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JANUARY 26-27, 2013
Volume 12 Issue 66

Santa Monica Daily Press

We have you covered
THE IT'S ABOUT TIME ISSUE

SUPER BOWL'S CULINARY TEMPTATIONS
SEE PAGE 9

Saint John's losing leased parking spots

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

MID CITY One of Saint John's Health Center's main parking providers gave the hospital notice that it would end its lease of spaces in March, raising the possibility that the hospital would have to build a parking garage that it has worked hard to avoid.

According to a letter to the City Council, Saint John's officials received a 120-day notice in December that its lease of parking spaces at the Colorado Center office complex (formerly the Yahoo! Center) would be canceled.

The hospital leases 450 of its 1,528 parking spaces at the site.

Representatives of Equity Office, the company that owns the Colorado Center, said that they do not comment on lease terms, and would not say why the lease had been canceled.

The arrangement was an important part of a deal reached in 2011 to prevent the hospital from building a 442-space subterranean parking garage, which officials had agreed to construct as part of the 1998 development agreement needed to repair the hospital after the 1994 Northridge earthquake.

That deal, which then-Planning Commissioner Ted Winterer called "the

SEE PARKING PAGE 10

Beefing up on taxes: Santa Monicans could get more cash back

BY MYA MCCANN
Special to the Daily Press

CITYWIDE In the 2011 tax year, Santa Monicans claimed more than $5 million under the Earned Income Tax Credit, but officials with the Internal Revenues Service

SEE TAX PAGE 11



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

DIG DEEP: **Rep. Henry Waxman (D-33rd District) (far left) joins local leaders, including L.A. County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky (far right) in the ceremonial shoveling of dirt for the groundbreaking of a new home for homeless vets at the West L. A. Veterans Administration campus on Friday.**

Building for homeless vets underway

Supportive housing with services for 65 expected to open by 2014

BY ASHLEY ARCHIBALD
Daily Press Staff Writer

WEST L.A. Federal and local officials broke ground Friday on a building that will provide housing and services to dozens of the most disabled and mentally-ill homeless veterans in the Los Angeles area.

Building 209, located on the Veterans Administration's West L.A. Medical Center campus, was designated for use as permanent, supportive housing for disabled veterans.

It's part of an overall mission to end veteran homelessness by 2015, a daunting challenge given the 8,000 homeless vets on the streets in Los Angeles alone.

Building 209 will include 55 units serving 65 veterans, with a dedicated women's wing, federal officials said.

Veterans who live there will have access to nearby medical services, and will also be taught life skills like cooking, cleaning and shopping so that they can ultimately transition into private housing of their own.

They will also receive job training, said Bill Daniels, chief of Mental Health at the campus.

"They will learn the skills that they need to survive, with all of the necessary support," Daniels said.

The three-story building will include a multipurpose room, administrative offices, a training kitchen and a specialized unit to help with medical conditions related to obesity. There will also be space for group therapy, training sessions and social gatherings.

The design, by Leo A. Daly, is meant to evoke a neighborhood with streets, avenues and plazas and let in natural light, according to a fact sheet released by the VA.

It will cost an estimated $20 million for the design, seismic and renovation costs, and another $1 million per year for staffing, Daniels said.

The project is expected to create roughly 190 construction jobs. Westport Construction, the firm hired to complete the renovation, hopes to employ veterans to help with the work.

Officials believe the work will take 18 months to finish.

Officials expressed their delight that the project, almost a decade in the making, was finally getting under way.

As a drizzle fell lightly over a tent erected in front of the now-empty building, Los

SEE VA PAGE 10

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Saturday, Jan. 26, 2013

Cafe Samo
Humanities Center Theater, Santa Monica High School
601 Pico Blvd., 3 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
Come enjoy a cup of coffee at the annual cabaret night produced by the Samohi Vocal Music Program. Cafe Samo features a range of acts performed by Samohi students from a cappella classics to original compositions. Food and drink are available for purchase. Cost: $10 suggested donation. For more information about the show or program, call (310) 395-3204 or visit www.samohichoir.org.

Music for the homeless
Dakota Lounge
1026 Wilshire Blvd., 8 p.m.
8MM and The Sister Ruby Band will be headlining a charity performance to benefit PATH (People Assisting The Homeless). The debut live DJ performance of Standing Shadows will follow the bands. The show is limited to the first 150 people. Entry is free with RSVP by e-mailing tickets@rabbits-black.com. This is a 21 and over event.

Meeting of the minds
Colorado Center
2425 Colorado Ave., 1 p.m. — 3 p.m.
The monthly Board of Directors meeting will be held in the courtyard/Palm Court Plaza by the Santa Monica Mid-City Neighbors. Presenters include former City Council candidates Armen Melkonians and John C. Smith. Free refreshments will be served. Free parking in the Colorado entrance closest to Cloverfield Boulevard.

Quest to meet Dolly
Main Library, Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium
601 Santa Monica Blvd.,
2:30 p.m. — 4:45 p.m.
The documentary "Hollywood to Dollywood" will be shown to the public. The story follows gay identical twins Gary & Larry Lane on their cross-country quest to meet their idol Dolly Parton. There will be a Q&A session with the Lane twins and director John Lavin. For more information, visit smpl.org.

Let's fly away
Museum of Flying
3100 Airport Ave., 11 a.m. — 1:30 a.m.
Bob Dempster, executive director of the Seattle World Cruiser Association, will be presenting Douglas World Cruisers — First Around the World, the museum's latest aviation presentation. Admission is $10 for adults, $8 for students and seniors, $6 for children aged 6 to 12. For more information, visit museumofflying.com.

Sunday, Jan. 27, 2013

Talk the talk
Pacific Palisades Woman's Club
901 Haverford Ave., 2 p.m. — 4 p.m.
Pacific Palisades Woman's Club will hold a candidates forum featuring the four Democratic candidates running for L.A. mayor in the March 2013 primary election, including L.A. City Councilmember Eric Garcetti, L.A. City Controller Wendy Greuel, L.A. City Councilwoman Jan Perry, and Emanuel Pleitez, a former technology executive. Refreshments will be served and there will be free parking on streets and in the lot. Admission is free, donations are welcome.
Visit www.palisadesdemclub.org for candidate bios and more info.

A patriotic symphony
Barnum Hall, Santa Monica High School
601 Pico Blvd., 4 p.m.
New West Symphony presents the west coast premiere of Visions of America — A Celebration of Democracy, a multi-media photo-symphony featuring images by Joseph Sohm, music by Roger Kellaway, and lyrics by Alan and Marilyn Bergman, with a recorded narration by Clint Eastwood. The performance will include George Gershwin's "Concerto for Piano in F Major," featuring acclaimed pianist Norman Krieger. Tickets are priced from $25 — $100 and are available by calling (866) 776-8400 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, or by visiting http://newwestsymphony.org. Tickets are also available at the box office.

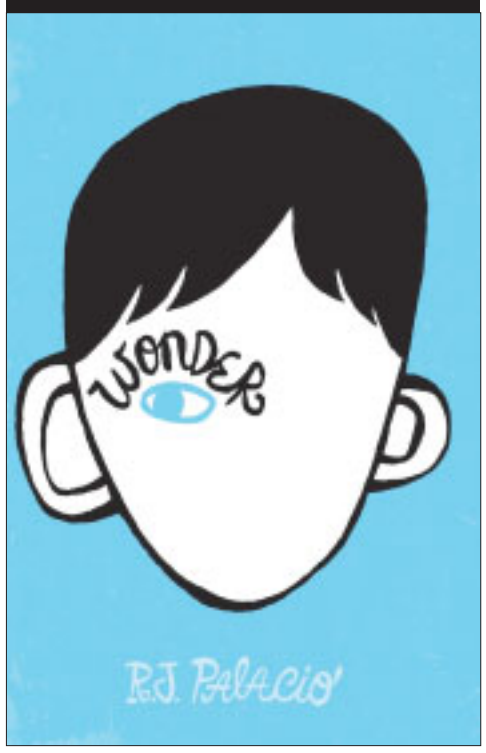
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For help, contact Daniel Archuleta at 310-458-7737 or submit to editor@smdp.com

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



COMMUNITY BRIEFS



WONDER

MAIN LIBRARY

Visit your local library for Santa Monica Reads

The Santa Monica Public Library invites the community to participate in Santa Monica Reads, a program that encourages reading and group discussion.

The book the city will be focusing on is "Wonder," a critically-acclaimed 2012 release by R.J. Palacio. The story focuses on August (Auggie) Pullman, an ordinary boy despite a congenital facial deformity that's kept him isolated. Previously home-schooled, Auggie starts fifth grade in a school with other children his age. The novel chronicles Auggie's transformation over the next year, and the changes experienced by his family, friends and classmates.

"Wonder" is available now at the Santa Monica Public Library.

The free book discussions and events will be held Feb. 16 through March 23. Santa Monica Reads is sponsored by the Santa Monica Public Library, with support by Friends of the Santa Monica Public Library and other community, educational and local business partners.

Go to http://smpl.org/SMReads.aspx for more information.

– MYA MCCANN

✉WHAT DO YOU THINK?
■ Send letters to **editor@smdp.com**



Morgan Genser *editor@smdp.com*

CAN'T STOP, WON'T STOP: **St. Monica's Briana Harris goes strong to the basket in between several St. Joseph defenders on Thursday. The Mariners won 71-59. With the win St. Monica's record improves to 4-1 in Camino Real League play and 18-5 overall.**

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

St. Monica role players step up in win

BY ALEX VEJAR
Special to the Daily Press

ST. MONICA The St. Monica Mariners improved to 4-1 in the Camino Real League with their Thursday night win over the St. Joseph Jesters, 71-59.

Basketball is a game of runs and this contest was loaded with them. The Mariners started off slow, giving up the first five points to the Jesters. Senior guard/forward Briana Harris then took matters into her own hands, scoring 10 straight points for St. Monica. St. Joseph responded with a 7-2 run to end the quarter, pulling to within four.

To start the second quarter, the Mariners went on an 8-2 run, but again, the Jesters made a push and cut St. Monica's lead to seven at the end of the half, 35-28.

In the second half, St. Monica's pressure defense started to take over, allowing only 10 points to St. Joseph in the third frame.

But St. Joseph would not go away, scoring eight straight points in the first 90 seconds of the fourth quarter, highlighted by two back-to-back three-pointers by guard Lauren Hong.

After a timeout, St. Monica scored five unanswered points, sealing the victory.

"St. Joseph always fights," said Mariners head coach John Skinner after the game. "You gotta expect when you make a run, they're going to bring a run right back."

Throughout the game, St. Monica's star players, Harris and senior center Melissa Maragnes, were mired by foul trouble, prompting junior guard Katrina Balatico to step up. She finished with 17 points and 5 assists, making five shots from beyond the three-point arc.

"[Balatico] has been consistent all year," Skinner said. "She hit some big threes tonight and really created separation and really helped us get going when [Harris] had to sit a decent amount because of the foul situation."

"When two of our main scorers couldn't finish as well as they usually do, having a rough night," Balatico said, "we all knew we had to pick it up and certain players had to step up their roles."

Mariner freshman Elena Kostadinov had a big night off the bench, scoring 14 points, eight coming in the second quarter alone. Maragnes would finish with 13 points, 7 boards and 5 assists.

Despite flirting with a triple-double (25 points, 10 rebounds, and 8 assists), Harris was still a bit disappointed with her performance.

"I could've done better with my free throws," she said.

For St. Joseph, junior forward Jazmine Gandhi and junior center Michele Pennala played well, each scoring 18 points. The loss puts the Jesters at just 1-4 in league play.

St. Monica's next game is a non-league match against the Marymount High School Sailors on Saturday. Tip-off is at 2:30 p.m. The high school is located at 10643 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A drone, not a dream

Editor:

Journalist David Horsey tells us that "... Martin Luther King stood watch over ... [Obama's inauguration]" ("Lincoln and M.L. King watch over Barack Obama's inauguration," Los Angeles Times, Jan. 22). President Obama even placed his hand on Dr. King's personal Bible when he took the oath of office. The truth, however, is that "I have a drone" has replaced "I have a dream."

Where is the outrage at this assault on King's memory, as a war-mongering president who orders the slaughter of people of color around the world uses the Bible of one who gave his life in the struggle against racism, militarism and economic exploitation?

We are now engaged in numerous wars worldwide, all in violation of our Constitution and the U.N. Charter — driven by a president who disgraces the memory of Dr. King by appearing to honor the martyred anti-war and human rights leader.

To remain silent in the face of all this is to lie and deepen the disgrace.

John Marciano
Santa Monica



Curious City



Charles Andrews — **Send comments to editor@smdp.com**

City Hall policy causes hoops heartache

You know who says you can't fight city hall? Someone who's tried.

I'm a basketball fanatic. I'm not very good, and I don't care that much whether I win, but it's great outdoor exercise, and it's a kick when I occasionally do something right. I do have a mean hook shot.

When we moved into Ocean Park 27 years ago, I was delighted to find four courts within eight blocks of our home. How was I to know then how often I would be locked out from using them?

There were access issues, and I tried to get some straight answers from City Hall off and on for almost 20 years. What I got were public employees highly skilled at ducking and buck passing.

But now, maybe the power of the press would succeed where a lone citizen's voice crying in the wilderness had not. Maybe I could apply journalistic rigor and investigative principles — research, interviews, taking the initiative — and get somewhere.

Silly me.

If there's some policy about the use of our public facilities that you take issue with, how would you go about addressing that? How do you find out why, when and how that policy was created, and who can you talk to about changing it?

After more than three months (this time around), I can tell you: good luck.

Although the daunting process and frustrating non-results of this investigation could apply to any issue, mine focused on the basketball courts in two parks.

Let's start with Joslyn, a nice place to work up a sweat on balmy summer evenings. For the first 12 or 13 years I played there days and nights.

But then around 1999 a sign appeared, the only notice I ever saw of a new, dastardly policy: no basketball after dusk. Dusk! That's 5 p.m. or even earlier during the winter, and sure enough, those long, evil orange pole locks started appearing on the hoops literally minutes after sundown.

Who decided this? What was the basis, the process? Who could I talk to about this drastic change of policy?

Also, I wanted some answers as to why the courts at Los Amigos remained locked so many times during hours they're supposed to be open, or why the lights there shut off early or didn't work at all, problems that persist to this day.

I started at the top by interviewing Karen Ginsberg, director of Community and Cultural Services, in her City Hall office on Oct. 4. (I waited this long to put pen to paper because I wanted to give City Hall ample time to answer my questions.)

Regarding the ridiculously early shutdown of the courts at Joslyn, she said that since she was new in her position (less than a year, but she was assistant director for 12 years, and has been with the city for 18) she had no idea how or exactly when that policy came about, but surmised that it probably had to do with having the "proper" lighting, for safety's sake.

"We have to consider issues of lighting, neighborhood concerns and usage patterns," she said. "I can't speak to what happened more than 12 years ago, but my staff has explained to me that for at least the past dozen years those courts have shut down at sunset."

Her theme was consistent during the interview and in subsequent e-mails: "The challenge there is that those walkway lights (at Joslyn) are not basketball court lights, and I think from our risk management standpoint we would want court lights installed," at a cost of probably $8,000 to $10,000, subject to approval by the City Council and a long process of community input that was not going to happen anytime soon. Not on their agenda, she said.

She suggested anyone interested in seeing that policy change might initiate some sort of "grass roots effort." It sounded like something that would take months or years and the devotion of a part-time job; Without any guarantee of the desired results.

I understand that governments have to follow certain procedures that seem arcane and too lengthy to the rest of us. But here's my question, asked over and over of several city officials without any direct answer: Was that process followed when the rules were changed around 1999? I doubt it.

I can't help thinking, if there is enough light to play (there is), what is preventing those courts from being used after dusk? Did some resident with pull complain about the noise?

I went with a pro photographer friend of mine and his trusty light meter to compare the lighting at Joslyn and Los Amigos. The results were hard to match up, but certainly didn't show a marked difference. Overall, Joslyn is slightly more illuminated, because there are lights on both sides. Everyone I've asked for an opinion on this, an eyeball judgment, including maintenance manager Devin Starnes, has agreed that there is plenty of light for playing basketball at night at Joslyn.

It worked fine for decades. Why the unexplained change in 1999? I request that someone in the city bureaucracy, in particular Ginsberg, provide us with documentation that shows this process was followed in 1999.

If they do, I'll shut up. But if it was rammed through it needs to be undone now because there is no good reason to deny use of those courts. We residents pay a lot in taxes to have public facilities like our parks.

I keep hearing about "the proper lighting" for a basketball court. Ginsberg alluded to the involvement of the risk management department, and the engineering department. But I interviewed Larry Sacco, 23 years in risk, and he said he knows of no city, federal or industry standards for "the proper lighting," and also that his department, mostly concerned with employee safety, would not get involved in that unless specifically asked by another department. City engineering head Lee Swain likewise knows of no standards, nor does Public Landscaping Superintendent Darryl Baker. He referred me to a private company, Musco Lighting, and they said they make up their own standards and that most groups go by that.

So where's the legal imperative?

I think it's just so much easier in a bureaucracy to do things the way they've always been done, and that people will go to great lengths to maintain the status quo. Even if it doesn't make sense, even if it's not supported by law, regulation or practice, and even if it denies rights to the majority.

We're waiting to see evidence that the procedure now being required to change the policy of the Joslyn courts being closed at dusk was followed in '99. Thirteen years is a long time to wait for answers.

CHARLES ANDREWS has lived in Santa Monica for 27 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. You can reach him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com.

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The Q Line

What's up with the weather?

Last week was bitterly cold, while the past weekend was typical Southern California beautiful. It could just be a trend, or it could be something more serious.

This past week, Q-line asked:
Do you think global warming has something to do with our topsy-turvy weather or was the big shift just a coincidence?

Here are your responses:

"YES, I THINK WE ARE HAVING GLOBAL warming, but I don't think this topsy-turvy weather has anything to do with it. I remember I moved out to L.A. back in 1976, election day ... . It was 30 degrees in Jersey. L.A. airport was 95 degrees. And in the middle of January of '77, I wasn't sure whether I was going to stay out here, but I was playing baseball in Griffith Park with shorts on and a T-shirt and there was snow in the mountains. It was about 85 degrees and the temperature in New York was 3 below, so I knew I made the right choice. But I think that this weather is normal for Southern California."

"OF COURSE GLOBAL WARMING HAS HAD a serious effect on worldwide weather. Witness the superstorm on the East Coast recently. A terrible nightmare. Absolutely unbelievable ... . And of course, human destruction of our rainforests around the globe by burgeoning overpopulation and exploiting our natural resources. That's just the tip of the iceberg. We are in for it, folks, if we don't wake up and do something now."

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"TODAY, MONDAY, IS WARM. THERE ARE women wearing short dresses, miniskirts, shorts. If this is 'global warming' I can take it."

"We have cyclical events in climate. I think that mankind can influence it to some small degree but the major forces are the cyclical changes in Earth's behavior. I think that if you go back 200 million years ago, we would all see there's always change. I grew up in Los Angeles and I remember when I walked to school in the snow, a foot of snow, and I also remember celebrating Christmas in 100-degree weather in Southern California. So this is not unusual, it's just one of those things that happens. I think that we should all put that into perspective."

"THE WEATHER HAS BEEN ABSOLUTELY heavenly. I lived back east for a short time when I was a little girl. This is why everybody wants to come here and live here in the beautiful San-Malicious. The weather has been heavenly. But of course, it's about to change in the next couple of days. I guess we're going to have an inundation of rain. Rain, rain, go away. Come again another day... Maria wants to play."

"BACK IN NOVEMBER, THERE WAS A day that had the coldest temperature recorded in 1932. The next year, 1933, was the hottest temperature recorded on that day. Still, global warming or global cold is a natural occurrence of the Earth. Camp-follower scientists who will support anything for research, lab funds and trips to Thailand for scientific conventions, providing assistance to hookers and young boys, should be suspect. Sleazy politicians – is there any other kind? – will alarm uninformed voters with sham statistics and environmental half-truths. Remember: There is a lie, and then a bigger lie and then statistics. Progressives will support more taxpayer, Earth-healing programs with bogus announcements. Nowadays, politicians love leading from behind and spending against the public good. The farce of global warming is another tax on the ability of corporations to profit ideas that benefit us. Rather than see government as your wet nurse, look at past, unfettered American ingenuity to adapt and provide."

"YES. FROM WHAT I'VE READ, EVEN Africa's Mt. Kilimanjaro does not have as much snow as it used to. It's almost bare. So yes, I definitely think that the weather has been affected by over-warming. So yes, I do think that there's more than a shift. It's not just a coincidence. But, you just gotta go with the flow."

"NO COINCIDENCE ... . PLEASE READ 'Wild weather arrives as arctic thaws' by Dr. Reese Halter, Back to Nature, Jan. 11, 2011. As ice at the poles melts yet further, (and perhaps even more rapidly), various bizarre hot/cold atypical weather patterns will continue to present intensifying impacts as they do. The sad thing is, it now seems much less likely that enough of us will actually choose to stop, (or even significantly lessen), our habitual climate balance-altering practices so that those coming impacts might be less harshly felt. Too many are still waiting for someone else to take genuine action, or as unwisely, still thinking, (until it will be too late to act), that human actions aren't bringing us to these changes in the natural process."

"BITTER COLD? I'VE LIVED HERE 36 years and have never seen one day in Santa Monica that I would describe as 'bitter cold.' I grew up on the Great Plains where 'bitter cold' is something that began when the mercury dropped below zero. We had a couple of weeks of cool weather recently, but it didn't break any records. The lowest temperature recorded this winter at Third and Idaho by my digital weather station was 43 degrees. In other years, it has dipped into the upper 30s. The days that never rose out of the 50s were a slight bit less normal. I'm no meteorologist or climatologist, but my guess is that those couple of cool weeks were just normal weather variations."

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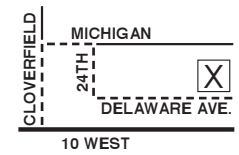


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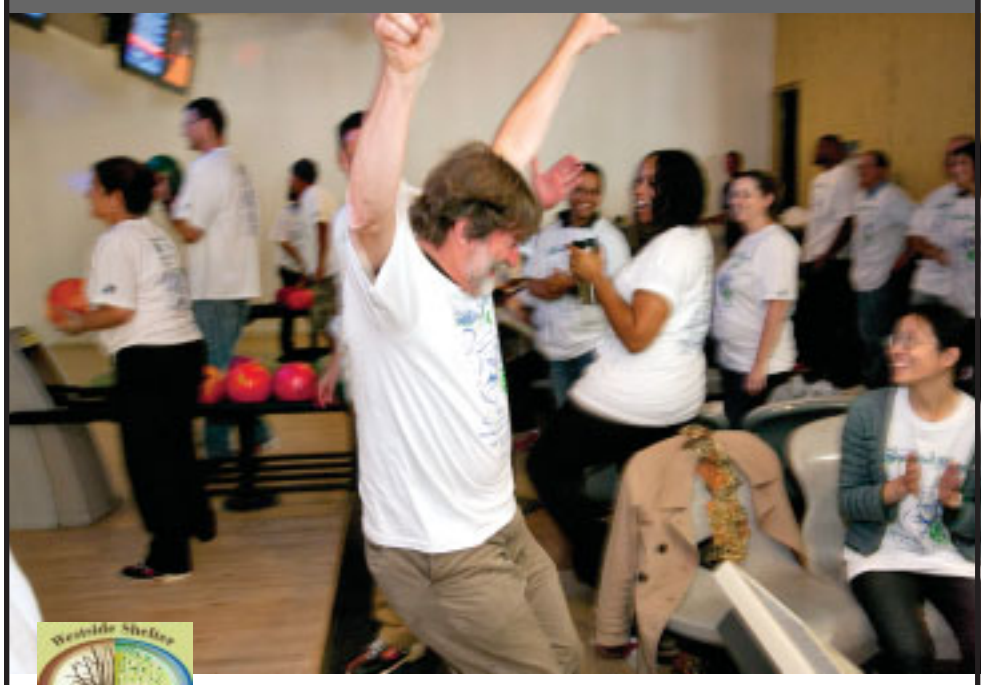
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Calif agency takes months to review teacher misconduct

BY CHRISTINA HOAG
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES Months after the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing was notified of a Los Angeles Unified elementary school teacher suspected of molesting at least a dozen students and a principal who failed to report him to authorities, the agency has not taken action on the cases.

Both educators retired soon after the Los Angeles Police Department started investigating the allegations last March. However, the commission's time lag in resolving the cases, which could include revoking the person's teaching credential, underscores how teachers accused of grievous misconduct can take advantage of a loophole and simply move on to another district.

Although districts routinely check teaching applicants' credentials, the record may not show if complaints are pending and applicants can appear as clear. By the time the commission takes action, the teachers are already employed and their credential may not be checked again for years. Experts said studies show pedophile teachers work at, on average, three schools before they are caught.

"This is one more example of why we have to change things," said Jolie Logan, chief executive of Darkness to Light, a nonprofit that works to prevent child sex abuse.

Credentialing Commission spokeswoman Erin Sullivan said she could not comment on specific cases. She noted that, under state law, the commission proceeds with cases after prosecutors file charges against a teacher, although it does have some latitude to take action sooner.

In the case of Robert Pimentel, a former teacher at George de la Torre Jr. Elementary School who was arrested Wednesday on charges of molesting 12 students, the police investigation took 10 months. Pimentel's record shows that his teaching credential expired last August.

The school district also reported former Principal Irene Hinojosa to the commission for failing to inform police of two complaints in 2002 and 2008 about Pimentel's alleged touching of female students to law enforcement, as required under the law. Her credential remains valid.

District Superintendent John Deasy said it was frustrating that disciplinary action isn't taken faster in cases involving sexual abuse of children.

The district came under fire last year for failing to report the case of former teacher Mark Berndt, who has pleaded not guilty to 23 counts of lewd acts on students that involved feeding them semen-laced cookies. Administrators have now instituted a case-tracking system and two layers of review so all cases are immediately reported to the licensing commission. Deasy said that was the case with Pimentel and Hinojosa.

After the Berndt case, the district combed through its files and flooded the commission with an additional 591 teacher misconduct cases. The commission said nearly half of those cases did not have to be reported.

The credentialing commission, which is charged with awarding teaching certificates and disciplining teachers, has been criticized in the past for case pileups.

SF taking steps to prevent Super Bowl violence

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN FRANCISCO San Francisco officials are taking tougher measures to prevent potential fan violence on Super Bowl Sunday when the 49ers battle the Baltimore Ravens in New Orleans.

With the Niners' sixth appearance in the big game more than a week away on Feb. 3, San Francisco police said they will be monitoring crowds and bars at multiple hotspots across the city. More than 400 officers will be on duty, triple the number on a normal Sunday.

Mayor Ed Lee is also suggesting that bars limit liquor sales, or at the very least serve alcohol responsibly. But officials say the city doesn't plan to ban hard alcohol.

"(I want) to suggest that they serve something (other) than heavy alcohol during times of celebration," Lee told reporters. "Inebriation sometimes doesn't help with people who want to maybe go beyond the bounds of acceptability in their celebration."

J.J. Bishop, a bartender at Nova Bar and Restaurant located about two blocks from where baseball's world champion Giants play at AT&T Park, told The Associated Press on Friday he understands the mayor's position.

"It's a wise thing for him to ask the establishments to keep an eye on alcohol consumption," Bishop, 47, said. "I plan on telling my fellow bartenders about what he said. Of course, it's definitely something to keep in mind."

After the Niners won the NFC Championship Game on Sunday, police arrested a dozen people — a majority for public intoxication — during rowdy celebrations mostly in the city's Mission district.

Lee also added that he and Police Chief Greg Suhr, prior to the Super Bowl, will visit that area and others hit hard by vandalism and destruction after the Giants clinched the World Series in October. About three-dozen people were arrested during postgame celebrations that got out of control when revelers overturned cars, set bonfires, destroyed property and torched a city bus.

"You'll see me very visible in those areas myself preceding the game," Lee said. "I'm going to walk those corridors again and reassure all the small business owners, merchants and the residents that we're going to do every possible to keep our city safe."

There also will be no public large-screen viewing of the Feb. 3 game in the Civic Center similar to when the Giants won the World Series. The National Football League rejected the idea due to broadcast copyright laws.

"Probably a business decision on their part," Lee said. "We'll respect it. I would love to have that opportunity because it could help us center maybe some of the celebrations, but we're going to keep the city safe."

Also, police and transit officials say that will have more diesel buses instead of electric buses that can easily be redirected through large crowds.

The city will also pick up trash from dumpsters to prevent any fires and there will be street closures beginning the Saturday before the big game, officials said.

Bishop said he remembers seeing the destruction after the Giants won its title three months ago.

"It was a pretty crazy scene. I saw a lot of garbage cans in ashes on the way home. There wasn't one garbage can standing," Bishop said. "I'm hoping it doesn't get too crazy next Sunday."

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For Sandy's homeless, lives of anxiety in hotels

BY KATIE ZEZIMA & MEGHAN BARR
Associated Press

TOMS RIVER, N.J. Diane Burstein spends her days sifting through apartment listings and disaster paperwork and her nights lying awake with worry, her daughter and grandson sleeping feet from her in a cramped hotel room.

The family has nowhere else to go. Three months after Superstorm Sandy destroyed their apartment, the Bursteins are among at least 3,500 families displaced by the storm in New York and New Jersey who have been living in hotels and motels, sometimes bouncing to a different room as reservations for weddings, parties and conferences eat up hotel space.

Their hotel stays — funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency — expire every two weeks, leaving them in a constant state of anxiety over whether they'll be pushed out onto the street.

"I'm panicking. I just panic," said Burstein, who is staying at a hotel in Toms River. "I feel like I'm going to have a heart attack."

The next deadline is Saturday, when families will learn whether they must pack their bags and check out. The program has been extended in New York and New Jersey until Feb. 9, but individual families are still waiting to hear whether they will be allowed to stay because claims are evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

According to FEMA, people are no longer eligible for hotel assistance if they have received rental assistance, have a viable housing option or an insurance settlement, or can return to a repaired home.

For storm victims with no other housing options, the anxiety is palpable. Most spend their days on the phone with a never-ending stream of federal agencies, contractors and insurance agents, struggling to sort out the housing mess Sandy left behind.

"What happens if you don't have the money to fix your home?" wondered Ayanna Diego, who is holed up at a hotel near LaGuardia Airport with her mother, 17-year-old son and 12-year-old niece. "It's an issue."

Diego, 37, is staring down $180,000 in repairs to her family's home in the Far Rockaway section of Queens. She was laid off from her job at Verizon last summer and is currently living off FEMA money and unemployment checks to feed her family and pay for daily expenses.

The family has been living in a blur of hotel rooms and short-term rentals since the storm. Her 61-year-old mother stopped showing up to work as a roaming public school nurse after the storm because the commute became too difficult.

Diego qualified for the maximum $31,900 lump sum allowed under FEMA's household assistance program, and the money is supposed to be used for home repairs and short-term rentals. Instead, she is using those dollars to pay for gas and tolls to drive her niece to school in their old neighborhood, pay the mortgage on their wrecked home and buy meals for the family of four.

"We're in a hotel. I can't cook," Diego said. "You have breakfast, lunch and dinner. What's happening is you're using that money to survive off of, day to day. We've had to order meals."

Agnes Ruggiero, 69, whose Toms River apartment was destroyed, has been told by FEMA that she shouldn't expect to remain in a hotel for much longer. She doesn't understand why she and others are out of housing options when millions of dollars are being spent to rebuild boardwalks in the tourist-heavy region.

"How could they start worrying about a boardwalk when all these people have no place to live?" she said.

At the Clarion Hotel and Conference Center in Toms River, which sits on a state highway leading to a barrier island that suffered some of the state's worst damage, a hotel manager said about 80 percent of the hotel's guests are in the FEMA program.

The Sandy victims have formed a community here, waving to one another as they walk through the lobby to their rooms, sneaking out for cigarettes together and offering rides to people who need them. On a recent afternoon, a white box filled with cookies and cannoli was passed around for someone's birthday.

Burstein, 69, who is on disability, and her 37-year-old daughter — who doesn't work because her 3-year-old disabled son recently had surgery — have been living here since early December. Like many other storm victims, they can't find an affordable rental. Even if they did find one, they barely have enough money for a security deposit.

On Saturday, they will file down to the lobby along with the other Sandy refugees to learn their fate, as they do every two weeks. Burstein and Ruggiero said hotel staff will read the names of people whose assistance was extended for another two weeks. In the past, some people have been left off the list.

"Can't you let the people know ahead of time so they don't go crazy worrying?" she asked.

People like 68-year-old Janice Yunginger, of Point Pleasant, N.J., are stranded because they're waiting to hear back from their insurance companies.

Yunginger's home was destroyed, and she is still awaiting a final flood insurance estimate. Her hotel assistance ran out Jan. 12. She and her 26-year-old daughter are paying the $450 a week, out of pocket, for a room at the Red Roof Inn in Tinton Falls, N.J.

"I've applied for everything I can apply for, and for some reason they extended some of the people under the temporary shelter program, but not me," Yunginger said.

FEMA officials in both states say they are working with people staying in hotels on a daily basis, trying to resolve the obstacles that are preventing them from finding other housing opportunities.

"We're there to fill the gap between the devastation that you encountered and getting you to a more permanent solution," said Michael Byrne, the FEMA official supervising Superstorm Sandy recovery in New York.

The process of figuring out how to help homeless Sandy victims find a more permanent solution was delayed by Congress' slow passage of the hurricane recovery bill. New Jersey has set aside 1,000 Section 8 federal housing vouchers for low-income families displaced by the storm and currently living in hotels.

New Jersey created dozens of housing units at Fort Monmouth, a former military installation, for Sandy victims.

Both FEMA and New Jersey have set up websites to help connect people displaced by the storm with rental listings.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is working with state and local officials to help find long-term housing for displaced people, according to a spokesman for HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan who could not give details on specific plans.





The Re-View

Merv Hecht
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Farm fresh the Japanese way



Merv Hecht *news@smdp.com*

FRESH FOR YOU: **A Kaiseki plate at Shunji Japanese Cuisine, which replaced Mr. Cecil's California Ribs on Pico Boulevard just outside Santa Monica's city limits.**

WHILE MOST OF THE JAPANESE restaurants in Los Angeles specialize in raw fish, there are a lot of other Japanese food cultures worthy of export.

One very important Japanese cuisine that Angelenos don't often see is the Kaiseki cuisine. There are a few Kaiseki restaurants in Little Tokyo, and perhaps one or two in Beverly Hills, but I believe that Shunji Japanese Cuisine is the first in the Santa Monica area.

Kaiseki style is traditional Japanese seasonal cuisine emphasizing fresh local ingredients in an artistic setting. This is the premier Japanese cuisine, historically what the upper 1 percent ate.

We started with an appetizer in a cup, with yuba (curded milk skin of soybean, something like tofu, and considered very healthy) incorrectly described by the waiter as tofu, dashi broth made from dried bonita flakes, komu seaweed, and spinach — a typical dish served as a greeting.

Next was a refined glass filled with crab meat, yamaimo mountain potato, and four kinds of mushrooms. This is a simple, refreshing, healthy dish.

Then came the centerpiece of Kaisaki cuisine, a long, white plate filled with about a dozen beautifully presented small bites. There was a noodle dish with a piece of red snapper; a small piece of lightly salted, cooked yellowtail; a persimmons shell with pieces of persimmons inside coated with a sweet tofu sauce; a small piece of murasakimo (purple potato); and a small mound of ankimo monkfish liver with diced negi green onions with red caviar on top — one of the most delicious bites of the evening.

If you go

Shunji Japanese Cuisine
12244 W. Pico Blvd.
Los Angeles
90064
(310) 826-4737
www.shunji-ns.com/

Next was a famous dish of fish roe cut into little rectangles with kombu seaweed between two slices. Then there were a few slices of the famous gobo burdock root, followed by a piece of white fish. Finally there was a piece of shrimp with gingko nuts, next to a cooked quail egg. The overall sensation was that of an artist decorating a plate with delicious little bites of foods well known in Japan, but less known here.

After the Kaiseke plate came a plate of sashimi — various pieces of raw fish. I've read in other reviews how head chef Shunji Nakao has his fish flown in fresh from Japan, but I didn't find this fish as good as that in some of the other high end local restaurants.

That was followed by one of the best dishes served to us, the chawan mushi egg custard with dashi broth, shrimp, flavorful matfutake mushroom and gingko nuts. The dish was much lighter than usual, and the exceptionally well-made dashi made the dish exceptional. This was the best chawan mushi we've ever had.

Grilled local whitefish was served next, but no one seemed to know the name of it either in English or in Japanese. The fish itself didn't have much flavor. And then pieces of sushi were served, which we found fairly ordinary. The toro, often the highlight of the raw fish course, was not that good.

And so we came to the end of the meal. The three of us had gone through two excellent bottles of sake, one of which, the "born gold" was the best, plus a glass each of the house sake, which was also very good. The bill came to $750, which was about what we expected. The drinks had cost $150.

Looking back at it, it was a nice experience. I ate some dishes I had never had before, and experienced a different Japanese cuisine. Of course, in Japan in the old days, like the 19th century, the plates would have been served one at a time, by a lovely geisha. But who has time for that in today's world?



NAKAO

We talked to the chef after dinner, a lovely man. And the service staff was very nice. All of the fish seemed very fresh, and the kaiseki dishes were an interesting experience. But because my two boys that were with me are Japanese speaking, and one is used to eating in Japan, the meal was slightly flawed for us because of the attitude of the chef serving us. This is not uncommon in Japanese restaurants. We've all heard of "sushi Nazi" chefs in high-end Japanese sushi bars. Some Japanese chefs take offense at the slightest suggestion from customers, and in fact show a bit of prejudice toward non-Japanese customers.

Although it's not a raw fish restaurant, for $200 a person one is entitled to expect every dish to be top quality. And it was fortunate

SEE EAT PAGE 9

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The Better Option

Lori Salerno
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Super Bowl without super guilt

I GREW UP IN A HOUSEHOLD WHERE THERE was always a sports game on the TV, and for our Super Bowl parties we pulled out all the stops. Specific dishes, family recipes and themed meals were prepared for all to enjoy, just as if it was another holiday gathering. Depending on the weather we either did a barbecue with chicken and tri-tip or a one-pot dish like chili. Finger-licking finger foods and appetizers were always available.

The American Institute of Food Distribution says that Super Bowl Sunday is the second largest day for food consumption, just behind Thanksgiving. All those fatty finger foods, rich dips and starchy chips can pose a serious challenge for those who may have set New Year's resolutions to try to eat healthier and become more active. Most of my clients have been working diligently over the past few weeks to make change and stick with it, and the Super Bowl is usually the first significant hurdle they face in the new year.

Because it's so easy to sit glued to the TV watching the game or the multi-million dollar commercials, I've compiled a few helpful tips to balance your Super Bowl party with tasty but healthy options or ideas to help you stick to your New Year's resolution when attending such festivities.

• Set up a buffet table.

It's tempting to just plop finger foods and chips and dips on the coffee table in front of your guests. This can lead to mindless eating, spills, and the potential for double dipping. Set up the buffet table in another room; maybe the adjacent dining room. That way guests can take a clean plate and napkin, serve themselves a small portion, and return to their seat.

• Offer lower fat or lower calorie options for your guests.

If you're having a barbecue, cook chicken breasts or lean chicken or turkey sausages with the higher fat meats such as hamburgers or ribs. If you opt for a one-pot dish or casserole like lasagna, make sure you have a lighter hot dish too. Always offer a tossed salad with a protein like a Chinese chicken salad that can be plated as a side dish or chosen as a guest's main course.

• Always include a vegetable and fruit platter.

Not only are these easy to prepare or purchase, they are a simple alternative for yourself and your guests who are trying to cut calories and fat. Raw veggies can be paired with a non-cream based dip such as hummus or an eggplant baba ghanoush or a low-fat sour cream or Greek yogurt dip like my favorite spinach dip I presented in my December column. Fresh fruit can be a dessert alternative for those trying to watch their sugar intake.

• Keep portion sizes small.

Because you will be providing many courses over an extended period of time, prepare appetizer-size portions. Cut meat and casseroles, like lasagna, in half-size servings so you or your guests can sample a couple dishes or one main dish and one or two side dishes. Also, purchase lunch-size plates for the main spread and appetizer plates for lighter bites and desserts.

• Make available light games for half time.

If you have the room, keep a few footballs or Frisbees around for your guests to toss back and forth so they can get off the couch and digest. Thirty minutes of activity from playing catch doesn't burn a lot of calories (only 85 calories for a 150-pound person), but throwing the ball rapidly or over long distances can build arm and chest muscles. Plus, it gets you and your guests moving and moving away from food.

Whether you're watching the Super Bowl or Puppy Bowl come Feb. 3, enjoy your time socializing with friends and family, and feel confident you are offering a well-balanced and healthful spread for your guests. To help, try my version of a winter chili.

LORI SALERNO, M.S., R.D., C.P.T. is a registered dietitian and certified personal trainer who provides medical nutrition therapy to groups and individuals in Santa Monica and recipe and menu analysis for restaurants nationwide. Learn more at www.eatwelldailynutrition.com

The Better Option Winter Chili

Servings: 6

1 16 oz. package peeled and cubed butternut squash
1/2 pound 7% lean ground sirloin
1/2 pound 7% lean ground turkey
1 medium green bell pepper, diced
1 medium yellow onion, diced
3 ribs celery, diced
2 (14.5 oz.) cans chopped or stewed tomatoes
3/4 tsp. ground cumin
3/4 tsp. chili powder (optional Chili Kit with chili seasoning blend)
1 (16 oz.) can kidney beans, rinsed and drained
1 tsp. fresh garlic, minced

Brown meat with onions, garlic, celery and bell pepper in large chili pot. Add squash, tomatoes and seasoning; bring to a boil. Cover, reduce heat and simmer for one hour or until squash is tender. Add kidney beans during last 15 minutes of cooking.

Per Serving: Calories: 220, Fat: 5g (8% of daily value), Sat fat: 1.5g (8% of DV), Protein: 17g, Carbohydrates: 27g (9% of DV), Fiber: 5g (20% of DV), Cholesterol: 50mg (17% of DV); Sodium: 450mg (19% of DV)

EAT
FROM PAGE 8

for me that I was with my two sons, who speak Japanese, and that I was raised for a while, as a child, by Japanese people, or I would not have appreciated the foods nor known what I was eating.

In a Japanese restaurant different cultural rules apply. The customer is not king, and is not always right. The servers are the royalty and you are the servant. This is not limited to Japanese culture. French chefs are notorious, but they seem to change their attitudes to satisfy American diners. The Japanese seem to take longer to adapt. But perhaps one should look at that as part of the charm of dining in a different cultural space.

When we go back to Shunji we will ask to sit at Mr. Shunji's station. But at these prices, we will not go back for awhile.

MERV HECHT, the food and wine critic for the Santa Monica Daily Press, is a wine buyer and consultant to a number of national and international food and wine companies. He can be reached at mervynhecht@yahoo.com.


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VA
FROM PAGE 1

Angeles City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl told the audience that when it rained, he thought of the homeless, particularly veterans who had sacrificed so much for their country only to end up on the streets.

"This is the beginning of a new day," Rosendahl said, and urged the VA to continue its work.

The push to renovate Building 209 began almost eight years ago. Funding was finally secured in 2009, but the project still seemed stuck.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky blamed the delay on the federal government and its "intractable bureaucracy."

He credits former Santa Monica City Councilmember Bobby Shriver with debuting the idea, and said that although funding was in hand, the project stalled.

"We broke through this year," he said. "They saw the value, importance and urgency."

There's another group that takes some credit for forcing the VA's hand.

In 2011, the American Civil Liberties Union and a host of private attorneys, including Shriver, filed suit against the VA for allowing private companies to rent space at the West L.A. campus while homeless vets were out on the streets.

"Eighteen months after the lawsuit is filed, they're breaking ground where they've been talking about it for six years prior," said David Sapp, an attorney with the ACLU.

The lawsuit alleged that the 387-acre VA parcel was deeded to the government by a private owner in 1888 to provide housing for disabled war veterans.

According to the suit, the land was used for that purpose until the 1960s and 1970s, when the VA stopped accepting new residents and allowed the buildings that had provided housing to fall into disrepair or be used for other purposes, including leases to private users like a car rental company or hotel laundry facilities.

A federal judge decided last year that he did not have the jurisdiction to hear the piece of the case alleging the need for permanent supportive housing for vets and dismissed the claims on the deed-restricted use of the land in March, Sapp said.

However, the piece of the suit that alleged that the private uses of the campus violated congressional restrictions was allowed to go forward. Sapp hopes to hear the judge's motion on that soon.

ashley@smdp.com



Brandon Wise *brandonw@smdp.com*

REMODEL: **Building 209 will serve 65 veterans, including women.**

PARKING
FROM PAGE 1

mother of all parking variances," codified an existing illegal situation in which Saint John's was renting the spaces at the Yahoo! Center and Saint Anne's Catholic Church.

The agreement came with teeth, however.

The parking had to be considered "functionally equivalent" to providing the spaces in the structure. While the meaning of that term was at the heart of some internal debate, it ended with a much-lauded provision labeled "2.2," which dictated that if city officials believed that the parking was no longer equivalent, the hospital would have to build the $25 million structure anyway.

At the City Council meeting Tuesday night, Councilmember Kevin McKeown asked staff to review that section to see if losing the Colorado Center parking spaces might trigger that critical provision.

In a letter to the City Council, the acting chief operations officer for the hospital, Ken Meehan, explained that Saint John's will look for alternative parking spots in the city, but that the fate of those at the Colorado Center is not yet sealed.

"We do not believe [Colorado Center] has a legal basis for terminating our parking lease, and we have communicated this," Meehan wrote. "Despite this, we are proceeding as if we may lose our right to park at [the Colorado Center] as of March 31."

Whether the new arrangement measures up to City Hall's expectations remains to be seen.

"It behooves Saint John's to come back to us and propose a solution," City Manager Rod Gould told the council on Tuesday.

City officials will analyze whatever compromise the hospital puts forward and return to council.

As for community members who urged the City Council to keep Saint John's accountable to its original promises, they're left with little more satisfaction than an "I told you so." (The Daily Press' editorial board came out strongly against the deal allowing Saint John's to not build the parking it once promised.)

"The problem I had with the description of Saint John's predicament … was that this broken agreement was treated so lightly and with such confidence that Saint John's would be able to deal with it by finding even more parking somewhere — anywhere — in the city," said Gregg Heacock, president of the Mid-City Neighbors, which represents residents in the area surrounding the hospital.

Residents of Mid-City have been contending with parking problems caused by Saint John's for years, issues that they say have not improved because of the high rates the hospital charges for parking.

Those can hit $35 for an all-day pass, or $10 for 90 minutes of parking. Employees found parking in the neighborhood, forcing nurses to walk several blocks at odd hours of the night and residents to become frustrated with the lack of parking.

"It's time for Saint John's to make good its original promise and build the parking that it so obviously needs and owes," said Tricia Crane, who belongs to the Northeast Neighbors group.

Saint John's has had an eventful year, without the threat of a parking structure hanging overhead.

The hospital solved an ongoing labor dispute over its nurses' attempts to unionize and went through a recent upheaval that replaced most of its leadership, reportedly because of disagreements over the hospital's future as it struggles to compete with bigger institutions.

ashley@smdp.com

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Appointment to be made by City Council on March 12, 2013.

The Recreation and Parks Commission serves as an advisory body to the City Council and the Director of Community and Cultural Services and meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M., in the Council Chambers, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, California. For more information on the commitments of this position, please contact the Commission's Staff Liaison at (310) 458-8310 or rpc@smgov.net.

The State Political Reform Act requires Commission members to disclose their interest and income which may be materially affected by their official action by filing a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) with the City Clerk's office upon assuming office, and annually thereafter.

Applications and information on Board/Commission duties & disclosure requirements are available from the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 1685 Main St., Rm. 102 (submit applications at this same location), by phone at (310) 458-8211 or on-line at http://www.smgov.net/departments/clerk/boards/vacancies.aspx. All current applications on file will be considered.

Disability related assistance and alternate formats of this document are available upon request by calling (310) 458-8211.

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TAX
FROM PAGE 1

believe the number could have been higher.

They estimate that 20 percent of people who qualify for the tax credit do not claim it. An awareness campaign was launched Friday by the IRS to help those who are considered low- and moderate-income get the refunds they deserve.

Tax Credit Awareness Day is aimed at the millions of Americans who earned $50,270 or less, urging them to take advantage of the Earned Income Tax Credit, created in 1975. Across the country, local officials and community organizations are sponsoring outreach events that highlight the benefit of this work incentive.

Each year, one in five people who are eligible miss out on the refund either by being unaware and not claiming it or by not filing taxes at all.

"A large part of the nation sees major changes every year with their tax situation," said IRS Acting Commissioner Steven T. Miller. "This year, millions of workers could qualify for [the credit] for the first time, and the IRS urges them not to overlook this valuable credit."

In Santa Monica, the most tax income credit received in 2011 went to residents living in the 90404 and 90405 zip codes with $2,217,939 and $1,620,980, respectively. This is based on the number of residences in that area and the demographics of the families who live there.

Workers who earned less than $50, 270 last year and are single could qualify for up to $475; $5,891 for workers who have three or more children. And unlike most deductions and credits, the Earned Income Tax Credit is refundable, so those who are eligible may receive a refund from the IRS even if they don't owe taxes.

If a person is not required to file a tax return but wants to know if he or she is eligible for the credit, a tax return should be filed any way and should specifically claim the credit. Taxpayers who qualify can begin to file claims with their federal tax return starting Jan. 30.

For more information on the tax credit and detailed eligibility rules visit www.irs.gov/eitc.

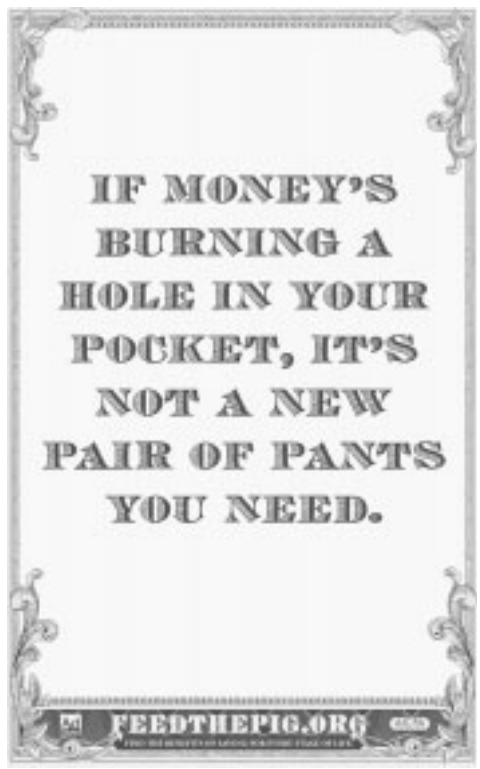
editor@smdp.com



SOMETHING NEW

Photo courtesy Jeff Johnson

Yvon Chouinard, founder of Patagonia, celebrates the opening of their new store on Fourth Street in Downtown on Thursday. The evening also served as a fundraiser for Surfrider Foundation, and raised nearly $2,500 for the local chapter.



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Turkey or Chicken 4 – 8 people
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ROAST
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YOUR OPINION MATTERS! SEND YOUR LETTERS TO • Santa Monica Daily Press • Attn. Editor: • 1640 5th Street, Suite 218 • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • **editor@smdp.com**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONFIRM ASSESSMENT COSTS FOR THE 15th STREET STREETLIGHTING ASSESSMENT PROJECT

Pursuant to the requirements of Government Code Section 54954.6 and California Streets and Highways Code, Division 7 (Improvement Act of 1911), the City Council of the City of Santa Monica hereby gives notice that a Public Hearing will be held to allow public testimony regarding the confirmation of assessment costs for the 15th Street Streetlighting Assessment Project, in the City of Santa Monica.

The PUBLIC HEARING (before City Council) will be held:

Date: **Tuesday, March 12, 2013**
Time: **7:00 pm**
Location: **Council Chambers, City Hall**
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401

You are hereby notified that the City Council of the City of Santa Monica adopted Resolution No. 10364 (CCS) on November 25, 2008, declaring its intention to levy assessment fees for the 15th Street Streetlighting Assessment Project. The establishment of such assessment district, initiated by citizens of the City of Santa Monica, will result in the levy of an assessment fee on all parcels of residential, commercial, and industrial property located within such district. Our records indicate that you own property within this district and will be assessed according to the benefits derived from these improvements.

COSTS
Residential property owners will be assessed approximately $50.23 per linear foot of frontage property. This amount is less than the $53.50 per linear foot of frontage approved by a majority vote of the property owners at the formation of the assessment district.

METHODS OF PAYMENT
1. Payment in Full: Payment in full may be made upon receipt of the assessment invoice once the assessment costs are confirmed. Invoices will be mailed to all affected property owners after the public hearing to confirm construction costs. Payment in full must be made within 30 days of the date of the invoice.

2. Payment in Installments: Payments may be made over a period of ten years in semi-annual installments for assessment cost plus interest (3.25% per annum). The City of Santa Monica will place a lien on each property for which installment payments are made. The lien will remain in effect until all payments (principal, interest, and any applicable penalties) are made. Requests for removal of the lien (subsequent to full payment) must be made in writing, and must include property owners name, full address, legal description of property, bond series number, and customer number which will be identified on the semi-annual billing statement.

RENTERS INFORMATION
At the formation of the assessment district it was determined that owners of controlled rental units may not pass through the cost of the assessment to tenants.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
Financial assistance may be available to low- to moderate-income residential property owners. Information and applications will be available upon invoicing.

PROTESTS
All protests regarding this confirmation of costs for the 15th Street Streetlighting Assessment Project must be filed, in writing, and submitted to the Office of the City Clerk before the hour of the public hearing; all protests so filed will be considered by the City Council at that time. Each protest must contain a description of the property involved in the protest, and be addressed to:

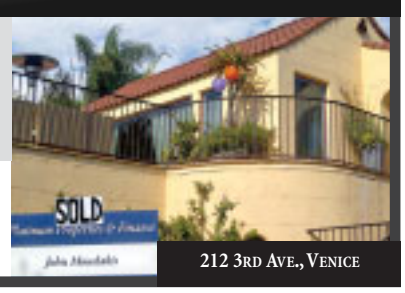
City Clerk
City of Santa Monica
1685 Main Street, Room 102
Santa Monica, CA 90401

MORE INFORMATION
Further information may be obtained by contacting Curtis Castle, of the City's Public Works Department at (310) 458-8721, or curtis.castle@smgov.net.

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SURF REPORT



O'NEILL SANTA MONICA
131 Broadway, Santa Monica CA 657-859-3721
FACEBOOK.COM/ONEILLSANTAMONICA

Surf Forecasts

Water Temp: **55.6°**

SATURDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Possible new steep angled NW swell builds in but mostly bypasses the region

SUNDAY – **POOR TO FAIR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** ankle to waist high
New small south swell; Steep NW swell passes by

MONDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-3 ft** ankle to waist high
Steep NW swell due to slowly ease, small S swell; onshore wind

TUESDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** ankle to knee high
Fading NW swell, small S pulse

Tides

This week's full moon sets up 5.5-6' early morning high tides and negative mid to late afternoon lows through the weekend. Keep it in mind when you're planning your sessions.

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 23, 2013**

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

QUICK STATS (for the last 30 days)
- Number of sewage spills -- 1
- Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
- Number of wet days -- 12
- Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 32 / 19
- Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 0 / 0

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

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

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Las Cerritos Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lechuza and Las Alice creeks.	ns	ns
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach.	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth.	A	A+
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private).	A+	F
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A+
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach.	B	A
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth.	A+	A
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach.	A	F
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth.	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd..	C	C
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence.	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (beach location)- daily.	F	D
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east.	A+	B
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon.	A+	C
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point rock).	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19548 PCH stairs.	A+	A+
Penn Creek at Los Tunas County Beach.	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon.	A+	A+
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth.	B	A
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	A+	B
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach.	F	B
Will Rogers State Beach at 17208 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain).	A+	A+
Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence.	A+	B
Will Rogers State Beach at Pulga Canyon storm drain.	A+	B
Will Rogers State Beach at Temescal Canyon drain.	B	C
Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqua).	A	B
Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain.	A+	B
Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain.	A+	F
Santa Monica Municipal Pier.	F	F
Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kenter storm drain.	A	F
Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restrooms).	A+	C
Ocean Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain.	A	C
Venice City Beach, at the Rose Ave. storm drain.	A+	D
Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain.	A+	A+
Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain.	A+	C
Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south.	A+	A+
Venice Beach- projection of Topsail St..	A+	A+
Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach- lifeguard tower.	F	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth.	B	F
Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain.	A	A
North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of CSAW jetty).	A+	A
Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain.	A+	A+
Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant.	A+	A+
Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain.	A+	F

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

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

Heal the Bay

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

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

ND pres defends handling of Te'o

BY TOM COYNE
Associated Press

SOUTH BEND, Ind. Top administrators at Notre Dame decided within hours of hearing about the Manti Te'o dead girlfriend hoax that it did not involve a crime and within two days had concluded there was no NCAA violation, according to a letter sent by the university president to board of trustee members on Friday.

The Rev. John Jenkins told trustees that despite "the unrelenting scrutiny of hundreds of journalists and countless others — and repeated attempts by some to create a different impression— no facts relating to the hoax have been at odds with what Manti told us" on Dec. 27-28.

The letter was obtained Friday by The Associated Press from a university official who provided it on condition of anonymity because the private school's internal workings are confidential.

The eight-page document, including a four-page letter from Jenkins and a four-page outline of how Notre Dame handled the hoax, is both a defense and an explanation of the school's actions.

"We did our best to get to the truth in extraordinary circumstances, be good stewards of the interests of the university and its good name and — as we do in all things — to make the well-being of our students one of our very highest priorities," Jenkins concluded in his letter.

Some of the timeline Notre Dame outlined is well known, including that its star linebacker disclosed the scam to his coaches the day after Christmas and it remained unknown to the public until Deadspin.com broke the story on Jan. 16, long after the Fighting Irish lost the BCS championship to Alabama on Jan. 7.

Jenkins wrote that Notre Dame officials talked in the hours after hearing from Te'o on Dec. 26 and agreed there was no indication of a crime or student conduct code violation. Athletic director Jack Swarbrick spoke with Te'o the next day, and on Dec. 28 the school concluded there were no indications of an NCAA rules violation, which could have put Notre Dame's 12-0 regular season in jeopardy. The school then made moves to find out who was behind the hoax, thereby protecting Te'o and itself.

"For the first couple of days after receiving the news from Manti, there was considerable confusion and we simply did not know what there was to disclose," Jenkins wrote.

On Jan. 2, after several days of internal discussion and a week after Te'o's disclosure, Notre Dame retained Stroz Friedberg, a New York computer forensics firm to investigate the case and whether any other football players had been targeted. The firm did not return phone or e-mail messages left Friday.

Notre Dame officials believed Te'o's girlfriend — whether alive or dead — was at least a real person until the next day, when Stroz Friedberg said it could not find any evidence that Kekua or most of her relatives ever existed. And by Jan. 4, two days after hiring Stroz Friedberg, Notre Dame officials concluded Te'o was the victim of the hoax, there was no threat to the school and the private investigation was suspended.

"We concluded that this matter was personal to Manti," Jenkins wrote, deciding it was up to Te'o to disclose, especially after he signed with Creative Artists Agency on the day after the BCS game.

Notre Dame's role in the scheme has been heavily scrutinized, with some wondering if the image of Te'o leading the top-ranked Irish through the heartbreaking deaths of his grandmother and girlfriend on the same day in September was aimed at burnishing his credentials and that of his school. Te'o was named an All-American and finished second in the Heisman Trophy race.

Te'o has denied in interviews with ESPN and Katie Couric that he was in on the Kekua hoax, though he has admitted he failed to be forthcoming about the fact that the woman he called his girlfriend was only someone he knew through phone calls and electronic messages.

Te'o says that when the hoax was exposed, a 22-year-old acquaintance from California named Ronaiah Tuiasosopo confessed that he was behind the ruse and apologized. The woman whose photos were used as the face of Kekua says Tuiasosopo stole them and that he has apologized to her, too. Tuiasosopo has not made a public statement about the hoax.

The episode put Notre Dame athletics on the defensive, a spot it has occupied before.

George O'Leary resigned in December 2001 after five days as the football coach, admitting he lied on his resume. In 2010, a student-athlete was accused of sexually molesting Saint Mary's College student Elizabeth Seeberg two weeks before she died of a suspected drug overdose. Later that same year, 20-year-old Declan Sullivan was killed when the aerial lift he was on was knocked over by winds as he filmed football practice.





MOVIE TIMES

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

Saturday, Jan. 26
Directing Independently vs. the Studio System and the Evolution of the Industry in the Digital World (NR)
2:00pm

Porco Rosso(PG) 1hr 34min
Whisper of the Heart (G)1hr 51min
7:30pm

Sunday, Jan. 27
Kiki's Delivery Service (G) 1hr 42min
4:00pm

Princess Mononoke (PG-13) 2hrs 14min
7:30pm

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

Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey (PG-13) 2hrs 46min
11:40am, 3:15pm, 6:50pm, 10:25pm

This Is 40 (R) 2hrs 13min
11:55am, 3:20pm, 6:45pm, 10:05pm

Lincoln (PG-13) 2hrs 30min
11:50am, 3:35pm, 7:10pm, 10:30pm

Haunted House (R) 1hr 20min
11:55am, 2:30pm, 5:00pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

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

Life of Pi 3D (PG) 2hrs 06min
11:15am, 2:05pm, 5:00pm, 7:50pm, 10:40pm

Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D (PG-13) 1hr 28min
12:20pm, 3:00pm, 5:30pm, 8:05pm, 10:30pm

Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters (PG-13) 1hr 28min
11:20am, 1:45pm, 4:15pm, 6:50pm, 9:30pm

Django Unchained (R) 2hrs 45min
11:05am, 2:50pm, 6:45pm, 10:35pm

Zero Dark Thirty (R) 2hrs 37min
11:45am, 3:15pm, 7:00pm, 10:45pm

Gangster Squad (R) 1hr 53min
11:10am, 1:50pm, 4:45pm, 7:45pm, 10:40pm

Broken City (R) 1hr 49min
11:00am, 2:00pm, 5:00pm, 8:00pm, 10:50pm

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

Argo (R) 2hrs 00min
1:30pm, 4:20pm, 7:10pm, 9:55pm

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

Rust & Bone (De rouille et d'os) (R) 1hr 55min
1:10pm, 4:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:50pm

Quartet (PG-13) 1hr 37min
1:50pm, 4:40pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm

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

Last Stand (R) 1hr 47min
11:20am, 2:05pm, 5:00pm, 7:45pm, 10:40pm

Movie 43 (R) 1hr 37min
11:45am, 2:30pm, 5:10pm, 7:50pm, 10:35pm

Parker (R) 1hr 58min
11:05am, 1:55pm, 4:55pm, 7:40pm, 8:00pm, 11:00pm

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

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

Mama (PG-13) 1hr 40min
11:00am, 1:40pm, 4:25pm, 7:10pm, 10:00pm

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

Avoid a difficult person, Pisces

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Your actions could keep others busy looking for better solutions. Whereas you once were somewhat predictable, at this point the same is not true. If you get a strong reaction from others, ask yourself if it could have anything to do with your newfound spontaneity. Tonight: Be playful.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ You could be inundated by decisions you need to make. For various reasons, you might be stuck in a situation where you can't find a way out. The unexpected occurs, as you might find yourself having to juggle family, home and work all at once. Tonight: Hang close to home.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Consider what is happening within your immediate circle. You also might be unsure of an important person who typically serves as an anchor for you. Focus on what needs to happen in a conversation. Tonight: Hang out.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ You could feel rather unsure about your options for the near future. You might need to spend more than you would like to. While you juggle different interests, stop and consider your priorities. You can only go so far. Tonight: Time to treat yourself to some R and R.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ The Moon highlights you, and others seek you out. You might be able to zero in on a long-term desire, but you need to know what you want. A friend invites you to join him or her. Tonight: Say "yes."

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ A partner could encourage you to let go of a self-imposed restraint. You might not be sure as to what would be best, or in which direction you should head. Check in with an older family member. Tonight: Do not overthink. Just enjoy yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Honor how much a friendship means to you. You can't avoid the absence of this person, and standing on ceremony won't help. You might feel as if you're being pulled in two different directions. Tonight: Where the fun is.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ You continue to feel pulled in different directions. You might wonder what to do in a situation that you clearly cannot control. Recognize that you probably never will be able to control anything but yourself. Tonight: Give a difficult situation some space.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Follow your knee-jerk response, though you might question whether it's the right way to go. Others clearly understand where you are coming from. Opinions will differ just the same. Tonight: At a favorite spot.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Others become available. Have a discussion with key people, and know that it could result in a decision to let them take the lead. Give up being so serious. You might feel as if you do not have enough funds to do what you want. Tonight: Togetherness is the theme.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb .18)
★★★★★ You offer a lot, and others are drawn to your unique ideas and fun ways. Try to defer to these individuals a bit more than usual. Someone around you has a very strong personality and is comfortable only when he or she is in control. Let it be. Tonight: You will have to choose.

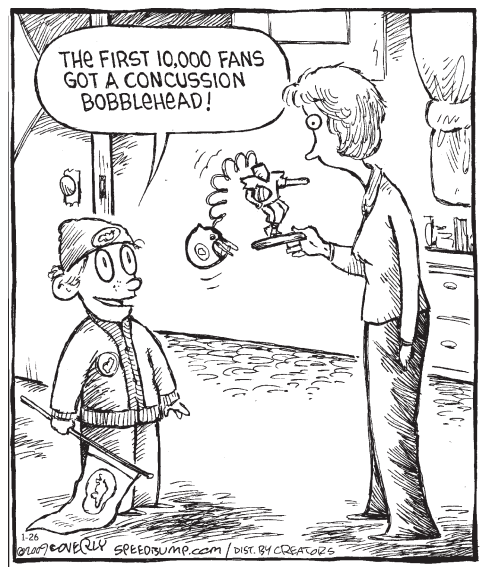
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You need to relax more than you need to have a good time; however, you can do both. First, run errands and get some shopping done. Afterward, you can be carefree. Join friends ASAP. You don't need any complicated or fancy plans. Tonight: Avoid a difficult person.

Happy birthday

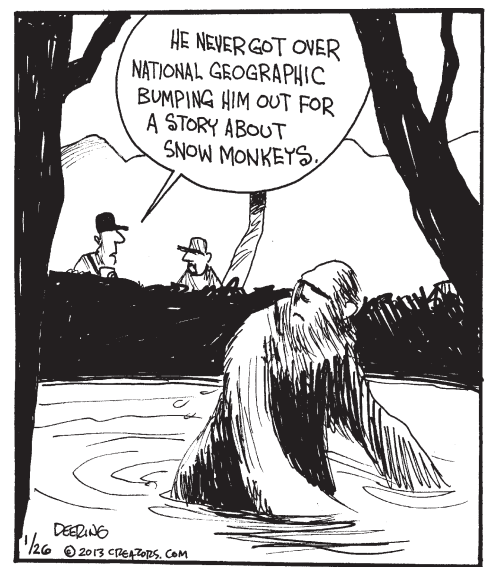
This year you will have many opportunities available to you. You might question which way to go. You also will be sought after for your ability to see both sides of an issue. Feelings often become intense; however, if you tap into your creativity and express your emotions, you will be OK. If you are single, you have no excuse for not going out. You have quite the selection of potential suitors. If you are attached, as a couple you will decide to take up a new, creative interest or hobby. You can count on LEO's honesty.

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

Speed Bump By Dave Coverly



Strange Brew By John Deering



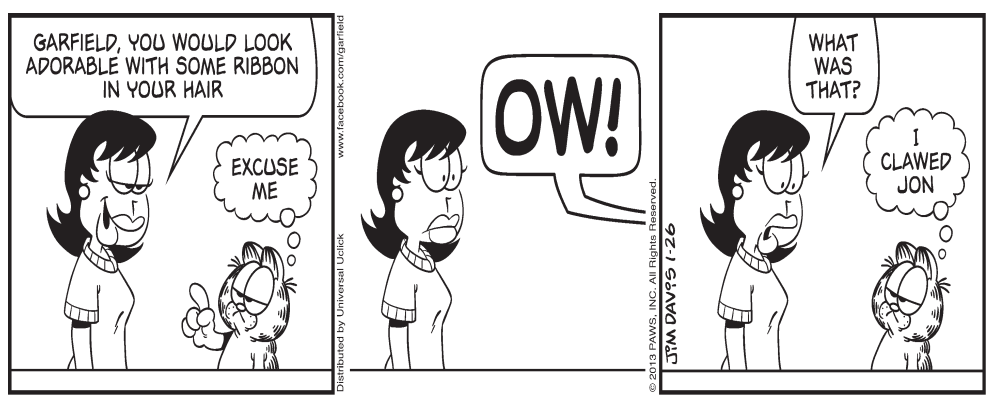
Dogs of C-Kennel By Mick and Mason Mastroianni



Edge City By Terry & Patty LaBan



Garfield By Jim Davis



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



Sudoku

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

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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

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.

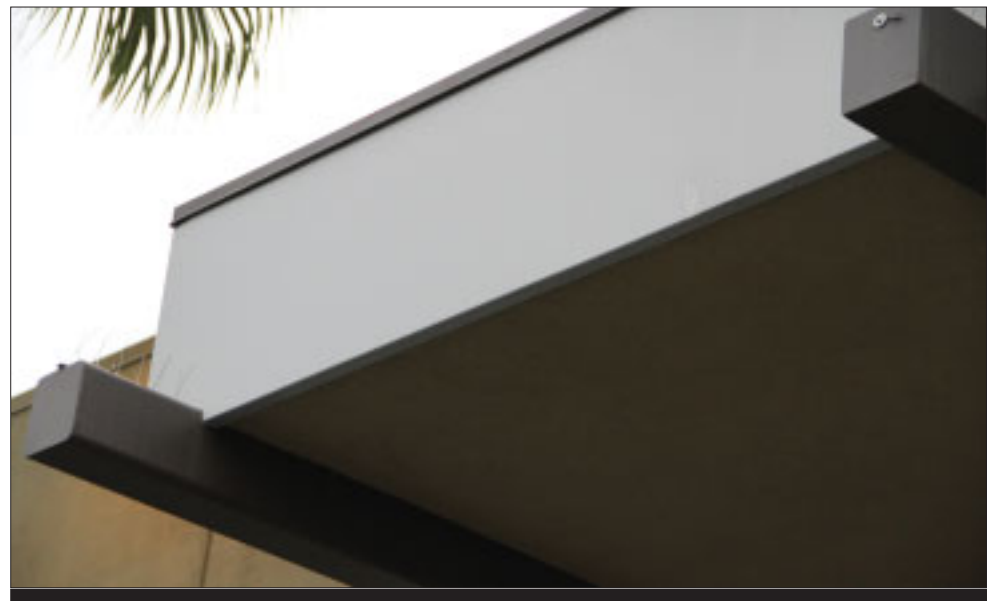
SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

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

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Daniel Archuleta *daniela@smdp.com*

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CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Pub pints
5 Zoo favorite
10 Refinery sights
12 In the area
13 Let on
14 Sung story
15 Golf position
16 Tear
18 Immoral act
19 Anne Rice vampire
21 Chinese boat
22 Tidy
24 Odometer reading
25 Journey specialty
29 Spur on
30 Lease signer
32 Zodiac animal
33 Maui souvenir
34 Polite address
35 More than pudgy
37 Full of verve
39 Electrician's concern
40 Till fill
41 Kilt wearers
42 Company bigwig

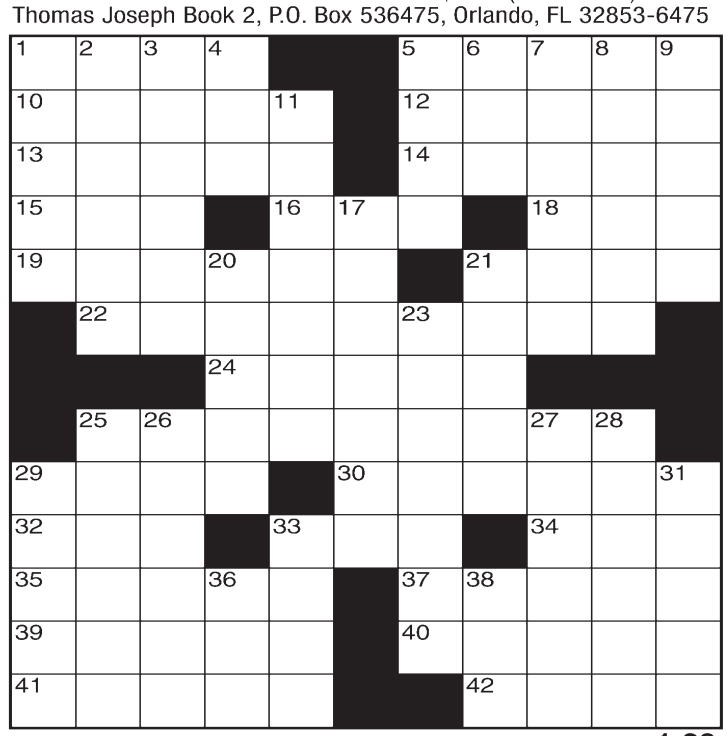
DOWN

1 Even a little
2 Gents' dates
3 Catch in a net
4 Enjoy Alta
5 Hoof sound
6 Spring
7 Gets slick
8 "Semper fi" sayer
9 Floor piece
11 Fasten one's seat belt
17 "I should be going"
20 Like some tests
21 Argo captain
23 Words on arriving
25 Like our numerals
26 "Night of the Living Dead" director
27 Dealer's place
28 Cutlery
29 Ship fronts
31 Low cards
33 Minus
36 Fixed
38 High hit

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



1-26



NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Prosecutor's Delight: (1) Police in Guntersville, Ala., suspected that Tara Hampton had resumed dealing drugs, in violation of a first-offender's program that had kept her out of jail, and they knocked on her door to ask about some evidence they had come across. According to the police report, when Hampton opened the door for them, she was absentmindedly holding a bag of crack in her hand. (2) William Cook Jr., 27, was arrested after a manager at a Wendy's restaurant in Rome, Ga., complained that Cook was acting strange and disturbing customers, and when police asked for his ID, he provided bogus information. In a search, officers found a note in his pocket, reading, "How Bill Cook intends to rob the Wendy's on Martha Berry and get away with it," followed by lists labeled "Plan A" and "Plan B."

■ (1) Unlucky Gary Haines, 59, was arrested in December in Charlotte County, Fla., after he was spotted stealing a trailer by hitching it to his own truck and driving off with it. The "spotter" was the trailer's owner, David Zehntner, who was out flying in his private plane and happened to be passing over his property at the moment Haines was hitching up. He easily followed Haines from the air and called in Haines' destination to police. (2) Jason DeJesus, 36, and Chanelle Troedson, 33, who share an upscale 4,600 square-foot home (with pool and courts for playing tennis and beach volleyball) in Morgan Hill, Calif., were arrested in December and charged with luring a 50-year-old handyman to their home, forcibly detaining him, and requiring him to make various repairs for them over a six-hour period (before he managed to escape and notify police.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

2001 - An earthquake hits Gujarat, India, causing more than 20,000 deaths.

WORD UP!

brabble
\ BRAB-uhl \ , verb;
1.
To argue stubbornly about trifles; wrangle.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Classifieds

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DBAS

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