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Space show
SMC Planetarium has several events in February.
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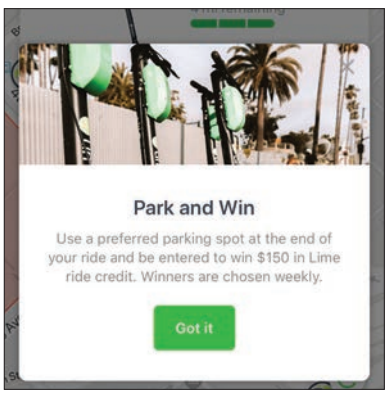
From Iceland to Hades
Charles has your weekend entertainment recommendations.
Page 6

Council cuts number of scooter/ bike operators allowed in the city

MADELEINE PAUKER
SMDP Staff Writer

Just two to three micromobility companies will be allowed to deploy electric scooters and bikes in Santa Monica from July to December 2020.

City Council has approved a second Shared Mobility Pilot Program that will reduce the number of companies allowed to operate in Santa Monica over the program's 18-month duration. Councilmembers said the city will be better able to administer the program if it concentrates its regulatory power on two to three companies that offer high-quality devices, stable pricing and systems that reduce sidewalk riding and haphazard parking.



Courtesy image

INCENTIVE: The city wants riders to park scooters in designated zones.

"Shared e-bikes and scooters have proven their popularity, with over 2.67 million individual rides in Santa Monica in the past year, half of those replacing car trips," said Mayor Kevin McKeown. "We know they help clean our air, but now in our second pilot program we need to clean up safety issues and make sure car-free mobility is affordable and accessible."

The city has partnered with Bird, Lime, Lyft and Jump, which is owned by Uber, since the launch of the Shared Mobility Pilot Program in September 2018. Because the application for the second program will be open to all scooter and bike companies and not just the companies authorized under the current program, the micromobility landscape in Santa Monica could

SEE **MICROMOBILITY** PAGE 10



Madeleine Pauker

PROMOTION: Several Santa Monica Police officers were promoted this week. Candice Cobarrubias, Thomas McLaughlin and Saul Rodriguez were promoted to Captain. Christopher Skogh and Michael Federico were promoted to Police Lieutenant. Douglas Woodhams, Blake Cooper and Robert Paschal were promoted to Police Sergeant.



Tenants flee high-rise fire

BRIAN MELLEY AND STEFANIE DAZIO
Associated Press

Firefighters made a dramatic ladder rescue of a man about to jump from a burning Los Angeles apartment building on Wednesday and helicopters plucked people from the roof of the 25-story high-rise as other terrified residents fled through smoke-choked stairwells to safety.

Six people were hospitalized, including a 3-month-old. Two were in critical condition, including the would-be jumper, in the fire that occurred in a building where a similar blaze broke out seven years ago, authorities said.

Residents described a frightening flight to safety, as they tried to move down crowded stairwells that forced some to turn back and go to the roof. Firefighters were coming up the stairs as people with children, pets and the some elderly tenants moved slowly downward.

A panicked Cecilee Mathieson tried to push past in her rush from her penthouse. When she reached the floor on fire, she could see the

SEE **FIRE** PAGE 11

Local activist to be honored Feb. 8

BRENNON DIXSON
SMDP Staff Writer

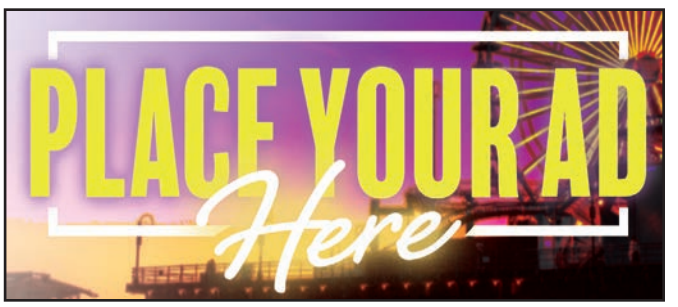
Tommye Joanne Bonner Leavitt recently died after a month in the ICU due to complications from surgery for colon cancer, according to family and friends, who invited the community to honor the longtime community activist at an informal memorial picnic occurring in early February.

The picnic, which will occur

SEE **ACTIVIST** PAGE 7

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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, January 30

Current Events Discussion Group

Join organizers for a lively discussion of the latest news with your friends and neighbors. 1 - 2:30 p.m. Fairview Branch Library

English as a Second Language (ESL) Class, Multi Level HIGH

Santa Monica Public Library hosts an ongoing series of English as a Second Language (ESL) classes taught by Adult Education Center instructors. Classes are free and students must be 18 years or older to attend. Community parents and SMMUSD parents have priority enrollment. Learn more about California adult education at caladulted.org. Enrollment is through the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Adult Education Center, located at 2510 Lincoln Blvd., Room 203, Santa Monica, CA, 90405. Contact Olga Saucedo at (310) 664-6222, ext.76203 or osaucedo@smmusd.org to enroll. 11:45 a.m. - 2:45 p.m. Main Library.

L.E.A.R.N.: Learn, Excel, Achieve and Read Now

One-on-one access to volunteers available to help students with homework assignments and reading comprehension. Bilingual volunteers available. Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 - 6 p.m. Pico Branch Library

Friday, January 31

Fireside at the Miles - John Tegmeyer Quintet

With hints of everything from classical music to rock n roll, the John Tegmeyer Quintet performs with virtuosic flare, making for an unforgettable musical storytelling experience. Tickets available online at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/john-tegmeyer-quintet. 8 - 10 p.m.

Music and Movement at the Library

A musical story time that will have little ones singing and dancing as they learn important early literacy concepts. For ages 18 months to five years old. Fairview Branch Library, 3:30 - 4 p.m.

Guest House open

Visit anytime between 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. for a self-guided or docent tour. No reservations needed. Schedule subject to change, call Guest Services to confirm dates and hours. Annenberg Community Beach House

Saturday, February 1

Fireside at the Miles - On Ensemble

Established in 2002 On Ensemble is one of the most respected ensembles in the taiko world. Led by childhood friends Shoji Kameda and Masato (Maz) Baba, On Ensemble is recognized for infusing the powerful rhythms of taiko with a wide range of musical influences from jazz and rock to central Asian overtone singing. Their fearless musical exploration has expanded the artistic range of the taiko and has taken these ancient instruments into new realms. Tickets for sale online at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/on-ensemble-tickets-8. 8 - 10 p.m.

Documentary: 13th (2016)

In this powerful documentary, filmmaker Ava DuVernay traces the explosive growth of mass incarceration and the prison industrial complex back to the passage of the 13th Amendment, which outlawed slavery in the United States for everyone except prisoners. A discussion of the film and its themes follows the screening. (Film runtime: 100 min.) Fairview Branch Library, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Ukulele Saturdays! for Teens & Adults

Heidi Swedberg teaches you how to play the "happiest instrument in the world"! Each session begins with a mini lesson, followed by a strum-along with your favorite songs. Bring your own ukulele or use one of ours. Space and instruments are limited and on a first-arrival basis. For adults and teens. Main Library, 12:15 - 1:45 p.m.

Tech Teen Volunteer Training

Become eligible to volunteer at library tech events by attending this mandatory training. High school students only. Lunch and snacks will be provided. Send questions to ideashappen@smgov.net. Main Library, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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

There were 61 Arrests the week of January 15th to 21st.

Date	Sex	Age	Charged With
1/15/20	M	23	Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol
1/15/20	M	43	Park Closure
1/15/20	M	36	Sexual Battery
1/15/20	M	46	Unknown
1/15/20	M	26	Sexual Battery
1/15/20	M	46	Elder Abuse
1/15/20	M	27	Defrauding an Innkeeper
1/15/20	M	47	Resisting Arrest
1/15/20	M	32	Warrant
1/15/20	M	27	Possession of Drugs for Sale
1/15/20	M	62	Forgery and Counterfeiting
1/15/20	M	23	Possession of Methamphetamines
1/15/20	M	23	Public Urination or Defecation
1/16/20	M	31	Probation Violation
1/16/20	M	25	Larceny
1/16/20	M	31	Probation Violation
1/16/20	M	45	Fugitive
1/16/20	M	41	Contempt of Court
1/16/20	M	49	Shoplifting
1/16/20	M	47	Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
1/16/20	M	49	Receiving Stolen Property
1/16/20	M	50	Drunk in Public
1/17/20	M	27	DUI > 0.08% BAC
1/17/20	F	44	Warrant
1/17/20	M	49	Assault & Battery
1/17/20	M	63	Shoplifting
1/17/20	M	30	Possession of Drug Paraphernalia
1/17/20	M	29	Trespassing
1/17/20	F	23	Possession of Methamphetamines
1/17/20	F	47	False Impersonation
1/17/20	F	18	Driving Under the Combined Influence Of Alcohol And Drugs
1/18/20	M	22	Loitering in Parking Structure
1/18/20	M	41	Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol
1/18/20	M	69	Loitering in Parking Structure
1/18/20	M	22	Appropriation of Lost Property
1/18/20	M	37	Appropriation of Lost Property
1/18/20	M	60	Possession of Methamphetamines
1/18/20	M	26	Obstructing a Sidewalk
1/18/20	M	57	Domestic Battery
1/19/20	M	44	Bicycling Under the Influence
1/19/20	M	55	Assault with a Deadly Weapon
1/19/20	M	31	Possession of Explosive Device with Intent to Injure
1/19/20	M	52	Shoplifting
1/20/20	M	50	Defrauding an Innkeeper
1/20/20	M	40	Murder
1/20/20	F	25	Under the Influence of a Controlled Substance
1/20/20	M	23	Driving Under the Combined Influence Of Alcohol And Drugs
1/20/20	M	59	Warrant
1/20/20	F	28	Warrant
1/20/20	F	66	Vandalism
1/20/20	M	30	Drunk in Public
1/20/20	F	25	Battery on a Peace Officer
1/20/20	M	46	Probation Violation
1/20/20	M	24	Drunk in Public
1/21/20	M	27	Drunk in Public
1/21/20	M	21	Drunk in Public
1/21/20	M	60	Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol
1/21/20	M	57	Larceny
1/21/20	M	44	Possession of Methamphetamines
1/21/20	M	45	Possession of Methamphetamines
1/21/20	F	29	Possession of Drug Paraphernalia

Americans from China Corona virus zone evaluated at military base

AMY TAXIN AND MARK THIESSEN
Associated Press

The 195 Americans evacuated from the Chinese city at the center of the new virus outbreak are undergoing three days of testing and monitoring at a California military base to ensure they do not show signs of the illness, officials said Wednesday.

The people flown out of China on a plane chartered by the U.S. government have not been quarantined, Dr. Chris Braden of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention told reporters after the plane landed at March Air Reserve Base.

Authorities said those evacuated, including U.S. consular employees based in the Chinese city of Wuhan and families with children, are technically not required to stay on the base. But all 195 passengers have agreed to stay for up to three days while they are evaluated for the illness that's infected thousands and killed more than 100, the CDC's Dr. Nancy Messonnier said.

Officials initially said there were 201 passengers, but the CDC said later that number included the six members of the plane's crew.

If any passengers decide they want to leave the base 60 miles (96 kilometers) east of Los Angeles before full medical evaluations are completed, U.S. officials would discuss their request, said Dr. Nancy Knight of the CDC.

"They are sitting in the middle of a military base," Knight said. "Any discussion around departure would be just that: it would be a discussion."

Braden described people as being "very happy to be here," where they're getting housing, medical attention and testing for the virus.

"They wanted to know their status," he said.

Officials could quarantine any of those evacuated on a case-by-case basis if officials determine they need to do so, Braden said.

It can take up to 14 days for someone who is infected to develop symptoms, health officials believe.

If passengers from the chartered flight show no signs of the virus and leave the base, they will continue to be monitored by public health officials at their destinations for the remainder of a period lasting 14 days, he said.

Symptoms of the virus include fever, cough and in more severe cases, shortness of breath or pneumonia.

None of the passengers showed signs of having the virus when they were screened before leaving Wuhan, the epicenter of the virus, or when they were screened again during a refueling stop in Anchorage, Alaska.

The jet landed at the California base shortly after 8 a.m. A ground crew dressed in white approached the aircraft, and three charter-style buses parked near the plane. About 40 minutes after landing, people could be seen walking from the plane to the first bus, which then departed. Another bus pulled up next to the plane's baggage compartment.

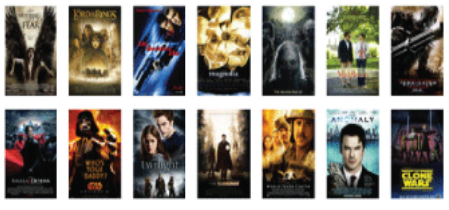
All the passengers already underwent two health screenings in China and the CDC screened them twice more in Anchorage. One passenger received medical attention for a minor injury that happened before boarding the airplane in China, Dr. Anne Zink, Alaska's chief medical officer, told reporters after the plane left.

Some of those expected on the flight from Wuhan were not allowed to board because they did not have documents they needed to enter the U.S., Braden said. One person with a fever also was denied boarding, he said.

Wuhan is the epicenter of a new virus, which has largely sickened people in China and where all the deaths have been. China has cut off access to Wuhan and 16 other cities in Hubei province to prevent people from spreading the virus farther.

In addition to the United States, countries including France, Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand have planned evacuations of their citizens from Wuhan.

Thiessen reported from Anchorage, Alaska.

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Accusers: Weinstein excused lewd acts as a showbiz norm

TOM HAYS AND MICHAEL R. SISAK
Associated Press

Harvey Weinstein callously preceded an alleged rape with reassurances that he'd had a vasectomy, one accuser testified Wednesday.

Another accuser on the witness stand at Weinstein's New York City trial said the one-time Hollywood titan tried trading movie roles for sex, claiming the lewd offer was the kind of thing that happened all the time in the film business.

Both were aspiring actresses in their early 20s when they met Weinstein more than 15 years ago, and both say he preyed on their vulnerabilities and dreams of stardom.

Choking back tears, Tarale Wulff told jurors there was no stopping the much larger Weinstein as he grabbed her by the arm, pushed her onto a bed and raped her at his apartment in 2005, during what was supposed to be an audition.

Wulff, now 43 and a model, said she froze, thinking that would make it "easier to get through, to get past it."

Dawn Dunning testified that the year before, Weinstein put his hand up her skirt and fondled her genitals during a meeting in his hotel suite about her fledgling acting career.

At another meeting, Dunning said, he offered to put her in three movies, but only if she had sex with him and his assistant.

"When he said that, I kind of laughed, I thought he was kidding, and he had kind of a crass sense of humor," Dunning testified. "But when I started laughing, he got really angry and started screaming at me. He said, 'you'll never make it in this business, this is how this industry works.'"

Dunning, now 40, said Weinstein went on to namedrop actresses Salma Hayek and Charlize Theron, implying they had done similar things to achieve success — something both women have strongly denied.

Hayek has said she had to fight off Weinstein's constant harassment and bullying. Theron was upset when some accusers said he implied they had slept together.

Wulff and Dunning's experiences with Weinstein are not part of the underlying criminal charges against him, but their testimony could be a factor in whether he goes to prison at the end of his landmark #MeToo-era trial.

Prosecutors called them as witnesses under a state law that allows testimony about so-called "prior bad acts," enabling them to explore things like motive, opportunity, intent and a common scheme or plan.

Weinstein, 67, is charged with forcibly performing oral sex on Mimi Haleyi, at the time a "Project Runway" production assistant, in 2006 and raping another aspiring actress in 2013. That woman could testify later this week.

Weinstein has insisted any sexual encounters were consensual.

His lawyers raised doubts about Wulff's recollection after she disclosed that she had worked with a therapist for a year to fill gaps in her memory. Speaking to reporters later, Wulff's lawyer called that line of questioning a "red herring" and said her memory of being raped has never altered.

Weinstein's lawyers also questioned why Dunning waited until last summer to tell prosecutors that Weinstein had fondled her after she had gone public with the jobs-for-sex allegation, first in an article in The New York Times in October 2017.

Weinstein, who was subdued in his interactions with reporters during the trial's first week, seemed looser as he left the courthouse, proclaiming "It went great today. The lawyers killed it." He likened a portion of Dunning's testimony to bull excrement.

The jury of seven men and five women has already heard from Haleyi, who tearfully testified Monday that she tried to fight off Weinstein before he sexually assaulted her, and actress Annabella Sciorra, who testified last week that he overpowered and raped her after barging into her apartment in the mid-1990s.

The Associated Press does not typically identify people who say they have been victims of sexual assault, unless they agree to be named or gone public with their stories, as Haleyi, Wulff, Dunning and Sciorra have done.

Wulff testified that on an occasion before the alleged rape, Weinstein grabbed her arm as she served cocktails at one of his usual Manhattan haunts, led her toward a darkened terrace and started masturbating.

Wulff, who'd met Weinstein at the members-only club, said she froze and scooted around him to go back to the bar.

Dunning told jurors she met Weinstein while waiting tables at a different Manhattan night spot, one where bottle service was a trendy indulgence for the rich and famous.

Weinstein immediately appeared to take an interest in her fledgling acting career, she said, and invited her to a lunch meeting where, noting his infamous temper, she said he was "on the phone a lot yelling at people."

Several meetings followed, Dunning said, including one at a boutique hotel in Manhattan's SoHo neighborhood where Weinstein was using a suite as a temporary office. At one point, she testified, Weinstein led her into a bedroom and put his hand up her skirt.

"I stood up. I was in shock," Dunning said, fighting back tears as she described the alleged incident when she was 24. "He just started talking really fast. He said, 'Don't make a big deal about this. It will never happen again.'"

Dunning said she "just kind of gave him the benefit of the doubt" when Weinstein said it wouldn't happen again. She said she didn't scream or yell and didn't tell anyone because she was embarrassed and didn't want to be a victim.

Dunning said that she later agreed to meet Weinstein at a cigar bar, but that an assistant took her to a suite where the producer was standing in a bathrobe.

There, she said Weinstein showed her a contract for three movie roles she would get on the condition she had "a threesome with his assistant."

Dunning said she didn't know what Weinstein would do after she laughed off the offer, so she ran for the door and down the hall to the elevator.

"He was a big guy. He was towering over me," she testified. "I was really scared."

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters to the Editor can be submitted to letters@smdp.com. Receipt of a letter does not guarantee publication and all content is published at the discretion of the paper. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content. All submissions must include the author's name, address and phone number for the purposes of verification.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SMC

February at SMC's Drescher Planetarium Features NASA's Project Artemis and a Space Exploration Preview

The Santa Monica College John Drescher Planetarium will hold three feature shows – as well as the popular Night Sky Show – on Friday evenings in February. The shows will look at NASA's Project Artemis to return to the Moon, and present updates on a variety of developments in space exploration.

The feature shows are at 8 p.m. and are preceded by "The Night Sky Show" at 7 p.m. with the latest news in astronomy and space exploration, a family-friendly "tour" of the constellations, and the chance to ask astronomy-related questions.

The February shows are:

• "Project Artemis: NASA's Return to the Moon" on February 7 – The Trump administration announced a refocus of NASA crewed spaceflight on a return to lunar surface operations, with the goal of landing on the Moon in 2024 using the third flight of the SLS/Orion system, now being called Artemis 3. The show will cover the mission architecture and rationale, and the work that must be done to accomplish everything in a short time frame.

• "2020: Space Exploration Preview" on February 21 and 28 – An overview of the coming year's multiple missions setting out for Mars, the samples taken from asteroids, a new solar probe launch, the first lunar sample return mission since the 1970s, and the first crewed flights of two American commercial crew taxis for the International Space Station.

The John Drescher Planetarium, which features a Digistar projection system, is located near the elevators on the second floor of Drescher Hall on the main SMC campus (1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica). Tickets are available at the door and cost $11 ($9 seniors and children) for the evening's scheduled "double bill," or $6 ($5 seniors age 60+ and children age 12 and under) for a single show or telescope-viewing session.

Please call 310-434-3005 or see smc.edu/eventsinfo or smc.edu/planetarium for information. All shows subject to change or cancellation without notice.

Santa Monica College is a California Community College accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

SUBMITTED BY GRACE SMITH, SMC PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Downtown

Canadian Jazz Trio at the Library

On Wednesday February 26, 2020, at 7:30 p.m., The Soundwaves new music series at the Santa Monica Public Library welcome the trio of also saxophonist Yves Charuest, bassist Lisle Ellis, and drummer Peter Valsamis to the Main Library Martin Luther King Jr. Auditorium, at 601 Santa Monica Blvd, for a set of free jazz.

A working band putting the finishing touches on the debut album, this trio began playing together in the late 1980s in Montreal. Over the years, they have developed a distinct and personal collective musical language. Drawing inspiration from jazz and avant-garde music, the trio's measured pace brings space and clarity to their ideas and interaction, shifting between traditional jazz and extended techniques.

They have individually performed with artists including Steve Lacy, Cecil Taylor, Dave Douglas, Joe McPhee, Marco Eneidi, and members of the Sun Ra Arkestra. Their repertoire includes creative reimaginings of compositions by masters including Thelonious Monk and Ornette Coleman, as well as free improvisation.

Soundwaves is a concert series featuring composers and performers who appear on the DRAM (Database of Recorded American Music) streaming service. The Santa Monica Public Library is the first public library to offer this service to its cardholders. Listings of past and upcoming Soundwaves shows as well as sound and video recordings are at SoundwavesNewMusic.com

Admission is free and all are welcome. Seating is limited and on a first-arrival basis. The Santa Monica Public Library is wheelchair accessible. For other disabled services, call Library Administration at (310) 458-8606 at least one week prior to event. For more information, visit smpl.org or contact the Santa Monica Public Library at (310) 458-8600.

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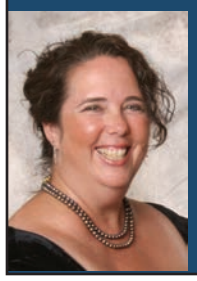
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Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews Send comments to editor@smdp.com

From Iceland to Hades

NICOLE RECOMMENDS:

TONIGHT! — REGGIE WATTS & KAREN (Watts cannot be pigeonholed, and true to form, Karen is not someone in his band, that is the name of his band. Bandleader and announcer for The Late Late Show with James Corden, winner of the Andy Kaufman Comedy Award, and consummate solo performer with innumerable rave reviews, his shows are a unique and completely improvised blend of vocals, beatboxing, looping pedals, comedy, confusion and beyond) Thurs 9 p.m., Teragram Ballroom, DTLA, $20-$25.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

PHAST PHREDDIE & THEE PRECISIONS - REUNION!!! (seminal '70s LA band disbanded in '85, crawls now from the grave, marking repackaging of their long hard-to-get EP and CD combined, founder Fred Patterson, a music/scene polymath, played punk bills with his not-punk horn-driven jump blues-jazz-R&B sound that foreshadowed massive swing dance craze a decade later, just flew in from NYC, original bass player Don Snowden, from Spain! he a 20-year music journalist for the LA Times, co-wrote a bio on Willie Dixon, just released a translation of a bio on tango great Carlos Gardel, they've been rehearsing like crazy, this should be not only landmark but a really good show) Sat 8 p.m., Joe's American Bar & Grill, Burbank, $15-$20.

RECOMMENDED:

ENGLISH BEAT (the Beat had two great lead singers who continued on to front General Public, sadly toaster Ranking Roger passed nearly one year ago but he had long split with Dave Wakeling and they formed rival Beat bands at times, other times reunited, but so many of the familiar songs featured Wakeling's voice that when you see him and any other three or four top notch musicians backing brilliantly, it sounds spot on like the EB or GP, because of That Voice, and I've never seen a show of his, and I've seen many, where the crowd wasn't hopping and grinning nonstop and repeating oh yeah! THAT song, I LOVE that song!) Fri 9 p.m., The Rose, Pasadena, $28-$38

MARCUS KING BAND (here's another terrific band become a personal favorite that I discovered through Cal State Northridge radio station 88.5, there's funky electric keyboards and a horn section and leader King plays a mean axe and sings gravel-throat like a vet blues rocker three times his age of 20 so don't try to buy him a drink, you could get the bar in trouble — ha!) Fri 8 p.m., Fonda Theatre, Hwd, $25.

REFLECTIONS IN A D'BACK'S EYE (is a play about the 2011 mass shooting in Tucson that wounded then-Congresswoman Gabby Giffords, but centers around the 9-year-old girl who was killed who loved to play baseball, the killer played Coltrane albums and this play continues themes in Deanne Stillman's work which explore America's shadowlands and ask, how can we return to "a love supreme," she's also written LA Times bestsellers and teaches at UC Riverside) Fri, Sat 8:30 p.m., Highways Performance Space, SM, $15-$20.



Courtesy photo

MUSIC: Phast Phreddie is among your best bets this weekend.

BENNIE MAUPIN ENSEMBLE (well hallelujah, multi-woodwindist sax etc Headhunters, Bitches Brew Bennie's back in town, last time I saw him at the JB it had been many years and afterwards I was regretting those many years, you should see him every chance you get, he is remarkable, a venerable maestro, with a quintet this night that includes one of my favorite bass players, Derek Oles) Sat 8 p.m., Jazz Bakery, SM, $30-$35.

LA OPERA - EURYDICE (classical music and opera both recognize the need to groom the next generation and we are fortunate in La to have several credible organizations doing just that, with high-quality modern productions, now LA Opera goes after the old Eurydice tale, young bride dies of snakebite on her wedding night, descends to underworld, meets up with Pop but gets a chance to rejoin Land of the Living and husband Orpheus but this time it's told from the woman's POV, the NY Times said, "If contemporary opera has a rising wunderkind, then Aucoin has to be it," partnering with playwright Sarah Ruhl, a world premier) Sat 7:30 p.m., Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, DTLA, $49-$284.

JACARANDA - PAX AMERICANA I & II (they're doing it again, offering two concerts in one day/evening with a dinner break in between, so you can really get your fill of Jacaranda's classical music adventures designed to awaken curiosity and discovery, composers Danny Elfman, Charles Ives, Phillip Glass with words by Allen Ginsberg, stellar players, a conductor even, an alternative Super Bowl Sunday with no commercials, no concussions, no corporations) Sun 4:30 p.m., 7 p.m., First Presbytrerian Church of SM, $20-$45, both concerts $70.

WYNONNA & CACTUS (yeah, that Wynonna! and Cactus is her drummer, producer, and oh yeah, her husband, he looks tough, is he prickly?) Tues 8 p.m., McCabe's, SM, $75.

WESTERNER, MANUEL THE BAND (both these bands are excellent, Westerner

SEE **NOTEWORTHY** PAGE 10

jacaranda music **REMEMBER THE FUTURE**



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Letter To The Editor

Deborah Dinsmore | Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Train Safety

EDITOR:

The lack of safety consideration in the ill-thought out change of the original planned train route from Olympic Blvd. to Colorado continues to haunt our city in the death of this man on Sunday who apparently walked in front of a train.

My husband and I got into a serious situation with an oncoming westbound train at this same intersection six weeks ago. The NW corner of the intersection was blocked off (again!) for construction. There was NO pedestrian access, and no way to cross south except from the NE corner. We stepped off the corner the instant we could 'walk' with the light.

About 1/3 of the way across the street the light turned red, and an approaching train began honking at us. We can safely cross Colorado within the normal time allotted by the signal, but as elderly and partially disabled walking slowly with a cane we cannot cross in seven seconds or change course easily! I tried to turn to wave the train to slow, and it kept honking.

Now, in a public meeting held years before during construction I asked the person officially designated to speak for the Metro about this very situation. He said "the trains will stop for all the lights." Clearly, this is not true, as the traffic light changed within seconds of turning green, and I've seen this many times.

One thing the City can do to improve safety in the unfortunate choice of routes is to enforce the Metro trains stopping at red lights so pedestrians who are making legal crossings are not endangered again.

Deborah Dinsmore, Santa Monica

ACTIVIST

FROM PAGE 1

Saturday, Feb. 8, from 1-3 p.m. at Virginia Avenue Park, seeks to allow local residents a chance to reflect on the life and many accomplishments of Bonner Leavitt in a place that was very meaningful to her, according to the event's website. Attendees are invited to bring non-food items, such as books for children and young adults, so they can be donated to Community Corporation of Santa Monica's new Joanne's Library.

Natalya Zernitskaya, president of the League of Women Voters Santa Monica, said Wednesday the group chose to host the memorial because it wanted to have an additional opportunity to honor Bonner Leavitt's memory in a place that she helped create and meant a lot to her — Virginia Avenue Park.

"It's incredibly painful to lose an activist and leader like Joanne," Zernitskaya added, mentioning how Bonner Leavitt would've celebrated her 80th birthday next Sunday. "She was a mentor to many of us (and) was an ordinary woman who had an extraordinary impact on her community. We will honor her memory by taking up her fight and continuing her work."

THE LIFE OF JOANNE

Born to Claude and Hazel Bonner on a family farm near Marshfield, MO, on Feb. 9, 1940, "Tommy Jo" became "Joanne" shortly after she began elementary school in rural Missouri. According to family members, Bonner Leavitt would complete her studies and graduate from Marshfield High School in 1958 and attend college at Missouri University, where she studied journalism.

After living in Fort Worth, Texas for a period in the early 1960s, Bonner Leavitt followed Route 66 out to California and met her husband, Michael Leavitt, shortly after his return from Vietnam. The pair married in 1970 and Joanne soon began working as a travel agent for the early part of the decade.

Bonner Leavitt traveled frequently to Southeast Asia and her clientele included celebrity figures like Frank Sinatra, but her most notable work was done right here in the community, according to her son Thomas, who recently described how Bonner Leavitt became a full-time community organizer and activist after enrolling her children at Edison Elementary School in 1978 and moving to the Pico Neighborhood.

For the next 41 years, Bonner Leavitt served on the Santa Monica-Malibu PTA Council, the Virginia Avenue Park Advisory board and the City of Santa Monica's Child Care and Early Education Task Force. Her passion for affordable housing and early childhood education also prompted her to become a board member of Community Corporation of Santa Monica — a non-profit affordable housing builder.

But, Thomas said, "Of all of Joanne's many, many efforts, her work on behalf of the children of Edison Elementary was closest to her heart."

"Once, when she walked onto the campus at John Adams Middle School, a former Edison student ran up and said, 'Oh, Mrs. Leavitt, you're here! I feel safe now," Thomas said, adding, "No award or formal recognition ever made her more proud, and that is her true, living legacy. Thousands upon thousands of safer, healthier, happier (and) more accomplished children in Santa Monica and beyond busily making the world a better place."

Family members highlighted that Bonner Levitt also assisted in the process that helped Edison become a nationally recognized model for bilingual immersion education and continued to help preserve that status by assisting in the school's conversion to a charter after the passage of Prop 187.

For more information on the upcoming memorial picnic, visit bit.ly/MemPicnic.

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TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (JANUARY 30)

If there's one thing to keep on repeat this solar return, it's an investigation of your whims. The mixture of curiosity, impulse and action will lead you correctly time and again. Ongoing battles come to a happy close in March. Your new team will assemble in April. June will bring the exchange of promises. Scorpio and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 13, 30, 2 and 18.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You really don't have to deal with negativity. There's no point. You can do more to neutralize the situation by flowing love through your heart than you can by trying to hash out situations.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Usually, your to-do list is a mighty fine thing to keep track of, just not today, as you might get discouraged by the mountain that it is. Anyway, you'll handle a lot of things quicker than you could write them down.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). One way to look at it is that they either want what you're dishing or they don't. If they don't, you gain little by having them as a customer. Extend the principle to all styles of relationships.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). That spinning, centrifugal ride at the fair might be fun at first, but if you stay on it too long, you'll get sick. It's the same with circular thought processes. Recognize when you're in one and hop off before things get toxic.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Some things seem like good ideas in the dark and terrible ideas in the light of day. This is why artists try to look at things in lots of different lighting. You're the artist of your life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Think of last year's "Game of Thrones" finale. The characters who made it through all the war and drama to weren't the mightiest, though many were clever and wise. There is little more valuable to you than clear thought.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You are afraid that if you put more effort into what you're great at, you'll stand out in a way that will be hard to manage. This is what's stopping you from going forward. Take heart. The attention won't come all at once.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). One person, place or thing is not inherently more important than another person, place or thing. People make it so. The attention of people is a gift of significance. Use this.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Your feelings have a way of depleting your energy or giving you more energy to work with. You'll manage them very well today, steering in the direction of healthy flow.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). There are plenty of things you can lose in life, including relationships, jobs and possessions. This is why the things that cannot be taken from you are so wonderfully yours. Celebrate.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). For you, there is great excitement and pride in accomplishing something difficult. You'll choose your pursuits accordingly. If it's not hard enough, then you'll move right along.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There's so much talk of mindfulness, and, generally, awareness seems to be the way of evolution. And yet, your mind is already an expert at things you don't need to worry about. Trust this.

Hurt, Hope and Mars

Hurt doesn't last. Even if the condition that caused a pain response turns out to be permanent, pain fades, new things come in, attention shifts. This is the message of hope brought to you courtesy of a sweet lunar trine between the impulsive Aries moon and mars in the transient sign of Sagittarius.

ASTROLOGICAL QUESTIONS

The object is curved like a boomerang and made from the tusk of a hippopotamus. Images are engraved on it, the same ones appearing time and again – a strange dwarf, a pregnant hippo carrying a knife, lions, beetles, serpents and demons for instance. This is the apotropaic wand of Egyptian ritual commonly used between 1975 B.C. to 1640 B.C. in a period of time called the "Middle Kingdom."

For most of human history, childbirth has been a risky affair, often with a 50/50 chance of death for mother, child or both. Modern science has greatly reduced the risk with amazing technologies and simple acts such as washing hands before touching a patient, a practice that has been widely practiced by doctors for less than 200 years. Before that, it was magic, prayers and rituals that people turned to in hopes of a good outcome for new life. The apotropaic wands of the Middle Kingdom were used to create a circle of protection around mother and child to ward off death and invoke the spirits of vitality. Of course, there are occasions in which one would hope not to be alive, for instance in the case of being entombed. Interestingly, archaeologists have found Egyptians buried with the wand broken in half, as if to reverse its mission for the sleeping dead.

CELEBRITY PROFILES

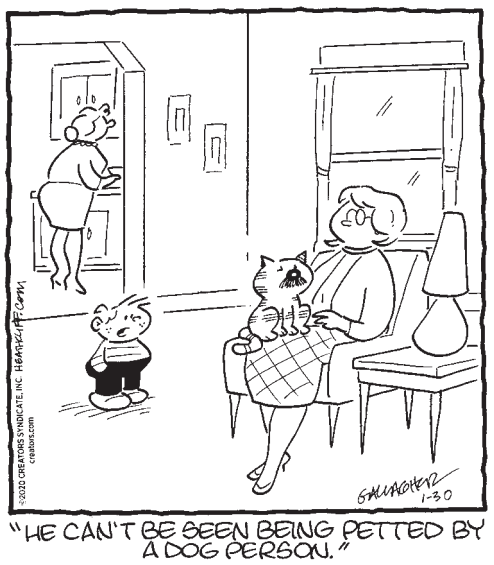
Christian Bale's ability to transform his body and disappear into a character has made for an impressively eclectic mix of film roles. True to his astrological nature (Bale's natal sun, Mercury and Jupiter are all in philanthropic Aquarius) the Academy Award-winning actor devotes his time and money to Green Peace and the World Wide Fund for Nature. **Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.**

WORD UP!

Definiendum
Noun
Something that is or is to be defined, especially the term at the head of a dictionary entry.

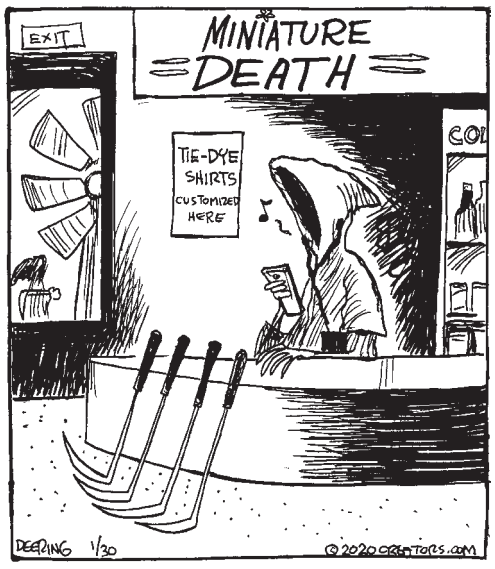
Heathcliff

By PETER GALLAGHER



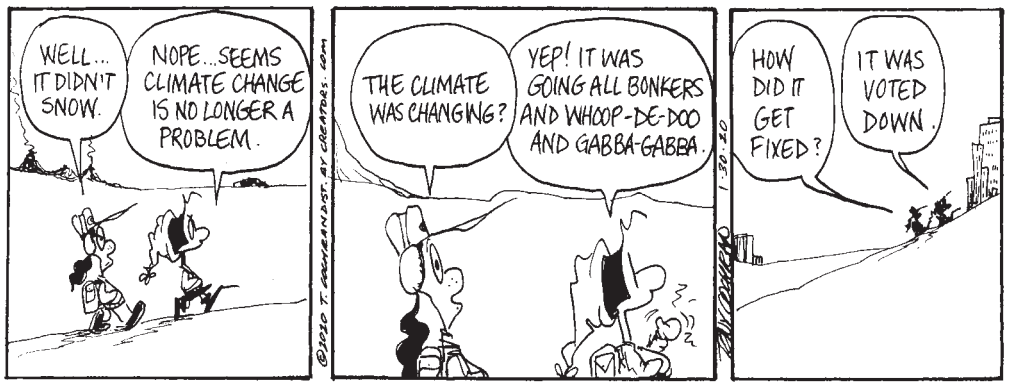
Strange Brew

By JOHN DEERING



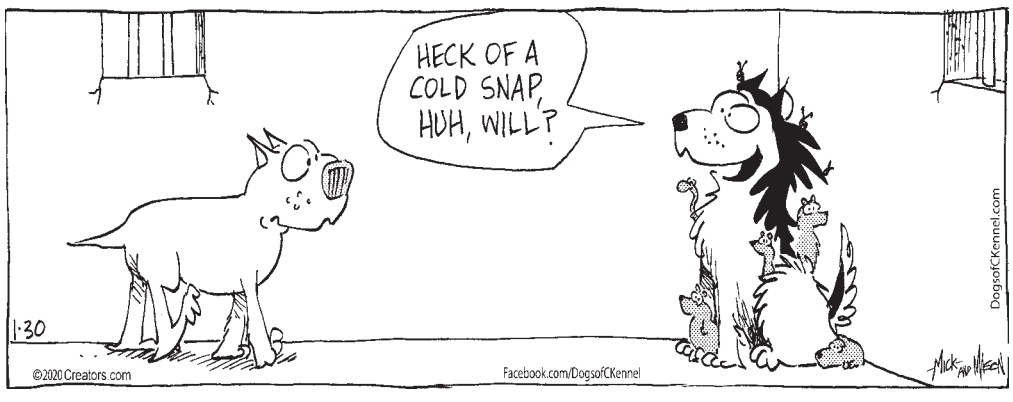
Agnes

By TONY COCHRAN



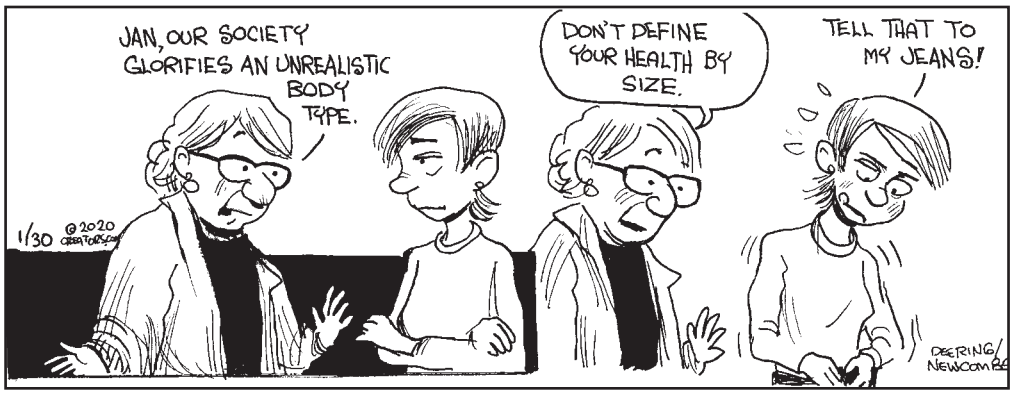
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By MICK & MASON MASTROIANNI & JOHNNY HART



Zack Hill

By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE



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POWERball
Draw Date:01/25
2 9 17 36 67
Power#:18
Jackpot: 394 M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 01/28
17 36 47 51 62
Mega#: 21
Jackpot: 155 M

SuperLotto PLUS
Draw Date: 01/25
3 4 10 26 30
Mega#: 6
Jackpot: 9 M

Fantasy5
Draw Date: 01/28
7 15 30 33 39

Daily 3
Draw Date: 01/28
Evening: 0 4 1

Draw Date: 01/28
Midday: 6 2 1

Daily Derby
Draw Date: 01/28
1st: 02 - LUCKY STAR
2nd:06 - WHIRL WIN
3rd: 01 - GOLD RUSH
RACE TIME: 1:45.94

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SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: 59.7°

THURSDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ waist to stomach high
Easing NW swell-mix.

FRIDAY - **FAIR** - SURF: 2-3ft+ waist to stomach high occ. 4 ft
New NW swell builds in and peaks late. Long-period SSW/S swell builds for summer magnets.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU

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

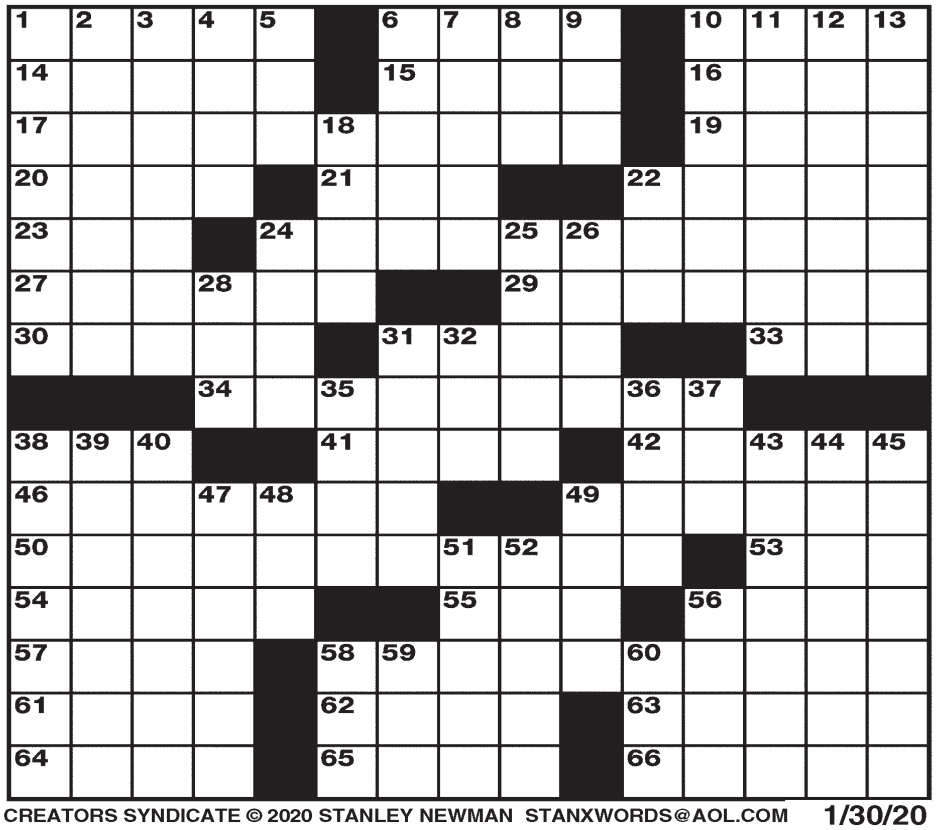
	8		4		6		5	
		7				6		8
3		1		5	8		4	
		4				8		3
	7		2	6	3		9	
6		3				2		
	1		3	9		4		5
8		9				7		
	3		6		4		2	

Newsday Crossword

TAKE YOUR MEDICINE by Gary M. Larson
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Hip-hop headgear
6 Peppy
10 "Big" things requested
14 Harden (to)
15 Where our only royal palace is
16 Safe and __ (sensible)
17 Post office convenience
19 Jolly Roger crewman
20 Measures of work
21 Largest MA airport
22 Elevator for singers
23 *Simpsons* bartender
24 What may be kept in a cornerstone
27 Guys' handbags
29 White-furred weasels
30 Pack animals
31 Taqueria dip
33 Whse. contents
34 Low blow
38 Sch. near Providence
41 Gallic gal pal
42 Jason of *Orange Is the New Black*
46 Comments with bite
49 La Scala's *città*
50 Holder of Commandments
53 Metaphor for chaos
54 Part of SATB
55 French article
56 Organizational offshoot
57 Touch up, as text
58 Problem-filled period
61 Absence of inconvenience
62 Part of AD
63 __ crow flies
64 Muscles near abs
65 Some household members
66 __ *Eyes Were Watching God* (Hurston novel)

DOWN
1 Thorny situation
2 Difficult to bear
3 New Jersey state school
4 Aesthetic pursuits
5 "That's a revelation!"
6 Genesis city on the Jordan
7 Analyze minutely
8 Frat letter
9 "You're darn tootin', pardner"
10 Home of St. Francis
11 Apple rival in phones
12 Prepared to pray
13 Sybill, in Rowling's books
18 Box score stats
22 Tach figure
24 Radio host/ New Age composer
25 Quit it
26 Curved structure
28 Brief time, briefly
31 Frat letter
32 Venerable news service
35 __ St. Louis, IL
36 Newspaper notice
37 Up to, in ads
38 Company cofounded by JP Morgan
39 Like a second-tier bond
40 Writer fond of twists
43 Name for some newspapers
44 Italian dumplings
45 Balm
47 Large bills
48 Prefix like atmo-
49 Work well together
51 Pulling no punches
52 They're the world's best-selling tires
56 Window frame
58 Criticize
59 Small bill
60 Prepackaged butter portion



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Chiefs, Niners healthy as final prep for Super Bowl begins

DAVE SKRETTA
AP Sports Writer

Running back Tevin Coleman returned to practice Wednesday as the San Francisco 49ers began final preparations for the Super Bowl, while the Kansas City Chiefs had everyone on the field as they put the finishing touches on their game plan.

Coleman, who dislocated his shoulder in the NFC championship game, took handoffs during team drills during the 1-hour, 40-min workout at the University of Miami's practice facility. He looked to be in good spirits, too, slapping hands with his teammates and leaping after one play in particular.

"We'll see as the week goes how much the pain tolerance is for his shoulder," said 49ers coach Kyle Shanahan, who also has Matt Breida and breakout star Raheem Mostert at his disposal in the backfield.

Coleman was listed as limited on the injury list along with linebacker Kwon Alexander, who returned from a torn pectoral muscle in the playoffs, and safety Jaquiski Tartt, who has been dealing with sore ribs.

"They all got to go," Shanahan said. ""I'm expecting them to be good by Sunday."

The 49ers practiced in helmets and shells on the freshly resurfaced grass practice fields as they worked on first- and second-down installations, just as they would do during a normal Wednesday workout. The session included 11-on-11 team periods in which the offense and defense worked against scout team looks.

Meanwhile, the only injury concerns heading into the week for the Chiefs were defensive tackle Chris Jones, who was hobbled by a calf strain in the AFC title game, and tight end Travis Kelce, who has been dealing with a sore knee.

Chiefs coach Andy Reid said that Kelce was fine and that Jones was "good to go" after a 90-minute workout Wednesday.

Reid wanted to keep the week before the game relatively light, so the Chiefs installed virtually the entire game plan for Sunday night's game before they departed Kansas City. That allowed them to deal with the circus of opening night Monday and more media responsibilities Tuesday without worrying about putting things in place for the game.

"They loved it," Reid told a pool reporter after the workout, which took place at the Miami Dolphins' practice facility under sunny skies and with temperatures hitting 80 degrees. "They got a little sunshine, so they loved it."

There were several visitors to practice, including the Fox Sports crew that will broadcast the game Sunday night. Joe Buck and color analyst Troy Aikman were joined by sideline reporters Chris Myers and Erin Andrews, while the pregame crew of Curt Menefee, Michael Strahan and Jimmie Johnson watched the workout.

At the end of practice, Reid asked Johnson — recently voted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame — to speak to the team.

"I competed against him and always respected him," Reid said.

MICROMOBILITY

FROM PAGE 1

undergo a significant shift come July. (The total number of scooters allowed in the city, however, will not be reduced.)

Executives from Revel, Wheels and Spin told City Council Tuesday that their companies are eager to participate in the second program, although the council voted to regulate moped sharing company Revel under the city's existing carsharing rules. Representatives from Bird and Lime also said they plan to continue doing business in the city.

Todd Maron, the chief legal officer of mini-bike company Wheels, said the device is safer and more accessible than a traditional scooter because it has a seat, larger wheels, a low center of gravity and comes with a built-in helmet. (The city fined Wheels last April for staging bikes in Santa Monica in violation of the Shared Mobility Pilot Program.)

Representatives from Bird and Lime urged the council not to adopt regulations proposed by city staff that would require companies to equip their devices with "lock-to" technology and swappable batteries.

Tim Harder, Bird's senior manager of government partnerships, said forcing riders to lock devices to bike racks or street poles would make the devices less desirable and lower ridership. Harder said Bird will continue offering discounts to incentivize riders to park in the 107 drop zones the city has installed over the past year and asked officials to add more. (The city reduced Bird's fleet size last year, citing a lack of compliance with the program's regulations, but later reversed the action.)

The council voted against the proposed regulations and instead agreed to give preference in the selection process to any tools that keep devices out of the public right-of-way and sustainable charging and deployment practices. Companies would be asked not to promote ride-hail services on their apps.

The council also decided to give preference to local companies in the selection process (only Bird is headquartered in Santa Monica) and companies that have not pulled out of other markets (Lyft and Jump stopped deploying scooters and bikes in several cities late last year).

Most of the other regulations proposed by city staff were adopted, including a requirement that companies evenly distribute devices throughout the city and expand low-income programs. The council voted to give preference during the selection process to devices with built-in systems to detect and address sidewalk riding and safety features such as larger wheels and hand brakes. (Lime announced Tuesday that it has developed a technology that will notify — but not penalize — scooter users who ride on sidewalks, and other companies are developing similar systems.)

The city will for the first time start fining companies for not complying with the Shared Mobility Pilot Program's regulations. Currently, companies pay annual and daily fees that cover the administrative costs of the program. The fees companies pay to use the public right-of-way have funded 19 miles of green bike lanes.

Under the second program, daily fees will be reduced and the public right-of-way fee will remain in place until the bike lanes are paid for. In June, the council will decide whether to further extend the fee.

The council also asked staff to solicit proposals from nonprofit and private entities to operate Breeze Bike Share, the city-owned bike share system that has lost ridership and revenue to micromobility companies over the past two years.

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NOTEWORTHY

FROM PAGE 6

rocks out, great songs, trip hop space rock, charismatic tall singer Cooper Bombadil jumps and kicks a lot, his three mates all shred, Manuel a six-piece more complex in sounds and tempos, wide-ranging with pedal steel and horn section, another stand-out lead singer-guitar man in Manuel Grajeda, addictive, together? — you'll have a great night!) next Thurs 8:30 p.m., Harvelle's, $10.

PACIFIC OPERA PROJECT Presents PUCCINI'S Gianni Schicchi, RAVEL'S L'Enfant et Les Sortilèges (as always, POP promises wonderful, and often weirdly wonderful, as they link Puccini's only comic opera with Ravel's The Child and the Spells, bringing to life right there on the stage a mule, a princess, frogs, a dead body, singing chairs, a bat, a math teacher, in total 84 costumed characters, some cohabiting both one-act operas, sounds like another POP home run), Sat 7 p.m., Sun 3 p.m., Occidental College, Highland Park, $15-$60.

BJARNASON & ÓLAFSSON (two of the biggest stars of the LA Phil's 2017 Reykjavík Festival, conductor/composer Daníel Bjarnason and pianist Víkingur Ólafsson, co-curate a smörgåsbord of musical bon mots from the icy island confines of Iceland, a musical hotbed from 330,000 people but what do you do when the northern winds keep you indoors for months at a time, you write, music and books, Iceland excels in both and this should be really interesting, other Scandanavian composers as well and dang cheap too, for magnificent Disney Hall) Tues 8 p.m., Disney Hall, DTLA, $20-$64.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: LA OPERA - EURYDICE 2/1-23, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, DTLA; WEIMAR VARIATIONS, WORKERS CHORUS - LA MASTER CHORALE 2/7, 9 outside Disney Hall, WEIMAR REPUBLIC - Weill's Violin Concerto, more inside Disney Hall, DTLA; THE WORLD IS MY HOME - THE LIFE OF PAUL ROBESON 2/9, Santa Monica Playhouse; BLACK RABBIT ROSE: Musik! Fantasie! Revolution! A Weimar Cabaret 2/11, Disney Hall DTLA; MAVIS STAPLES 2/13, The Soraya, CSUN; Weimar Nightfall: THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS 2/13-16, Disney Hall, DTLA; NORTH MISSISSIPPI ALL STARS 2/13, Teragram Ballroom, DTLA; DWEEZIL ZAPPA "Hot Rats Live!" 2/14, The Rose, Pasadena, 2/15, The Canyon Agoura Hills, 2/16, The Canyon Montclair; ENGLISH BEAT 2/15, The Canyon Santa Clarita; LONNIE LISTON SMITH 2/23, Lodge Room, Highland Park; MARIA MULDAUR 2/27, McCabe's, SM.

Charles Andrews has listened to a lot of music of all kinds, including more than 2,000 live shows. He has lived in Santa Monica for 34 years and wouldn't live anywhere else in the world. Really. Send love and/or rebuke to him at therealmrmusic@gmail.com

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DAILY FIRE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 23 CALLS ON JAN. 28

EMS 1600blk Franklin St 12:45 a.m.
EMS 1400blk Montana Ave 5:44 a.m.
EMS 900blk 3rd St 7:13 a.m.
EMS 1200blk Pico Blvd 9:55 a.m.
Automatic Alarm 700blk Montana Ave 10:15 a.m.
EMS 2400blk Wilshire Blvd 10:21 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 16th St 1:07 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 1300blk 4th St 1:10 p.m.
EMS 2600blk Expo Line 1:12 p.m.
EMS 1300blk Santa Monica Blvd 2:05 p.m.
EMS 800blk 17th St 2:27 p.m.
EMS 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:43 p.m.
Wires Down 1500blk Centinela Ave 5:59 p.m.
EMS 1900blk 10th St 7:03 p.m.
EMS Pacific Coast Hwy / California Incline 7:09 p.m.
EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 7:18 p.m.
EMS 2200blk Lincoln Blvd 8:18 p.m.
EMS 1700blk Ocean Ave 8:44 p.m.
EMS 1900blk 20th St 9:40 p.m.
EMS 1200blk 3rd Street Prom 9:41 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 100blk Hollister Ave 10:08 p.m.
Automatic Alarm 100blk Hollister Ave 10:27 p.m.

FIRE

FROM PAGE 1

orange glow under the door.

"I really thought I was going to die today," Mathieson said hours later.

Firefighters had been at an office building fire two blocks away when the blaze broke out on Wilshire Boulevard on the edge of the tony Brentwood section of the city, allowing a rapid response.

Gavyn Straus was swimming in the pool in the courtyard when he saw black smoke waft by. As the smoke grew rapidly, Straus knew it was no kitchen fire and he ran into the building dripping wet to alert staff.

A woman at the front desk was calling police, so he hopped on an elevator with a maintenance man to alert residents on the 8th floor, where they thought the fire was coming from. A man who had been sleeping answered the first door they pounded on and they realized they were above the blaze and ran for the stairs.

They were overwhelmed with smoke when they opened the door to the floor below.

"It was a black wall," Straus said hours later as he stood barefoot on the sidewalk, still wearing his surf trunks with only a towel draped over his shoulders and goggles around his neck. "Someone ran out from that side and they were completely covered in black char and they could barely breathe."

The person said their friend was still inside, but Straus said he couldn't help because he couldn't see anything and it was too hot.

Instead, he ran to the 21st floor, where he lives, to alert friends and other tenants he knew. No alarm had yet been sounded and he was surprised to hear laughter coming through the doors as people ate breakfast unaware of the danger below.

"Get out, there's fire. Get out," he yelled.

Dr. Tom Grogan, an orthopedic surgeon who works in the building next door, was arriving at his office when he saw flames shooting from the building. His office manager called 911 and Grogan, who had seen the building burn in 2013, watched as firefighters struggled to get water to the fire on the 6th floor.

A resident of the building with burns on his arms was hanging from a window as if he was going to jump. Firefighters inflated an airbag below but managed to get a ladder to him to save him.

"It was scary to watch," Grogan said.

More than 330 firefighters responded and it took about 90 minutes to knock down the blaze, Deputy Fire Chief Armando Hogan said. Arson investigators are looking into whether it was deliberately set.

"It is suspicious right now," Fire Chief Ralph Terrazas said.

Two 30-year-old men who were in the apartment where the fire began were in critical condition, and one was described as grave. Fire crews had to crawl on their bellies using bottled oxygen to reach the apartment where the blaze began. Five others were treated at the scene.

The fire left windows blown out and heavy black smoke or burn marks on three sides of building. Residents who fled in whatever they wearing or could quickly get into — some in pajamas and exercise clothes — gathered on nearby street corners and looked up as helicopters hovered and hoisted rooftop evacuees and small white dog to safety.

A fire at the Barrington Plaza high-rise in 2013 injured several people and displaced more than 100. The complex has 240 units that range in rent from $2,350 to $3,695 per month, according to Zillow.

Fire officials said the building was not equipped with sprinklers. It was built in 1961 before regulations required fire-suppression systems in buildings taller than 75 feet.

The building owners did not immediately return messages seeking comment.

Associated Press writers John Antczak, John Rogers and Christopher Weber in Los Angeles contributed to this report.

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DAILY POLICE LOG

SMDP STAFF CHOSE THE FOLLOWING FROM 304 CALLS ON JAN. 28

Drunk Driving Investigation Cloverfield Blvd / Interstate 10 3:13 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 3000blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:23 a.m.
Encampment 1800blk Broadway 5:20 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1400blk Yale St 5:40 a.m.
Elder Abuse 300blk Santa Monica Pl 6:26 a.m.
Burglary Report 10th St / California Ave 7:21 a.m.
Encampment 1200blk 5th St 7:49 a.m.
Vandalism Just Occurred 1000blk Broadway 8:09 a.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 900blk 21st St 8:12 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 2700blk Main St 8:22 a.m.
Fight 1400blk Ocean Ave 8:26 a.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Lincoln Blvd / Santa Monica Blvd 8:52 a.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 1300blk Colorado Ave 8:56 a.m.
Petty Theft Now 700blk Broadway 9:09 a.m.
Identity Theft 1500blk Euclid St 9:12 a.m.
Defrauding Innkeeper Just Occurred 1200blk 4th St 9:25 a.m.
Found Property 600blk Kensington Rd 9:28 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 200blk Ocean Ave 9:43 a.m.
Death Investigation 1200blk Pico Blvd 9:59 a.m.
Burglary Report 1100blk 5th St 10:20 a.m.
Encampment 2000blk The Beach 10:23 a.m.
Petty Theft Report 600blk Pico Blvd 10:44 a.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 10:48 a.m.
Burglary Report 800blk 2nd St 11:05 a.m.
Valet Zone Violation 200blk Wilshire Blvd 11:16 a.m.
Elder Abuse 1500blk Euclid St 11:16 a.m.
Elder Abuse 2000blk 18th St 11:17 a.m.
Encampment 1200blk The Beach 11:22 a.m.
Burglary Report 400blk Wilshire Blvd 11:24 a.m.
Vandalism Report 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 11:32 a.m.
Found Property Unk Parking Structures 11:32 a.m.
Battery Just Occurred 600blk Santa Monica Blvd 11:59 a.m.
Vandalism Just Occurred Stanford St / Nebraska Ave 12:00 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 17th St / Arizona Ave 12:09 p.m.
Exhibition Of Speed Neilson Way / Pier Ave 12:09 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 700blk Broadway 12:10 p.m.
Lost Property 1600blk Ocean Front Walk 12:18 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 800blk Montana Ave 12:23 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 2100blk Main St 12:34 p.m.
72 Hour Psychiatric Hold 1400blk 16th St 12:37 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1100blk Broadway 1:14 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1700blk Alta Ave 1:15 p.m.
Burglary Report 1200blk 25th St 1:16 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 800blk Harvard St 1:17 p.m.
Urinating/Defecating In Public 600blk Idaho Ave 1:28 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 2000blk Olympic Blvd 1:30 p.m.
Vandalism Now 17th St / Michigan Ave 1:52 p.m.
Fraud Report 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 2:03 p.m.
Fight 1800blk Lincoln Blvd 2:15 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 900blk 6th St 2:18 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 300blk Santa Monica Pl 2:28 p.m.
Petty Theft Just Occurred 5th St / Colorado Ave 2:33 p.m.
Grand Theft Report 1400blk Ocean Park Blvd 2:41 p.m.
Encampment 1700blk Montana Ave 2:47 p.m.
Battery Report 300blk Olympic Dr 2:50 p.m.
Threats Report/Investigations 100blk Ocean Park Blvd 3:01 p.m.
Indecent Exposure Just Occurred 200blk Wilshire Blvd 3:10 p.m.
Theft Suspect In Custody 1200blk 4th St 3:25 p.m.
Vandalism Report 1700blk Franklin St 3:26 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 1100blk Broadway 3:42 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries City Prop Involved 2800blk 3rd St 3:46 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 100blk Strand St 3:48 p.m.
Battery Just Occurred 2000blk Santa Monica Blvd 4:23 p.m.
Hit And Run Misdemeanor Investigation 1800blk Stewart St 4:42 p.m.
Traffic Collision - No Injuries 2400blk 16th St 5:16 p.m.
Fight 2400blk The Beach 6:07 p.m.
Found Property 1100blk Broadway 6:10 p.m.
Vehicle Parked In Alley 200blk San Vicente Blvd 6:10 p.m.
Resisting Arrest 1300blk 3rd Street Prom 6:31 p.m.
Assault Just Occurred 400blk 26th St 6:31 p.m.
Public Intoxication 1200blk 2nd St 6:51 p.m.
Vandalism Report 2800blk 28th St 7:15 p.m.
Found Property 2000blk Wilshire Blvd 7:21 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 800blk 7th St 7:26 p.m.
Vehicle Blocking Driveway 1200blk Stanford St 7:31 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 100blk Hill St 8:02 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 1100blk Santa Monica Blvd 8:42 p.m.
Auto Burglary Report 2600blk Main St 9:01 p.m.
Petty Theft Report 300blk Olympic Dr 9:01 p.m.
Critical Missing Person 600blk Pico Blvd 9:29 p.m.
Lost Property Ocean Ave / Broadway 10:05 p.m.
Burglary Report 1200blk 25th St 10:08 p.m.
Auto Burglary Now 700blk Palisades Beach Rd 10:23 p.m.

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