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Crime rises for third consecutive year



Courtesy image

CRIME: SMPD released a video showing an 8.8 percent increase in serious crimes.

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Santa Monica experienced 8.8 percent more serious crime in 2018, including thefts, burglaries and aggravated assaults. The same category of crime rose by 12 percent in 2017 and 5.5 percent in 2016.

Serious crimes have risen 29 percent in Santa Monica between 2015 and 2018 and law enforcement has maintained that legislation that has decriminalized certain offenses has allowed repeat criminals to return to the streets shortly after being sentenced. The Santa Monica Police Department told the Daily Press last year that it arrests the same people frequently.

Property crimes and thefts drove much of Santa Monica's crime increase last year, as they did in 2017 and 2016. There were 373 more thefts in 2018 than 2017 and 450 more serious crimes total.

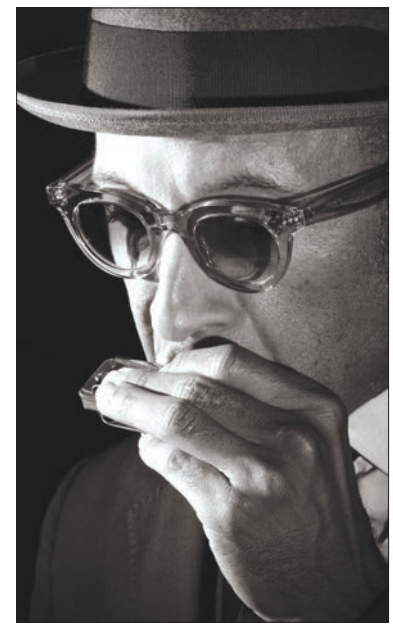
Aggravated assaults and robbery made up 56.7 percent and 34.9 percent of violent crimes, respectively. 7.5 percent of violent crimes were rapes and .9 percent were murders. SMPD made arrests in 51 percent of the 273 robberies reported.

2018 saw 119 more vehicle burglaries and police chief Cynthia Renaud said in a YouTube address to the city that it was common for perpetrators to smash car windows to steal

SEE **CRIME** PAGE 3

Shawn Amos at the Broad Stage

ANGEL CARRERAS
Daily Press Staff Writer



SHAWN AMOS

Santa Monica is staking a spot as a haven for jazz.

The Reverend Shawn Amos returns to Santa Monica to kick off the Broad Stage's blackbox @ The Edye programming for the new year with his show A Night in Harlem, taking place Friday, February 1. The programming, curated by Amos, transforms The Edye into a once-monthly show that features jazz and blues artists on the up and up.

Amos's show will not only kick off the new year for The Edye but also will kick off African American History Month. His show will

SEE **AMOS** PAGE 3

Chasing Brady: Donald, Suh to lead Rams' Super Bowl pursuit

GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

Practically every member of the Los Angeles Rams has a favorite story about Aaron Donald's feats of ridiculous athleticism.

Michael Brockers loved the moment at Carolina in 2016 when Donald beat the Panthers' left guard and launched himself like Superman, swallowing up Cam Newton while airborne.

Nickell Robey-Coleman preferred the game at San Francisco this season when Donald shredded a double-team and sacked C.J. Beathard — not by grabbing him,

SEE **SUPER BOWL** PAGE 3

Go-karts zip onto beach path despite vehicle ban

MADELEINE PAUKER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Go-karts are now zipping past electric scooters on the Santa Monica beach bike path – and both are operating illegally.

A company called Gogogo is renting go-karts for people to drive along the beach, even though City Council outlawed all electric and motorized devices on the path in August of last year. The ban made explicit a long-standing moratorium on motorized transit along the beach path and clarified rules that had been called into question by the emergence of motorized scooters.

While scooters are officially banned from the path and e-scooter companies are supposed to take steps to prohibit use along the path, it is still common for people to ride scooters in the banned zone that includes the beach path, all sidewalks and city parks.

"Prohibiting devices on the beach bike path is aimed at reducing collisions and increasing safety for all users of this popular bike path," Deputy City Manager Anuj Gupta said in August.

SEE **GO-KARTS** PAGE 8


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What's Up Westside

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA

Thursday, Jan. 31

Gallery Open
Annenberg Community Beach House 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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

Beach Volleyball-Youth
Ages 7-15; all levels; in a semi-private setting. Annenberg Community Beach House 3:30 - 5 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 1

Junior Artists: Sponge Paint
Practice fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, mix colors and have fun painting with a sponge. Limited space; registration starts, 1/18 Best for ages 18-35 months and parent/caregiver Pico Branch Library 12 - 1 p.m.

Craft, Swap, or Create @ Your Library
Do you have leftover yarn, extra buttons, or scraps of ribbon you haven't used in months? Join us at the library to share your crafting supplies or find new crafting treasures, and while you are at it, make some time to create, invent and learn a new craft or skill. Sewing machine, crochet tools, and other items available for your use. Pico Branch Library 2:30 -4:30 p.m.

Greg Poree Band
Part of Fireside at the Miles 8 - 10 p.m. Tickets are $10.

Saturday, Feb. 2

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

Successful Seed Sowing for Spring Planting
Sue Michiels of Renee's Gardens shares information on when and where to sow seeds and transplant seedlings outside for a successful spring garden. She also shares tips on sowing seeds indoors, how to use soil-less mixes, and how to use heating mats and lights to grow. Free program. Seating is limited and on a first arrival basis. Fairview Branch Library, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Open Art Critiques
Facilitated by international visual artist Claudia Borgna www.claudiaborgna.org in collaboration with special guest poet Verónica Reyes www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/veronica-reyes Open to artists in all genres at any stage of their creative practice wanting feedback on their work. Free. 1450 Ocean, 1 - 4 p.m. Register at https://apm.activecommunities.com/santamonicarecreation/Activity_Search/70837

A Groundhog Day Musical Extravaganza
Part of Fireside at the Miles 8 - 10 p.m. Tickets are $10.

DIY Days: Valentine's Edition
Get started on your Valentine's Day crafting! Check out our eight activity stations and get ideas to make your own Valentine cards and gifts. All ages welcome. 1 - 3 p.m.

Gallery OPEN 9am - 4pm
Annenberg Community Beach House 9:00am-4:00 pm.

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

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

CRIME

FROM PAGE 1

electronics, bags and jewelry left in plain sight. Thieves are also targeting those items in public spaces, Renaud said.

"I preach this constantly, but I'll take a moment to say it again now: please do not leave valuables in your cars, lock your homes when you leave and be diligent and aware of your purses, your backpacks and your bicycles when you're out and about," Renaud said.

Renaud said the department has hired 20 new officers after operating with a shortage of officers for several years as longtime officers retired. SMPD has the budget for 235 officers but only employed 215 as of January 2018.

"We're deploying those personnel into field-based units and getting more officers on patrol and out of their cars in neighborhoods and business districts," she said. "We're moving more mounted units into our parks and open spaces."

The department's homeless liaison team now patrols beaches, parks and open spaces seven times per week and public safety officers have been deployed downtown and in parks, Renaud said. SMPD said in January 2018 that about 30 percent of calls for service were homelessness-related and that proportion has remained relatively steady even as Santa Monica's homeless population has dramatically increased in the past few years.

The department is also targeting problem areas, including parking areas and even restaurants.

The City of Santa Monica ordered a downtown McDonald's to close overnight in November 2018 because it had become a hotbed for crime, receiving more calls for service than any other location. Renaud said SMPD has deployed contracted security guards to patrol dark and secluded parking areas and has added lighting and CCTV cameras to garages.

Renaud urged residents to attend SMPD's community police academy, start a neighborhood watch group or sponsor a meet your neighbors event in addition to securing their valuables and homes.

In Los Angeles, crime fell in all categories except personal thefts in 2018 after five years of increases. The Los Angeles Police Department credits the drop to crime-fighting strategies it developed several years ago, including community intervention, beefing up its Metropolitan Division and data analysis.

madeleine@smdp.com

AMOS

FROM PAGE 1

feature storytelling and songs from his 2011 album 'Harlem'.

The album was aided by inspired by a trip to LACMA's 'Rhapsodies in Black: Art of the Harlem Renaissance' exhibit in 1997, a "racial awakening" for Amos.

"It changed my trajectory," Amos said. Amos says the exhibit showcased art, writing and music from the Harlem Renaissance, a time in post-World War I America where black Americans migrated from the South to Northern cities, a movement dubbed The New Negro Arts Movement.

New York City's Harlem became a hub for creatives including Langston Hughes, Eartha Kitt and Louis Armstrong, creatives who's work a younger Amos saw himself in. The exhibit not only influenced an album and curated box set from Amos, but also influenced his life.

"For the first time in my then 30 years, I was given an image of myself absent from every media outlet of the time," he said. "The New Negro Arts Movement made me proud of being a black American ... it helped me put my blackness forward, to be unafraid of bringing these parts of my past to the present and helped me find myself ... It's been a constant little angel on my shoulder ever since."

The experience empowered Amos, who says his choice of performance material and goal as curator at the black box @ The Edye is to introduce audiences young and old to fresh material, material designed to peak audience's cultural curiosities.

"The series is designed to engage and entertain people, sure, but we want to have them stop in genres and musical acts that they might not touch otherwise. It's an act of integration."

Amos says kicking off African American History Month with an ode to his idols is an important task to him, specifically in an increasingly divided nation.

"We got the brother beat up in Chicago for being black and gay. I think these expressions of pride — Black, gay, Latino, Pakistani, whatever they may be — they're vital. American culture is a culture of immigration and slavery and forced displacement and hopeful immigration, it's all mixed together here. We have to keep all those threads, those identities, and keep them at the surface. It's important to have a dialogue and celebrate them."

For more information about Shawn Amos and The Broad Stage, visit TheBroadStage.org

angel@smdp.com

SUPER BOWL

FROM PAGE 1

but by shoving the 49ers' center into his own quarterback.

"Aaron can do things you didn't know were possible," said Rams defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh, no stranger to improbable feats himself.

Donald is the NFL's current sacks champion, the only unanimous All-Pro and a probable two-time league Defensive Player of the Year. But Los Angeles' powerful defensive tackle has one more daunting task in the Super Bowl.

Donald and the Rams must figure out how to pressure Tom Brady, who completely stumped the New England Patriots' first two playoff opponents.

The Chargers and Chiefs never sacked the 41-year-old superstar while he sat comfortably behind his stellar offensive line and picked apart their defenses for 691 yards passing, completing 71.1 percent of his throws.

Donald, who set an NFL record for sacks by an interior lineman with 20½ this season, believes Los Angeles (15-3) can do what the Chargers and Chiefs couldn't.

"We'll get to him, but we have to stay patient and don't get frustrated," Donald said. "We've got a great secondary that will do its job and make sure he doesn't have easy throws. If he has to hold onto the ball, we'll have our chances. We just have to go get him."

The Rams have been assembling the tools for this job all year long.

In the spring, they signed the imposing Suh to a $14 million deal. They also acquired Aqib Talib and Marcus Peters, two elite cornerbacks who can create chances for their pass rush.

They gave a six-year, $135 million contract extension to Donald in late August, making their best player happy after two offseason holdouts. He responded with the best season of his stellar career.

Los Angeles then acquired edge rusher Dante Fowler from Jacksonville in late October, adding a speedy outside pass-rushing threat to a roster that lacked it. Fowler has 1½ sacks and six quarterback hits in the Rams' past four games — including the biggest hit of LA's season, forcing Drew Brees' overtime interception in the NFC championship game.

Fowler never became a superstar with the Jaguars, but he loves being a role player for LA.

"I knew I was going to fit in with this defense because of A.D. and Suh," Fowler said. "They make it easy for everybody else on the defense. They cause so many problems."

Donald, Suh and Brockers are a formidable defensive line, and their teamwork has improved each month. Although Donald doesn't have a sack in the Rams' two postseason games, he draws double-teams that free up Suh, who has 1½ sacks and four quarterback hits in an outstanding postseason.

Even if Donald and Suh win their individual matchups on the line, Brady's quick decisions and swift release make him awfully difficult for anyone to touch. He was sacked just 21 times in the regular season.

Although the Chiefs tied for the NFL lead with 52 sacks in the regular season, they hit Brady just once and never sacked him in the AFC title game. A week earlier, the Chargers' dynamic pass-rushing duo of Melvin Ingram and Joey Bosa never got to him.

Even if the Rams can't sack Brady, they must attempt to get him moving before his receivers' routes develop. That's an area in which Donald specializes: Although he faces more double-teams than just about any defensive player, he consistently penetrates the opponents' backfield regardless.

"There's nothing he can't do in regards to disrupting a game," Rams coach Sean McVay said.

When Brady doesn't face quick pressure, he is typically able to lacerate opposing defenses with short passes. Just ask the Chargers and Chiefs.

"That's crazy," Brockers said when told about Brady's sack-free postseason. "He's the G.O.A.T., but he's just another quarterback. He's going to try to avoid the pressure. It's our job as D-linemen to get to him, so we're putting the pressure on ourselves to try to influence him and try to get him off his spot."

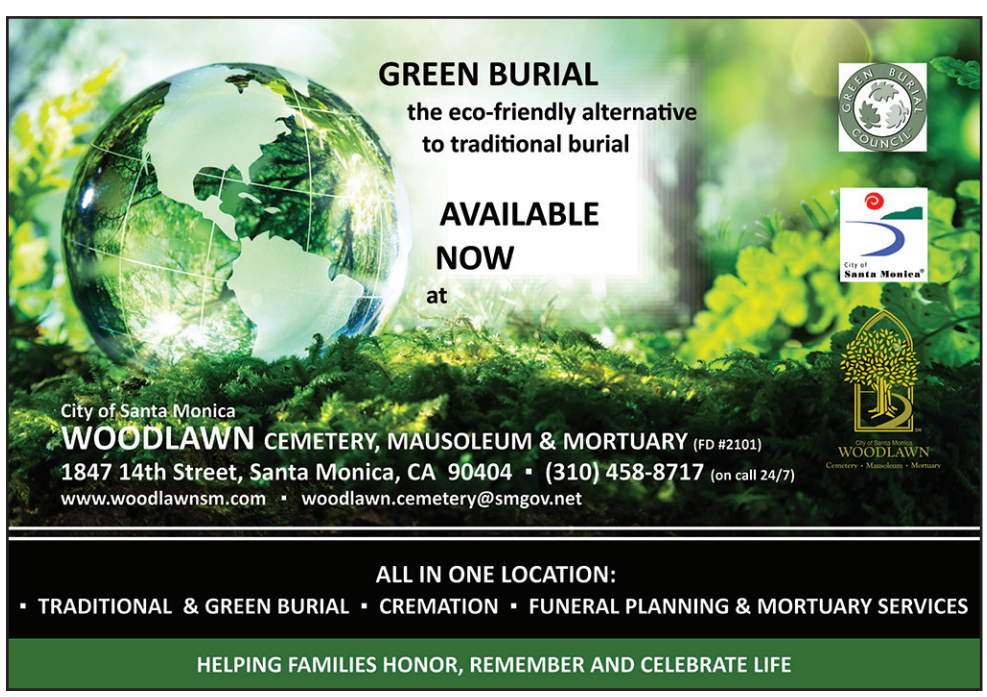
The Rams believe they have the players for the job, and they also might have the scheme.

Defensive coordinator Wade Phillips' 3-4 defense stopped Brady in the 2015 AFC title game. Phillips' Broncos — including Talib — hit Brady 17 times and made him miserable while going 27 of 56 in the Patriots' 20-18 loss.

Fowler has studied video of that game for years now. He would love to play the role of Von Miller, who got 2½ sacks and an interception.

Phillips isn't getting into any specifics of the Rams' plan against Brady, camouflaging his sharp mind behind his usual geniality.

"Unfortunately for me, I get older, but Tom Brady doesn't," the 71-year-old Phillips said. "You don't stop great offenses. You just try to slow them down."



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Play Time

By Cynthia Citron
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

If An Inspector Calls, Hang Up



Courtesy photo

PLAY: Jeff Harmer watches as Christine Kavanaugh (left) greets Lianne Harvey in "An Inspector Calls"

It is touted as thrilling and chilling. But I found it muddled, and it left me befuddled.

The play is "An Inspector Calls." Unfortunately, he was calling from another country. And another century. With accents so "teddily British" that the play could have really used subtitles.

But it arrived with impeccable credentials as one of the National Theatre of Great Britain's Landmark Productions. It was identified as author J.B. Priestley's "Classic Thriller" and it was directed by Great Britain's celebrated Stephen Daldry (best known in this country for the Netflix series "The Crown", for which he won an Emmy Award in 2018.)

Nevertheless, this play, in my view, was not wonderful. I must acknowledge, however, that the rest of the audience in the packed auditorium of the Bram Goldsmith Theatre at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts appeared to enjoy it very much.

It starts out on a virtually empty stage, much too spacious for the oddly designed house plunked in the middle of it. Moreover, the house is completely closed up and through the lighted windows one can see into the dining area where a handful of people, richly dressed in the fashion of the late 19th century, are moving around the room. Their conversation, partially muffled by the closed doors, indicates that they are celebrating the engagement of Sheila Birling, daughter of the wealthy family that owns the house, to Gerald Croft, son of an even wealthier industrialist.

Sheila, played by Lianne Harvey, is visible drinking champagne and chatting with her fiance Gerald (Andrew Macklin), her father, Arthur (Jeff Harmer), and her brother Eric (Hamish Riddle), while a gaggle of poorly dressed country folk, identified as Younger Boy, Older Boy, Girl, and Ensemble, wander around the stage with no apparent destination.

Suddenly a stranger appears, calling out to speak to Arthur. Identifying himself as "Inspector Goole" (Liam Brennan), he shows Arthur a photograph of a young woman whom Arthur denies knowing. Prodded by the Inspector, however, Arthur eventually recognizes her as a woman who had worked in one of his mills and he remembers firing her for having taken part in a worker's strike.

Goole then calls out the others, including Sheila's mother Sybil (Christine Kavanaugh), who by this time has made a swishing entrance in a bright burgundy dress. And Goole tells them all that the young woman has recently committed suicide by swallowing poison.

Sheila and her mother recognize the woman as a shop-girl with whom they had an unpleasant experience and Gerald and Eric recognize her as a woman they had each slept with (gasp!). Eric, in fact, had impregnated her, and Gerald had stolen money to help her out (gasp! gasp!).

In addition, Sybil had a second encounter with the young woman who, pregnant and penniless, had appealed to her, as the head of a charity for troubled women, for help, which Sybil had refused.

After a lot of shouting and running around, the motley group of country folk return and also run around or stand silent and motionless, as if they had a reason to be there.

While the family is prodded to feel guilty about the suicide and their individual roles in it, the Inspector leaves and Arthur goes to the phone to call the chief constable to ask about Goole. The constable advises him that he knows of no Inspector Goole. With a second phone call, to the local hospital, they also learn that no suicide has been admitted there.

At this point, if there are any thrills or chills to be had, they turn up here, at the end of the play. I won't tell you how it all ended, but I wasn't particularly thrilled or chilled. But then, what do I know?

I wasn't thrilled by "Roma" either, even if it does win the Oscar for Best Picture this year, as anticipated.

"An Inspector Calls" can be seen weekdays at 7:30pm, Saturdays at 2 and 7:30 p.m., and Sundays at 2 and 7 p.m. through February 10 at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd., in Beverly Hills. For tickets, call (310) 746-4000.

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Noteworthy

By Charles Andrews

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Jazz Up Your Weekend, Big Time

Seven things to choose amongst Friday, country-blues-rock-folk-classical-jazz — well, six, then you can still make the Easy Rider midnight movie — what exquisite torture. More, please.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED:

JACARANDA: Premonition I & II - LYRIS QUARTET, Inna Faliks & Daniel Schlosberg, piano, Eddie Meneses, percussion (of course I've never heard any of these pieces, dummy, but I can highly recommend this because I've heard the exquisite Lyris Quartet lots of times, and taken in enough Jacaranda performances to know their mining of little-heard, adventuresome classical music, played superbly, has been always been somewhere between fascinating and enthralling, these are two performances separated by a dinner break, with PI covering string quartets by two different Haases and a Widmann and PII devoted to Alexander Zemlinsky's piano 4-hand adaptation of Mahler's Sixth, can't wait, oh, and don't forget the pre-concert talk at 6:45), Sun 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, DTSM, $45 + $45 or $75 for both.

RECOMMENDED:

JAZZ BAKERY (is celebrating Black History month with an avalanche of concerts at acoustically wonderful Moss Theater, right here in SM, three this weekend: Friday is vibes man STEFON HARRIS & his Blackout Quintet, Saturday pianist ERIC REED's Quartet, and Sunday afternoon the legendary BENNIE MAUPIN Ensemble, he of the groundbreaking bands of Miles and Herbie, so expect some adventure, his sextet includes exceptional bassist Darek Oles who I just caught holding it down and ripping it up beautifully with the Peter Erskine Trio at the Sam First room by LAX, this Maupin show just missed the HIGHLY RECOMMENDED endorsement by a snare, I mean a hair, this is a rare opportunity to experience an entire weekend of top-notch jazz, and without leaving the city limits), Fri, Sat 8 p.m., Sun 4 p.m., Moss Theater, Santa Monica, $25-$35.

LA PHILHARMONIC - Britten, Strauss (so you don't think classical music is cool, huh? well I dare you to suppress the smile that will creep up your face when you hear the opening notes of Strauss's Also sprach Zarathustra and are transported in your mind's eye to about 2000 iconic images of space travel, Brit Britten can take you away too, but go Friday evening for the most fun: drinks in The Garden at 6:30 with music and complimentary drinks in the lush, leafy ambiance of Walt's Blue Ribbon Garden, then move inside for Upbeat Live insights about the evening's program with Christopher Russell and LA Phil players at 7, and finish off with the post-concert Coda, mix and mingle with other music hipsters, more complimentary drinks, an exclusive after-party, all for free), Fri 8 p.m., Sat, Sun 2 p.m., Walt Disney Concert Hall, DTLA, $20-$199.

BONNIE MURRAY TAMBLYN (longtime SM), SEVERIN BROWNE (brother of longtime SM Jackson, folk yes, rock it you two, don't make me blue), Fri 8 p.m., Kulak's Woodshed, N Hollywood, $10.

ELTON JOHN (Rock and Roll and Songwriters Hall of Fame occupant Sir Elton, after half a century on the road with more than 4,000 performances in more than 80 countries, one of the top-selling solo artists of all time, only Sir Paul, sorta-Sir Bono and Jimmy Buffet are richer, is hanging up the platforms with his "Farewell Yellow Brick Road" tour, more than 300 shows across five continents not ending until 2021, promoters warn: "the show will begin promptly at 8 p.m., with no opening act," so get there early) Fri, Sat 8 p.m., The Forum, DTLA, $60-$250.

THE REVEREND SHAWN AMOS presents A Night in Harlem (I first caught TRSA at an outdoor music fest at The Broad and he knocked me out, with his voice, moves, song curation and knowledgeable and pithy commentary, then I followed him to the beautiful Vibrato club where he performed and was music director, and now he's back at Broad reviving his decade-old album, this son of Wally "Famous Amos" has a fascinating creative resume but all you need to know is that he's a great entertainer and yeah, he can sing the blues), Fri 8 p.m., The Broad Stage, Santa Monica, $30.

I SEE HAWKS IN L.A., Gwendolyn (from TV'S Weeds, OITNB, Chuck & Buck), Rich D (not going to tell you again to catch this band, OK, I probably will, I know, it's tough to put down the remote and get off that couch once the sun goes down, they call them alt country but they're just a great band), Fri 8 p.m., Highland Park Bowl, free.

EASY RIDER (50th anniversary, great cultural touchstone film, great soundtrack — Jimi, Steppenwolf, Electric Prunes oh my, Smith kills The Weight and of course The Byrds — crank it up, Nuart!), Friday 'Round Midnight, Nuart Theater, W LA, $12.

ROSANNE CASH, John Leventhal (she has grown to be a pure diamond in a family of jewels, such a good songwriter and emotive voice), Sat 7:30 p.m., Chapman University, $35-$65.

COMING ATTRACTIONS:

Chart-topping rap royalty TRAVIS SCOTT (his stage show should be epic but I wish he had turned down the socially comatose NFL for their Super Bowl, like Common, like Rihanna, and Jay-Z last year, but, 100M viewers, I understand), The Forum, Fri Feb. 8; ENGLISH BEAT (always a great show), The Rose, Fri Feb. 8; SLEEPLESS: The Music Center After Hours: Quinceanera Reimagined, twirl and party till 3 a.m.!, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Sat Feb. 9; The SMITHEREENS with Marshall Crenshaw, The Rose, Sat Feb. 9; LIBRARY GIRL presents I Love You A Thousand Ways, Ruskin Group Theatre, Sun Feb. 10; ACCADEMIA BIZANTINA (you like Vivaldi? all Vivaldi, from this oversized "quartet"), Walt Disney Concert Hall, Sun Feb. 10; this one should be great! — Artists Talk featuring Pussy Riot founding member Nadya Tolokonnikova, Shepard Fairey, Catherine Opie, Tavares Strachan, with performance by PUSSY RIOT, The Broad, Mon Feb. 11; KACEY MUSGRAVES, The Theatre at Ace Hotel, Thurs Feb. 14.

BAND NAME OF THE WEEK:

Bite Me Bambi.

BODACIOUS BIRTHDAYS:

PHILIP GLASS — may he live to 100 and keep composing, rather than decomposing (1937), JOHN LYDON aka JOHNNY ROTTEN, Sex Pistols, PiL — how can he still be alive with the life he lived? (1956).

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 33 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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CITY OF SANTA MONICA
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Santa Monica invites sealed proposals for

RFP: #216 RECYCLABLE MATERIALS PROCESSING SERVICES

- **Submission Deadline is February 25, 2019 at 12:00 PM Pacific Time.**

Proposals must include forms furnished by the City of Santa Monica. Request for Proposals may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL**. The website for this Request for Proposals and related documents is: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm. There is no charge for the RFP package.

CITY OF SANTA MONICA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that bids will be received by the City of Santa Monica located at 1717 4th Street Suite 250, Santa Monica, California, 90401 until 3:00 p.m. on the date indicated at which time they will be publicly opened, read and posted for:

BID #4377 ROOFING CONTRACTOR SERVICES

Submission Deadline is February 22, 2019 at 3:00 PM Pacific Time.

Bids must be submitted on forms supplied by the City of Santa Monica. Bid packages containing all forms, specifications, terms and conditions may be obtained on the **CITY'S ONLINE VENDOR PORTAL.** The website for this Notice of Inviting Bids and related documents is: Planet Bids or http://vendors.planetbids.com/SantaMonica/bidsearch4.cfm. There is no charge for bid package and specifications.



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Tourism Talks

By Misti Kerns
Send comments to editor@smdp.com

ATTENTION SANTA MONICA RESIDENTS

Win a Pair of Tickets to the Film Independent Spirit Awards

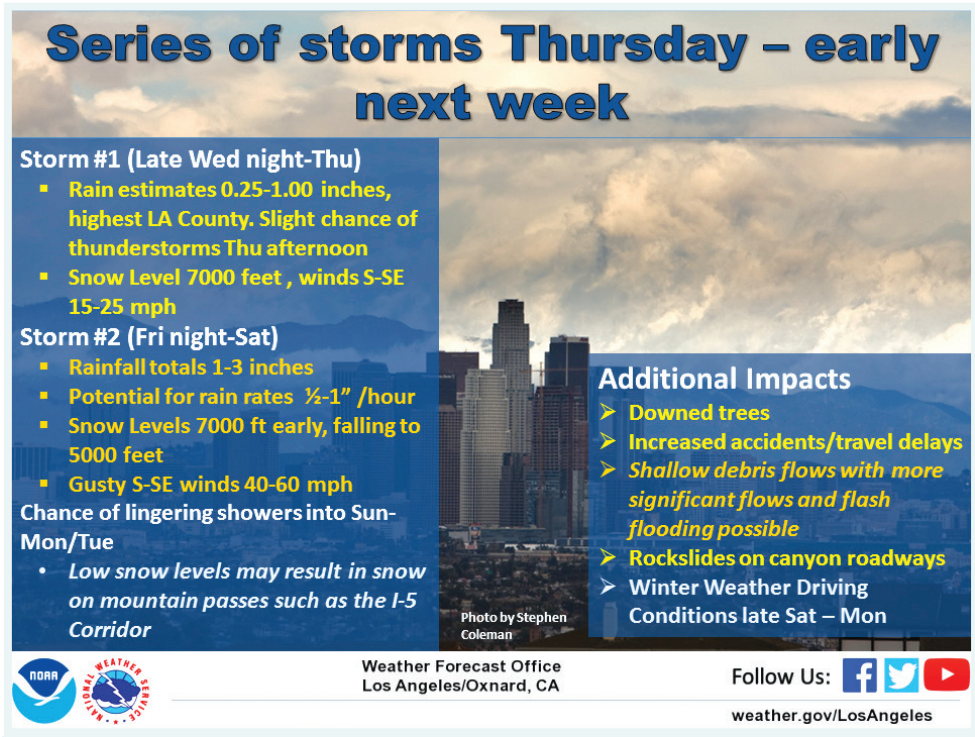
The winter months are a great time to cozy up with some popcorn and watch the year's most heralded films on the big screen. And with five major movie theaters in our 8.3 square miles, there's no shortage of venues to watch nominated flicks as awards-season descends upon tinsel town.

Here in our beachside city there's an opportunity to get closer to the movie magic and get exclusive access with the Film Independent Spirit Awards – dedicated to independent filmmakers – that have called Santa Monica home for over 30 years.

Santa Monica Travel & Tourism (SMTT) is giving away a highly-coveted pair of tickets to the Film Independent Spirit Awards, held at Santa Monica Beach on Saturday, February 23, 2019. To enter the contest, simply post a photo on social media between January 1, 2019 and February 11, 2019 from your favorite Santa Monica Pier business using #SMPierWinter and #SpiritAwards showing how you spend the not-so-hot months beachside in Santa Monica. For complete terms and conditions, visit santamonica.com/contest.

Hosted by actress Aubrey Plaza, the Film Independent Spirit Awards show is being held on Saturday, February 23, 2019 and broadcast live on IFC at 2 p.m. PST. This year's best feature nominees include Eighth Grade, First Reformed, If Beale Street Could Talk, Leave No Trace and You Were Never Really Here.

To learn more about SMTT and how you can be a tourist in your own back yard, visit www.santamonica.com.



SANTA MONICA FORECAST

Courtesy art

The National Weather Service said a cold front will approach the area Thursday night and move north throughout the weekend. A pair of low pressure systems will move through over the weekend and dissipate Sunday night. Rain is forecast for much of the weekend and into early next week. Temperatures will be in the high 50's to low 60's.

THURSDAY: Showers likely before 10 a.m., then showers and possibly a thunderstorm between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., then a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms after 4 p.m. High near 60. East wind 10 to 15 mph becoming southwest in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. **THURSDAY NIGHT:** A 20 percent chance of showers before 10 p.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 50. West wind around 5 mph becoming east in the evening. **FRIDAY:** Rain likely after 4 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 62. South southeast wind 5 to 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60%. **FRIDAY NIGHT:** Rain. Low around 53. Chance of precipitation is 80%. **SATURDAY:** Rain. High near 61. Chance of precipitation is 90%. **SATURDAY NIGHT:** Showers likely. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 51. **SUNDAY:** A chance of showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 59. **SUNDAY NIGHT:** A chance of rain. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 49. **MONDAY:** Rain likely. Partly sunny, with a high near 59. **MONDAY NIGHT:** A chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 50.

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Culture Watch

By Sarah A. Spitz

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

An old play, a new circus

Photo LA opens tonight at the Barker Hangar; I'll be attending and will review for you next week. It's on through Sunday, so grab a ticket. Get the details here: https://www.photola.com/

AN INSPECTOR CALLS

For a British thriller written in 1945 about a 1912 incident, "An Inspector Calls" moves briskly (less than 2 hours) through its three uninterrupted acts. It's onstage at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts in Beverly Hills. The National Theatre of Great Britain production is directed by Stephen Daldry (The Crown; Billy Elliot).

It's a little bit like Twilight Zone with its uniquely twisted ending (take your clue from the Inspector's name — Goole). But it still has relevance today in the arguments it makes about an era of rampant and rapacious wealth-building at the cost of the rest of humanity.

The dining room where the Birling family has gathered to celebrate the engagement of their daughter Sheila (Lianne Harvey) to Gerald Croft (Andres Macklin) is filled with evidence of the rich and privileged lives they lead. To emphasize the gap between rich and poor, the house sits well above the stage, while the foreground looks something like a wasteland. That's where the Inspector and a group of unidentified children and other characters emerge out of the fog.

The party is interrupted by the daunting and fearless Scotsman, Inspector Goole (Liam Brennan), who sets out to discover why a beautiful young woman has committed suicide just a few hours earlier. The woman worked for Arthur Birling (Jeff Harmer), a captain of industry, but her life intersected with all of the characters in the play.

Before the night is over, everyone will be exposed either for their hypocrisy, their lack of compassion or both. One by one, secrets are revealed, relationships are changed and the house itself will be destroyed.

Unimpressed by Mr. Birling's name dropping and recitation of his civic titles, Goole simply ignores his attempts to intimidate him and pushes his way into their lives, one by one, making them admit their relationship to the dead young woman.

Arthur fired her because she tried to stand up for her rights, asking for a small raise and threatening to create a strike. Daughter Sheila insisted that she be fired from a dress shop, a job that she'd finally landed after Mr. Birling cast her out of his factory, for a misperceived insult. Fiancée Gerald discovers her in a place known as a last resort for prostitutes, and decided to keep her — in his eyes, helping to save her. And once Gerald dumped her, drunken son Eric (Hamish Riddle) took up with her and got her pregnant.

Even Sybil Birling, the mother (Christine Kavanagh) rejects the girl's pleas for help — she's the head of a committee with the power to decide whether to help women who've taken a wrong turn. That may have been the last straw.

A socialist, J.B. Priestly wrote this play to try to promote a change in English society that he believed was far too tilted toward the rich and unsympathetic to the poor.

An Inspector Calls will be onstage through February 10. Find out more at https://TheWallis.org/Inspector.

LINK LINK CIRCUS

I've always adored Isabella Rossellini. But her Link Link Circus at the Broad Stage (which concluded its three-performance run last Sunday) struck me as an amateurish production that seemed more like a junior high school show than that of a well-seasoned professional.

Cute and endearing are nice enough traits in children and pets — and there was a very cute and endearing pet onstage (her dog Pan) — but the performance Rossellini gave of her own material on opening night was marked by stumbles. She flubbed a few lines, even though she was partially reading from texts, and the audio quality left a lot to be desired, given her quiet voice, deep vocal register and with her accent.

Link Link Circus intends to represent the links between humans and animals, presaged by Rossellini's relationship with a favorite dog as a child that made her certain that animals can think and feel. It was such a strong sense that, although postponed by decades as a successful model and actress, she now lives on an organic farm, with chickens and other animals (her book "My Chickens and I" will be published in the spring), and she's getting a master's degree in animal behavior. I applaud both of these efforts.

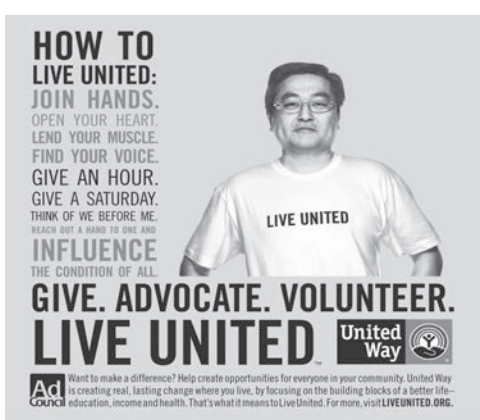
But the production values of this "smallest circus on earth" were truly underwhelming. The videos, cartoonish in nature, were somewhat exemplary of points being presented but certainly not deeply edifying. She dressed in what she described as beekeeper's clothes, but that's not what the beekeepers I know wear. Standing behind cardboard statues of philosophers with cutout heads and popping hers into the cutouts to espouse their thoughts was not the most scintillating way to present their ideas on the subject.

Standing outside the theatre after the show, one audience member said to another, "That was even hokier than I thought it would be." Which just about sums up my experience.

Sarah A. Spitz is an award-winning public radio producer, now retired from KCRW, where she also produced arts stories for NPR. She writes features and reviews for various print and online publications.







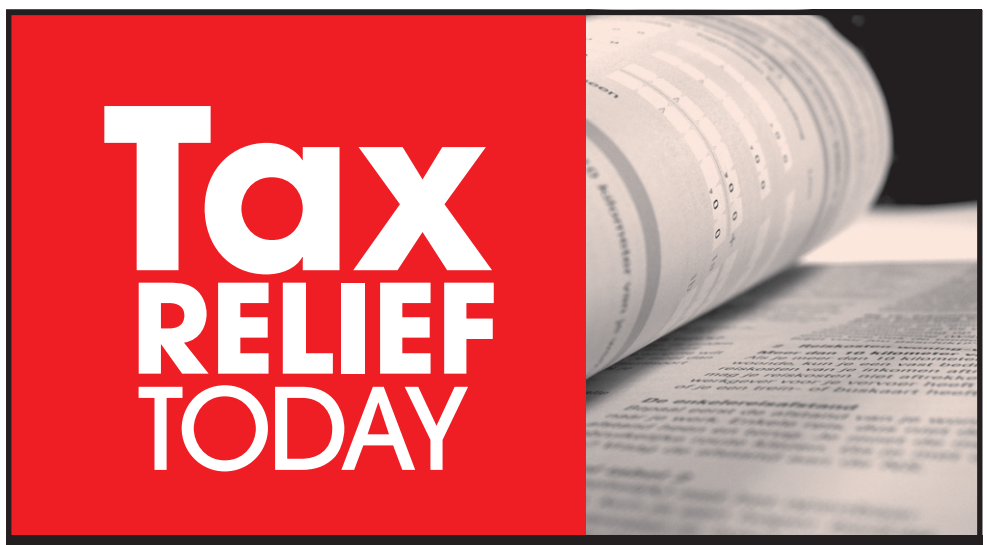




SURF FORECASTS

THURSDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft knee to waist high
Small new WNW swell peaks. Deep early AM high tide.

FRIDAY - **POOR TO FAIR** - SURF: 2-3 ft waist to stomach high
Watching nearby low for rise in NW swell-mix as WNW swell eases. Small Southern Hemi swells in the mix. Deep early AM high tide but morning may have a window of ok conditions.



GO-KARTS

FROM PAGE 1

Gogogo founder Jay Pak said he will continue to rent the go-karts until the City of Santa Monica enforces its own laws. He launched the service in late December.

"I'm operating under what the electric scooters have been afforded so far," he said. "If they regulate the scooters then I'll have to move somewhere else."

City officials maintain that the go-karts are not allowed on the path.

"Are electric go-karts allowed on the bike path? Things are crowded enough with e-scooter folks still riding on the bike path," Santa Monica resident Declan Durcan tweeted at City Manager Rick Cole on Wednesday.

"Absolutely not," Cole tweeted in reply.

Children as young as 10 are allowed to drive the go-karts with parental permission, Pak said. All customers sign a waiver releasing Gogogo from liability before renting a device and the company is fully insured, he said.

"It's an experience for the kids where they get to try driving for the first time," he said. "Adults get to feel like a kid again. The reception has been phenomenal."

Pak said the go-karts are no more dangerous than riding a bike or driving a car.

"I've yet to see an accident," he said. "We do safety tutorials and make sure all components of the vehicle are working before we rent it out."

The go-karts are manufactured by Segway and are called Ninebots. The company launched an Indiegogo campaign in September and is selling the devices for about $1,300. Pak said he saw the go-karts on Indiegogo and thought Santa Monica would be an ideal place to rent them out. Gogogo's rates are $1 per minute and the company typically rents the go-karts in 30 to 60 minute intervals, he said.

"Lime and Bird really increased the appetite and tolerance for micro-mobility options and I thought Santa Monica would be a great ground to launch something like this," he said.

The company is currently operating near a parking lot at 2 Arcadia Terrace but Pak said he is seeking a physical storefront.

madeleine@smdp.com

DAILY POLICE LOG

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

Hit and run 1400blk 4th St 12:05 a.m.
Assault 1500blk 2nd St 12:45 a.m.
Speeding Lincoln Blvd / Cedar St 1:54 a.m.
Petty theft 2200blk 20th St 3:19 a.m.
Warrant suspect pick up 12500blk Hawthorne Blvd 5:18 a.m.
Encampment 1700blk 9th St 6:35 a.m.
Encampment 1100blk 16th St 6:43 a.m.
Encampment 1200blk Ocean Front Walk 7:17 a.m.
Encampment 200blk Santa Monica Pier 7:25 a.m.
Encampment Moomat Ahiko Way / Ocean Ave 7:37 a.m.
Traffic collision - unknown injuries 1700blk Lincoln Blvd 8:16 a.m.
Hit and run 1200blk Oak St 8:22 a.m.
Burglary 900blk Pier Ave 8:33 a.m.
Hit and run 10th St / Idaho Ave 9:06 a.m.
Hit and run 1500blk Yale St 9:28 a.m.
Auto burglary 1100blk Chelsea Ave 9:31 a.m.
Petty theft 1300blk Wilshire Blvd 9:41 a.m.
Threats /s 1900blk Pico Blvd 9:43 a.m.
Speeding 1700blk Ocean Park Blvd 9:53 a.m.
Traffic collision - no injuries 17th St / California Ave 10:25 a.m.
Battery 2600blk Main St 10:43 a.m.
Hit and run 1600blk 11th St 10:57 a.m.
Burglary investigation 2200blk 22nd St 10:59 a.m.
Speeding 2200blk Wilshire Blvd 11:01 a.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 400blk Wilshire Blvd 11:02 a.m.
Hit and run Lincoln Blvd / Broadway 11:05 a.m.
Encampment 1600blk 9th St 11:24 a.m.
Vandalism 2100blk 20th St 11:26 a.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 1400blk 7th St 11:31 a.m.
Abandoned vehicle 700blk 7th St 11:40 a.m.
Vehicle blocking driveway 200blk San Vicente Blvd 11:42 a.m.
Vandalism 1200blk Euclid St 11:43 a.m.
Oversize vehicle violation 1100blk Ashland Ave 11:50 a.m.
Fight 600blk Wilshire Blvd 12:17 p.m.
Stalking 1400blk 6th St 12:21 p.m.
Trespassing 1700blk Pico Blvd 12:24 p.m.
Injured person 6th St / Broadway 12:29 p.m.
Hit and run 1100blk Broadway 12:41 p.m.
Petty theft 1900blk Lincoln Blvd 1:02 p.m.
Hit and run 14th St / Wilshire Blvd 1:12 p.m.
Battery 4th St / Broadway 1:12 p.m.
Burglary 2500blk Kansas Ave 1:19 p.m.
Fraud 1900blk Lincoln Blvd 1:50 p.m.
Battery 1500blk 2nd St 2:16 p.m.
Vehicle parked on sidewalk 1700blk Idaho Ave 2:21 p.m.
Burglary 900blk 2nd St 3:07 p.m.
Traffic hazard 400blk Broadway 3:36 p.m.
Petty theft 100blk Santa Monica Pl 3:46 p.m.
Stalking 700blk Montana Ave 4:00 p.m.
Auto burglary 200blk Strand St 4:01 p.m.
Hit and run 1200blk Oak St 4:04 p.m.
Petty theft 1600blk 11th St 4:12 p.m.
Speeding Cloverfield Blvd / Interstate 10 5:07 p.m.

DAILY FIRE LOG

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

Emergency Medical Service 1300blk 20th St 2:21 a.m.
EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 4:42 a.m.
EMS 2400blk 28th St 5:16 a.m.
EMS 2nd St / Santa Monica Blvd 5:22 a.m.
Automatic alarm 1600blk 9th St 5:51 a.m.
EMS 2200blk Virginia Ave 6:51 a.m.
Wires down 20th St / Pico Blvd 9:05 a.m.
EMS 1400blk 17th St 10:10 a.m.
Automatic alarm 2200blk Colorado Ave 10:32 a.m.
EMS 14th St / Arizona Ave 11:27 a.m.
EMS 2100blk Ocean Ave 11:39 a.m.
EMS 500blk Broadway 12:28 p.m.
Automatic alarm 1200blk 15th St 1:03 p.m.
EMS 1300blk 15th St 1:21 p.m.
EMS 1100blk 3rd St 2:43 p.m.
EMS 1900blk Stewart St 2:48 p.m.
Trash/dumpster fire 800blk Olympic Blvd W 4:52 p.m.
EMS 1500blk 2nd St 5:16 p.m.
EMS Cloverfield Blvd / Interstate 10 5:55 p.m.
Elevator rescue 1100blk 5th St 6:24 p.m.
EMS 2600blk Expo Line 7:27 p.m.
EMS 2500blk Santa Monica Blvd 9:09 p.m.
EMS 5th St / Wilshire Blvd 11:57 p.m.

DAILY LOTTERY

POWERBALL
Draw Date: 1/26
8 12 20 21 32
Power#: 10
Jackpot: 174M

MEGA MILLIONS
Draw Date: 1/29
10 33 53 54 62
Mega#: 22
Jackpot: 125M

SUPER LOTTO PLUS
Draw Date: 1/26
10 16 23 31 34
Mega#: 8
Jackpot: 14M

Fantasy 5
Draw Date: 1/29
16 20 25 31 36

DAILY 3
Draw Date: 1/29
MIDDAY: 3 4 5
Draw Date: 1/29
EVENING: 4 6 2

DAILY DERBY
Draw Date: 1/29
1st: 04 Big Ben
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1:40.94

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!

bootstrap
1. to help (oneself) without the aid of others: She spent years bootstrapping herself through college.

WELL NEWS BY SCOTT LAFEE

Medical History

■ This week in 1966, all U.S. cigarette packages began carrying the warning: "Caution: Cigarette smoking may be hazardous to your health."

Sum Body

■ Nothing you can ask a doctor about your body will shock them, but there are some embarrassing questions (for the patient, at least) that are surprisingly common. Here are six:

■ 1. Why do I sweat so much?
■ 2. Why are my feet stinky?
■ 3. Why are my breasts different sizes?
■ 4. Why am I constipated?
■ 5. Why am I wetting the bed?
■ 6. How often should couples have sex?

MYSTERY PHOTO



The first person who can correctly identify where this image was captured wins a prize. Send answers to editor@smdp.com.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD

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

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

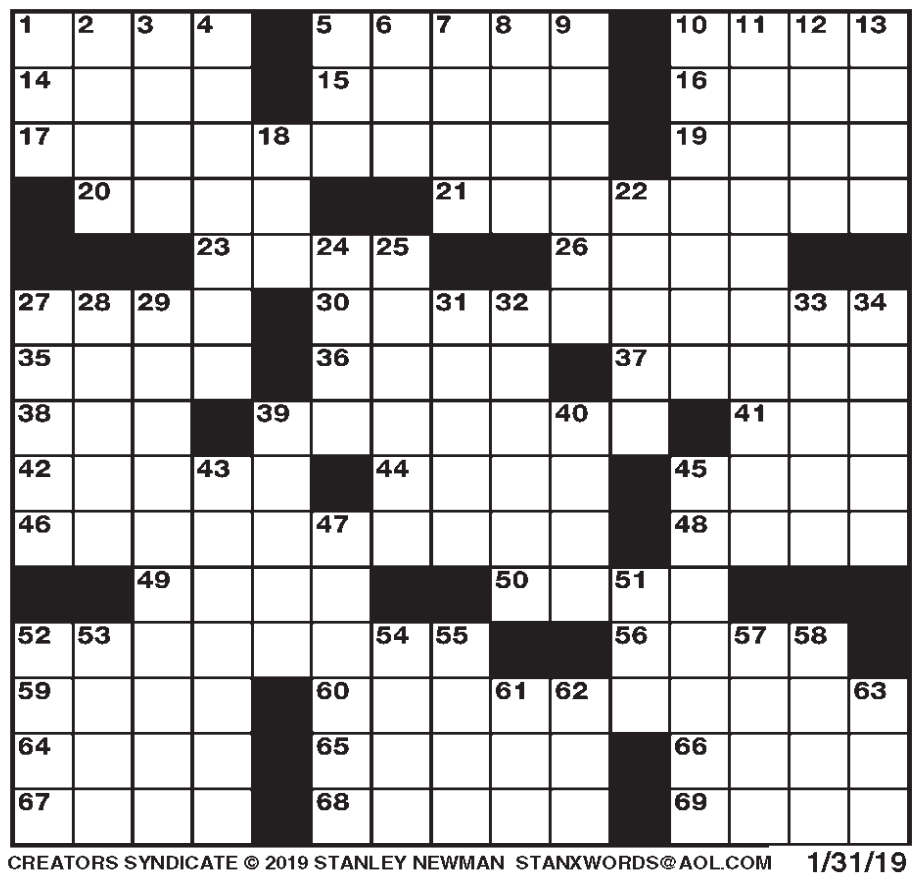
6		9				8		5
		4	8		3	9		
7	8		9				6	3
	5			1		7	2	
			7		9			
	1	7		4			8	
8	7				2		9	1
		3	1		5	6		
1		2				5		8

Newsday Crossword

PAIR PUNS by Winston Emmons
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS
1 Talented
5 Out of energy
10 Scissors sound
14 One of California's Santas
15 Yeshiva study
16 Trillion, to start
17 How to plan a Disney World visit
19 Wide-eyed
20 Winnings
21 In a group
23 Mental block breakthrough
26 Aid in illegality
27 *Evita* lyricist
30 How dinner plates are supplemented
35 One with many fans
36 Dimensional measurement
37 Knighted drummer
38 Cone holder
39 Picasso and Braque, originally
41 Excessively
42 Common sculpture
44 Court governing org.
45 Remain undecided
46 How aerobic fitness may improve
48 Knowing comment
49 Liqueur flavoring
50 Inactivity
52 Fought off
56 Jumble
59 Natural soother
60 How Shaw's reputation grew
64 First American downhill Olympic champ
65 Name on much moisturizer
66 Subtle vibe
67 Is over
68 Agribusiness giant
69 Migratory journey

DOWN
1 Femur-tibia connector, for short
2 Tyre buyer
3 Soviet moon-probe program
4 Old Testament prophet
5 Structure seen early in *The Wizard of Oz*
6 Vote seeker
7 Shillelagh land
8 Billionth, to start
9 Something run up at a bar
10 Least innovative
11 Works out a deal
12 Heavy metal
13 Audible summons
18 Garden spot
22 Vast depth
24 Grandson of Abraham
25 Boeing rival
27 Diplomatic difficulties
28 Dostoyevsky title character
29 Be analogous
31 Jefferson, religiously
32 Movable feast
33 Very small aircraft
34 Antonym of "accrue"
39 Early business programming language
40 Tailor's accessory
43 Organs in abdomens
45 Rain-on-roof sound
47 Made a sharp bark
51 Unassertive
52 Give kudos
53 Big name at SpaceX
54 Instead
55 Paycheck detail
57 Disparagement
58 Napper of fable
61 Suffix for law
62 Loud buzzer
63 Talk about nothing



CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2019 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 1/31/19

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Jan. 31)

You'll invest yourself before others realize this is a successful channel. You're not expecting quick results. You take pleasure in the slow, steady building of something you believe in. More highlights: a sacrifice allows for astounding beauty, you'll live as others do (an eye-opener), and you'll pursue exceptional love. Capricorn and Taurus adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 40, 2, 22 and 18.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
While "I'll know it when I see it" is a fine enough guiding principle for a solo artist, groups need a more specific set of rules to go by. A good leader will think it over and spell it out.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Does it please you to know that someone is working hard to impress you? It's flattering, to say the least, although you must also realize that this has a lot to do with what the individual is projecting onto you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21)
When it doesn't work, an explanation for what went wrong is a nice thing to have. Also, it's a luxury. You don't get it every time, nor would you want to come up with it every time. To shrug and walk on... that's grace, too.

CANCER (June 22-July 22)
There are people you know who have to, in order to survive and act normal, do things you would consider rather strange. Your ability to accept this will be the key to this day going smoothly.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
A very strong bond is built one fiber at a time. And if you want to get microscopic about it, this happens on a cellular level. Small things, repeated... this is the theme. This is the glue that will bond you to your goal.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Working people often have less leisure time than others. Since time is the most precious commodity we have, it does make one think about the work worth doing, and the work not worth doing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
When things go wrong, it may be circumstances that cause it, but as a responsible person you're always trying to assess which circumstances you can control and which you can't.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)
Your attention is worth something. You can't afford to give it away willy-nilly. And you won't. You won't click on nonsense or sit through what doesn't interest you. You won't look into drama. You'll keep your nose clean.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
You'll be dealing with new people whose sensibilities may surprise you. Like a masseuse working on a new client, the best way to learn what pressure to use is to ask.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
Are you thinking big enough? It will be impossible to detect from where you are. It will take an outsider to assess the situation. Who can you bounce your ideas off of?

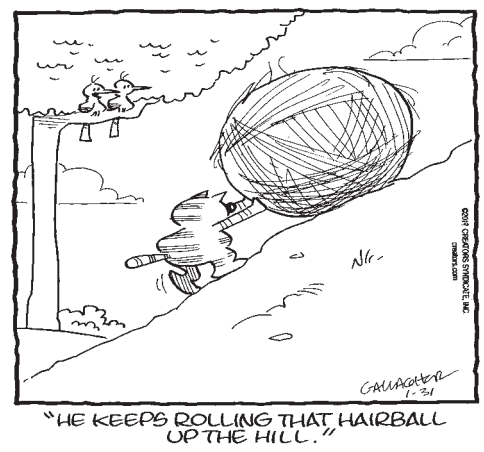
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
A mystery is a thrill. And if the mystery seems like it might actually be safe, all the more exciting – to be thrilled and not killed, that's the entertainment sweet spot on which books, movies and roller-coaster rides are predicated.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
You relate to someone who is solving things and that's because you are also a part of the solution. Get right in there and give your ideas. You are feeling this way for a reason. Don't wait for permission; just go.

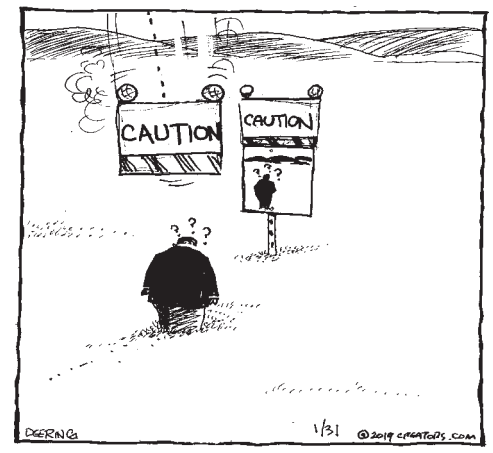
Rare Saturn and Neptune Sextile
Under this rare Saturn and Neptune position, much is possible through clear sight. Getting a vivid perspective requires a better vantage, a higher awareness. Realize that you're expecting to see something in particular, and that expectation disallows you to see clearly the thing that's really there. So do away with expectation, and then look again.

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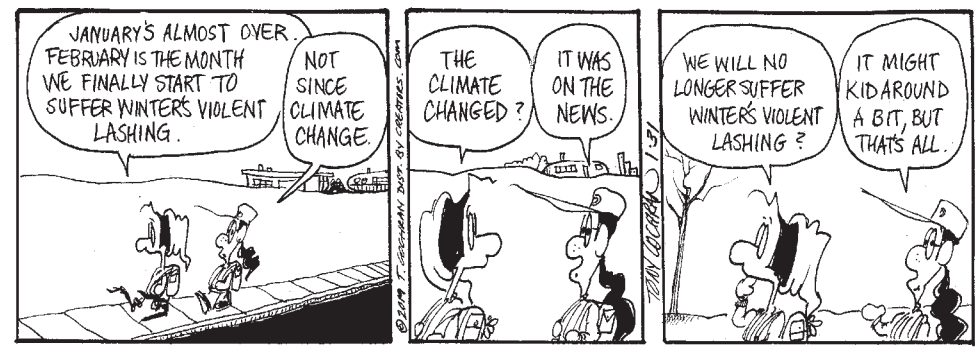
Heathcliff
By PETER GALLAGHER



Strange Brew
By JOHN DEERING



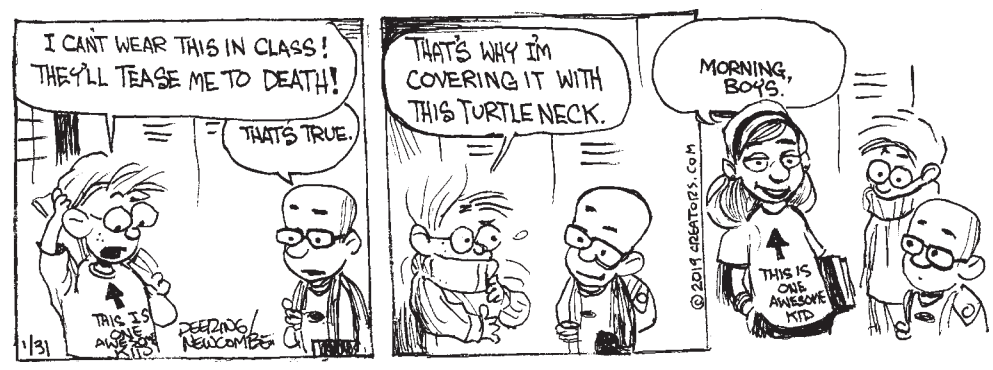
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Dogs of C-Kennel
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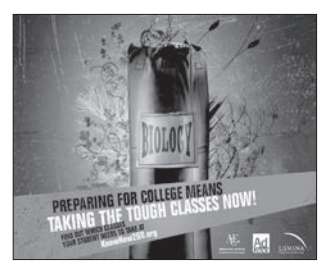
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Parts of Midwest colder than Antarctica during deep freeze

BLAKE NICHOLSON
Associated Press

The deadly deep freeze enveloping the Midwest sent temperatures plunging Wednesday to rival some of the most frigid spots in the world, triggering widespread closures of schools and businesses, and the canceling of more than 1,600 flights to and from Chicago's airports.

The U.S. Postal Service even took the rare step of suspending mail delivery across much of the region. Hundreds of public schools and universities from North Dakota to Pennsylvania canceled classes as residents huddled inside amid one of the coldest air masses in years.

The bitter cold is the result of a split in the polar vortex that allowed temperatures to drop much farther south than normal. That meant temperatures in parts of the Midwest were lower Wednesday than in Antarctica, where the Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station hit negative 25 degrees — balmy compared to Fargo, North Dakota's negative 31 degrees and Minneapolis' negative 27 degrees, according to the National Weather Service.

Snowplows were idled overnight because of the cold in southeastern Minnesota, where temperatures dropped to negative 29 degrees. In Chicago, temperatures were still dropping after plunging early Wednesday to minus 19 degrees, breaking the day's previous record low set in 1966 — and colder than the weather in Barrow, Alaska, the most northern town in the U.S.

And that doesn't include wind chill, which in northern Illinois made the air feel as cold as negative 57 degrees. The National Weather Service warned that a wind chill of minus 25 can freeze skin within 15 minutes.

Officials throughout the region were focused on protecting vulnerable people from the cold , including the homeless, seniors and those living in substandard housing. Some buses were turned into mobile warming shelters to help the homeless in Chicago.

"These (conditions) are actually a public health risk and you need to treat it appropriately," Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel said Tuesday. "They are life-threatening conditions and temperatures."

About 1,300 of Wednesday's canceled flights in Chicago were at O'Hare International Airport, one of the nation's busiest airports. United Airlines spokesman Charlie Hobart said "everything tends to slow down" during severely cold weather, including manpower, fueling and equipment. Calling the temperatures "dangerous," Hobart said United was bringing in extra workers and providing heated tents for employees.

A popular saying goes: "Neither snow nor rain nor heat ..." will stop the mail from being delivered, but extreme cold did so Wednesday. The U.S. Postal Service has suspended mail delivery in parts or all of several Midwest states including North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio.

Governors in Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan declared emergencies as the worst of the cold threatened on Wednesday. In Chicago, major attractions closed because of the bitter cold, including the Lincoln Park Zoo, the Art Institute and the Field Museum.

In Michigan, homeless shelters in Lansing were becoming "overloaded," Mayor Andy Schor said. They also were filling up in Detroit.

"People don't want to be out there right now," said Brennan Ellis, 53, who is staying at the Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries.

At least six deaths have been linked so far to the weather system, including two people in the Detroit area, according to local police. Other deaths included a man struck and killed by a snow plow in the Chicago area, a young couple whose SUV struck another on a snowy road in northern Indiana, and a Milwaukee man found frozen to death in a garage.

Hawaii native Charles Henry, 54, was staying at a shelter in St. Paul, Minnesota, and said he was grateful to have a place to stay out of the cold.

"That wind chill out there is not even a joke," he said. "I feel sorry for anybody that has to stay outside."

Shelters, churches and city departments in Detroit worked together to help get vulnerable people out of the cold, offering the message to those who refused help that "you're going to freeze or lose a limb," said Terra DeFoe, a senior adviser to Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan.

American Indian tribes in the Upper Midwest were doing what they could to help members in need with heating supplies. The extreme cold was "a scary situation," because much of the housing is of poor quality, said Chris Fairbanks, energy assistance program manager for the White Earth Band of Ojibwe in Minnesota.

The cold weather was even affecting beer deliveries, with a pair of western Wisconsin distributors saying they would delay or suspend shipments for fear that beer would freeze in their trucks.

But it wasn't stopping one of America's most formidable endurance tests: the three-day Arrowhead 135 was going on as scheduled in northeastern Minnesota. Competitors can cover the race route by bicycle, cross-country skis or just running.

Associated Press reporters Gretchen Ehlke in Milwaukee; Caryn Rousseau and Don Babwin in Chicago; Corey Williams, David Runk and Mike Householder in Detroit; David Eggert in Lansing, Michigan; and Jeff Baenen in Minneapolis contributed to this report. AP Science Writer Seth Borenstein also contributed.

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