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# Rent Control abolishes surcharges for new tenants

KATE CAGLE
Daily Press Staff Writer

New tenants moving into rent-controlled buildings in Santa Monica will not have to pay surcharges on past bond measures, after the Rent Control Board voted 5-0 to end pass-throughs on local voted indebtedness. The surcharges will also end for new property owners, meaning they can no longer pass massive tax increases down to tenants when buildings turn over.

The decision is not retroactive, meaning tenants who are currently paying surcharges will continue to do so unless their building is sold to a new owner. The new policy for land owners will go into effect for sales after March 1. Boardmembers hope the new policy will help solve an unintended consequence of Proposition 13: massive tax increases passed down to tenants when their expensive real estate switches hands.

"There's a lot of protection for existing property owners," said Boardmember Nicole Phillis at the Jan. 25 meeting. "This was done with a lot of forethought because we don't want to put mom and pop property owners out of business. Those are the types of landlords that we care a lot about. They develop relationships with their tenants. We acknowledge that on this board."

San Francisco is the only other rent control jurisdiction in California that allows the pass-throughs, according to city staff. The surcharges were intended to equitably distribute voter approved tax increases by spreading out the costs among tenants. There are

SEE SURCHARGES PAGE 7

# Ballot measure filed to establish term limits for City Council

MATTHEW HALL
Daily Press Editor

Local community advocate Mary Marlow and Councilwoman Sue Himmelrich have filed a ballot initiative for the 2018 election that would limit councilmembers to three terms.

The measure would provide individuals with up to 12 years (three terms of four years each) over the course of their lifetime and only applies to Council as elections for school board and the SMC college board are governed by state law. Limits would begin from the time of the measure was approved by voters allowing current councilmembers to serve an additional 12 years starting in November.

Ballot measures have a tight timeline to qualify for this year's election.

Once the City reviews the measure, proponents will have up to 180 days to gather enough signatures to qualify for the ballot. Those signatures must be verified and approved with enough time for the City and County to approve the measure. August 10 is the deadline.

Councilman Kevin McKeown said term limits wouldn't solve any of the problems associated with elections.

"We've watched term limits turn Sacramento over to lobbyists and special interests," he said. "Leveling the playing field for new candidates calls for getting money and privilege out of politics, not restricting voters' choice to retain experienced, effective representatives. I've championed clean public campaign finance laws in Santa Monica, only to be stymied by entrenched money, which distorts democracy. We need to provide financial support for genuine citizen representatives to lead our community, not just the corporate-sponsored or self-funding wealthy."

Councilwoman Himmelrich, who is one of the measures backers,

SEE MEASURE PAGE 7



## SUPERVISORS RECOGNIZE ST. JOHN'S

Courtesy Photo

**Saint John's Health Center was commended for its role in the community. See Page 3 for more information.**

# Fumigation recommended for termite problems in local schools

ANGEL CARRERAS
Daily Press Staff Writer

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District will have a board meeting this Thursday, February 1 in Malibu. Highlighted on the agenda's docket are proposed termite treatment and inter/intradistrict transfer residency checks:

### ESTABLISHING A STANDARD FOR TERMITE TREATMENT

This item will determine a standard for eliminating termites in its schools. The District wants to use non-toxic/low toxic method spot treatments as well as whole-building treatment when justified.

SEE FUMIGATION PAGE 6

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# What's Up Westside

## OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

## Wednesday, January 31

### Santa Monica Certified Farmer's Market

Many of Los Angeles' best known chefs and restaurants, are keyed to the seasonal rhythms of the weekly Wednesday Market. Downtown. 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

### Movie Screening: The Glass Castle

A young girl comes of age in a dysfunctional family of nonconformist nomads with a mother who's an eccentric artist and an alcoholic father who would stir the children's imagination with hope as a distraction to their poverty. Montana Branch Library, 1704 Montana Ave. 6 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

### Innovation Lab with Hacker Fund

Want to build a technology project that helps your community? Mentors from the Hacker Fund incubator help you turn your idea into action by providing advice on how to get started as well as technology development, fundraising, and marketing. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 6 - 8 p.m.

## Thursday, February 1

### Citizenship Classes

An ongoing series of classes taught by Adult Education Center instructors. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

### Design in 3D: Heart-Shaped Box

Use Tinkercad to design a heart-shaped box for 3D printing. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 6 p.m.

### Chrysalis Workshop: Resumes

Instructors from Chrysalis lead workshops to help you get on the right track to employment. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

### The Influencer Economy: Launch, Share & Thrive in the Digital Age

LA-based author Ryan Williams explains his step-by-step guide to telling your authentic brand story. Main Library, 601 Santa Monica Blvd. 7 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

### Current Events Discussion Group

Join us for a lively discussion of the latest news with your friends and neighbors. Fairview Branch Library, 2101 Ocean Park Blvd. 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

### 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. Pico Branch Library, 2201 Pico Blvd. 3:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

## Friday, February 2

### The TESS Mission: Exoplanet Targets for Webb

The Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) will search the near-solar neighborhood of over 200,000 stars for planets crossing between TESS and the parent star. The evening events are at 8 p.m. and are preceded by "The Night Sky Show" at 7 p.m., offering astronomy news, a family-friendly "tour" of the constellations and the chance to ask astronomy-related questions. Second floor of Drescher Hall (1900 Pico Blvd.). 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 Night Sky or feature show or telescope-viewing session. For information, please call (310) 434-3005 or see www.smc.edu/eventsinfo or www.smc.edu/planetarium. All shows subject to change or cancellation without notice.

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

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citywide

### Los Angeles Board of Supervisors Recognizes Providence Saint John's

Last week Los Angeles County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl honored Providence Saint John's Health Center with a scroll sharing the story of the hospital's history, mission and role as an example for public health institutions across the county.

Supervisor Sheila Kuehl presented Marcel Loh, chief executive, with a scroll to recognize the hospital's contribution to the county of Los Angeles. Loh accepted the honor, "On behalf of all our caregivers, thank you for recognizing our commitment to compassionate care in the community especially for the poor and vulnerable."

Seventy-five years ago, the Catholic Sisters of Charity Leavenworth founded a community hospital that has grown into a "nationally renowned hospital devoted to leading-edge medicine delivered with unwavering compassion and personalize care" Kuehl said. She continued, "A great hospital is not only a place for healing, it is a community asset, providing medical care, employment and education to the individuals and families who are served by it."

Providence Saint John's is a 266-bed hospital with physicians, nurses, volunteers and support staff who work as a team to provide the best possible medical care to its patients and the community. Saint John's also is home to the world-renowned John Wayne Cancer Institute, dedicated to clinical research and medical advancements in cancer care.

SUBMITTED BY LAUREN LEWOW, EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST, PROVIDENCE HEALTH & SERVICES, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

# A taxpayer backed bank for pot money? Maybe in California.

**BY MICHAEL R. BLOOD**
Associated Press

California officials announced Tuesday that they will take a detailed look at the possibility of creating a taxpayer-backed bank to handle what could be billions of dollars in revenue generated by the state's legal marijuana industry.

State Treasurer John Chiang stopped short of endorsing the idea but said his office would work with the state attorney general to examine how a weed bank might function.

Legal pot sales kicked off in California on Jan. 1. However, many banks don't want anything to do with pot money for fear it could expose them to legal trouble from the federal government, which still lists marijuana as illegal.

That means a lot of pot business is conducted in cash, sometimes tens of thousands of dollars, which is risky for cannabis workers and the public.

Is a public bank a solution?

"Maybe," said Chiang, a Democratic candidate for governor.

Completing the study is expected to take about a year.

However, the idea comes with formidable risks that were outlined in a state report last year, including unknown startup costs, the probability of losses for several years or more that California taxpayers would have to cover and trouble obtaining federal regulatory approval.

Another problem: The Trump administration has signaled a potentially more aggressive approach to marijuana prosecution by U.S. prosecutors.

That federal action "casts into turmoil a newly established industry that is creating jobs and tax revenues," Chiang said.




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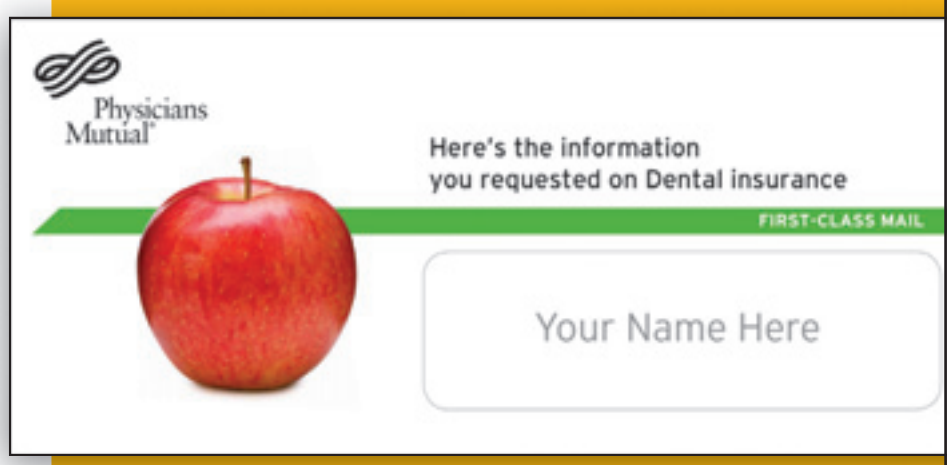


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# Budget talks bogged down by immigration, deficit concerns

BY ANDREW TAYLOR
Associated Press

A week after a standoff forced a three-day government shutdown, congressional budget talks remain bogged down by Democrats' demands to protect "Dreamer" immigrants and GOP conservatives' concerns about a booming federal deficit.

The deadlock is deflating hopes that lawmakers will reach a breakthrough before another shutdown deadline next week.

At risk are up to $80 billion in increases for the Pentagon this year alone, and nearly as much money for domestic programs. Almost $100 billion worth of overdue assistance for hurricane-slammed Puerto Rico, Texas, and Florida is being held up.

The knot involves about $1.2 billion in agency operating budgets for the fiscal year that began in October, along with hurricane relief, President Donald Trump's $18 billion-plus border wall, and other odds and ends.

The measure has been hung up for months as lawmakers in both parties struggle first with a deal to increase tight limits on spending that are left over from a failed 2011 budget agreement. It takes both Republicans and Democrats to lift the limits, called spending "caps" in Capitol-speak. But talks have proceeded slowly and are now awaiting agreement on legislation to address younger immigrants currently protected from deportation under the soon-to-expire Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA.

But there are other problems afoot. Conservatives say Republican and Democratic proposals on the table would balloon the deficit, sending it over $1 trillion.

"That's a non-starter for conservatives," said Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., chairman of the hard-right House Freedom Caucus.

The House Tuesday instead passed — for the third time — a $659 billion Pentagon funding measure. The bill would break the existing budget cap for defense by $73 billion — almost $20 billion more than the budget Trump proposed last year. The 250-166 vote House vote broke mostly along party lines.

The move was aimed at turning up the heat on Senate Democrats, several of whom face difficult re-election bids in states won by Trump.

Republicans are trying to cast Democrats as holding money for U.S. troops hostage to obtain sympathetic treatment for immigrants facing deportation, as well as a variety of other Democratic priorities.

"Senate Democrats are playing politics with defense spending that is so vital to our national security needs," said House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis. "We just don't see this as irresponsible. It's dangerous. You do have training accidents happening more and more these days."

It's unclear exactly what would happen if negotiations fall apart, but one possibility would be continuing current spending levels. That would upset the Pentagon's many allies on the Republican side. It would also upset Capitol Hill's once-dominant Appropriations committees, which have watched in frustration over the past few years as Congress has increasingly struggled to perform its most basic task of funding the government.

Operating at a budget freeze, the Pentagon says, would imperil training and other components of military readiness, along with acquisition of new weapons systems and equipment. On the domestic side, it would mean arresting the growth in medical research and efforts to fight opioid abuse, among other bipartisan priorities.

It would also mean Washington's dysfunction could become even more entrenched.

"It's really important that something happen because the more times that you don't find a way to get together the more difficult it is the next time around to get together," said former Appropriations Committee Chairman David Obey, D-Wis.

"If we can't figure this out — it's been punted, punted, punted and punted — how are we going to manage to get through the next three years under this president?" asked Washington Sen. Patty Murray, a key Democrat on the Appropriations Committee.

The delays guarantee that lawmakers will need to pass yet another stopgap spending bill — the fifth since September — next week to prevent another government shutdown next Friday. While Senate Democrats don't appear to have any interest in sparking a second government shutdown by filibustering next week's temporary funding bill, it appears House Republicans will have to again struggle to summon the unity to advance the legislation on the strength of their votes alone.

In all of this languishes a House-passed $81 billion emergency aid bill for hurricane-hit states and territories. Democrats like Minority Leader Chuck Schumer of New York say the bill needs billions more for Puerto Rico, and he hasn't been shy about saying delays in considering the legislation in the Senate give him leverage.

Republicans like Texas Sen. John Cornyn say Schumer is holding hurricane aid "hostage," but Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., hasn't moved to force Schumer's hand. Schumer was a central force in advancing more than $60 billion in Superstorm Sandy relief six years ago and would be vulnerable to charges of hypocrisy if he actively blocked the current measure.

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## Curious City

Charles Andrews
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

# The Soul Of A City

**A WORK IN PROGRESS**

We all are, hopefully. But progress is something we're desperately in need of, and right now. We're spinning in circles. And when that happens, you're just digging a hole. That you might not get out of.

We have so many problems to deal with nationally, and here in Santa Monica, and they seem to be increasing exponentially. I listed a paragraph's worth of local issues in last week's column, and that wasn't the half of it. We fight them one by one and I don't think that's the right way to go about it. One battle is won or lost, then whack-a-mole, something else jumps up that demands our full attention again. Discouragement, fatigue, even despair can set in. The same holds true for the way Washington has devolved.

I keep trying to figure out how we can do things differently, both here and for our now-disgraced nation, something so different it will make a difference. Some new (or old) way of thinking. Because I have a feeling we're rapidly running out of time.

So much that is being done can't be undone. If we spend nine figures on an office annex, that money is gone. That's a ton of tax dollars, a helluva lot of money for a city of less than 100,000. And it won't be some awe-inspiring architectural masterpiece that people will go out of their way to see; in fact, you won't even be able to see it that well at all, behind City Hall. It's offices. But ground has been broken. Now it's too late to build it for $40-50M, just as functional and very sustainable. What philosophy guided that decision? Don't you think we might have been able to find a really good use for those tens of millions of dollars?

**FOR AMERICA**

If you sell off our precious parklands, to energy and logging companies, by the time there may be an opportunity to reverse that, wells have been drilled and pipeline laid (which will surely, eventually, leak and spill and despoil), trees stripped away from mountainsides and gigantic holes carved to extract minerals. They are now fracking near the ancient ruins in Chaco Canyon in New Mexico. It will take generations for the land to heal itself. You and I won't see it.

Whatever we build in Santa Monica, however tall and wide, our great-great-grandchildren will still be living with it. Shouldn't we really think twice, and maybe more than that, before rushing into the kind of massive construction we're inflicting on our small city, no matter how good the reasons may seem? Who counts, in these decisions? How about panicking a bit more, now, today, about our looming pension explosion, that could lead this well-off city to financial ruin, that could change everything for Santa Monica, drastically. How many more six-figure staffers should we hire? We could go from rich to broke before you know what's happened.

**WHAT TO DO?**

I think we need radical rethinking. Overview and perspective. Unprecedented action. Or inaction, when appropriate. But we can't go on the way we have been. We can dig in our heels, say those are the bad guys, out to enrich themselves by destroying our beautiful, historic, low-rise seaside city, and we must fight them tooth and nail (or, those are the NIMBYs, lost in the past, unwilling to plan for an inevitable future in the best way) — or we can look beyond that. Most on "the other side," want what they feel is the best for Santa Monica, but we often disagree profoundly on the path there.

We need some guide we can always point to. I think what we need is a Master Plan. And no, I don't have one. Yet.

We need a master plan for the future and the development of this city, that our decision makers will abide by. One that assesses the present, and recognizes the past. No, not the General Plan we now have, done in 1957, or its LUCE (apropos acronym?), updated in 2015 but to some controversy. I think it should be done by architects and city planners and maybe social scientists, but it should spring from the establishment of a philosophical master plan. Something that can be applied to every issue that comes up, even ones we haven't thought of. Something that in its spirit can guide every decision. Of course that's a tough one to get agreement on. But let's have that battle once, instead of this 30 Years' War.

If, for example, we can agree that the most important thing to consider in any decision are the people who live in Santa Monica — not the ones some want to bring here, not the ones who will fill tens of thousands of units if we build them, not the developers, the ideologues, the land speculators, the non-resident kibitzers, the urban planners, the car or bike advocates — well, does that seem crazy? A city whose representatives act in the best interests of the people who live there?

If we can agree that the beach is what defines Santa Monica, geographically and historically and, well, obviously, as well as open skies and sea breezes, let's agree this is a beach town, THE beach town for LA, and apply that to the skyscraperizing of our Downtown and the canyonization of Lincoln Boulevard. If a walkable city is what people like and what we've always had, let's figure out what to do with all those nasty cars.

As a nation, I think America is in danger of losing its heart, and soul. That breaks my heart. In Santa Monica we still cling to both, I feel. (Look at all our efforts on behalf of the homeless. Not effective, but we're trying.) But unless we stop this bulldozing path we're on and come up with a real plan for the hearts of our residents and the soul of this city, my optimism may also ship out to Detroit.

**QUESTION OF THE WEEK:** Are drivers in Santa Monica getting worse, much worse?

**QUOTES OF THE WEEK:**

"A great city is not to be confounded with a populous one." — Aristotle

"A great city is that which has the greatest men and women." — Walt Whitman

**CHARLES ANDREWS** has lived in Santa Monica for 32 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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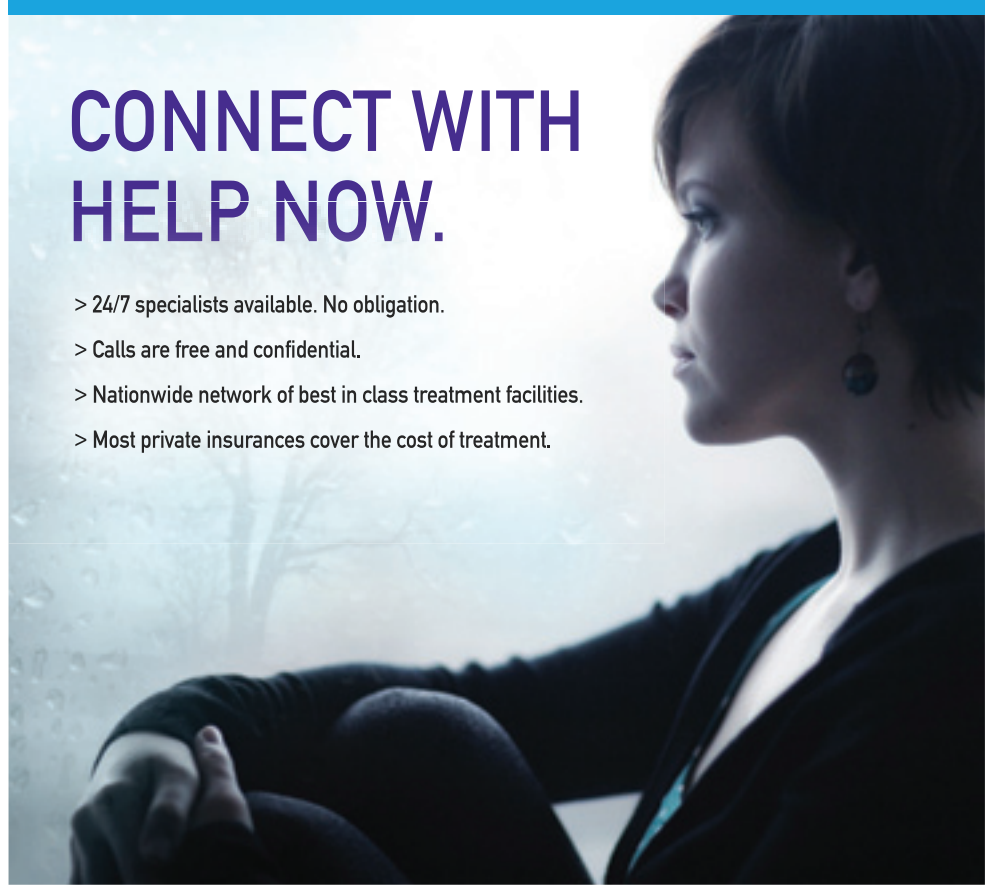
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## FUMIGATION

FROM PAGE 1

According to the report, Roosevelt was infested and subsequently fumigated, with more schools in line to be fumigated as needed.

After receiving backlash over the use of toxic pesticides during fumigations last year, the district used a heat based treatment at Webster Elementary School in Malibu. The District then hired experts to compare the two treatments.

According to the staff report, the indications are the heat treatment was not totally effective with new signs of termites appearing since the treatment. The report also said there was no evidence the gas treatment left any residue.

"The staff recommendation is to establish fumigation as the district standard for whole-building termite treatment," said the report. "Heat and non-toxic/low-toxic localized/spot treatments will still be used between major treatments and in cases where it is justified."

The report said Spring and Summer treatment is proposed for Franklin, McKinley, Point Dume, Muir/SMASH and Malibu High School.

### INTRADISTRICT PERMITS, INTERDISTRICT PERMITS, AND RESIDENCY CHECKS

This item will provide info to the Board and public concerning how the District goes about conducting its intra/interdistrict residency checks.

Intradistrict permits let students attend schools within the same district other than their nearest neighborhood school. Interdistrict permits let students attend schools in other districts.

State law requires children attending public school to attend a school in the district where their parent or legal guardian lives unless they receive transfer approval.

Staff said it is the District's responsibility to verify residency.

"The need to verify residency is prompted in various ways that include, but are not limited to, returned mail, high tardiness and absenteeism, reports from other parents and community members, reports from individuals who previously signed affidavits, and student self-reports," said the report.

If parents are unable to prove their student's residency via documentation they will be questioned. If for some reason the line of questioning concerning residency fails, Campus Security Officers could physically go out to observe if transfer students are at their place of living.

Campus Security Officers will verify students residencies by "knocking on doors and/or ringing apartment codes" as well as talking with "on-site property management and/or neighbors," said the report. The District notes that Campus Security Officers will identify themselves and provide business cards.

The district adds that residency checks "often are" inconclusive.

Other items in the agenda include English Learner program review findings, track and field replacement for Lincoln Middle School, updates to student wellness programs and campus improvement projects.

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## MEASURE

FROM PAGE 1

said she is running for reelection this year.

City Hall has debated adding a measure to the ballot that would require a supermajority to approve some developments but nothing has been formally announced so far.

The City is also fighting a lawsuit filed by Oscar de la Torre that would force Santa Monica to implement district-based voting. That suit is scheduled to go to trial in July.

In addition to any ballot measures, the 2018 election will include 14 seats up for election on the City Council, Santa Monica Malibu Unified School Board and SMC Board.

The nomination period for candidates will be July 16 through August 10 with a possible five-day extension for each race if an incumbent does not file. The nomination period requires candidates to fill out the required paperwork and gather signatures.

This year's elections include four seats on School Board (Oscar de la Torre, Craig Foster, Laurie Lieberman and Richard Tahvildaran-Jesswein), three on City Council (Kevin McKeown, Pam O'Connor and Sue Himmelrich), three on the Rent Control Board (Nicole Phillis, Steve Duron and Todd Flora) and four for the Santa Monica College Board (Nancy Greenstein, Louise Jaffe, Barry A. Snell and Andrew Walzer).

All four school board incumbents have told The Daily Press they are running for reelection.

"As a product of our school district, a former employee of SMMUSD and a parent of two of our students, I have a personal commitment to serving on the school board," said Oscar de la Torre.

"I am planning to seek re-election," said Laurie Lieberman. "Obtaining a quality education remains key to becoming a good citizen and to leading a successful life. Our schools are doing a lot of great work. We continue to improve, to look for ways to engage all students and to help them learn and flourish in the rapidly changing world in which we live. There are ongoing projects, policies and challenges to which I believe I can continue to contribute positive and valuable leadership. I'm running for re-election to continue supporting what our district does well and to evaluate, reflect and help make changes and innovate where we need to do better."

Councilwoman Pam O'Connor is the third incumbent up for reelection this year and has said she is considering her options.

Planning Commissioner Jennifer Kennedy has filed preliminary paperwork to establish a fundraising committee but declined to comment on her plans to run for Council.

editor@smdp.com

## SURCHARGES

FROM PAGE 1

currently surcharges linked to Measures X, S, BB and AA. Landlords could also pass along a stormwater management user fee, the clean beaches and ocean parcel tax, and a 2008 School District Special Tax.

The median monthly surcharge is $20.73, however, some tenants have seen their bills skyrocket after their apartment building is sold and, thus, reassessed. For example, tenant Nani Granell, who lives at the corner of Montana and Ocean Avenue, says her surcharges reached $121 after her building on Ocean Avenue sold to new ownership for $22.5 million. More than 130 properties changed ownership in 2017 along, according to city staff.

Critics point out the end of surcharges comes too late for tenants like Granell.

"Unfortunately, it leaves more tenants exposed and doesn't remedy the situation that was presented over the last two years and I think there are going to be a lot of unhappy tenants as a result," said rent controlled tenant Bill Davis to the Board.

"It doesn't solve the problem," said landlord Michael Millman, who says low-income tenants should be able to apply for a hardship exemption. "The problem is there are some financially strapped tenants who need a lifeline, who need to be rescued."

The Rent Control Board says they still plan to address the needs of those tenants at their Feb. 22 meeting. That night they will have a preliminary discussion of what process to use moving forward. Even short-term tenants have complained they were surprised to see surcharges added to their rents, which they assumed accounted for the owner's overhead.

"We aren't anywhere close to solving this issue tonight," said Boardmember Todd Flora. He told nervous landlords to "take it easy" and current tenants to "be patient."

kate@smdp.com












## SURF FORECASTS

WATER TEMP: **58.5°**

WEDNESDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high occ. 3ft
Minor SSW swell shows. Deep AM high tide.

THURSDAY – **POOR** – SURF: **1-2 ft** knee to thigh high
Modest WNW swell shows. Deep AM high tide.

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# CRIME WATCH

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF



Crime Watch is culled from reports provided by the Santa Monica Police Department. These are arrests only. All parties are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

### ON JANUARY 15, AT ABOUT 12:35 P.M.

Officers responded to radio call for service at Pier 1 Imports- 3000 Wilshire Blvd regarding a theft in progress. A store employee had locked the doors with suspect still inside. Officers arrived and detained the suspect. Officers determined the suspect entered the store carrying a large duffle bag. A store employee monitored the subject as he selected merchandise – area rug – from the sales floor and put it in his duffle bag. The suspect walked towards the front door without paying for the merchandise. The store employee confronted the suspect. The employee locked the door and told the suspect she was calling the police. The suspect then spat at the employee striking her leg and shoes. Puff Mar Pataki, 24, from Los Angeles was arrested for battery. Bail was set at $20,000.

## DAILY POLICE LOG

### The Santa Monica Police Department Responded To 344 Calls For Service On Jan. 29.

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

Petty theft 300 block Pico 1:35 a.m.
Shots fired 1500 block Ocean 2:20 a.m.
Petty theft 400 block Colorado 2:36 a.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 1100 block Pacific Coast Hwy 2:58 a.m.
Arson 1600 block Broadway 3:02 a.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block Pacific Coast Hwy 4:47 a.m.
Petty theft 1700 block Ocean Front Walk 4:53 a.m.
Speeding 25th / Wilshire 6:24 a.m.
Traffic collision 5th / Santa Monica 6:30 a.m.
Traffic collision Cloverfield / Virginia 7:35 a.m.
Battery 1700 block Ocean 7:50 a.m.
Identity theft 1000 block 9th 8:48 a.m.
Burglary 2500 block Main 8:55 a.m.
Auto burglary 2400 block Lincoln 8:59 a.m.
Auto burglary 1300 block Ocean Park 9:10 a.m.
Person down 2500 block Santa Monica 9:14 a.m.
Threats 600 block Santa Monica 9:16 a.m.
Encampment 2000 block Ocean 9:29 a.m.
Theft recyclables 2400 block 33rd 9:38 a.m.
Auto burglary 400 block Ashland 9:46 a.m.
Encampment 1400 block the beach 10:15 a.m.
Burglary 300 block 23rd 10:19 a.m.
Traffic collision 15th / Arizona 10:33 a.m.
Auto burglary 3100 block Lincoln 10:48 a.m.
Fraud 600 block California 10:51 a.m.
Lewd activity 1900 block Pico 11:34 a.m.
Auto burglary 3300 block Barnard 12:04 p.m.
Encampment 1600 block Interstate 10 12:05 p.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 1500 block 2nd 12:10 p.m.
Petty theft 1400 block 15th 12:39 p.m.
Petty theft 900 block 16th 1:01 p.m.
Assault 700 block Ozone 1:46 p.m.
Fraud 800 block 22nd 1:50 p.m.
Battery 600 block Santa Monica 1:50 p.m.
Traffic collision 1400 block Lincoln 1:51 p.m.
Assault w/deadly weapon 2600 block Ocean Front Walk 1:57 p.m.
Attempt burglary 2200 block Ocean 2:04 p.m.
Speeding 1500 block Pacific Coast Hwy 2:32 p.m.
Indecent exposure Lincoln / Pico 3:15 p.m.
Petty theft 1500 block Berkeley 3:27 p.m.
Encampment 1700 block 12th 3:34 p.m.
Person with a gun 800 block 6th 4:08 p.m.
Drunk driving Lincoln / Interstate 10 4:25 p.m.
Indecent exposure 400 block Broadway 4:59 p.m.
Burglary 1200 block Lincoln 5:01 p.m.
Hit and run 20th / San Vicente 5:08 p.m.
Threats 2500 block Pico 5:12 p.m.
Person with a gun 18th / Wilshire 5:13 p.m.
Assault 2200 block Virginia 5:14 p.m.
Person with a gun 1300 block Wilshire 5:20 p.m.
Burglary 1100 block 11th 5:29 p.m.
Traffic collision 11th / Maple 5:31 p.m.
Battery 300 block Santa Monica 6:13 p.m.
Petty theft 2800 block Pico 6:16 p.m.
Petty theft 500 block Santa Monica Pier 6:25 p.m.
Burglary 100 block Wilshire 7:01 p.m.

## DAILY FIRE LOG

### The Santa Monica Fire Department Responded To 40 Calls For Service On Jan. 29.

HERE IS A SAMPLING OF THOSE CALLS CHOSEN BY THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS STAFF.

EMS 1900 block 11th 1:06 a.m.
EMS 2900 block Neilson 2:43 a.m.
Trash/dumpster fire 1600 block Broadway 3:02 a.m.
EMS 1500 block 2nd 6:10 a.m.
EMS 400 block 17th 6:36 a.m.
Traffic collision with injury Cloverfield / Santa Monica 7:36 a.m.
Traffic collision with injury Cloverfield / Virginia 7:41 a.m.
EMS 1000 block 19th 8:48 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1300 block 2nd 9:08 a.m.
EMS 2500 block Santa Monica 9:14 a.m.
EMS 800 block 4th 9:41 a.m.
EMS 900 block 6th 10:32 a.m.
EMS 15th / Arizona 10:33 a.m.
EMS 2600 block Expo Line 10:54 a.m.
EMS 1600 block Ocean Front Walk 11:06 a.m.
EMS 1500 block 2nd 12:04 p.m.
EMS 1300 block 20th 12:05 p.m.
EMS 1700 block Cloverfield 12:09 p.m.
EMS 2400 block Wilshire 12:15 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1500 block California 12:32 p.m.
EMS 600 block Santa Monica 1:51 p.m.
EMS 200 block Broadway 1:58 p.m.
EMS Centinela / Expo Bike Path 1:59 p.m.
EMS 2000 block Ocean 14:23:54
EMS 1900 block 20th 3:39 p.m.
EMS 900 block 2nd 4:08 p.m.
EMS 1900 block Pico 4:16 p.m.
EMS 11th / Maple 5:32 p.m.
EMS 1300 block 18th 6:11 p.m.
EMS 300 block Santa Monica 6:15 p.m.
EMS 800 block Wilshire 6:36 p.m.
EMS 2500 block 3rd 6:39 p.m.
EMS 1500 block 2nd 7:18 p.m.
EMS 0 block Pico 7:40 p.m.
EMS 2000 block 20th 8:50 p.m.
EMS 2000 block Arizona 9:09 p.m.
EMS 2000 block Main 9:17 p.m.
EMS 3400 block Ocean Park 10:36 p.m.
EMS 1300 block 15th 11:10 p.m.

## DAILY LOTTERY

**POWERBALL**
Draw Date: 1/27
17 21 26 47 54
Power#: 7
Jackpot: 127M

**MEGA MILLIONS**
Draw Date: 1/26
10 16 27 38 43
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 89M

**SUPER LOTTO**
Draw Date: 1/27
5 8 19 40 45
Mega#: 1
Jackpot: 19M

**Fantasy 5**
Draw Date: 1/29
8 12 23 24 30

**DAILY 3**
Draw Date: 1/29
MIDDAY: 5 0 8
Draw Date: 1/29
EVENING: 3 7 5

**DAILY DERBY**
Draw Date: 1/29
1st: 01 Gold Rush
2nd: 05 California Classic
3rd: 12 Lucky Charms
RACE TIME: 1:44.80

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site at **http://www.calottery.com**

## WORD UP!

**obsequious**
1. characterized by or showing servile complaisance or deference; fawning: an obsequious bow.
2. servilely compliant or deferential: obsequious servants.
3. obedient; dutiful.

## WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

### Get Me That, Stat!

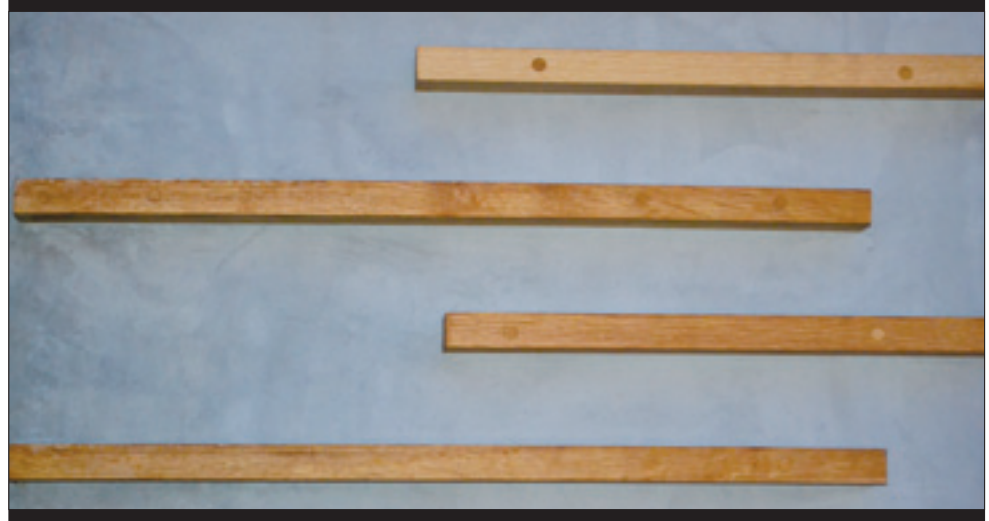
■ Almost 9 million children and 370,000 pregnant women are covered by the federal Children's Health Insurance Program. Lawmakers missed a September 9 deadline to extend funding and efforts to renew support have thus far failed. States are preparing plans to let those affected know coverage may run out by end of year.

### Life in Big Macs

■ One hour of massaging someone while standing burns 272 calories (based on a 150-pound person) or the equivalent of 0.4 Big Macs. For the recipient, there's minimal calorie consumption. On the other hand, they're getting a massage.

## MYSTERY PHOTO

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### SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

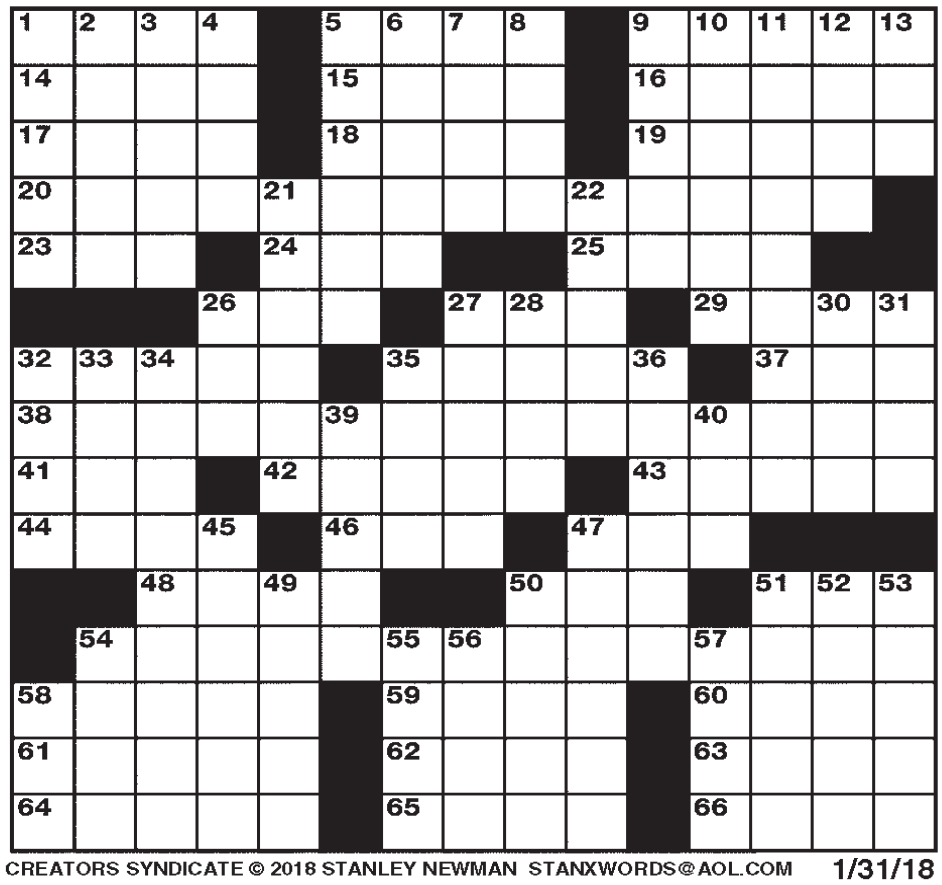
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| | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | 7 | | 9 | 1 | |
| | 1 | | 5 | 3 | 9 | 8 | | 7 |
| | 5 | | | | 4 | 7 | | |
| 1 | | | | | | | | 2 |
| | | 6 | 1 | | | | 9 | |
| 5 | | 3 | 9 | 8 | 2 | | 4 | |
| | 6 | 2 | | 4 | | | | 9 |
| | | | | | | | | |

## Newsday Crossword

**IN PIECES** by Fred Piscop
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

**ACROSS**
1 Measure of carbs or protein
5 Daybreak
9 Defeated in chess
14 Traveled on
15 Cyberauction site
16 Poet Dickinson
17 "Beware the __ of March"
18 Horse's hair
19 "I wanna do it!"
20 Where two feuders should be seated at a wedding
23 Trike rider
24 Early afternoon
25 Stamped delivery
26 Rocket launch site
27 Tire holder
29 Assistant
32 Caravan stopovers
35 Gold purity measure
37 Could possibly
38 "To boldly go," for example
41 Maui memento
42 Narrow cuts
43 Sizes up
44 Probabilities
46 Part of TGIF
47 Auto's ID
48 Worry-free state
50 Like father, like __
51 Don't just sit there
54 Interstate. for instance
58 Short skirts
59 Audition for a part
60 Corn harvest
61 Some choir members
62 Leaf-gathering implement
63 Golden Fleece ship
64 Old __ (American flag)
65 Winter coaster
66 Explorer Ponce de __

**DOWN**
1 Grain to be ground
2 Bull-riding event
3 Highly skilled
4 Butte relative
5 Insist on
6 Subside
7 Subside
8 Russian denial
9 Peach __ (dessert)
10 Earhart of aviation
11 30 seconds, for Final Jeopardy
12 Shade trees
13 Add color to
21 Cooks beef in an oven
22 Jordan's capital
26 Architect I.M.
27 Inflatable boats
28 Part of the eye
30 Brubeck of jazz
31 Examines closely
32 Scandinavian capital
33 Imitated
34 Arrive at feetfirst
35 Do needlework
36 Growing weary
39 Fibber's confession
40 Light brown
45 Rescuer
47 Rendered invalid
49 Actress Spacek
50 Tremble
51 In the know
52 Ship's freight
53 Mike of boxing
54 Herb in pickles
55 Makes a mistake
56 Business transaction
57 Make good as new
58 Waiting-room reading, for short



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2018 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 1/31/18

## TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 31)

This year you strive for reasonable idealism. You'll serve your values well and you'll also aim for a few impossibilities, because pushing yourself has historically led to remarkable achievement. This year you're even better under pressure than ever before. Love will be your constant companion. Gemini and Aries adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 4, 44, 3, 30 and 15.

### ARIES (March 21-April 19)
Glittering generalities sound impressive to those who desperately want them to be true and the utterly gullible. You'll hear past the hyperbole, see beyond the sparkly stuff and help people understand what's real and reasonable.

### TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
You have something so special. Many would love to claim it. And the weird part is that you hardly see it anymore. You've had it for so long! Adjust your perspective so you can better love what is already yours.

### GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
Today you'll be rather susceptible to flattery, but so what? You also deserve to be paid attention to. You worked hard to get where you are. So how about you soak it all up? Don't deflect compliments. Just say thank you.

### CANCER (June 22-July 22)
The saying goes, "Never let them see you sweat." But if you make it look too easy, they'll heap more work on you. Of course, you don't want to seem like a hectic mess, either. You'll find the middle ground on the matter.

### LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
Moods come and go like weather. You're like a region unto yourself. There are typical weather patterns for the region of you, and then sometimes there's unseasonable anomalies. That's what's happening now.

### VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Add this to your routine: a generous pat on the back, from you to you. Of course this is best done privately, but rest assured it's not the least bit self-centered to recognize your own talents. If you don't do it, how will others know to?

### LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Philosophizing has its time, place and purpose. The big-picture thinking can seem like an indulgence when there's so much practical work to be done, but go on and indulge, because it will be essential to getting things right.

### SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
Since you're still not totally sure about your next move, don't make one. You can afford to hang out in this phase a while longer. Write down the ideas. Talk it out. Ask questions. Research. Brainstorm.

### SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
You have your agenda; they have theirs. Honestly, there may not be a compromise that will make you both happy, so don't waste too much time in negotiation.

### CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You may get an unusually large number of requests made of you today, and a few demands will be thrown in there, too. This is what comes with getting suddenly popular.

### AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Go often to the well of positive energy. You'll find it in quotes, books and songs. You'll find it in the small talk you make with strangers and in the fellowship of friends.

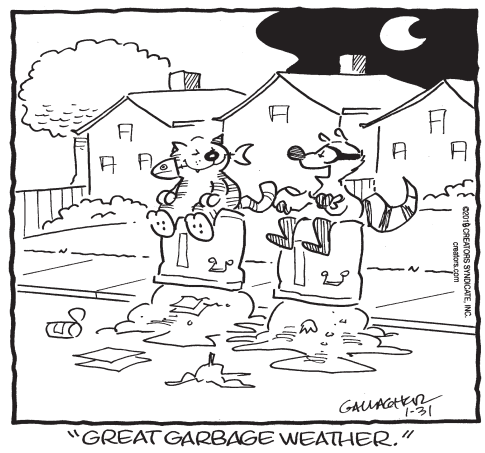
### PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
You might be surprised at what you're willing to do to please a person who happens to be exceptionally charming, attractive and funny. Also, you might be surprised at what people are willing to do for you for the same reasons.

## Blue Moon of Kentucky and Other Places

Patsy Cline invited the "Blue Moon of Kentucky" to keep on shining on the one who's gone and proved untrue. That Kentucky moon was also blue in Seattle and Sydney and San Juan Capistrano, and it shone equally on the truthful. Tonight the blue moon comes back around, supersize, playful and dispersing generous and joyful love.

**DO YOU HAVE COMMUNITY NEWS?**
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smdp.com Santa Monica Daily Press office **(310) 458-7737**

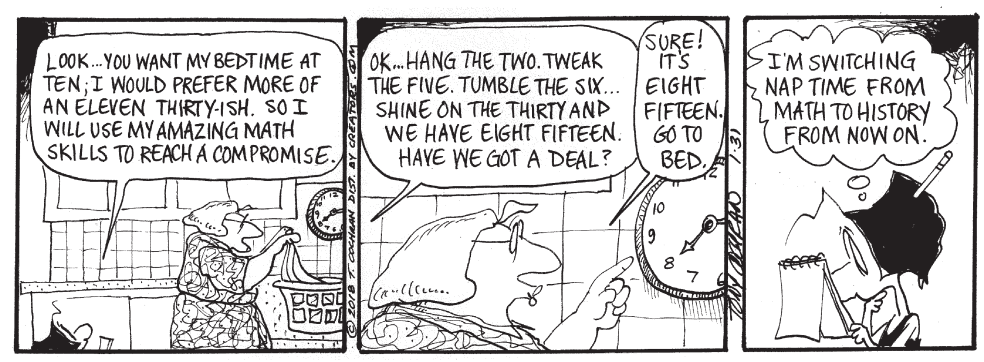
## Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



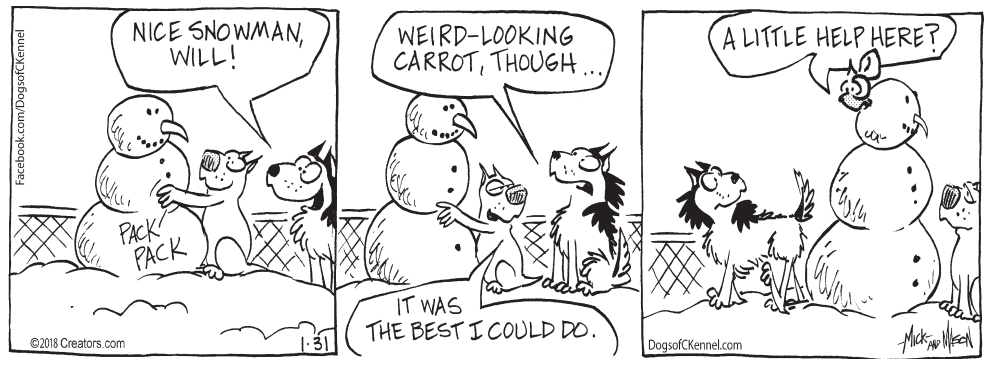

## Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING




## Agnes
By TONY COCHRAN




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




## Zack Hill
By JOHN DEERING & JOHN NEWCOMBE




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# California Senate passes bill to work around tax overhaul

BY JONATHAN J. COOPER
Associated Press

The California Senate passed legislation Tuesday that aims to protect taxpayers from facing higher federal tax bills, the first concrete action in a Democratic state to push back against last year's tax overhaul signed by President Donald Trump.

Opening another front in their ongoing war with the Trump administration and Republican-led Congress, California Democrats are looking to insulate the higher-income taxpayers who provide a massive share of the state's revenue and ensure they don't leave for lower-tax states.

The new federal tax bill caps a deduction for state and local taxes at $10,000, which hits wealthier taxpayers in high-tax states like California the hardest.

The California bill would allow people to make a charitable contribution to the state in lieu of state income taxes, then reduce their state taxes by 85 percent of their contribution.

Senate President Pro Tem Kevin de Leon, the bill's author, hopes the bill would let people get around the federal changes by deducting their state taxes as a charitable contribution instead.

"This new law deliberately targets Americans in blue states...that didn't vote in large numbers for Donald Trump," said de Leon, a Los Angeles Democrat who has made legislative battles with Trump a central plank of his challenge to U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, a fellow Democrat.

The legislation, which now goes to the Assembly, was backed by all Democrats and Republicans Anthony Cannella of Ceres and Scott Wilk of Santa Clarita, in a 27-7 vote. Four of the Senate's 13 Republicans did not cast a vote.

Several Republican critics said the bill may not be legal, potentially exposing taxpayers who take advantage to higher taxes and a fight with the IRS.

"This is a missile shooting at Washington, D.C., and it will not stand," said Sen. John Moorlach, a Republican from Costa Mesa in Orange County.

More than a third of California taxpayers used the state tax deduction in 2015, claiming an average of $18,438 — the third highest after New York and Connecticut, according to IRS data.

De Leon estimates that 3 million taxpayers would be eligible to benefit from the charitable contribution option.

Crafting a tax plan that can keep both taxpayers and the state whole — and also survive a legal challenge — has been a complex balancing act for De Leon and tax-law professors he consulted.

Efforts in California and elsewhere to get around the federal tax law, if successful, could significantly increase the federal deficit. Lawmakers who crafted the GOP tax plan capped the state and local tax deduction in order to limit the deficit impacts from a sharp drop in the corporate tax rate.

Lawmakers in left-leaning states have decried the federal tax overhaul and vowed to try to mitigate its impacts.

In New York, Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo has floated the possibility of allowing taxpayers to make a charitable contribution in lieu of their taxes, but he has not submitted a formal proposal to lawmakers.

New York, New Jersey and Connecticut have announced plans to sue Washington, potentially arguing the tax law violates states' rights and is unfair because it singles out Democratic states for political reasons. The suit has not yet been filed.

Some Republican-led states are also expecting their residents to face higher state tax bills because they've tied their tax laws to the federal tax code. Idaho and Nebraska, for example, are considering legislation state tax cuts as a result.

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Associated Press writers David Klepper in Albany, New York; Kimberlee Kruesi in Boise, Idaho and Grant Schulte in Lincoln, Nebraska contributed.

A mind is responsible
for the traffic light, the blood bank, ice cream,
peanut butter, the doorknob, the microphone, the elevator,
clothes dryer, lawn mower, pacemaker, the typewriter, guided
missile, mailbox, the air conditioner, automatic transmission, curtain
rod, baby carriage, lawn sprinkler, fountain pen, dust pan, the hand
stamp, first open-heart surgery, cataract laser, fire extinguisher, doorstop,
home security camera, the golf tee, fire escape, potato chip, food preservation,
synthesized cortisone, the guitar, railroad telegraphy, envelope seal, printing press,
bicycle frame, rocket catapult, insect destroyer gun, ice cream scoop, window cleaner,
laser fuels, folding chair, gas mask, mop, refrigerator, pressing comb, urinalysis
machine, door lock, electric cutoff switch, telephone transmitter, stair-climbing wheel-
chair, hairbrush, egg beater, eye protector, electric lamp bulb, biscuit cutter, chamber
commode, almanac, horse shoe, lunch pail, motor, lantern, key chain, furniture caster,
ironing board, sugar-refining system, lemon squeezer, portable weighing scales,
wrench, airplane propeller, ore bucket, steam boiler, portable x-ray machine, cotton
chopper fertilizer, street sweeper, cattle-roping apparatus, spark plug, galoshes, casket-
lowering device, clothes wringer, disrail car coupling, riding saddles, and so on
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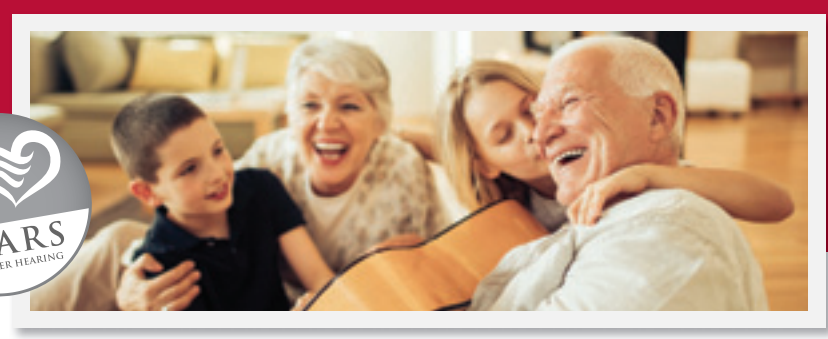
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