. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va., and Barbara Boxer, D-Calif.

Both bills aim to make locations and specifics of chemical storage sites publicly available.

Manchin also stressed the need for additional federal testing to see what harm chemicals pose to people.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has acknowledged that scarce information was available about the chemical that spilled, crude MCHM, when officials established a safe level for people to start drinking the water again.

But a "toxic" atmosphere in Washington, D.C., has prevented environmentalists and the chemical industry from finding middle ground on additional regulation, Manchin said.

On Jan. 14, U.S. House Speaker John Boehner responded to a reporter's question about the spill, saying there are enough regulations already. He chided President Barack Obama, claiming his administration ought to be "actually doing their jobs."

"I am entirely confident that there are ample regulations already on the books to protect the health and safety of the American people," Boehner said.

Manchin said Boehner made the statement "very quickly after (the spill) had happened," before the speaker knew about the lack of regulation for above-ground storage tanks. Manchin said he's going to speak with Boehner about his bill.

"I think that John (Boehner) would be responsive once he sees what we are doing," Manchin said.

Freedom Industries has a bankruptcy court hearing scheduled Tuesday afternoon in Charleston. Its bankruptcy status temporarily shields the company from dozens of lawsuits, many by businesses that were shuttered for days under a water-use ban.

The company is requesting permission to take out up to $5 million in credit from WV Funding LLC. That company, which was founded Friday, links back to J. Clifford Forrest through a second corporation started Friday.

Clifford is in charge of a company named Rosebud Mining, based at the same Pittsburgh office where Freedom Industries' parent company, Chemstream Holdings LLC, is listed in corporate records.

Forrest has largely signed campaign checks for Republicans, but he has supported Democrats. He gave two $500 donations to Tomblin's 2012 gubernatorial run. Forrest also signed a $30,800 check for the Republican National Committee in 2012, and has given multiple $50,000-plus donations to Republican committees in Pennsylvania.

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Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **59.7°**

TUESDAY – **FAIR TO GOOD** – SURF: **3-5 ft** waist to head high
More WNW swell possible; Larger sets for best winter time spots in the far western part of the region especially; Stay tuned still an active storm system

WEDNESDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **3-4 ft** waist to shoulder high occ. 5ft
WNW swell continues; Larger sets for standouts with fair-good conditions; Stay tuned still an active storm system

THURSDAY – **FAIR** – SURF: **3-4 ft** waist to shoulder high
Good WNW swell continues; Larger sets for standouts with fair-good conditions; Stay tuned still pending development; small SW swell

FRIDAY – **FAIR TO GOOD** – SURF: **4-5 ft** shoulder to head high occ. 6ft
Old WNW swell fades; potential larger/longer period new WNW swell builds in and tops out; Stay tuned still pending development; small SW swell

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 15, 2014**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 8
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 48 / 10
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 6 / 0

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

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

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

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

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

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

Heal the Bay'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.

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A crumbling Sochi hides behind Olympic facades

NATALIYA VASILYEVA
Associated Press

SOCHI, Russia A shining new $635 million highway on the outskirts of Sochi stands next to a crumbling apartment block with a red "SOS!" banner on its roof.

The residents of 5a Akatsy street have lived for years with no running water or sewage system. Construction for the 2014 Winter Games has made their lives more miserable: The new highway has cut them off from the city center. Even their communal outhouse had to be torn down because it was found to be too close to the new road and ruled an eyesore.

The slum is one of the many facets of a hidden dark side in the host city of next month's Winter Olympics, which stands side-by-side with the glittering new construction projects that President Vladimir Putin is touting as a symbol of Russia's transformation from a dysfunctional Soviet leviathan to a successful, modern economy. While state-run TV trains its cameras on luxury malls, sleek stadiums and high-speed train links, thousands of ordinary people in the Sochi area put up with squalor and environmental waste: villagers living next to an illegal dump filled with Olympic construction waste, families whose homes are sinking into the earth, city dwellers suffering chronic power cuts despite promises to improve electricity.

Putin promoted the Sochi Games, which begin on Feb. 7, as a unique opportunity to bring investment to the Black Sea resort and improve living standards for its 350,000 residents. Looking back at those promises, many residents, weary from years of living in the midst of Russia's biggest construction project in modern history, say they have yet to see any improvement in their lives and point to an array of negative effects.

"Everyone was looking forward to the Olympics," said Alexandra Krivchenko, a 37-year-old mother of three who lives on Akatsy street. "We just never thought they would leave us bang in the middle of a federal highway!"

People elsewhere in Sochi and surrounding villages have seen the quality of their life decline because of Olympic construction. In the village of Akhshtyr, residents complain about an illegal landfill operated by an Olympics contractor that has fouled the air and a stream that feeds the Sochi water supply. Waste from another illegal dump in the village of Loo has slid into a brook that flows into the already polluted Black Sea.

In the village of Mirny, just outside the Olympic Park, rumbling trucks have damaged foundations and caused homes to sink. And right across the railroad tracks from the Akatsy building, another multifamily residence has become prone to flooding after an Olympics-related road was built nearby.

Sochi residents also complain about widespread environmental damage, including the destruction of forests and the contamination of a river running down to the sea. Near the Olympic Park, a popular sandy beach was paved over for the development of a port that was never built.

The Winter Games were intended to showcase Russia's resurgence from the collapse of the Soviet Union two decades ago. From drab sanatoriums to gleaming ski resorts. From outdoor markets with counterfeit clothes to boutiques filled with international brands. When an AP correspondent asked the Sochi mayor last year what had changed in the city for the better, Anatoly Pakhomov started talking about a new shopping mall and a Louis Vuitton store as symbols of positive change.

Amid such pride in status symbols, Sochi has fallen short in providing basic necessities, residents say.

Two giant power stations have been commissioned to provide electricity for the Olympic venues and the city, but power shortages across the city are still ubiquitous. At a recent televised meeting with Putin, Russia's energy minister said the grid was still being built and was unlikely to come online before Saturday, less than two weeks before the opening ceremonies.

The city has undertaken a colossal effort to upgrade its infrastructure and municipal services, installing a new sewage and waste-disposal system and hooking up thousands of homes to pipelines supplying natural gas. Three weeks before the start of the games, some Sochi streets remain dug up as construction workers continue to lay down new pipes and pavements.

Thousands of people whose homes were demolished to make way for Olympic construction have been relocated, but many others are still waiting for new homes. Meanwhile, even as investment has poured into Olympic facilities, Sochi's slum dwellings remain standing: The city government told The Associated Press in a written statement that more than 100 apartment buildings and private homes have been classified as uninhabitable.

For many residents, the Sochi they live in bears little resemblance to the city they see on Kremlin-controlled national television.

"It's a parallel universe that locals to a great extent have no access to," said Olga Beskova, editor of the local website Sochinskiye Novosti, or Sochi News. "It has very little to do with how Sochi lives every day. So far, city streets are all dug up, residents have a lot of problems, and it's hard to see a happy ending after all of this construction."

The people on Akatsy street have petitioned for decades to get the government to classify the 1941 barracks-like building as uninhabitable and provide them with new housing, so far with no success. They put up their red "SOS!" sign in a desperate effort to call attention to their plight. City Hall has insisted that the government roads management agency is responsible for relocating the Akatsy residents; the road agency shifts the responsibility on City Hall.

The Akatsy house, in the village of Vesyoloye, is about three kilometers (less than two miles) from the Olympic Park, where the arenas and main stadium are located. Like thousands of private houses in Sochi, this property is not connected to city water or sewage systems, but residents have made do over the years by drilling wells and building outhouses.

Adding humiliation to hardship, the roads agency secured a court ruling ordering them to pull down their common outhouse, which stood on the edge of the new highway. Krivchenko's neighbor, Irina Kharchenko, whose family is seeking justice for 5a Akatsy in court, said the judge told them to "get yourselves a bio toilet."

Residents seemed embarrassed and reluctant to explain how they got around the problem. Some mentioned a bucket, while others pointed to an outhouse on the other side of the property.

MOVIE TIMES

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

Call theater for information.

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

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (NR) 1hr 59min
4:05pm, 10:30pm

Saving Mr. Banks (PG-13) 2hrs 00min
1:00pm, 7:00pm

August: Osage County (R) 2hrs 10min
1:20pm, 4:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:10pm

Nut Job (PG)
1:40pm, 6:45pm

Nut Job in 3D ()
4:15pm, 9:30pm

Devil's Due (NR)
2:00pm, 4:45pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

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

Frozen (PG) 1hr 25min
11:10am, 1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:20pm, 9:55pm

Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit (NR) 1hr 40min
11:15am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 8:00pm, 10:40pm

Ride Along (PG-13)
10:50am, 1:35pm, 4:20pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm

Wolf of Wall Street (R) 2hrs 45min
10:45am, 2:30pm, 6:20pm, 10:10pm

American Hustle (R) 2hrs 09min
11:00am, 1:15pm, 4:30pm, 7:40pm, 10:15pm

Lone Survivor (R) 2hrs 01min
10:55am, 1:55pm, 4:50pm, 7:50pm, 10:45pm

Legend of Hercules (PG-13)
10:45am, 4:55pm, 10:45pm

Legend of Hercules 3D (PG-13)
2:10pm, 7:30pm

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

Inside Llewyn Davis (R) 1hr 45min
1:40pm, 7:20pm, 9:55pm

Nebraska (R) 1hr 50min
4:30pm, 9:55pm

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

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

12 Years a Slave (R) 2hrs 13min
1:10pm, 4:10pm, 7:10pm, 10:10pm

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

EARLY BEDTIME TONIGHT, SCORPIO

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ You will feel great, and a partner might appear to be in the same mood -- at least until a hot issue is broached. Then, you could find out otherwise. Your ability to draw out others emerges. You know the right move to make. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Your efforts make a difference, yet an associate could have a negative attitude. Fortunately, this person does not rule the world. A friend might share his or her thoughts. Tonight: Get some exercise.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You will find a situation provocative. You might feel as if a boss is making assumptions that may not be grounded. Know that you don't have to respond to this person's projections. Be willing to blaze a new trail, and you'll feel better about your choices. Tonight: Up late.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Opt to be with a close friend or associate. Get to the bottom of a problem that might be bothering you. You will know whether the information you are given is correct. How you feel could change dramatically. Tonight: Go along with someone else's suggestion.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You'll want to have a friendly chat with a difficult roommate, close friend or loved one. You could find that this person tends to disengage when you start to talk. As a result, you might wonder whether this discussion should be postponed. Tonight: Hang out with a friend.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ You will jump into a situation without hesitation. Sometimes it is best to allow others to find out what works; they need to go through a similar process to what you did. A partner could be very distracted, which will make it difficult to communicate. Tonight: Relax.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You are energized. A child or loved one adores you wild, creative imagination. This person would be delighted to see this facet of your personality emerge. Keep it light. Tonight: Act as if there were no tomorrow.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ You could feel tense, as others seem to demand that rules be loosened up some. You might feel somewhat vulnerable and choose to withdraw within. You can't control others, nor should you try. A psychic thought will come your way. Tonight: Early to bed.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You will be focused on a key matter revolving around a friend or a significant meeting. How you handle it and the end results could color your thinking about the whole situation. Emphasize what you want, and speak your mind. Tonight: Where the gang is.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You might want to get to know someone in power better. You both have very different approaches that are effective. A family matter or a domestic issue could trigger unexpected happenings. Go with the flow. Tonight: Burn the candle at both ends.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You might feel more in harmony with someone at distance than you do with many other people. You can't deny what exists between you. You are intuitive with this person, as is he or she with you. Tonight: Catch up on a friend's news.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You succeed best when you work closely with someone else. You know what is workable and what needs to happen. Though you tend to come up with ideas from out of left field, this person sees value in them. Tonight: Visit with a favorite person over dinner.

Tuesday, January 21, 2014

This year opportunities stem from your ability to know what you want from a situation. Sharing some of your wilder schemes will be better received than you might think. Others find your imagination fun and invigorating. If you are single, you could meet someone very gentle and kind. You might want to pinch yourself, as this person will seem to be unbelievable. If you are attached, the two of you thrive off the unexpected. LIBRA admires your imagination, and entices your romantic side.

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

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

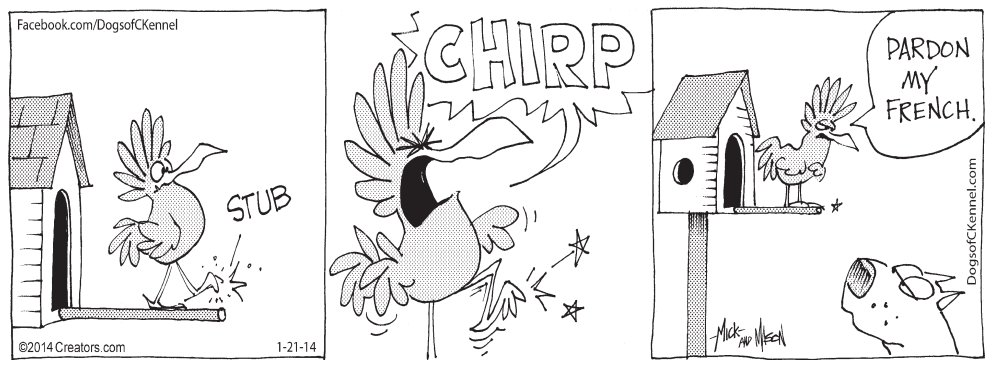
Speed Bump
By Dave Coverly



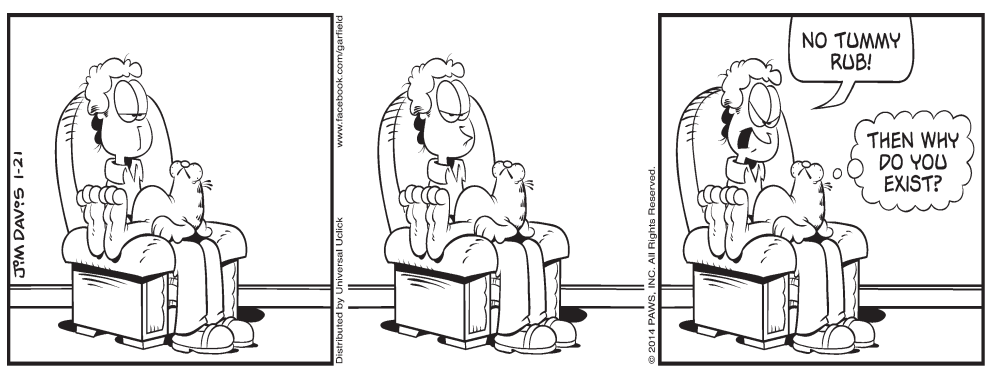
Strange Brew
By John Deering



Dogs of C-Kennel
By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Garfield
By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from ★ (easiest) to ★★★★★ (hardest).

Difficulty Level ★★

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

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

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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 Motherless calves
7 Minor argument
11 Marigold color
12 Track shape
13 Joker on TV
15 Suit
16 Worms for fishing
18 Weather map spots
21 Cloth bundle
22 Couch potato's aid
24 "Exodus" hero
25 Auction signal
26 Mover's truck
27 Steakhouse choice
29 Uncool fellow
30 Thailand, once
31 Dispatched
32 Word separator
34 Joker in film
40 Eyeball
41 Smitten
42 Ending for an attendee
43 Signed over

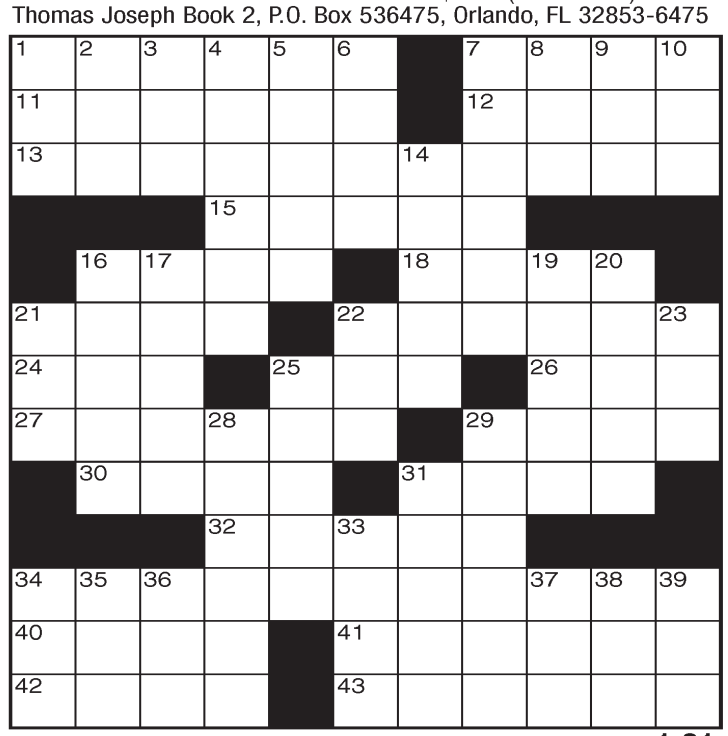
DOWN

1 Friend of Bashful
2 Mine matter
3 Heating choice
4 Shortly
5 Snowy wader
6 Feudal farmer
7 Small drum
8 "— had it!"
9 Distant
10 "Alice" spinoff
14 Lubricated
16 Tennis star Becker
17 Suspect's claim
19 Like some rugs
20 Kick off
21 Gold unit
22 Lobster eggs
23 Wrap up
25 Satyr's quarry
28 Spring holiday
29 Compass part
31 Play part
33 "Put — on it!"
34 Greedy fellow
35 Sense of self
36 Saloon order
37 Zeus or Apollo
38 Cain's mother
39 Valentine color

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

Yesterday's answer

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



1-21

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 1/18
13 14 19 31 38
Power#: 25
Jackpot: $131M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 1/17
1 10 26 31 51
Mega#: 11
Jackpot: $51M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 1/18
16 23 25 35 47
Mega#: 13
Jackpot: $12M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/19
1 12 13 24 27

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 1/19
MIDDAY: 5 1 8
EVENING: 0 3 0

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 1/19
1st: 09 Winning Spirit
2nd: 10 Solid Gold
3rd: 02 Lucky Star
RACE TIME: 1:48.14

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

■ The Army Corps of Engineers said in December that it "continuously strives to implement lessons learned from its work in the extremely challenging Afghan environment" -- apparently its primary response to an inspector general's report that it wasted $5.4 million on trash incinerators for a forward operating base that were late, in disrepair, dysfunctional even if working properly, health hazards for troops, and ultimately abandoned on site, unused. The project was termed "a complete waste," but the corps pointed out that money was actually saved by not repairing expensive equipment that would not have worked anyway.

■ From the Homer (Alaska) Tribune: On Nov. 11, police were called at 2 a.m. by Robert Tech, 47 (better known as "Turkey Joe"), who said he was assaulted by Charles Young, 61 ("known in town" as "Yukon Charlie"). Joe was talking too much, Charlie told officers, and he had to keep hitting Joe because he would not shut up. Joe, whom officers found inside the bus he has been living in, said he declined to fight back because "I've been a leader of men all my life." Charlie was arrested.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1958 - The last Fokker C.X in military service, the Finnish Air Force FK-111 target tower, crashes, killing the pilot and winch-operator.

1960 - Little Joe 1B, a Mercury spacecraft, lifts off from Wallops Island, Virginia with Miss Sam, a female rhesus monkey on board.

1971 - The current Emley Moor transmitting station, the tallest free-standing structure in the United Kingdom, begins transmitting UHF broadcasts.

WORD UP!

perspicuous
\ per-SPIK-yoo-uhs \ , noun;
1. clearly expressed or presented; lucid.
2. perspicacious.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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Help Wanted

Assisted Living community is looking for a cook to help prepare meals for senior residents. Previous experience preferred. Schedule includes weekdays, weekends, and holidays. Pre employment drug test and criminal background check required. If interested, please come to 2107 Ocean Ave. SM 90405 to apply or fax resume to (310) 314-7356. EOE.

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Handyman

Handyman Services All types of home repairs and improvements, call Bill (310) 487-8201

Km construction Residential remodel, kitchen specialist. CA License Number: 738152. (310) 980-3500.

Services

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Average Price of **ALL** Santa Monica
Single Family Homes
From **ALL** agents in **ALL** companies
Listed for Sale as of Late January 2014

Santa Monica Canyon	=	$ 5,537,800
North of Montana	=	$ 4,899,333
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	$ 2,675,516
South of Wilshire	=	$ 949,000
Sunset Park	=	$ 1,436,667
Ocean Park	=	$ 3,047,000

Statistics updated every Friday

Effective 1-31-2014
ALL new & price-reduced listings will be delayed 48 hours before going to all other internet sites.

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North of Montana Mediterranean Home!

632 16th Street

$3,999,000

- Built in 2000
- 4 Bedrooms
- 4.5 Bathrooms
- Approx. 4,000 Sq Feet
- Detached Guest House
- All Bedrooms En-Suite
- Xtra-Large Kitchen
- Xtra-Large Family Room
- Oasis Pool & Spa






Buyers' Needs

I am currently working with fully qualified buyers looking for the following:

Single Family Home/Condo - Santa Monica - Minimum 3+2.5
Up to $1,200,000

Single Family Home - Crestwood Hills - Minimum 3 + 1.75
Up to $1,800,000

Major Fixer/Teardown - Anywhere on the Westside
$700,000 - $1,000,000

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